

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

JUNE 13, 2022

Public Hearing 6:45pm

Regular Meeting 7:00pm

MINUTES

*Present: Mayor J. Howe; Trustees P. Minahan, J. Boehme, M. Spock, K. Schassler; Village Attorney K. Dow; Clerk D. Kelleher; Deputy Clerk S. Davis; Treasurer P. Delong; Building Inspector E. Reis; Town of Chatham Liaison V. Pitkin; CPD Chief J. Alessi; CFD Chief P. Rideout; Residents L. Locke, J. Dodge, B. and K. Buono, J. DiDonato, J. Simmons, R. Simpson.*

**Public Hearing for “A Local Law to Amend the Village Code in Relation to Sidewalks”** opened at 6:45pm by J. Howe.

*>J. DiDonato (Center St/State Route 66): Residents on Center St/State Route 66 additional hardship due to State plows re-depositing snow from the road back onto the sidewalk after they have been cleared.*

*> Buono (Hudson Ave): Some properties do not have sidewalks.*

*>J. Dodge (Center St/State Route 66): In support of the proposed code but some neighbors have an undue amount of burden due to a dip in the road which leads to water pooling in the State road and becoming ice. Requested that the Board support residents in getting State funding and assistance to improve the condition of State Route 66/Center Street. Ms. Dodge also mentioned vehicles traveling at recorded excessive speeds of over 50mph on Center St. Notes that especially more recently with the advent of more weekend and part-time residents, many sections of the Center St sidewalk are rarely cleared in a timely manner and it is dangerous to walk on Center Street.*

*>J. Simmons (Hudson Ave): Concerned that some residents are physically not able to lift and clear the snow and ice from the sidewalk.*

**Close Public Hearing:** 7:20pm by J. Howe.

**Call to Order Regular meeting:** 7:20pm by Mayor J. Howe

**First Public Comment (limited to 15 minutes):** none.

**Monthly Reports:**

*Building Department Report given by Building Inspector: Erin Reis*

*Police Department report given by Chief J. Alessi.*

*Fire Department report given by Chief P. Rideout.*

*DPW report read by Wastewater/Water Commissioner: Karyn Schassler*

**Approve Minutes of May 23, 2022 Special Board Meeting (Concept of possible lodging-type facility on vacant parcel #66.13-2-58 on State Route 203).** So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.

Introduction of proposed Local Law 6 of 2022, to allow the retail sale of Cannabis in the Village, definition of retail cannabis, and add to Table of Use. *Introduced by Mayor Howe and a Public hearing scheduled for 6:45pm on July 11, 2022.*

**New Business:**

- **Resolution 68 of 2022** – To amend the Village of Chatham **Sidewalk policy** per proposed **Local Law 5 of 2022**. *Mayor Howe indicated that he would like to do some more research prior to taking action. Motion to Table by M. Spock, seconded by J. Boehme. Approved by all.*
- **Resolution 69 of 2022** – To approve the May 20, 2022 request by **Chatham Rural Cemetery Association, Inc.** for **\$3000** financial support. *So moved by J. Boehme, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*
- **Resolution 70 of 2022** – To increase the limit on the **Deputy Mayor Village credit card** account from \$100 to **\$2500**. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.*
- **Resolution 71 of 2022** – To approve the proposed resolution of support for the establishment and extension of the **Harlem Valley Rail Trail through Columbia County**

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board recognizes the economic and recreational benefits to its residents and visitors which would be occasioned by the extension of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail from its southern terminus in the Hamlet of Wassaic in Dutchess County to its planned northern terminus in the Village of Chatham; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board wishes to acknowledge its support of the **Harlem Valley Rail Trail Project and its eventual extension to the Village of Chatham;**

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of the Village fully supports the collaborative efforts of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, Inc. in all of their efforts for the establishment and extension of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail through Columbia County.

*So moved by J. Boehme, seconded by P. Minahan. Roll call vote: P. Minahan – Aye, J. Boehme – Aye, M. Spock – Aye, K. Schassler – Aye, J. Howe – Aye. All approved. Motion passes.*

- **Resolution 72 of 2022** – To approve the use of the **Gazebo** and the **Green area** on Hudson Avenue from the Railroad crossing to the Chatham Grill for the **Summerfest** on Saturday, **July 9, 2022 from 11am-9pm**. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by K. Schassler. Approved by all.*
- **Resolution 73 of 2022** – To approve the temporary suspension of the **local open container law**, for **Summerfest** on Main Street from the **traffic circle to the clock tower, Park Row, and the Gazebo Area** from 11am-4pm, and in the **municipal lot** 11am-10pm, on **Saturday, July 9, 2022**. (Not to include the Green on Hudson Ave from Railroad crossing to the Chatham Grill). *So moved by J. Boehme, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

- **Resolution 74 of 2022** - To approve the encumbrance of funds in the amount of \$727.77 from General Fund expenditure line 31204.01 (Police Office and Essential Supplies) from the 2021/2022 budget year, for the **purchase of Positive Promotions Sales Order #27239305, which was placed** . *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.*
- **Resolution 75 of 2022** – To approve the **CPD** re-hiring of **Jim Dorato** pending medical, psychological, and background check. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by J. Boehme. Approved by all.*
- **Resolution 76 of 2022** – To authorize the termination of Guardian Dental as the Village dental insurance company, and to approve Village enrollment in CDPHP/Delta Dental insurance company. *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*
- **Resolution 77 of 2022** - To approve a request made by Aaron Gaylord, to remove and replace the tree at 25 Main Street with equivalent. Prior to purchasing the replacement tree, A. Gaylord will contact the Village for a list of acceptable replacement tree options. *So moved by Trustee K. Schassler and seconded by Trustee P. Minahan*

**Items for Discussion:**

- A. Workshops to streamline Planning and Zoning Boards procedures – public workshops will be scheduled in the near future for the purpose of improving the Planning and Zoning procedures.
- B. Lisa Ross and Georgene Gardner are working on DEC Grant for Trees in the Village.
- C. Tennis Courts – Thank you to Matt Wood for generous donation to re-surface the Tennis Courts. The resurfacing is tentatively scheduled for July 11, 2022.
- D. Flowers for Village fountain and flower pots – Thank you to Chatham Hardware for their generous donation of flowers for the Village pots and fountain.
- E. Suggestion by P. Minahan for a Recognition Certificate, or Award for citizens that give back to community. Many residents who selflessly give their time and resources. Board agreed.
- G. Bike Racks – J. Boehme, with resident L. Braun, researching options and feasibility of bike racks for the Village. Looking into location, cost, need, styles, etc.

**Second Public Comment Period (limited to 15 minutes):** *L. Locke mentioned 3 trees lost in the Village, 2 of which are in front of the Tracy. Mayor Howe mentioned that grant writer, Mary Ellen Hurn, will be working on grants for Village trees, and to address drainage issues at the Tracy. J. Dodge brought up the need for more parking. Suggested permits for residents who live on the 1-way section of Kinderhook Street.*

**Executive Session:** Collective negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law.

*Motion by M. Spock to enter into Executive session at 8:19pm, seconded by J. Boehme. All approved.*

*Motion by M. Spock to leave Executive session, and to adjourn the meeting, at 8:42pm, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

**Adjournment:** 8:42pm

**Next meeting:** July 11, 2022 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Desiree Kelleher

(rev.06/29/22)