

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, NEW YORK
TRACY MEMORIAL BUILDING
77 MAIN STREET, CHATHAM, NY 12037
September 12, 2022 - Regular Meeting 7:00pm

MINUTES

Call to Order: 7:00pm by Mayor John Howe.

Present: Mayor J. Howe; Trustees P. Minahan, M. Spock; Village Clerk D. Kelleher; Deputy Clerk S. Davis; Village Treasurer P. DeLong; CFD Chief P. Rideout; CPD Acting Chief J. Alessi; Town of Chatham liaison V. Pitkin; Resident (Hudson Ave/Hoffman St) C. Smith. **Not present:** Attorney K. Dow; Trustees J. Boehme, K. Schassler; Building Dept. E. Reis; DPW Foreman P. Genovese.

First Public Comment (limited to 15 minutes): V. Pitkin inquired about status of Shaker Museum project, and about the alleged increased cost of the project. J. Howe replied that they did go to the Planning Board and request a one year extension, which they were granted. Part of the issue is that the cost of materials and labor has increased so much they plan to do some additional so fundraising.

Resident C. Smith – raised concerns about the crosswalk near Hoffman St and Hudson Ave. Vehicles do not stop. Possible solutions including solar pedestrian light? City of Hudson and Village of Valatie have solar pedestrian light. J. Howe – We will take a look at the situation. Follow up with DOT as it is a State highway so some of what the Village can and cannot do is dictated by DOT. Will also look at education, and enforcement possibilities, investigate traffic patterns. J. Alessi – Currently looking into flashing signs but they are expensive and with everything, funding is an important consideration. Church Street and Main Street are also being looked at. For liability reasons, the Village would probably need to do all crosswalks not just one or two.

Departments and Committees Reports: (copies of reports available with minutes on file)

>**Building Department:** Building Inspector, Erin Reis. Read by Village Clerk D. Kelleher.

>**Police Department:** Acting Chief J. Alessi; Police Commissioner Pete Minahan. Report presented by Acting Chief J. Alessi. Police Reform meeting was held, but not well attended despite being publicized.

NYSSA SAFE CHILD Program – would like to be more proactive and are willing to arrange classes at places like the school, or Metz Wood, etc. to reach more people.

The old police vehicle will be repurposed and the recording camera will be removed before the end of the month. J. Howe - The fire department has use for that vehicle for the assistant chiefs and with some TLC it could fill the need of the fire department.

J. Howe – Thank you to Acting Chief J. Alessi and to the entire Police department for all of their hard work on the Columbia County Fair. The police department is aware of an incident with graffiti over the weekend and they are looking into it.

P. Minahan – Expressed thanks to Acting Chief Alessi for the Supervisors School. The State mandates 3 weeks of training which is difficult for part-time officers who would need to use vacation time from their full time jobs to complete the training in Albany. Alessi put the school together to take place part-time in the evenings, which allowed our Sergeants to now be certified.

>**Fire Department:** Chief P. Rideout; Fire Commissioner Melony Spock. Report presented by Chief P. Rideout.

Covered 6 days of Columbia County Fair with 18 members, including 3 special events, 2 Demo Derby's, and 1 tractor pull, and a raffle of numerous donated items.

New Rescue Pumper 58-42 will be having spot on chains installed around October 15.

The truck acquired from the DPW is all put together, lights on it, lettered and in service. Used for the first time at the fair.

J. Howe – The Old Forge Fire School is happening this weekend and permission is requested for DPW truck to be used, and driven only by DPW Foreman P. Genovese, to haul the CFD gator trailer to Old Forge. This would leave the CFD utility truck in the Village in the event it is needed to respond to an incident within the Village. Resolution not needed, but the Mayor received approval from Board members. Chief P. Rideout also requested to take the Chief's car to better enable members to attend. J. Howe noted the strict protocol around use of the Chief's vehicle and this is a request to attend fire school, which is allowed. Request to take the Chief's vehicle approved.

>DPW: Foreman P. Genovese; Wastewater/Water Commissioner Karyn Schassler, Streets & Snow Removal Commissioner Jaimee Boehme. *Read by Village Clerk D. Kelleher.*

Approve Minutes of August 8, 2022. *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Approve the August 2022 Budget to Actuals. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.*

New Business:

Resolution 90 of 2022 – To accept the August 11, 2022 **resignation of Police Officer David Bowen** from the Chatham Police Department. *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 91 of 2022 – To approve **Columbia County Pathways to Recovery (CCPR)** to hold **Memorial Walk** on Friday, September 23, 2022 at 6:00pm to begin on the front steps of the Tracy Memorial building, to include the placement of Memorial signs on the green space at the end of Main Street between the clock tower and the railroad tracks. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.*

Resolution 92 of 2022 – To approve the reimbursement of **water/sewer overpayment** in the amount of **\$1112.38** to the **First Reformed Church**, 23 Kinderhook Street, Chatham, NY. *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Items for Discussion:

a. Knox Box – *Mayor Howe touched on the possibility of enacting a Local Law pertaining to Knox Box requirements and would like the Board to discuss it further at the next monthly meeting, while also obtaining input from Village attorney K. Dow.*

b. EMC – Amy Walsh reported via email that EMC members will tour the County Waste recycling facility on August 30. She is also looking for some direction/guidance for what the Village Board would like her focus to be. She will plan to attend the next Board meeting on October 17, 2022 to meet the Trustees and to discuss some ideas.

Second Public Comment Period (limited to 15 minutes): *J. Alessi requested that the Board consider changing the pay rate for the crossing guard to \$30 per shift (a shift is 1 hour) so he can advertise for a substitute, or possibly 2 subs. Sometimes, depending on the school schedule, there are two crossings. Some days there are 3 crossings. Currently the crossing guard is paid \$16 and change, per hour. When a police officer covers for the crossing guard it costs more. Alessi will compile a formal description for the meeting next month.*

Executive Session: For discussion of potential, proposed, pending or current litigation. *Executive session was postponed due to Board members not able to attend this meeting. Date and time for Special meeting TBD.*

Adjournment: *So moved by M. Spock, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all at 7:34pm.*

Next meeting: October 17, 2022 7:00pm

(rev.10/5/22)