

VILLAGE OF CHATHAM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
TRACY MEMORIAL HALL, 77 MAIN STREET, CHATHAM NY  
THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2013, 7:30 PM EDT

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 730pm

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 and Treasurer Barbara Henry. Absent: Trustee Mike Wollowitz.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD #1:**

None at this time.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the June 27 meeting will be reviewed further by the Board of Trustees and will be voted on at the next regularly scheduled meeting, August 8, 2013.

**Reports**

Police Report – read aloud by interim-Chief Mark Leggett.

- Looking for crossing guard for the 2013/2014 school year. Positions are being advertised.
- Chief Leggett has been in touch with Angelo Nero re: coverage needed for the Columbia County Fair.
- CPD will get 911 calls when there are officers on duty, unless they are already on another call.

Fire Report – Chief Pratt was absent, report was read by Trustee Rippel.

Resolution #234 to approve Jamie Kubisek as a member of the Ocean Fire Company #1, Chatham Fire Department, pending a firefighter physical examination.

*Resolution made by Trustee Rippel, seconded by Trustee Packet. All approved.*

Wastewater/Water – no report.

Streets – no report.

- DPW personnel are hard at work mowing and painting hydrants.

Treasurer/Administrator – read by Barbara Henry

Resolution #235 to approve the creation of a Village of Chatham non-interactive Facebook page in order to inform Village residents of things going on.

*Resolution made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by Trustee Packet. All approved.*

Trustee Morrell stated it would be good to try this and see how it goes.

Building Inspector – report was provided to all Trustees.

## New Business

Discussion of transferring Village Elections to the Columbia County Board of Elections. Mayor Curran read comments from the BOE on why it would be beneficial for them to run the elections for the Village.

Trustee Rippel asked if the BOE would handle petitions. Mayor Curran will find out.

Treasurer Henry stated that a budget amendment would be needed because this was not included in the 2013/2014 budget. The quote from the BOE was \$2,500 - \$2,700.

Trustee Rippel asked where the inspectors would come from. Mayor Curran answered that the BOE has a county-wide list to work with. Trustee Morrell stated that most workers are local. Trustee Rippel stated that many people have been doing this for years and he would like to make sure they are still given the opportunity. Trustee Packet said that might not be fair, depending on who picks the people.

Trustee Packet asked if people from the BOE could be present at the public hearing to be held in August. Mayor Curran will invite them. Public hearing will be scheduled for August 8 beginning at 7:00 pm.

Resolution #236 that pursuant to the New York State Election Law and Village Law, the Village of Chatham will transfer the authority to operate and run all Village Elections from the Village Clerk to the Columbia County Board of Elections starting with the next Village election in March of 2014. It is further resolved that the Village of Chatham will reimburse the County for all costs associated with the elections. This resolution is subject to permissive referendum and the Village Clerk shall cause such notice to be placed in the official Village newspaper.

*Resolution made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by Trustee Packet. Votes: Trustee Morrell, Trustee Packet and Mayor Curran – YES. Trustee Rippel – ABSTAIN.*

Trustee Morrell stated that it will be good to have further discussion at public hearing.

Discussion to accept lowest bidder for electric energy. Mayor Curran would like to see this happen because it would mean a big savings for the Village.

Trustee Rippel asked if the bidding process met requirements of new procurement policy regulations. Treasurer Henry answered that it did, and all bids were silent.

Resolution #237 to accept bid from Direct Energy electric use to start September 1, 2013.

*Resolution made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by Trustee Rippel. All approved.*

Discussion of hiring another worker for the Department of Public Works. There is enough money in the budget to hire someone for a total of five (5) part-time weeks. Interviews were conducted by Mayor Curran and Ed Czyzewski.

Resolution #238 to hire Peter Latham as a seasonal employee at the standard rate.

*Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell. Votes: Trustee Morrell, Trustee Packet and Mayor Curran – YES. Trustee Rippel – recused himself from this vote.*

Trustee Packet would like to see fireworks at the Fairgrounds again. General discussion followed.

### **Old Business**

Mayor Curran spoke of ongoing work to settle water/sewer rates. Hope to see changes in next billing period.

Trustee Rippel asked the about the status of the new fire truck bond. Mayor Curran answered that the bond was scheduled to close on Monday, July 15.

Parking lot behind Main Street – Mayor Curran believes the best solution for now is to grade, gravel and barricade the lot.

### **Correspondence**

- Letter from Wendy Carroll read re: gardens and landscaping around Main Street.
  - Mayor Curran recused himself from this discussion.
  - Trustee Packet stated that flowers are beautiful, but the Village should have been asked for money before the work was done, not after. Stated that this does not follow procedures in place. Trustee Morrell would encourage Ms. Carroll to submit this type of request before any work is done and early enough to be included in the budget process.
  - Trustee Packet would suggest DPW has materials on hand in the future, like buying mulch in bulk instead of individual bags.
  - At this time, no action will be taken.
  
- Final Report received from Sean's Run – passed around to view.

### **Public Comment Period #2**

Frank Genovese – asked if water billing software conversion charges were included in the original bid. Treasurer Henry answered no, the original bid is for software and training only.

Resolution #239 to approve the monthly abstracts in the amount of \$36,585.17.

*Resolution made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by Trustee Rippel. All approve.*

Motion made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell to adjourn at 9:00pm. All approved.

Next regular meeting will be held August 8 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathryn A. Burke  
Village Clerk