

Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees
October 7, 2024 – DRAFT
7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held October 7, 2024, in the Board Room at 6 Academy St. Present were Mayor Hurley, Trustees: Vandewater, Grimmke and Moore, as well as Attorneys Kelly and Morrelli and President Mumby, and Superintendent Smith. Trustee Robinson, Sergeant Gauthier and Chief Hopkins were absent. Mayor Hurley opened the meeting at 7:01 pm.

Vouchers

General Fund Voucher numbers 115, 143, 152 – 205 totaling \$65,149.43

Water Fund Voucher numbers 28 – 41 totaling \$17,769.68

Sewer Fund Voucher numbers 21 - 26 totaling \$5,910.59

Water Improvement numbers 25 -29 totaling \$944,737.32

Motion to pay the above bills so moved by Trustee Grimmke seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

Approval of the following draft Meeting Minutes made on a motion by Trustee Vandewater, second by Trustee Moore and carried by all.

Minutes from 8.12.2024, 9.12.2024 and the Special Meeting on 9.16.2024

Department Reports

Fire: Deputy Chief Smith delivered the September report: Total in-district alarms: 28. EMS calls – 26.

Rescue extrication 0, fire 0, hazards 0, service calls 0, and 1 alarm activation. Mutual aid received – 0 Aid proved to Easton, Hartford, Middle Falls, Hartford, Schuylerville, Victory Mills and Shushan. Total alarms – 37. Fire and Emergency response hours – 90.5, training hours 179.5 and activity – 378 for a total of 648 hours. Colin Bouchard has been reinstated as an interior/EMT firefighter. Tractor Parade planning meeting with multiple agencies will be held on October 17. An application is being prepared for the annual federal AFG grant which will result in a heavy-duty gear washer/dryer if successful. The value is \$40,000.

DPW: Superintendent Smith delivered the September report: normal work occurred along with the Water Improvement Project. Jason Nolan completed the electrical work on the fountain in Dorr Park. Plans for a new base for the fountain is being worked on in conjunction with the garden club and the Fort Miller Group. Future work includes equipment readiness for winter, salt shed, leaf picking about to start, water and sewer projects. Mayor Hurley questioned the large size of the electrical service housing in Dorr Park and could it be made smaller or enhanced in a way to make it blend in? Advertisement for a new MEO hire will be posted this week.

Police: Mayor Hurley delivered the September report: There were 11 cases reported to the DCJS in September totaling 106 reported for the year. Arrests totaled 2 with 35 arrests for the year. There were 70 calls logged with County Dispatch for the month. Calls for service for the year 2024 - 899. Incidents handled: warrant arrest and aggravated unlicensed operation. There were 0 motor vehicle accidents, total for the year – 15.

Youth: President Mumby delivered the September report: attendance was 129 youths with an average daily attendance of 8. Community collaborations included yoga, clay and the very popular roping and line dancing.

Mayor: Mayor Hurley delivered the September report – **Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP)** Project officially kicked off the week of September 12th. Moving forward we will meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 9 a.m. There will be a series of 6 meetings that will culminate in the spring/early summer with a public presentation of the DWSP2 Plan. **AGFTC Greenwich Bike/Ped Committee** - Results from the interactive map have been rounded up. We will have a meeting in November to review recommendations and establish next steps. Cliff notes: 25 users noted 75 points and 85 written comments. Requests for speed limit reduction, speed bumps, pedestrian crossing signage, public parking, sidewalk maintenance, etc. **DRI** - On Thursday September 12th we met with potential project stakeholders at Gather to educate them on how the program works and what types of projects can be covered/considered. On October 1st we held a public workshop to allow residents to weigh in on projects, share ideas and learn about the process/impact. We have also agreed to submit the Village of Greenwich for a NY Forward application in addition to the DRI application. **Multi-Modal Sidewalks - John Street** -Trustee Grimmke is drawing up a bid package, which will go to bid in the winter, and we are looking at the work to start this spring. **Dunbarton Mill** - Phase I ESA has been submitted onto DEC's system. Phase II is in process, and they were up taking samples for testing last week. **Village Hall Roof**- Last week we had to call in a contractor to assist with a leak in the slate roof over the upstairs auditorium section (directly over the village office). The leak was identified and fixed, but he said there was more maintenance work that needed to be done to the slate roof. We will be looking for more bids for that job. **Parks and Recreation** The committee convened, and they are working on general rules for hiking and fishing. Will be ready for board review next month. They are also going to walk the trails in the first week of November and mark the trails with paint. I would like to add Joe Panza, former Village Trustee and Lisa Perkins, Team Leader for the Greenwich Gardener's to this committee. This committee meets again on October 29th. We are also connecting with insurance to review what is covered, reaching out to other organizations as to not recreate the wheel and optimize their best practices and connecting with the Gazebo committee to see if we can partner on the "Friends of" designation. **Tree City USA** - I have been in touch with the Arbor Foundation on behalf of the Village of Greenwich to better understand the application process and standards for becoming a Tree City USA. The criteria we must meet to be considered are paying \$2 per capita for tree maintenance (we already meet that criteria), having a tree committee (currently in development via the parks and recreation group), declaring an official arbor day, a tree celebration and adopting a local tree ordinance. **DPW Dedication for Leo Flynn** - Special thanks to the DPW crew who worked diligently to get the DPW building in great shape for our building dedication. I'd also like to thank the Greenwich Fire Department for their support.

Old Business:

- **Bridge lights converted to LED.** These four lights are part of the maintenance agreement. Waiting to hear back from EJ Electric about installation of new LED fixtures.
- **Resolution No28 of 2024** Support of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) / NY Forward Application and Included Projects. We would like to include the Village Hall in this project. Approved on a motion by Trustee Vandewater, seconded by Trustee Moore and carried by all.

New Business:

- Wastewater Treatment Plant camera system. This would be focused on the operation in order to notify off-premises operators of service interruptions. The neighbor next door has paid for

internet to be brought down Rock St which is within the 3,000' free zone to bring service to the plant. There will be a monthly bill of course. More on this forthcoming.

- Dunbarton Mill – securing the site. Trustee Vandewater pointed out that the Village had secured some of the dangerous buildings with plywood a couple of years ago. These measures were vandalized in short order. Attorney Kelly stated that we have an obligation to make the sluice safer/ inaccessible. Fencing around the sluice may be the least expensive option. Trustee Vandewater stated that even chain link would be no match for bolt cutters in motivated hands. Trustee Grimmke opined that signage and stockade fencing would be cheaper than chain link, and the village could perform the install. The Mayor asked about pumping it out. Answer- costly and would require continual pumping. Trustee Moore suggested a fence over the top.
- **Proclamation for Tree City USA** – This serves two purposes: part of the negotiations with DEC over Wastewater violations to prove our investment in the environment. It is a necessary part of applying for grant monies to bring more trees to Greenwich. The application is due in December. Mayor Hurley is declaring October 12 as Arbor Day. Trustee Moore has investigated the non-invasive trees which can be planted in the fall. Lisa Perkins suggested Memorial Park which could use trees. This tree purchase will be paid out of the tree line in the budget which has not been touched this year. Trustee Moore suggested a wider variety of trees in the future to protect the tree population against disease. Mayor Hurley invited everyone to attend the tree planting at 10 am on Saturday in Memorial Park to celebrate this event. The DPW will be working in concert with Officials and perhaps the Tree Committee on questions on tree condition and removal.
- **Annual Financial Report** – Treasurer Clothier reports that the Village of Greenwich is in solid shape. The Comptrollers Office reports annual fiscal stress on municipalities. We have 3.3 points against us which is due solely to a population decrease of 2.9% from 2017-2022. She pointed out that this is beyond our control. The appropriated fund balance is \$538,000. This does include funds set aside to pay for the LED project, which was paid after June 1. Bonds are 1.3 million anticipation notes were \$467,000. We are earning just under 5% from our investment accounts. Retirement system and disability rolls have been refined and updated to reflect our current workforce. Donated services such as Pro-Dive Pools and volunteers like Lisa Perkins, and Aubuchon Hardware donating paint all help the financial picture of the village.
- **Motion** to Accept October 1, 2024, made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

Water / Sewer Billing

Water	\$94,249.09
Water Reserve	\$12,250.27
Sewer	\$32,110.16
Sewer Reserve	\$3,345.83
Total	\$157,149.11
Arrears	\$15,193.76
Total	\$141,955.35 Bills total 894

Permits

- Building Use Permit - Kim Brown Pilates. Tuesdays @ 9:00am and Thursdays @ 11:00am – approved.

7:54pm Motion to close the Regular Meeting and move into Executive Session to discuss personnel and potential litigation made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Moore and carried by all.

8:30pm Motion to close Executive Session and reopen Regular Meeting by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Moore and carried by all.

Motion to increase Police salaries effective next pay period; \$30/hour certified full-time, \$32/hour full-time over 5 years, \$27/hour part-time. So moved by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Moore and carried by all.

8:40pm Motion to close the Regular Meeting made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Moore and carried by all.

Respectfully submitted.

Jane Dowling – Village Clerk