

VILLAGE OF CHATHAM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TRACY MEMORIAL HALL, 77 MAIN STREET, CHATHAM NY
THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013, 7:30 PM EDT

BOARD MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL: Mayor Tom Curran called the meeting to order. Village Clerk Kathy Burke called the roll. Present: Mayor Curran, Trustee Lenore Packet, Trustee Jay Rippel, Trustee Adrienne Morrell, Trustee Mike Wollowitz, and Treasurer Barbara Henry.

Public Comment Period #1:

Joanne DelRossi stated that she would be happy to donate her time to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Looking forward to training. Trustee Packet asked Ms. DelRossi if she had ever served on the ZBA in the past. Ms. DelRossi answered yes. Mayor Curran stated that two people are needed for the ZBA. Notice for new members will be published.

Ms. DelRossi stated that she supports any tax decrease created by 2013/2014 budget.

Rusty Vazac asked if there would be increases in water and sewer billing. Mayor Curran answered that is unknown at this time, but could probably expect at least a standard cost of living increase. Mr. Vazac asked Mayor Curran to estimate the amount of the expected increase. Mayor Curran answered no, he needs to meet with Delaware Engineering and accountants to figure out yearly payment and improvements. Trustee Morrell stated that any increases would like happen for a couple of months. Mr. Vazac asked when the increases were likely to take place. Mayor Curran stated that any increases would likely go in effect when the repairs start, which he anticipates will be in the fall. Trustee Packet suggested holding a workshop meeting with the Engineers.

Melanie Spock asked if the 2013/2014 tax decrease would be 5%. Mayor Curran answered that the decrease would probably not be quite as much because the Board is not comfortable with projected revenues. Ms. Spock stated that she would rather have no decrease at all if it would help increase reserve funds.

Mr. Vazac stated that if water and sewer increases take place late in the year then it may be too late to affect this years revenue. Mayor Curran stated the Board would like to be conservative on tax cuts.

Ms. DelRossi suggested looking throughout the year for other ways to save money. Mayor Curran agreed that there are lots of areas to look for savings. Trustee Packet suggested cutting back on some of the phone/fax lines that the Village has.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION #196 to approve minutes from March 14, 2013.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet and Morrell. Resolution approved.

RESOLUTION #197 to approve minutes from March 28, 2013.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet and Morrell. Resolution approved.

RESOLUTION #198 to approve minutes from April 2, 2013.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Wollowitz. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet, Morrell and Wollowitz. Trustee Rippel abstained from voting as he was not present at the April 2 meeting. Resolution approved.

RESOLUTION #199 to approve minutes from the Public Hearing held April 11, 2013.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet, Morrell, Wollowitz and Rippel. Resolution approved.

RESOLUTION #200 to approve minutes from the Board Meeting held April 11, 2013.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet, Morrell, Wollowitz and Rippel. Resolution approved.

RESOLUTION #201 to approve minutes from the Public Hearing held April 18, 2013.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet, Morrell, Wollowitz and Rippel. Resolution approved.

OLD BUSINESS - BUDGET

Mayor Curran stated that there are lots of changes to the budget. More conservative approach in many areas.

Trustee Wollowitz asked if potential surplus could be discussed. Mayor Curran stated that the Health & Retirement revenue had not been included in previous versions, but now it is.

Trustee Packet if Medicaid number had changed. Mayor Curran answered yes.

Treasurer Henry stated that going through each administrative unit total would be the easiest way to see any changes. Corrections were made in each area as needed, there were some math errors in some columns.

Mayor Curran asked what the new levy and tax rate is. Treasurer Henry answered that the new tax rate is undetermined because some figures need to be re-done. Treasurer Henry is advocating for a simpler budget instead of this very detailed version.

Trustee Wollowitz noted that there are formulas not added correctly, and extra zeros in some spots. Treasurer Henry stated that she did not make any changes to formulas included in this document and does not know why they are not working properly. Extra numbers are just data entry errors. Mayor Curran stated that he does not have much confidence in this program.

Trustee Rippel stated that if the Board is not given accurate figures, then there is no way the budget should be approved.

Treasurer Henry proposed making corrections as needed: tax levy page needs to be re-done, will calculate correct bottom line totals, and will send entire document out to Trustees again. Trustee Wollowitz volunteered to cross check all figures if Treasurer Henry will send him a copy right away. Treasurer Henry will work with Trustee Wollowitz.

Trustee Packet asked if the Board can meet again on Monday, April 29 to go over all corrections. That would leave time to meet again if needed. General discussion of time restraints to advertise special meeting was held. Clerk Burke will advertise special meetings to be held on Tuesday, April 30 and Wednesday, May 1 (if needed).

Narratives and figures will be re-done. Narratives are not required for budget approval, so that will be done as a separate document. Trustee Wollowitz would also like to have narratives as separate document.

Trustee Wollowitz asked all Board members to double-check any corrections he makes.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #202 to approve request by American Legion to hold Memorial Day program in the Village on Monday, May 27. Estimated Police Department cost is \$560 for four (4) officers at Holiday rate.

Resolution made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by Trustee Wollowitz. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet, Morrell, Wollowitz and Rippel. Resolution approved.

Chatham Area Business Alliance (CABA) Summer Fest request to hold Summerfest 2013 on Saturday, July 6, from 10am-4pm. This item will be tabled until after the 2013/2014 has been approved.

Resolution #203 to approve Joanne DelRossi as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, effective immediately.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell. Approved by: Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet, Morrell, Wollowitz and Rippel. Resolution approved.

Mayor Curran and Trustee Packet met with people about the parking lot behind Main Street. The mayor would like to put a barrier out to bid at some point. CABA will try to raise money to do this so that it doesn't come out of Village funding. Mayor Curran spoke with Village Engineer Pat Prendergast about barrier options, and it sounds like a post and chain set-up will be the most cost-effective way to go.

Correspondence: none.

Public Comment Period #2: no comments.

Motion made by Trustee Rippel, seconded by Trustee Morrell to go into Executive Session at 9:25pm. All approved.

Motion made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by Trustee Packet to close Executive Session at 9:50pm. All approved.

Monthly abstracts

Resolution #204 to approve monthly abstracts at a total of \$21,514.92.
*Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Rippel. Approved by:
Mayor Curran and Trustees Packet, Morrell, Wollowitz and Rippel. Resolution
approved.*

*Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:00 pm made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by
Trustee Rippel. Approved by all.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Burke
Village Clerk