

Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees

Public Hearing 7:15

December 11, 2023

7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held December 11, 2023 in the Board Room at 6 Academy St. Present were Mayor Fuller, Trustees; Robinson, Grimmke, Brown, as well as Sergeant Danko, Chief Hopkins, President Jim Mumby and Attorney Kelly. Trustee Vandewater attended electronically. Superintendent Flynn was absent. Mayor Fuller opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Vouchers

General Fund Voucher numbers 210 – 315 totaling \$129,330.71

Water Fund Voucher numbers 47 – 60 totaling \$24,719.73

Sewer Fund Voucher number 34 – 42 totaling \$6,145.02

Water Capital Project number 18 totaling \$1,989.00

NYMS Capital Project number 17 totaling \$40,000.00

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

Department Reports

Fire: Chief Hopkins delivered the November report: Total calls – 21 with 13 being inside our district. EMS calls – 10. Rescue extrication 2, and 1 alarm activation. The rest were mutual aid to Argyle, Easton, Middle Falls and Shushan totaling 8. Fire and Emergency response hours – 232.5, training hours 113.5 and activity – 316.5 for a total of 662.5 hours. A shout out to the quick response of 26 members of the Department on December 3. A fire broke out at Dr. Seegers on Main St and was contained to the main body of the porch with minor extension to the 2nd floor baseboards. A thank you to Sergeant Danko and his team who responded quickly as well. December 5th was the election for Chief to fill the job vacated by Chief Mike White. Current Officers are: Fire Chief Corey Hopkins, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Smith Jr, Captain Phil Spiezio, Lieutenant Clayton Wren and Lieutenant Stephen Shukes. Engine Rescue 321 was damaged during the Tractor Parade; Salem FD accidentally backed into it. They have already paid for the repair. There is a two-part grant being offered by NYS for training and equipment which is being considered for application. There is a federal SAFER Grant for recruiting and retention which has a deadline of February 1 which will be applied for with the assistance of Julie Burline. Lastly, Chief Hopkins urged everyone to get their Covid boosters with virus cases on the rise.

7:15 Public Hearing Nuisance Law – No members of the public were present. Mayor Fuller opened the Public Hearing, asked for questions. Motion to close Public Hearing made on a motion by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all.

Resolution No36 of 2023 – Adoption of Nuisance Law Amendments made on a motion by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all.

Police: Sergeant Danko delivered the November report: He talked about the post Tractor Parade meeting with Tim Hardy from the County which addressed concerns about managing public safety at an event so large and what can be handled differently going forward. Thanks to DPW and Fire Departments for their assistance. There were 4 cases reported to the DCJS in December totaling 110 reported for the

year. Arrests totaled 2; 30 arrests for the year. There were 96 calls logged with County Dispatch for November. Calls for service for the year 2023 -1389. Incidents handled: DMV arrest, public disturbance, vehicle into house and assault arrest. The toy drive ended today with 8 large boxes of toys donated to local schools to distribute. The new 2023 Dodge Police Interceptor is now in service.

DPW: Working Supervisor Mike Smith delivered the November report: normal work occurred with leaf pick-up ended. Prepping equipment for winter is completed. There were 92 hours of overtime which was in large part due to the Tractor Parade. The new ice rink has been delivered with set-up commencing in the next couple of weeks.

Youth: President Mumby delivered the November report: Number of youths attending – 420, with average daily attendance 23. Future events will include Jen Sharp bringing her service dog, Lola in as well as holiday events later this month. The fundraiser mailing has been successful.

Mayor: Town-Village Comprehensive Plan Supervisor Nolan and I submitted an article to the Journal, which was published in the last edition. The work that came out of the comprehensive plan has begun under various committees. **Hayes Reservoir Timber Harvest** The timber harvest is close to complete. We'll get an update on this project from Jim Allen this evening. **Restore New York** Work on both Restore grants continues. The laundromat is open and operating, so that work is complete. Regarding the former Wilmarth building, 126 Main Street will be transferred to the ownership of Sustainable Communities, a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of funding, owning, and operating the property. Upon completion, Sustainable Communities will continue to work with the Village and Town to support community and economic development projects. To cover the budget shortfall, the developers are preparing to apply for the Small Rural Development Initiative and they have submitted an application to the Community Investment Fund, both through NYS Homes and Community Renewal. They are advocating for the Village to apply for the next Restore round for funds.

Water Project We continue to work through the additional budget planning and will address the contracts for pipe installation at tonight's meeting. We will schedule a special meeting for next week, in which to award Contract 2. **Sidewalks** We received the contract for the multimodal sidewalk grant work from the Department of Transportation, and Atty. Kelly is in the process of reviewing the documents prior to our signing them. **New York Main Street Grant** Another project has completed, leaving only two outstanding out of 10. These will be complete by the end of this calendar year. This will complete the 10 projects! **BOA Pre-Development Grant** The launch meeting for this shared grant was held, focusing on zoning updates and infrastructure improvements, with the new committee members in attendance. The full committee meetings will be publicly announced, so all of the Village Trustees may attend if they desire. The first meeting resulted in a number of positive ideas. We'll be working in subcommittees for the most part. The subcommittee on the Town water district convened a meeting this past week; good discussion about this project. The subcommittee on the study of the wastewater extension received the archeological report on Washington Street, and the report didn't reveal anything that would require further study. **The Wastewater System.** The proposed design for the new plant, which is not yet complete, will be submitted to the DEC for their review, and we hope to be bidding in Jan/Feb 2024 to get ready for next year's construction year. **Converting Streetlights to LED Fixtures** We met with the NYPA group about our maintenance plan, and it is now in effect. **EPA Grant for Phase 2 Assessment of the Dunbarton Mill Site Work** continues on the preparation for soil samples. We are waiting for feedback from the EPA. LaBella submits required quarterly reports into EPA's ACRES program. The Village, EPA, and LaBella participate in monthly meetings. **Parks and Recreation Areas Task Force** The recent task force meeting covered a number of ideas, including the feasibility of forming a Friends of Village of Greenwich Parks and Recreation Area nonprofit, which will be able to raise funds. They also

discussed touring the Hayes Reservoir in order to plan the work on the trails and other signage for this spring. The task force meets regularly. **AGFTC.** The RFPs have been released seeking bids for the project bike and walking routes study. We should have applications to review soon. **WQIP Grant.** We are waiting for awards to be announced about whether we will be awarded the WQIP grant application for the salt shed. **Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Application.** We submitted the application for this program last month. The agency reviewing our application called to discuss our application, which is in the review process. The program will provide us with technical help; there is no match for the Village.

New Business:

- **2024 Meeting Schedule** will be the second Monday of each month with the exception of October 7 and November 4th due to holidays the following week. The end-of-year meeting will be on May 30th.
- **Water connections to Abeel Ave and others** will be discussed at a future meeting after proposals are circulated.
- **Resolution No37 of 2023 TAP Grant Application** approved on a motion by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Brown and carried by all. Trustee Grimmke elaborated on this grant. The amount of money we are approved for will be all we will get. Therefore, the estimates on work must be accurate. This is an 80%/20% reimbursement grant. These reimbursements can be requested monthly. He further recommended that this grant should be bonded, depending on the award amount.
- **Motion to approve Barton & Loguidice Professional Service Agreement TAP for the sum of \$6,500** made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Brown and carried by all. Funds to be paid out of budgeted Grant Applications.
- **Resolution No38 of 2023 Authorize Multi Modal Program** passed on a motion by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all. Twenty thousand dollars in CHIPS funds will be appropriated for the construction phase.
- **Motion to award Bid for Contract 2 of the Water Improvement Project to TKC in the amount of \$3,589,822 effective December 15, 2023** on the condition that no petition has been filed to force a petition on the Supplemental Bond Resolution **that was passed on November 13th**. Trustee Grimmke made a motion to accept this bid, seconded by Trustee Brown and carried by all.

Old Business

- **Jim Allen** presented an update on the forestry project. The progression has been brisk. There are about 5 days of cutting left. The north side of the power line is the only area left. The cutting should be completed by the end of next week. The cutter will be moved out the week after Thanksgiving. An excavator will be moved in at that time to clean-up. Seeding will happen next spring. Reopening can take place sometime in December, as soon as the work is completed. The yellow trail is pretty much intact. The red trail will need to be re-routed. So far, the stumpage payments have totaled \$268,804.62 with perhaps another \$8,000- \$15,000 coming in. Going forward, trees should be painted not tagged with nails, as this causes harm to the tree. Jim Allen suggested closing the gates at sunset to lessen the chance of vandalism. The old well will need a permanent and safe cover.
- **Mayor Fuller** would like the Board to consider allocating an amount in the budget for Parks and Recreation from the forestry project. This will be discussed at an early meeting in 2024.
- **Fence and Gate for Pump House** in the amount of \$17,314.57 will be paid from the Water Fund (F) made on a motion by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

- **Water meter building removal** was quoted by two contractors. A NYS mandated asbestos survey is needed as well. Friedman quoted \$10,000 for the survey and removal with asbestos removal extra. Colonial bid \$7,000 for removal of building with asbestos removal extra. Spectrum quoted \$1448 for the survey. A motion was made by Trustee Brown to award this to low bidders Colonial and Spectrum to be paid out of the general fund.

Permits

- **Carol Hopper** has submitted a building use permit for yoga classes to be held upstairs on Sunday mornings from 9 – 10 am starting 1/7/2024 thru 1/28/2024. If successful she would like to continue. The certificate of insurance will be provided on approval. The charge of \$15 weekly is the amount that another class pays. Approved.
- **GYC** has submitted a room use permit for a Taylor Swift themed party in conjunction with the Greenwich Free Library on 1/20/24 from 1-3 pm. Rain date is 2/3/24. Approved.

8:36 Motion to close Regular Meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

8:51 Motion to close Executive Session and re-open Regular Meeting made on a motion by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Motion to reject all bids on Contract 1B on the grounds that re-bid will garner more favorable pricing for Contract 1B.

Regular Meeting to adjourn made on a motion by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Grimmke and carried by all.

Respectfully submitted
Jane Dowling – Village Clerk