

**VILLAGE OF CHATHAM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mayor Tom Curran, Trustee Jay Rippel, Trustee Michael Wollowitz, Trustee Adrienne Morrell, Trustee Lenore Packet and Treasurer Barbara Henry.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment

MINUTES:

Trustee Packet motioned to approve February 20, 2014 minutes, Trustee Morrell seconded. All approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department – read by Chief Paul Pratt

Police Department – read by Chief Peter Volkmann

Discussion of buying a new car for the Police Department. Chief Volkmann distributed bids to all BOT members and would like to discuss further at next meeting.

Treasurer/Administrator Report – read by Barbara Henry

OLD BUSINESS:

Water Tower – re-coating and repair on hold for now while waiting for more information from Pat Prendergast.

Trustee Morrell stated that future requirements should be taken in to consideration as well as current needs. Money may be needed for reservoir instead of tank. Very important to consider both.

Trustee Wollowitz asked if Mr. Prendergast has made recommendations or provided any feedback for other water/sewer related things. Mayor Curran answered no. Trustee Morrell stated that nothing further has been received from Delaware Engineering either. Mayor Curran stated that the entire system should be reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of letter of recommendation received from Wilson Elser re: In Rem Foreclosure Petitions.

Resolution #13 made as per recommendation from Wilson Elser to file Answers to these Petitions on or before May 23, 2014, stating their objections to the foreclosures to the extent that the Village has superior or at least equal liens.

Resolution made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Wollowitz. All approved.

Working Foreman/Superintendent: this person will be a bargaining unit member and must follow their rules. Will only work 20 hours/week or less. This position does not exist within the Village right now. Will look at what it has paid in the past. Mayor Curran stated that pay will be negotiable to some degree based on experience and qualifications. Treasurer Henry stated that a basic range of pay should be established. Trustee Packet stated that interviews need to be conducted, so asked that no resolution be put forth at this time. Treasurer Henry will look up past pay history and union info regarding this position. Mayor Curran stated that it is a Columbia County Civil Service position.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Safe Routes to Schools – bid package is ready. Pat Prendergast sent it to NYSDOT for final approval. Mr. Prendergast will come to a meeting to further discuss the process with the BOT. Hopes to get word back from NYSDOT very quickly.

Water Tower – is leaking. Scheduled to be repaired on March 14, 2014.

Sidewalk/Snow Ordinance: there is already a law in place. Law needs to be applied and enforced.

Chief Volkmann stated that the Police Department could issue warning and give residents 24 hours to fix. If it's not fixed after that time, then DPW or a private snow removal contractor could be sent out. General discussion followed. It was decided that police officers will issue courtesy warnings to all unshoveled sidewalks 24 hours after each storm.

Tracy Evaluation RFP: would like to have an engineering firm evaluate the condition of the Tracy, steps to stabilize, and ADA requirement. Mayor Curran and Treasurer Henry are working on this.

Budget – due in to the Clerk by March 20, 2014, then will be already for distribution and budget workshop meetings will be scheduled.

Next regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held Thursday, March 27 beginning at 7:00 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Francis Iaconetti – asked if there had been any more conversations with the Chatham School District about a second access road. Mayor Curran answered that there was nothing further at this time. Stated that he met with Pat Prendergast, John Bartholomew, Steve Neito and Mike Chudy to check out the driveway by the pump station. Mr. Iaconetti asked if a boundary or topographic survey had been obtained. Stated that he believes this is important for the Village and recommended asking the School District to establish an escrow account to cover expenses. Mayor Curran stated that School District should probably do all of the work so that the Village does not incur any cost, but agreed with the idea of establishing an escrow account just in case. Mr. Iaconetti stated that this should be a district-wide cost, not just a Village cost. Fire Chief Paul Pratt asked that emergency services be included in future

meetings – important access information is needed for big trucks. Chief Volkmann stated that he meets with school officials on a regular basis and will discuss this further with them.

Abstracts:

Abstracts from February totaled \$8,277.30.

Resolution #14 made to approve utility abstracts in the amount of \$25,968.15.

Resolution made by Morrell, seconded by Wollowitz. All approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion made by Trustee Packet, seconded by Trustee Morrell, to go into Executive Session to discuss matters related to termination of professional service and matters related to the appointment of consultants to the Village. All approved.

Motion made by Trustee Morrell, seconded by Trustee Packet, to leave Executive Session at 9:38pm. All approved.

Motion made by Morrell, seconded by Packet to adjourn at 9:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Burke, Clerk