

Minutes
Regular Monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees
Wednesday, October 9, 2019

Present: Mayor James Dunham

Trustees: Richard Phillips
Dale Leiser
Robert Baumeister
David Flaherty

Also attending: Ass't Superintendent Robert Meehan; CEO/ZEO Peter Bujanow; Economic Development Director Renee Shur; Fire Chief Matt Cohn; Climate Smart Chair William Mancini; Rima Bostick: Sigrid Gray; Dana Spot; Marc Browne; Dorene Weir; Alexander Spivy; Robert Puckett; Bonnie Dunham; Warren Applegate; Anne Birckmayer; Paul Calcagno; Captain of Troop K David Kolb; Rhonda Moran; Deborah Baxter; Sean Sawyer and The Columbia Paper Reporter Emelia Teasdale.

Annual audit of the Court Clerk and Village Clerk's Books

Court Clerk-The annual audit of the Village Court Clerk's books was conducted using the State Comptrollers Appendix D of the General Record-Keeping requirements for Town and Village Justice Courts. The Village Board found the Court Clerk's books to be in satisfactory order.

Village Clerk-The annual audit of the Village Clerk's books was conducted using the State Comptroller's Appendix A General Record –Keeping Requirements for Chief Fiscal Officers. The Village Board found the Village Clerk's books to be in satisfactory order.

TAX PAYER TIME

Marc Browne- Eichybush Rd- Was on the village's Planning Board and was Committee Chairman of the Village's Comprehensive Plan and is now on the town Planning Board. He wanted to comment on the proposed zoning changes the Village Board is considering. He noted in the village's adopted Comprehensive Plan under Economic Development: Goals and Strategies:

Goal: Accelerate efforts to retain and support existing businesses and attract new entrepreneurs and small business.

Strategies: Develop a Business Retention Program that establishes formal and regular communication between the village and business owners to identify and address economic challenges.

Mr. Browne noted if this building was empty we would be doing everything we could for a business to come into the village and he hopes the Village Board would consider doing everything they could for the business owner as long as all requirements and procedures are followed.

Rima Bostic-William Street-Wanted to know why it is taking so long to get the standing water on William Street closer to Hudson Street fixed. The standing water is a health issue and it draws mosquitos.

Alexandra Spivy-Sunset Ave-Has several comments/questions for the board. Does not feel the village's overburden volunteer firemen should be directing traffic during events. She feels the event holder should provide and pay for traffic control and not just by placing cones in the road. During the village's application process the village should require the event planner to add traffic control measures as part of their application process. She would like to know what the village plans to do about the ATV's that are using the trail.

Deborah Baxter-Railroad Ave-Is inquiring where the proposed plantings are going to be planted at Mills Park. Are they going to enlarge the butterfly Garden towards Railroad Ave and what percent will be gardens to an open mowed grass area? Will there be open space for children to play or dogs to run around. With the addition of the trail and the proposed increase of plantings she feels it will take away from the open space the neighboring residents would like to keep.

MINUTES

A motion made by Trustee Phillips approving the minutes of September 11, 2019 and September 26, 2019 Special Meeting; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted “aye”.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

A motion made by Trustee Phillips approving the following budget amendments presented by the Treasurer; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted “aye”.

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
A.1990.4 Contingent	A.1989.4 Consultant	\$115.46
A.1990.4 Contingent	A.8560.1 Shade Trees Personal Service	\$268.50
A.1990.4 Contingent	A.8560.4 Shade Trees Contractual	\$2,090.39

ABSTRACT

A motion made by Trustee Phillips to approve the monthly abstract in the amount of \$48,485.13; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted “aye”.

TREASURER’S REPORT

A motion made by Trustee Leiser approving the monthly Treasurer’s Report; seconded by Trustee Baumeister. All voted “aye”.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Matt Cohn reported 2 calls, 3 drills, and 1 detail. Fire Truck 35-12 is being serviced and will not be back in service until next week at that time truck 35-13 will go in for service. OSHA and HazMat training is scheduled for October 7th and 14th. Donations were received for the equipment fund to be used for additional items for the UTV. Matt received specs for a skid box that will be used for the ATV.

Traffic control- It was researched that the Fire Police on the authority of the chief may be used for village events.

NYS ZONE COMMANDER

David Kolb wanted to introduce himself as he is the new Captain for Troop K Zone 1. He would like to continue the great relationship the State Police have with Kinderhook. They have been in the village since 1978. He noted there are eight troopers with 24 hour patrols out of Kinderhook outpost.

Unauthorized use of the trail-He expressed to the public that reporting the unauthorized quads to the state troopers with as much detail as possible can assist them in finding the offenders. The usual time of day, color of quad any markings.

DPW

Ass’t Superintendent Robert Meehan reported they replaced a portion of the sidewalk on Albany Ave after New Leaf removed the tree. The cleanup of loose stones on several streets from the paving project was completed. The flushing of fire hydrants was done today. Leaf season has

begun and will continue for several weeks. Scheduling of skid boxing for several areas in the village needs to be done with The Town of Kinderhook before winter arrives.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Mayor Dunham welcomed Peter Bujanow the new Code Enforcement Officer. Mayor Dunham stated Peter will be meeting with Glenn Smith for training on the building department software program that Glenn wrote. Peter will continue with the violations Glenn was working on. He needs a few days to get accumulated.

11 Lindewald Court- the trailer that was removed is back a violation will need to be issued.

48 William Street- Glenn had condemned the garage. Peter will need to evaluate and continue with the safety concerns.

Short term rentals-the Planning Board is working on guidelines for Air BnB's.

TREES

Per the contract New Leaf removed several trees on village property.

TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY

The village has received several complaints from residents along Route 9 concerning the speed of vehicles and farm trucks through the village. Columbia County has placed their speed sign on Route 9 in the village to assist drivers in reducing their speed.

ALBANY HUDSON ELECTRIC TRAIL

Maintenance Agreement-an issue with the maintenance agreement is still open. The maintenance agreement will need to be signed.

Unauthorized use of the trail-Mayor Dunham encouraged resident to call (518.758.7010) to report unauthorized use of the trail.

Construction Status-The trail is still under construction until the spring of 2020. They are working from the South to the North installing fencing where needed.

Mills Park-Village resident, Sigrid Gray with the assistance of several volunteers is proposing changes to Mills Park. The Albany Hudson Electric Trail now divides the butterfly habitat. Sigrid worked for the Federal Government in horticultural and partnered with the State in public gardens. She was a consultant for New York City Parks for public gardens and for 15 years worked with a team on a 200 million dollar renovation of a 25 acre park on the southern tip of Manhattan Island in NYC (The Battery Park).

A map and informational sheet on the proposed plan is on display at the Village Hall for anyone to view.

Sigrid explained the gardens will be a hybrid between cultivated garden and meadow with mowed walking paths. Colored theme gardens will be added and planted to keep people away from the edge to the fly adding a safety buffer. There will also be particular plants planted throughout the gardens that deter ticks. In her presentation, Sigrid noted the 72" path around the garden for two people to walk side by side. There are 10,000 perennial hybrid flowers in the garden that reseed themselves.

Neighbors questioned if they would be losing the openness of the park for dogs to run around and children to play soccer. Sigrid said "yes" they will lose some of the openness. This was done intentional for safety. Sigrid noted the open space context of village parks: Rothermel Park is for sports, Mills Park is for naturalist and education.

The village board is requesting feedback especially from the immediate neighbors' before decisions are made. The Village Board thanked Sigrid and all the volunteers that have helped so far.

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES TASK FORCE

Minutes of the October 8, 2019 were received and posted to the village website.

Clean Energy Community Award- the Committee Chair, William Mancini reported he spoke with Tara Donadio from the Capital District Regional Planning Commission. She informed him the village's Clean Energy Community award should be approved by next month. The award will pay for the installation of solar panels on the DPW garage and the firehouse.

Reusable shopping bags-the committee would like to continue distributing reusable bags at the Farmers' Market. Hannaford sponsored 200 bags this year. This would be good advertising for business to have their logo on.

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)-The Committee gave a formal statement encouraging the village board to explore CCA. They noted moving forward does not in any way commit the village to be a part of the aggregation.

Mayor Dunham asked former Trustee Robert Puckett his opinion as he feels he is knowledgeable on the subject. He stated at this time it is informational only and does not see why the village would not move forward. But at some point the village will want to see documentation on the cost for the village and what the risk if any to join.

A motion made by Trustee Leiser to join the aggregation CCA; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted "aye".

WILLIAM STREET RT. 9 TO MAIDEN LANE

The village has submitted a Grant Application to the Environmental Facilities Corporation for grant funds for water infrastructure projects for William Street and Albany Ave.

The grant funds will pay for 60 % of the water infrastructure. The water infrastructure is approximately \$300,000 on each street.

3 & 5 BROAD STREET

Paul Calcagno is requesting the village approve moving the business district 25 FT south of 5 Broad Street. This would include the small building in the back to be placed in the business district also. The village board is supportive of the request as it consistent with the village's economic development portion of the village's Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Dunham noted the procedures are complex: the Village Board will have to amend the zoning law to add a portion of a parcel from Residential Zoning District to the B1 Business District. The Planning Board will have to approve the boundary line adjustment. The Zoning Board of Appeals would have to approve the reduction of lot width. A SEQR determination on the lot adjustment and a proposed joint Public Hearing of all boards is suggested. A motion made by Trustee Baumeister to move forward with the proposed lot adjustment; seconded by Trustee Phillips. All voted "aye".

ZONING BOARD

There was no new business before the board therefore the meeting was cancelled.

PLANNING BOARD

Minutes of September 5, 2019 and September 19, 2019 meetings were received.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Mayor Dunham accepted Rod Blackburn's resignation. He sent a thank you letter for his years of service. Mayor Dunham appointed Sean Sawyer to serve on the Commission finishing Rod Blackburn's term until March 2024.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

The EDC Director's monthly report was received and is on file in the village office and posted on the village website.

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting-The village is waiting on the easement from the US Postal Service for the installation of lights in the village parking lot.

Van Buren Hall- Renee showed the Village Board a rough sketch plan submitted by architect Gregory Merryweather. A sketch plan is needed in applying for grant funds.

KINDERHOOK CREEK RECREATIONAL STUDY

Kinderhook Creek Recreational Study-Barton & Loguidice has prepared the Kinderhook Creek Recreational Resource Inventory Study for the Village of Kinderhook & Village of Valatie. Copies will be available for public to view.

Local Waterfront Revitalization -the Village of Valatie was awarded the the Local Waterfront Revitalization for Creek Resiliency- Valatie will be the lead agency on this grant as most of the work is proposed to be done along the creek in Valatie.

Revised Walking Tour Brochure-The brochure will be designating as a walking and bicycling tour brochure. The information in the brochure will be updated by Village Historian, Ruth Piwonka, with new research.

VILLAGE HALL

Back Stairway- The emergency stairs are being fabricated in the shop. Trustee Flaherty requested notice of installation to inform renters of the installation.

Exterior masonry-Trustee Flaherty spoke with Lance Glenn the owner of L.G. Stone & Restoration. He would like the village to replace the back door and he will complete any stone work required.

Boilers-Main Care Energy installed two high efficiency boilers in the Village Hall.

BANDSTAND

Bandstand- An engineering report received from Dan Proper from Proper & O'Leary Engineering PC noted an issue with the foundation is making the bandstand lean. He estimates a cost of approximately \$91,000 to rebuild the bandstand.

24 HOUR MAXIMUM PARKING LIMIT ON STREETS IN B-1 DISTRICT

The village would like to consider adopting a local law restricting vehicles parking in the village business district for more than 24 hours.

LAWS AND POLICIES

The village completed training of village employees and is in compliance with Sexual Harassment requirement for training.

UNPAID WATER, SEWER & TAX BILLS

Water and Sewer billing was completed and mailed out. The total water billed was \$56,462.28 of which \$42,569.93 is outstanding; billed Sewer amount of \$5,542.18. The unpaid village taxes in the amount of \$17,841.57.

APPLICATIONS

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty approving the following application; seconded by Trustee Phillips. All voted "aye".

- a. KBPA is requesting a sign in the village square from 10/5/19-10/13/19 to advertise scarecrow seminar
- b. Columbia County Historical Society is requesting Van Buren Hall and lift on 11/20/19 6:15 pm-8:30 pm
- c. V.E.R.A is requesting to place a sign in the village square from 9/26/19-10/6/19 advertising an Artesian Festival
- d. Kinderhook Runners Club is requesting Van Buren Hall on 1/4/2020 from 8am-Noon
- e. Columbia County Democratic Committee is requesting the playground Pavilion on 11/3/19; noon-4 pm
- f. Peter Bujanow is requesting Van Buren Hall and the lift on October 24th; 7-9 pm Town hall style open forum meeting

RECREATION COMMISSION

Community Night was held at September 12th at 6pm at Rothermel Park. The weather was good, attendance was good. Wildfire food truck did well. The photo booth was a big hit.

A Halloween Costume Contest will be held in Van Buren Hall on 10/26/19 at 2:00 pm. Trustee Baumeister requested the Village Board to attend for judging of costumes. Mayor Dunham is unable to attend due to a funeral.

KBPA

The Fall Festival is scheduled for October 12, 2019 from 9 am-1 pm in the Village Square.

The Reading of the Legend of Sleepy Hollow will be held at the Vanderpoel house on 10/26/19 at 3:15pm following the village's costume contest.

TAXPAYER TIME

Paul Calcagno inquired if the village wrote a letter to Community Bank welcoming them into the village. Having a bank in the village is important to local businesses. Encouraging them to stay in the village square is an integral part of the business district. Renee offered to write a letter.

A motion made by Trustee Baumeister to adjourn the board meeting at 8:58 pm and enter into executive session on personnel; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole H. Heeder
Village Clerk

Executive Session
No motions made.

A motion made by Trustee Leiser to adjourn the executive session at 9:10 pm; seconded by Trustee Phillips. All voted "aye".

James Dunham
Mayor