

VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, NEW YORK
TRACY MEMORIAL BUILDING
77 MAIN STREET, CHATHAM, NY 12037

February 14, 2022

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 7:00pm
AND PUBLIC HEARING 6:50pm

MINUTES

Present: Mayor J. Howe; Trustees P. Minahan, M. Spock, J. Boehme, J. Russell; Village Attorney K. Dow; Village Clerk D. Kelleher; Deputy Clerk S. Davis; Acting Fire Chief P. Pratt; Acting Police Chief J. Alessi; Town of Chatham Liaison V. Pitkin; Building and Codes Inspector E. Reis; Residents W. Coe, D. Meyers, S. Gordon-Oster, J. Wojick, E. DiPalma.

Public Hearing OPENED at 6:50pm by Mayor J. Howe: A Proposed Resolution entitled "A Resolution Establishing Income Levels For Real Property Tax Exemptions for Senior Citizens", and three (3) Proposed Local Laws entitled "A Local Law Establishing A Cold War Veteran Tax Exemption", "A Local Law Establishing an Alternative Veterans Tax Exemption", and "A Local Law Establishing a Tax Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income".

Resident W. Coe spoke in opposition to the proposed Local Laws and Resolution.

Motion to close the Public Hearing by J. Russell, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all at 7:03pm.

Call to Order: 7:03pm by Mayor J. Howe, and Pledge of Allegiance.

First Public Comment (limited to 15 minutes): Resident D. Meyers read a letter written by resident S. Piazza asking that the Board approve \$3,550 for Balzar Family Clock Works to evaluate the Village Clock Tower.

Reports of Commissioners and Committees:

Building Inspector: Erin Reis. *Report given by E. Reis.*

Wastewater/Water Commissioner: Trustee Jodie Russell. *DPW report read by J. Russell.*

Streets & Snow Removal Commissioner: Trustee Jaimee Boehme

Trustee M. Spock and Mayor J. Howe highlighted the tremendous efforts by the DPW crew for their superb work on the recent 12" water pipe break.

Police Commissioner: Pete Minahan. *Report given by Acting Chief J. Alessi.*

Fire Commissioner: Trustee Melony Spock. *Report given by Acting Chief P. Pratt. Mayor J. Howe mentioned that members of the Fire Department attended Sexual Harassment, Right to Know, and Blood Borne Pathogen training which they do on an annual basis. All Village employees and Board members will be attending Sexual Harassment training in the next 6 weeks.*

Approve the Minutes January 10, 2022 Board Meeting. So moved by J. Boehme, seconded by J. Russell. *Approved by all.*

Approve the Minutes January 31, 2022 Special Board Meeting. So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by J. Russell. *Approved by all.*

Approve Budget to Actual January 31, 2022. *So moved by J. Boehme, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

New Business:

1. **Resolution** – To approve a Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$952.52 from the Municipal Parking Fund (#5201974963) into Revenue Budget Line 5031.01 Inter-Fund Transfer, to pay for the Use of **CSX Real Estate (CSX Property)**. *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by J. Boehme. Approved by all.*

2. **Resolution** – To approve Budget Line Transfer in the amount of \$952.52 out of Revenue Line 5031.01 “Inter-Fund Transfer” into Budget line 56504.01 Off-street parking, to pay for the Use of **CSX Real Estate (CSX Property)**. *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by J. Russell. Approved by all.*

3. **Resolution** – To approve the closure of the Special Grant Fund (#5202974962), and moving the amount \$3621.34 to Revenue Line 5031.01 Inter-Fund Transfer, as partial **reimbursement of funds** from the General Fund for the **Tracy Renovation Project**. *So moved by J. Boehme, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

4. **Resolution** - To approve Budget Line Transfer in the amount of \$5259.66 out of Budget Line 93786.12 EFC Reservoir Principal, into Budget line 14204.12 Attorney, to cover **unexpected closing costs for the Water Storage Tank Project**. *So moved by J. Russell, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

5. **Resolution** – To establish **standard work days** for certain officials

WHEREAS, the Office of the New York State Comptroller calls upon municipalities to submit statements of standard work days for certain officials; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Comptroller has provided form RS2417-A for such purpose;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chatham, that the standard work days for the **Village Deputy Clerk** as set out on the form RS-2417-A that is appended to this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Village Clerk, or other Village Officials are authorized and directed to take such steps as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this Resolution and the filing of the appended form RS-2417-A. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by J. Russell. Approved by all.*

6. **Resolution** – To adopt **A RESOLUTION AGAINST HATE**

WHEREAS, recently as a nation we have witnessed record high violence based upon a person’s religion, race, gender identities, sexual orientation, nationalities, economic status and political affiliation; and

WHEREAS, here in the United States communities that have been built with the guidance, assistance and leadership that is inclusive of peoples of all races, religions, nationalities, gender identities, sexual orientations, economic status and political affiliation are more successful; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Chatham Board of Trustees continues to maintain that all people of our community have the right to feel safe and be treated equally and with respect and dignity regardless of their race, religion, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status and political affiliation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chatham, on behalf of our community members, do hereby state that the Village of Chatham reaffirms our commitment to a

status of inclusion for all races, religions, nationalities, gender identities, sexual orientations, economic statuses and political affiliations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on behalf of all residents of the Village of Chatham we maintain our position that violence of any kind is unacceptable and condemn any act of aggression, hostility or violence against any member of our community based upon race, religion, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status or political affiliation. *So moved by J. Howe, seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.*

7. Resolution – To accept the membership Kyle Borut to the Ocean Fire Company for the Chatham Fire Department. *So moved by J. Boehme, seconded P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

8. Resolution - To approve the Proposed Resolution to Adopt Amended Levels of Real Property Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens Under Real Property Tax Law Section 467. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by J. Russell. Roll call as follows:*

*Trustee J. Boeheme - Aye
Trustee M. Spock - Aye
Trustee P. Minahan - Aye
Mayor J. Howe - Aye
Trustee J. Russell - Aye*

9. Resolution - To enact Local Law 3 of 2022 “A Local Law Establishing Income Levels for Real Property Tax Alternative Veterans Exemption.” *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by P. Minahan. Roll call as follows:*

*Trustee J. Boeheme - Aye
Trustee M. Spock - Aye
Trustee P. Minahan - Aye
Mayor J. Howe - Aye
Trustee J. Russell - Aye*

10. Resolution - To enact Local Law 4 of 2022 “A Local Law Establishing Income Levels for Real Property Tax Limited Income Disability Exemption. *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by P. Minahan. Roll call as follows:*

*Trustee J. Boeheme - Aye
Trustee M. Spock - Aye
Trustee P. Minahan - Aye
Mayor J. Howe - Aye
Trustee J. Russell - Aye*

11. Resolution - To enact Local Law 2 of 2022 “A Local Law Establishing Income Levels for Real Property Tax Exemptions for Cold War Veterans.” *So moved by J. Russell, seconded by P. Minahan. Roll call as follows:*

*Trustee J. Boeheme - Aye
Trustee M. Spock - Aye
Trustee P. Minahan - Aye
Mayor J. Howe - Aye
Trustee J. Russell - Aye*

Items for Discussion:

- A.** Zoning Committee Codes/Policy Updates (sidewalks, Food Trucks, signs...). *Trustee M. Spock will forward the completed draft about sidewalks to Village attorney for his review prior to the March meeting of the Board. Once that is finalized, Food Trucks will be next.*
- B.** Environmental Management Committee purpose is to advise local/state/federal government on present and proposed methods of using, protecting, and conserving the environment for the benefit of all the people. *The Village Clerk will post an ad on Facebook searching for a volunteer for the EMC Board. V. Pitkin will contact the clerk with the names of 2 people as possible candidates.*
- C.** Tree Removal – J. Boehme. *The pine tree at the front of the Tracy Memorial Building needs to be removed. 2 proposals were received and presented. The Board will look at the 22-23 budget in-process and hold the work until new budget year, if the funds are available.*
- D.** *Mayor J. Howe read the Planning Board recommendation to the Board of Trustees pertaining to Retail Cannabis and asked for thoughts from the board. Attorney K. Dow noted a few options that are available to the Board. Mayor J. Howe asked that the Board try to come to a decision in March or April of 2022.*
- E.** *Mayor J. Howe noted that 1 year ago, approximately \$3,800 was added to a budget line for the clock tower and that \$3500 for an assessment is reasonable. Mayor J. Howe also mentioned that we are currently in the budget season and tentative schedules for budget meetings leading up to the finalized budget for 2022-2023. For this budget season considering such things as reserve funds for the Fire Department and for The Tracy Building to offset debt service, ongoing financial responsibility, planning for the future, correction of abandoned water line to Ghent and fixing the UV light utilizing approximately \$160,000 (from ARPA –SLFRF to be used for water infrastructure).*

Second Public Comment Period (limited to 15 minutes): *V. Pitkin said that the Climate Smart Action Task Force had two new members who are very interested in being involved in the community who might be interested in applying to the EMC. Mayor J. Howe asked that he refer them to the Village Clerk.*

Adjournment: *So moved by J. Russell, seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all 7:55pm.*

Next meeting: March 14, 2021, 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Desiree Kelleher
Village Clerk