

Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees

July 10, 2023

7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held July 10, 2023 in the Board Room at 6 Academy St. Present were Mayor Fuller, Trustees; Robinson, Grimmke, Brown, as well as Superintendent Leo Flynn, Chief White, Attorney Kelly and Deputy Treasurer Brown. Sergeant Danko, President Jim Mumby and Trustee Vandewater were absent. Attorney Erika Sellar-Ryan was present for the first piece of business, as was Jim Allen from Allen Forestry. Mayor Fuller opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Attorney Erika Sellar-Ryan started the meeting introducing the Negative Declaration relative to the Timber Harvest at Hayes Reservoir. She provided background on the SEQR process. Part one was completed at the end of May which included the Forrest Management Plan and arial maps. Because this is a Type 1 action, DEC was notified, as an interested agency. DEC had ample opportunity to respond, with no response received. A Public Hearing was held in June with Part II completed prior. No comments submitted. Thus, we arrive at a Negative Environmental Declaration. The Resolution includes 3 areas of minor impact; the existence of groundwater, a critical area and having the property closed to public use during the project. The plan and future execution of the Forest Management Plan by a licensed forester is understood as protecting the forest environment. The following resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption.

Resolution No 21 of 2023 – Issue a “Negative Declaration” relative to the Village of Greenwich Timber Harvest pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act relative to the proposed project. Motion made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Brown and carried by all.

Jim Allen outlined the timeline of the showings and bid process adding new information about meeting with Greg Ettinger. In that meeting, they outlined the 6 -6.5 no-cut acres at the top of the ridge with ribbons. Jim expects between two and five bidders.

Vouchers

General Fund Voucher numbers 20 – 71 totaling \$185,863.10

Water Fund Voucher numbers 4 – 10 totaling \$6,229.62

Sewer Fund Voucher number 2 - 8 totaling \$9,144.86

Water capital Project Voucher number 3 and 4 totaling \$5,365.00

WWTP Capital Project Voucher number 2 totaling \$32,175.00

Motion to approve paying the vouchers was made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Department Reports

Fire: Chief White delivered the June report: no new members. EMS calls – 19. Fire related calls - 12. Emergency response hours – 171.5, training hours and activity – 438.25, for a total of 609.75 hours. Busy month. The Dollar General structure fire which took place on the rear loading dock is currently under

investigation by NYS. L324 repair work is still being figured out. Costs will be estimated and a schedule will be created.

DPW: Superintendent Flynn delivered the June report. Pipe, fittings and hydrants have started to be delivered. Three loads of pipe have been sent back, deemed to be unacceptable by the engineering firm. A representative from the engineering firm will be providing quality control henceforth. Hydrants are stored in the garage with pipe and fittings at Mill Hollow, sewer plant and Bleeker St Building. We are requiring 36-hour delivery notice to ensure both supervision of materials and unloading capabilities are met. The unloading of pipe is still being worked out since the Village equipment is unable to handle material of this size and weight. The water supply remains strong despite the early dry weather. Gray Ave needs paving, and it is not scheduled for pipe replacement, so Superintendent Flynn is asking for Board approval for this project. Milling and paving Gray will be about \$94,000 from in front of the Middle school up Gray to North. It still leaves \$100,000 in chips money.

Motion to approve paving Gray Ave – so moved by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Motion to approve replacing picket fence, netting for basketball and bases not to exceed \$2,000 from the Gannon fund. So moved by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Attorney Kelly addressed the garbage truck sharing proposal with Schuylerville. Leo sees the proposed cost in the contract higher than our budget allows. He thinks the money may be better spent towards a new truck. The DPW is currently looking for a packer for the 20-year-old truck. The Schuylerville truck is bigger than our needs generally demand. Would Schuylerville consider a co-ownership agreement? Mayor Fuller will follow up with the Mayor of Schuylerville.

Mayor: Mayor Fuller delivered the June report -**Restore New York** - Round 6 (Wilmarth): ESD sent the award letter on January 19th. Since then: additional coordination with the three project sponsors (call with ESD to discuss contract process; MWBE requirements; sustainability goals) and submitted required paperwork to get the contract & establish project-specific MWBE goals
- Round 7 (Brian & Megan): ESD sent the award letter on June 26th. Project has started (since all costs incurred since the January application submittal are eligible for reimbursement) and should be completed this summer. Kick-off call with ESD will be held this month. **Water Project** The RFPs for pipe installation should be ready for legal review this week; once we approve them, they'll be released. **Sidewalks** We submitted the initial proposal to Carrie Woerner's office and are waiting for feedback from them. **Hayes Reservoir Timber Harvest** We are conducting the steps of the SEQR process, and we will pass a resolution with a negative declaration tonight. **New York Main Street Grant** Our current New York Main Street grant is still active, with the goal of completing all the projects in the fall. **BOA Pre-Development Grant** This is the joint grant that we received with the Town to move several of the projects from the revitalization plan forward. For the Village, we will plan the update of our zoning ordinance and conduct a study of extending the wastewater infrastructure to the Dunbarton site. We have received the proposal for LaBella, which brings in resources from other engineering firms, including B&L, and meets the requirements for MWBE participation. The Town is the lead agency; once we get our contract from the Department of State, we will be ready to launch the grant activities. **Wastewater System** Hoping to do the drilling for the geotechnical the week of July 31st. After the geotechnical report is done we can start the structural design work.
Also B&L working on all the documents for EPA for the STAG grant.

Big picture we are looking at a November submission to the DEC for their review and the assuming they turn it around in a reasonable time we would be bidding in Jan/Feb 2024 to get ready for next year's construction year. **Converting Streetlights to LED Fixtures** 14 lights outstanding that need to be converted – the installers are awaiting additional fusebodies to complete these conversions to spec. Material availability has been difficult, and the parts that we need are still unavailable. **EPA Grant for Phase 2 Assessment of the Dunbarton Mill Site** The Phase I documents have been submitted to EPA for review and approval. Once these are approved, we will move ahead with next phases. **Parks and Recreation Areas Task Force** The task force will present to us tonight. **Town-Village Comprehensive Plan** Comments have been compiled, and a draft plan will be put together starting in early August. Once that is done it will be posted for more comments, and we will hold public hearings at the Town and Village levels in September before finalizing and proposing that we adopt the plan. **AGFTC** We are waiting for word about launch of the new study about connections for biking and walking trails; we expect this to happen in the fall. **Veteran Banners** The final banners for this year have been hung.

Old Business:

- **Land purchase** – A 15-acre piece of landlocked property has been offered to the Village for the price of \$50,000. It has an assessed value of \$35,000. The timber has been harvested, so no additional benefit there. Pros and cons of the land purchase was discussed. Tabled.

New Business

- **Parks and Recreation Task Force** – John Peck, Megan Davis, Sarah Tuttle and Dorothea Casey spoke about what has been discussed in the three meetings held to date. A survey was offered to the public at Whipple City Days, with low response due inclement weather. The survey is still open; hoping for increased participation on ideas and needs of the public. Mowry Park has been the subject of a variety of event ideas and much needed gazebo restoration. There is a question regarding the donation status of the gazebo. Research will be conducted in the Village Office to shed light on this. Hayes Reservoir ideas have included events, fishing, programs and trail maintenance. Jim Allen pointed out that he has seen a lot of ATVs going through. The property can be accessed by another of points. Mr. Allen recommended using large concrete barricades known as “Mafia blocks” be used at access points other than the main entrance. A Saratoga Mountain Bike Club representative assessed the mountain bike trail cut without Village knowledge or authorization. A plan needs to be presented to the Board before mountain biking will be considered. Proper signage is still needed spelling out exactly what activities are allowed on the property.
Motion to allow clean-up day at Hayes Reservoir on July 23rd made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.
- **Resolution No22 of 2023** Approval of \$50,913.75 from Police Capital Equipment Reserve for Purchase of a 2023 Dodge Durango made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all. Subject to Permissive Referendum
- **Motion to approve Barton & Loguidice** proposal for professional services to prepare a grant application for a salt shed facility for a lump sum fee of \$6,500. Made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all.
- **Motion to appoint Registrar of Vital Statistics Deborah Tjarks** effective August 1, 2023 to take the place of current Registrar Kimberly Whelan. Made by Trustee Robinson, seconded by Trustee Brown and carried by all.

- Procedure to allow videoconferencing to accommodate extraordinary circumstances of Village Officials. A Public Hearing is needed prior to a vote. Equipment purchase discussion to take place at a later date. Mayor Fuller will contact Tech Monkeys to provide a quote.
Motion to schedule a Public Hearing on July 18 at 7:00pm made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.
- The condition of the Water Meter Shop is compromised and has been taped off by the DPW. It is falling down, bricks are being taken, and the structure is dangerous and will need to be removed. Trustee Grimmke will call Charles Friedman for a quote.

Permits

- **Liv Thygesen Parks Permit app;** Mowry Park July 26, August 2, August 9, 2023 from 5:00-9:00pm Music in park and fundraising for nonprofits. A corrected certificate of insurance has been received. Dates are fine, no conflict with Library's Mowry Park permit. Approval pending answers to; type of fundraising and will admission be charged. Clerk will reach out to Ms. Thygesen prior to Tuesday's meeting. Tabled.
- **Angela Lynds Parks and Parade Permit app;** Walk for Freedom October 14, 2023 noon-3pm. Walk on sidewalk from Mowry Park to MAG Chevrolet and back again. Parks Permit **approved**.

Correspondence

Public Comment

- **George Casey** asked where the \$25,000 from the sale of the Fire Engine. Answer: the General Fund. Mr. Casey wanted to make the point the money would be best used in the FD Capital Equipment Fund, especially in light of Engine 323's age and the ladder's need of costly repairs. Chief White earmarked those funds for equipment. Deputy Treasurer Brown pointed out monies in the Capital Equipment fund could not be used for repairs, so the best place for these funds may be the General Fund. The repair of the ladder truck was not included in the Fire Department's budget because the inspection with repair needs occurred after the 2023/2024 budget was adopted. The money may be needed for these costly repairs and the General Fund is the place for it to stay for the time being.

9:07PM Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all.

Motion to open Executive Session made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all

9:43 pm motion to close Executive Session made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all

9:43 pm motion to open Regular Meeting made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all

Motion to pay Michael Smith \$50.00 monthly stipend towards the cost of his personal phone used to conduct Village business. Effective immediately.

9:44pm Motion to close meeting so moved by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Dowling – Village Clerk