

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Delhi was held **Monday, June 26, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

The meeting started at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor: Jeffrey Gearhart
Trustees: Jeremy Fitch, Janet Tweed Barbara Sturdevant & Ian Lamont

Guests: Bill Brown- Delaware Engineering, Nathaniel Nichols- Roemer Wallens Gold & Mineaux, LLP, Cindi Cobbe, Ed Chytalo, PJ Harmer & Margaret Baldwin.

Trustee Jeremy Fitch motioned to open up the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. A local law to amend the zoning map of the Village of Delhi, to re-classify certain property from the Residential R-1 and R-3 Districts to the Business (B) District. Trustee Lamont seconded the motion and motion was passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch reported that Clark Companies wants to put a 2,800 sq ft building on their property up by Phoebe Lane. This will have little to no impact on the residents on Delview Terrace.

PJ Harmer wanted confirmation that this will not affect any of the residents and that the Village will still be collecting taxes from them? Mayor Gearhart responded Yes.

Mayor Gearhart then reported that Sportsfield Specialties has extended out onto the flat where they and Clark Companies currently have their buildings and have outgrown their land. Sportsfield will be taking over the Clark buildings and Clark Companies will move up to the new building.

Bill Brown of Delaware Engineering was present and spoke about the following projects: Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA Funding): The Village will be re-applying again for this funding, this time with modifications. The Village Bond Counsel has prepared a Bond Resolution to support this application and the NYSDOH Fluoride Grant: The Village was approved for a \$70k grant from NYSDOH to replace fluoridation equipment at the Depot Street Well house.

Trustee Fitch motioned to amend our project costs to \$6.5 Million and to apply for funding. Trustee Sturdevant seconded the motion and motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart asked Bill Brown for an update on the 12 lead service connections into the village. Bill provided the updates.

Trustee Lamont motioned to authorize submission of the NYSEFC Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Water Infrastructure Improvement Project No. 19046. Trustee Fitch seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Janet Tweed: Yes, Trustee Jeremy Fitch: Yes, Trustee Ian Lamont: Yes, Trustee Barbara Sturdevant: Yes, Mayor Jeff Gearhart: Yes

The Motion is adopted

Trustee Sturdevant motioned to secure Determination DWSRF Project No 19046. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Janet Tweed: Yes, Trustee Jeremy Fitch: Yes, Trustee Ian Lamont: Yes, Trustee Barbara Sturdevant: Yes, Mayor Jeff Gearhart: Yes

The Motion is adopted

Discussion was had regarding a letter that the village received from NYSDEC asking for a study of past landfills throughout the village. Mayor Gearhart said it is our intent to pursue more information regarding past landfills. Bill Brown spoke and thinks the village should reach back out to NYCDEC to get more information as to exactly what they are asking for.

Discussion was had about a copper line that was hit by lightening tonight, June 26, 2023. Trustee Sturdevant spoke up and said that the Village has \$25,000 of ARPA Funds that we can use to help pay for this repair. Mayor Gearhart said that our Water Supervisor, Jay Decker is working on fixing it but that he hasn't had any luck yet. Trustee Sturdevant said that once we find out what the problem is, to have Jay move forward with ordering the parts.

Bill Brown spoke about the Fluoride Grant and that the village was awarded this grant a few years ago and that he has been working with Jay to get prices on equipment to upgrade using the Fluoride Grant. Bill said that more paperwork is needed to be completed and a budget modification will then be needed to be sent to the State.

Trustee Fitch motioned to close the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m. Trustee Lamont seconded the motion and was passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch motioned to approve on Local Law No. 1 of 2023 to amend the zoning map of the Village of Delhi, to re-classify certain property from the Residential R-1 and R-3 Districts to the Business (B) District. Trustee Lamont seconded the motion and was passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:54 p.m. to discuss employment history of a particular person. Trustee Lamont seconded the motion and was passed unanimously.

Trustee Lamont motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. Trustee Tweed seconded the motion and was passed unanimously.

Privilege of the floor was given at 8:38 p.m. for comments by the public. Cindi Cobbe spoke and stated that there is garbage on people's porches and lawns are not being mowed around the village. She reported that on Meredith St, there is a plant that is growing out of someone's chimney. Cindi stated that Fair on the Square is coming to Delhi next week and it looks crappy around the village. She asked what we could do to get people to mow their lawns. Mayor Gearhart said he will mention this again to Tom Little the Village Code Officer to inspect the properties and do a final list before he retires. Mayor Gearhart said we are looking into trying to find someone to fill Tom's position as he will be retiring on Friday, July 7th. Cindi said that we have a beautiful town and that she is really concerned about how we look as a village. Another concern she has is that a lot of people want to come to Delhi to live and that there are no places to live in the village. The Mayor stated that he has some places that we are looking at for possible housing.

Trustee Sturdevant would like to make a correction on the minutes from the Regular Meeting on May 15, 2023, on Page 4- Eastman Assoc. should be \$63,000 not \$6,300. Trustee Sturdevant then motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting on May 15, 2023. Trustee Fitch seconded the motion, Trustee Lamont abstained and motion was passed unanimously.

The Board thought there was no need to make a motion to approve the Bid Opening Meeting of May 17, 2023 as this was not an official meeting.

Trustee Lamont motioned to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting of May 31, 2023. Trustee Fitch seconded the motion and was passed unanimously.

Discussion was had following the motion from the Special Meeting to Add 2 Projects: Furnace & Steps and that it came in at \$49,750 with proposed ARPA funding total to go from \$225,533.62 to \$268,380.64.

Motion to approve both Abstract #16 dated June 26, 2023 in the amount of \$141,698.20 which includes the addition of Westlake being paid out of General Fund for \$1,496.25 and Abstract #01 dated June 26, 2023 in the amount of \$142,491.52 which includes the addition of Curtis Lumber being paid out of Joint Activity/Recreation Fund for \$64.70. Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant and was seconded by Trustee Lamont. Motion was passed unanimously.

Trustee Lamont motioned to accept the following reports: Bingo Inspection dated 5/10/23, Police Report dated May 2023, Street Report dated June 2023, Water Report dated 6/22/23, Sewer Report dated May 09, 2023, Code Enforcement Report dated May 11-June 21, 2023, Treasurers Report dated June 26, 2023, Village Clerk and Historian Report dated 6/22/23. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch spoke for the Police Committee and motioned to accept the resignation of Detective Justin Mohr as a FT Police Officer effective 7/22/23 and to wish him well. Motioned was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch wants to get the 3 police cars ready so they can be surplus. He would like to eliminate the unmarked charger so they can go back to just having 3 cars.

Discussion was had about the Archive Social Quote for the PD, FaceBook Page, Clerk's Office and VOD Website. The quote has gone down from \$4,000 and now is down to \$3,990 and that the VOD is not in compliance by not having this adopted. Trustee Fitch motioned to move forward with the quote for \$3,990 and Trustee Tweed seconded the motion and was passed unanimously. Trustee Lamont stated that it appears that this quote is just for social media and he thinks this price is really expensive for just social media.

Further discussion was had about the Children at Play Signs in the Village to help reduce the speed limit on all village roads. The state is going to do their own study per the Mayor's request.

Trustee Lamont spoke for the Public Works Committee and motioned to approve the estimate from BDP Industries in the amount of \$3,249.94 to replace the motor and associated other parts on the Sewer's belt press. Trustee Tweed seconded the motion and was passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart said he has spoken to Daren Evans, Street Supervisor and Daren said the village roads aren't in bad shape and that he feels we can hold off on repairing roads for a year to save some money in the budget.

Trustee Tweed spoke on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Committee and stated that Phase 2 of Cannon Memorial Park is nearly complete. The park should be mowed soon and the pavers are going in and Sarah Poole and her team are finishing up. Discussion was had about the prices of the memory stones being purchased and about the possibility of looking into hiring a Recreation Director/Manager. Trustee Lamont mentioned that maybe we could utilize SUNY Delhi and have them be the Recreation Director. Trustee Sturdevant thought about the possibility of an internship for a student. Trustee Lamont thought Clark Companies could possibly sponsor this seasonal position as they are recreation oriented. Discussion was had that Sarah Poole will be moving but all projects that she was working on will be completed by the time she leaves. All board members stated how it will be a tremendous loss for the community by Sarah leaving.

Mayor Gearhart spoke and said that Hoyt Park and Reservoir Park are both getting a lot more use. Trustee Tweed spoke about our Park Use Policy and is looking into how much other villages charge.

Trustee Tweed motioned to accept the request from Delhi Fair on the Square Committee for the Fire Parade during FOTS on July 7, 2023 and authorized the Mayor to sign the PERM 33c Application for NYS DOT as the applicant and for the Village to handle any insurance requirements. Trustee Lamont seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Trustee Tweed motioned to appoint Laura Gioffe and Sharon Reichert- Morgan as Little League Co-Directors at the rate of 1,050/year each. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and was passed unanimously. All the board thanked both Laura and Sharon for stepping up to run this program.

Trustee Tweed motioned to appoint Alyssa Gioffe and Angelo Krzyston as Basketball Co-Directors at a rate of \$650/year each. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Trustee Sturdevant stated that there was nothing to report for the Joint Services and Recreation Committee this month.

Mayor Gearhart spoke and said he has been speaking to Mark Tuthill about the Town pool not opening this year due to having no lifeguards to work and that there are no lessons for the Town and Village children. Mention was had that last year there were 160 children from the Village and Town who took swimming lessons.

Mayor Gearhart spoke for the Code, Building and Planning Committee and stated that he spoke to Mark Tuthill about sharing services for Code Enforcement Officer. They both are completely on board with this. The Mayor will speak to Mark again to see about sharing hours. Mayor Gearhart has someone that may be interested in doing this. Mayor Gearhart stated that our Code fees are quite low and that we may need to increase these. Mayor Gearhart and Mark are also exploring the possibility about a combined Village and Town Hall.

Trustee Tweed mentioned about combining Joint Services with the Town and revitalizing the Flood Committee.

Mayor Gearhart gave an update about the Bishop building and that he has 1 year to complete the necessary repairs. Mayor Gearhart stated that if he is then not in compliance, then we will go back to court. Mayor Gearhart stated that he is already paying fines each month.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to award the bid to Jeff Scanlan for the mowing of overgrown lawns at a rate of \$90/hour per his bid from 5/11/23. Trustee Lamont seconded the motion and motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion was had about the ISD Annual Agreement and the board decided to table this discussion until the next board meeting in July.

Trustee Fitch motioned to pay Curtis Lumber in the amount of \$64.70 for Bandstand repairs and Westlake in the amount of \$1,496.25 for Delhi Beautification flowers. Both invoices are to be paid from the Joint Activity/Recreation Fund. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and was passed unanimously. Further discussion was had in regards to the Beautification flowers and the board felt that once the invoice is paid, the Deputy Clerk

should submit the bill to the Town of Delhi to see if they will pay for ½ of the bill as they have done in the past.

The board tabled discussion about ARPA Funding, Minimum Standards for Sexual Harassment Prevention Policies and Complaint Form for Reporting Sexual Harassment, until the July board meeting.

Mayor Gearhart discussed that he we will begin to charge for the EV Charging Station Usage at a rate of .25 cents/kw and that the Village will receive a check quarterly. This charge will cover the Village's cost for the Station and a little extra revenue for the Village. Mayor Gearhart also mentioned that the original EV Station hasn't worked since it was installed. He is looking into trying to get this up and running.

Trustee Sturdevant motioned to enter into Executive Session to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law at 10:17 p.m. Trustee Tweed seconded the motion and motion was passed unanimously.

Trustee Lamont motioned to exit Executive Session at 10:20 p.m. Trustee Tweed seconded the motion and was passed unanimously.

Trustee Tweed motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 p.m. Trustee Sturdevant seconded the motion and motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting ended at 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Yager
Deputy-Clerk