

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Delhi was held **Monday, July 17, 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, Ian Lamont, Janet Tweed and Barbara Sturdevant

Guests: Jim Smart, Cindie Smart, PJ Harmer, Amy Randall, Bill Brown and Nathaniel Nichols

Mayor Gearhart wanted to thank Sarah Poole for all her work for the Village of Delhi.

Privilege of the floor was granted to:

PJ Harmer – at a previous meeting PJ spoke about the park at Franklin & Woolerton. At that time PJ offered to buy a bench in honor of his father Chief Frank Harmer. Captain Small has also offered to help pay for this bench. The Village Board seemed okay with this purchase and they will investigate a vendor and cost for a bench to place in this park.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to hire Josh Morgan as PT Code Enforcement Officer effective 8/1/2023 at a rate of \$ 27 per hour. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that he would plan to sit down with Josh Morgan at 6 months and review how things are going and consider raising the hourly rate at that time.

Josh Morgan plans to work Tuesday full day as well as Wednesday evening, Thursday lunchtime and Friday afternoon as needed.

Bill Brown was present and reported on the following items: Andes Road Sewer Extension, Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA Funding), and NYSDOH Fluoride Grant.

Bill Brown is following up on the WIIA funding application and others from his Delaware Engineering office are gathering information to update the submission. Bill is also working with Jay Decker on getting parts for the controls system that has been hit by lightning.

Mayor Gearhart indicated the Water system has been struck by lightning twice now. The first incident we were offline for 5 days and things had to be done manually. We have submitted the first lightning strike to insurance with a \$1,000 deductible. The second strike will fall under the \$1,000 deductible.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2023 regular board meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to approve Abstract #002 dated May 15, 2023 in the amount of \$129,622.40 (General fund \$32,143.37, Water fund \$16,986.87, Sewer fund \$78,807.71, Joint Activities fund \$1,684.45). Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart wanted to formally thank Tom Little for his many years of service to the Village of Delhi as our Code Enforcement Officer.

Trustee Sturdevant inquired about tax foreclosures that were sent over to our attorney. Nate Nichols of Roemer indicated that Courtney Heinel from the office would handle and Mayor Gearhart indicated we are waiting on new legislation issued by the Supreme Court.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to accept the Police Report dated June 2023, Street Report dated July 2023, Water Report dated 7/13/2023, Sewer Report dated June 12, 2023, Code Enforcement Officer's Report dated June 22 – June 30, 2023, , and Clerk's Report dated July 17, 2023. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch reported for the Police Committee.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to hire Justin Mohr as PT Police Officer effective 7/23/2023 at a rate of \$21.50. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Noise ordinance Procedure – discussion.

Trustee Fitch indicated to the board members that the Police Committee would like everyone to review and comment to the committee so that this can be finalized.

Trustee Fitch indicated we are waiting for a quote from Police for de-lettering the police vehicles before we can surplus them and auction or scrap these vehicles.

Trustee Fitch spoke about the need for radar as our current equipment is outdated and if we issued a ticket, it would likely not stand up in court.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to purchase a radar unit that can be shared between the different police vehicles and mounts in each of the vehicles at a cost not to exceed \$5,500. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch indicated that Justin Mohr will be working for us part-time with K-9 vehicle. Trustee Fitch also indicated that Archives is up for Police Department and Clerk's office.

Trustee Fitch indicated the Police Committee would like to advertise for full-time and part-time police officers with applications due back by the Village by 8/15/2023.

Mayor Gearhart reported for the Public Works Committee.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to send the decommissioned 1988 International Dump Truck to auction with a minimum bid set at \$500. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to increase leachate billing from \$0.01 to \$0.02 for cost of processing fee and administrative fee from \$0.02 to \$0.03 for a total of \$0.05 per gallon. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart will work with Delaware County to get an updated agreement for Leachate Disposal and bring back to the August 21, 2023 meeting for approval by the Village Board to sign the updated agreement.

Roof for building @ 1 Depot Street - \$25,000 ARPA funds available

Trustee Sturdevant agreed there are ARPA funds available for the Street building @ 1 Depot Street.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that he has spoken to Daren Evans and Jay Decker regarding the roof @ 1 Depot Street needing to be repaired and they both agreed that the roof needs to be repaired and that

the radios could wait a year or two to be purchased. We had a quote from Alpine last year in the amount of \$35,000, which included the cold storage. The quote could be revised to remove the cold storage work and hope to be able to do for the \$25,000 of ARPA funds that are available.

Trustee Fitch indicated that he is not in favor of doing roof work instead of the telemetry work at the water building. Bill Brown indicated the telemetry work would likely cost \$20,000 - \$25,000 to which Trustee Sturdevant indicated there may be enough ARPA funds to fund one and partially fund the other.

Trustee Lamont indicated that we should get a revised quote from Alpine for the roof work and perhaps have Josh Morgan, Village Code Officer look at 1 Depot Street garage to be sure of safety for our employees and refer this to committee.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that CHIPS funding has changed from being able to repair roads from every 5 years to 10 years. There has been a lot of local governments upset about this change and it is possible they may update from every 10 years to every 7 years because of this. The Village of Delhi has \$450,000 of CHIPS funds available but with the new restrictions, we cannot utilize our CHIPS funds.

There was some conversation about using CHIPS funds for Cherry Hill and/or Cherry Hill Street. Mayor Gearhart indicated he would have Daren pursue.

Mayor Gearhart spoke about sidewalk maintenance being on hold this year because of the new CHIPS restrictions. Mayor Gearhart had indicated Kevin Charles with regard to a new material that is more durable – Mayor will get more information on this new material for the August meeting.

Request for relief #C5370 (Truscott) – 7 Bridge Street

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to allow relief to sewer based on our “Village of Delhi – Water Leak and Non-Sewer Discharge Policy” for account #C5370. Based on policy, we would reduce sewer charge to 7 units - \$23.73, which would result in adjustment of \$216.27 CR to sewer. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Tweed reported for the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Trustee Tweed indicated the parks are getting a lot of use.

Trustee Tweed also wanted to thank all of our Recreation Directors for stepping up:

Little League – Laura Gioffe & Sharon Reichert-Morgan

Basketball – Alyssa Gioffe & Angelo Krzyston

Tennis – Eileen Kline

Volleyball – Savannah Wake

Trustee Tweed also indicated they would be having a meeting shortly regarding parks and issues such as knotweed, etc. Trustee Tweed also indicated that the plantings in Cannon Memorial Park would be next week. There was a question about whether the Sheldon Park is complete. Mayor Gearhart indicated he will be meeting with Jesse this week. Mayor Gearhart indicated there is a tree down in Hoyt Park. Delaware County needs to take care of this down tree in Hoyt Park or Village of Delhi will need to take the tree down and bill Delaware County for reimbursement.

Trustee Sturdevant reported for the Joint Services, Recreation Committee.

Trustee Sturdevant indicated there is no report this month.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that Supervisor Tuthill and he have talking about a Joint Town and Village building – possible funding could be from Marcy South?

Trustee Fitch indicated he had a bill relating to Fair on the Square that he would like approved to be able to pay them 7/21/2023.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to issue payment of \$300 from budget J7310.466 to The Tremperskill Boys for their performance at 7/21/2023 Fair on the Square. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Trustee Lamont made mention that the “Delhi Dish to Pass” will be held Sunday 9/24/2023. He will make a request to the Village for use of the bandstand.

Mayor Gearhart indicated the Mayor’s meeting was 7/12/2023 with 7 Mayors in attendance along with Assemblyman Tague and a representative from NYCLASS. The next Mayor’s meeting will be August 9, 2023 10:00 AM at the E-Center.

Mayor Gearhart reported for the Codes, Building & Planning Committee.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that the Delaware County site plan application for the visitor center at 163-165 Main Street was approved at their last meeting. Village just hired a part-time Code Officer (Josh Morgan) to begin work officially 8/1/2023.

Bishop building update

Mayor Gearhart indicated Bishop’s contractor has erected a column in the front of the building and the front of the building will be secured by August 2023. The side of the building needs to be completed by November 2023 and the back of the building needs to be completed by February 2024. As long as these deadlines are met and the fine is paid to the court Bishop will be okay.

Trustee Fitch indicated that Kevin Brown will be in this week to install the keypad at Village Hall.

Trustee Sturdevant reported for the Finance Committee.

Trustee Sturdevant indicated that she Mayor Gearhart have been in touch with a gentleman relating to SAM. The gentleman indicated it would be near impossible for Village to get the SAM portal current. The recommendation of this gentleman was to pay \$1,350 to have an expert update and maintain for a 3 year period.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to authorize payment of \$1,350 for 3 year SAM update and maintenance. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

ISD agreement – approve Mayor to sign the Master Service Agreement #VOD05172023 annual agreement with a monthly rate of \$399.99 (2 year average 5 hours per month) – 3 year agreement

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to authorize the Mayor to sign the updated ISD agreement after confirming the monthly fee of \$399.99 covers blanket (all locations) for all Departments for routine help from ISD. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

EV charging station – update – Mayor Gearhart spoke with former Mayor Richard Maxey – the first EV charging station was installed in 2019 is not currently working and the equipment is outdated.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to approve the “Minimum Standards for Sexual Harassment Prevention Policies” and “Complaint Form for Reporting Sexual Harassment”. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Children at Play Signs – Police Committee will review this and bring this item back to the August 21, 2023 meeting. There was some talk with Councilperson Matt Krzyston about Village signs at the entries to the Village.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Gearhart wanted to appreciate Jim Harrington and Travis Johnson from WWTP for fixing our faucets in the bathroom and the kitchen at Village Hall as well as fixing the broken electrical outlet in the boardroom. Mayor also wanted to thank WWTP employees for mowing down at the police range.

Flag @ Village Hall – a resident complained about the flag not being respected by being taken in every evening as well as lowered to half staff and raised appropriately. It was discussed that the Mayor will look into quoting a spotlight to eliminate having to take the flag down in the evening and up in the morning.

Trustee Fitch spoke about getting a 32inch smart tv in the Clerk’s office to be able to see security camera a front of Village Hall to see people entering the building. Clerk’s advised she will look into obtain smart tv for this purpose and should be able to cover under the current budget.

Mayor Gearhart thanked Larry Govendo for finishing the installation of the front door at Village Hall.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to enter executive session for the employment history of a particular person as well as collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and executive session started at 8:27 PM.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to exit executive session. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and the board went back to open session at 10:31 PM.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to authorize Mayor to sign the Teamster’s contract. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Cairns
Clerk-Treasurer