

January 9, 2023

A regular meeting of the Village Board held on the above date was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 1 West Main Street, Clifton Springs, NY 14432.

Presiding: Mayor James Keyes

Village Trustees Present: Bryan Gray, Brian Rickerson, Jeff Linsner

Village Trustees Absent: Earl Lincoln

Also Attending: One adult and one student – connected to scouting observed the meeting, Jason Lannon – DPW Supervisor, Eric Merkley – Chief Sewer Plant Operator, Bill Hunter and David Tornow Coffee – village residents

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of December 12, 2022, were approved upon motion by Trustee Linsner 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Rickerson. All members present voted AYE. Carried.

Vouchers: General, Water and Sewer Vouchers #521 through #592 and ARPA #0-#0 were approved for payment by Trustee Rickerson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Linsner. All members present voting AYE. Carried.

General Fund =	\$ 78,406.59
Water Fund =	\$ 1,762.05
Sewer Fund =	\$ 19,193.30
ARPA =	\$ -0-

Mayor Keyes welcomed the scout and explained how Village government works.

#### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

##### **J. Lannon – street and water report**

Jason Lannon, Street & Water Supervisor appeared before the Board.

Street report: Supervisor Lannon discussed with the Board the wall by Clifton Springs Library. The wall is in need of repair. It has been determined that the wall is part of the library property. The library will have the area caution taped off.

Supervisor Lannon provided a quote to provide large concrete blocks in front of the existing wall. This is not a permanent repair because the blocks are not anchored. The cost for the entire wall with a temporary fix is \$19,275. The blocks will also be different colors because they are poured in different batches.

Discussion was held on closing the sidewalk, but it seems the area in question is the skim coat on the wall, not the wall itself. Trustee Gray suggested looking at a metal sea wall, in front of the existing wall and on the existing sidewalk. Hunt Engineering is also looking at options as well.

Costly repairs were needed on truck two. Employee M. Pyra II did a great job working on this truck. Supervisor Lannon estimates that approximately 6K was a saved having M. Pyra do the work.

Street barricades are being cleaned up, repaired and re-painted.

Three dead ash trees will be removed in the North Park Street area.

Water report: Supervisor Lannon is working with Schmidt's on updating water meters. This change will also involve changes on the billing end. The Clerks will need new training as well. The heater was replaced at the water tanks because it could not keep up with the extreme cold weather. Backflow records are being updated.

Meeting of January 9, 2023 continued:

**E. Merkley – sewer report**

Eric Merkley, Chief Operator at the sewer plant, appeared before the Board.

The hot water tank needed to be replaced in the main office. The transmission lines on the pickup truck were replaced. The loader is having repairs done. A discharge permit can be drafted for Clifton Springs Hospital, as they have been without a sewer violation for a year.

DEC wants a Geo Analyst to do some work for the sewer plant upgrade. Hunt Engineering is looking into this. Chief Operator Merkley will talk with DEC about possibly changing a flume with the upgrades. If DEC finds this acceptable, it may help reduce some costs. Chief Operator Merkley thinks the size of one of the buildings in the upgrade may also be able to be reduced, which will also help reduce the cost. He will discuss this with Hunt and DEC.

A meeting will be held on next week with Hunt Engineering, Donegan's the financial advisor, Chief Operator Merkley, Clerk Reals and Mayor Keyes to review the most recent update to the cost of the sewer project, which has increased from 2.239M to 2.7M. More information may follow because if the previously approved bonding amount needs to increase, new bonding resolutions will need to be done and advertised.

**B. Hunter – court system**

Village resident Bill Hunter, appeared before the Board. He was present to suggest to the Board that they consider eliminating the court system within the village. Recently the Village of Waterloo did this. With village elections being held in March, Mr. Hunter believes now is the time to consider this. Trustee Rickerson suggested the village get a price for a sheriff to do traffic only, once S. Upchurch is completely retired. Mr. Hunter believes the village should have something on the ballot that could explain why the court is no longer viable. Mr. Hunter asked the Board to give this serious consideration. No decision was made on this.

**D. Tornow – Coffee – park woods**

Village resident, D. Tornow- Coffee, appeared before the Board. Mr. Tornow-Coffee wanted to discuss the wooded area to the south of Sulphur creek that is on the other side of the John Brown-John Fabrizi parks. Mr. Tornow Coffee would like to see some clear bike paths made in the woods and he indicates that there are trees down in area's that could have paths and in some area there is also broken glass. Mr. Tornow-Coffee believes improvements to this area could benefit kids who have outgrown the playground.

Mayor Keyes explained that this area is not owned by the Village.

**CORRESPONDENCES:**

**N. Rader – fall**

Notice of Claim from N. Rader for a fall on November 8, 2022. This has been provided to the insurance company and attorney.

Clerk Reals reported this is the first written notice received for the sidewalk issue. Supervisor Lannon and crew repaired this immediately after we were verbally notified of the concern with the sidewalk.

**Purchase of property by the sewer plant.**

Copy of the statement of sale for the purchase of land by the sewer plant.

Reviewed. This purchase should close soon. The 0.7 acre of land will be helpful if the sewer plant does an upgrade and installs headworks/grit removal.

**Updated estimate on sewer plant project**

Copy of the updated estimate on the sewer project. The amount that had been approved thru all proper notices and filed with the State Comptroller was \$2,329,200 (included 30% contingency).

Meeting of January 9, 2023 continued:

The newest cost estimate from Hunt Engineering is \$2,702,364, this is for both UV Disinfection and Headworks combined. There are several reasons for the cost increase, including changes required by DEC. The Board would like to discuss this further with Hunt Engineering and the financial advisors. A meeting will be set up with the Mayor, the Chief Operator, the Clerk/Treasurer, one Village Trustee, Hunt Engineering and Bernard Donegan office. Clerk Reals reminded the Board that if the bonding amount changes from 2,329,200 then new resolutions, legal ads, estoppel periods, etc. all need to be re-done.

#### **Blue Cross Plans**

Information on Medicare Plan Options.

The Board agreed to add a Medicare Blue Choice Plan to the Village policy. The cost of this plan is less per month/year than the Village is currently spending. The Board authorized Clerk Reals to add this plan to the options the Village offers to employees, effective February 1, 2023.

#### **Planning – Zoning Alternate**

As requested by Trustee Gray, information provided by NYCOM regarding Planning and Zoning alternates.

Reviewed. This information shows that an alternate can only act when a Board member declares a conflict of interest on a request. Also, an alternate can serve as the alternate to both the ZBA and the Planning Board.

#### **Planning members attend training**

Information that shows David Tornow Coffee and Bob Maslyn have attended Planning Board training.

Reviewed. The Board appreciates that the members attended training, which is required by the State.

#### **Thank you note**

Thank you note from Barb & Jim Sanford for all the efforts to keep Clifton Springs safe, clean and the best place to live.

Reviewed. The Board appreciates the note of thanks.

#### **Charter communication will increase pricing**

Information from Charter Communications, regarding the increases to cable pricing.

Reviewed.

#### **Local Law 1-2023, changes to Vehicle and Traffic law**

Copy of proposed Local Law 1-2023. This public hearing will be held at the February Board meeting.

The Board took action on this at the December 2022 meeting and the public hearing will be held at the February 13, 2023 meeting.

#### **Information on Volunteer firefighter exemption**

Information from NYCOM on the property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters.

Reviewed. The Board would like to offer this exemption to Village volunteer fire fighters, and would them volunteers to be eligible for the exemption after two years of service. Clerk Reals will ask Attorney Graff to begin a draft of this local law. Additional information will be needed from the Board as there are several parts to this local law, but this can start the discussion process.

Meeting of January 9, 2023 continued:

**Request for Main Street road closure on April 29, 2023**

Email from George Werner, regarding parking for corvettes on April 29, 2023 and street closure.

The Rochester Corvette Club will be coming to Clifton Springs on April 29, 2023 with approximately 50 corvettes. They plan to shop, dine and tour the village. The Village agreed to close Main Street (Kendall Street to Spring Street) from approximately 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM that day so people can see cars. Clerk Reals was asked to notify the Main Street businesses and any questions will be directed to Mayor Keyes. Clerk Reals will also advise DPW Supervisor Jason Lannon and Police Chief Scott Upchurch.

**STREET DEPARTMENT:** Trustee Lincoln was not present.

Covered under privilege of the floor.

**WATER DEPARTMENT:** Trustee Lincoln was not present.

Covered under privilege of the floor.

**SEWER DEPARTMENT:** Trustee Rickerson report was covered under privilege of the floor and correspondences.

**ZONING & PLANNING DEPARTMENTS:** Trustee Gray reported the following:

Covered under correspondences.

**Appointment of Bryan Acomb to the Planning Board**

Trustee Gray made a motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Linsner to appoint Bryan Acomb to the Planning Board. This appointment is to complete the term previously held by Dan McGrath, which will end April 2027. All members present voting AYE. Carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Trustee Linsner had nothing to report.

See correspondence for discussion on possible fire fighter exemption.

**PARK – YOUTH DEPARTMENT:** Nothing was reported.

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Nothing was reported.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Chief Upchurch is working on having a company bring a demonstration radar trailer to the Village.

**COURT DEPARTMENT:** See privilege of the floor.

**MAYOR KEYES REPORT:** Mayor Keyes reported was covered throughout the meeting.

**CLERK REALS REPORT:** Clerk Reals provided the Board members a copy of the abstracts thru December and year to date revenue and expenses thru December and bank statement for December.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Short term rental**

D. Healy, owner of 56 West Main Street has completed the paperwork and paid the fee for a short-term rental at 56 West Main Street.

Meeting of January 9, 2023 continued:

**Resolution designating the polling place, date  
And time for the annual Village Election**

Trustee Gray offered the following resolution 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Rickerson:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Annual – Special Village Election shall be held Tuesday, March 21, 2023 and the polling place will be the Clifton Springs Fire House, 39 Kendall Street, Clifton Springs, New York. The hours the polls shall be open will be 12:00 p.m. (noon) to 9:00 p.m. (Sec. 15-104, (3) Election Law). All members present voting AYE. Carried.

There was no need to discuss registration day as the Village decided in January 1999 to no longer hold Village registration day.

**Appointment of Election Inspector and Poll Clerk**

Discussion was held on the appointment of elections inspectors and poll clerks. In the past the village elections have had candidates that have been endorsed at the democratic and republican caucuses. All candidates now run on their own independent party and no caucuses are held. For this reason, previous Boards agreed there was not a need to appoint two people to election inspector and two people as poll clerks (one from each party).

Trustee Gray moved that Doris Hunter be appointed to the position of Election Inspector for Election Day on March 21, 2023 and further that Grace Groot be appointed to the position of Poll Clerk for the Election Inspector. There was no need to appoint an Election Custodian as voters will be voting by paper ballot. Trustee Rickerson 2<sup>nd</sup> this motion. All members present voting AYE. Carried. (Sec. 154-116 (1) Election Law). The election inspector and the election poll clerk will be paid \$16.00 per hour.

**Transfer of funds**

Motion was made by Trustee Rickerson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Linsner that Clerk Reals be, and she is hereby authorized to transfer funds between the following appropriations as follows:

From A1990.4 to A1940.0	2,495.00
From A3120.11 to A3120.1	10,000.00
From A1990.4 to A6410.4	75.80
From G1990.4 to G9010.8	2,381.00

All members present voting AYE. Carried.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion made by Trustee Rickerson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Linsner to adjourn. All members present voting AYE. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Reals  
Clerk/Treasurer