

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Delhi was held **Monday, December 18, 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: PJ Harmer and C. Cobbe

There was no one looking for Privilege of the floor this month.

Bill Brown was not present this month – there is nothing needed – he continues to work with Jay Decker and will return next month.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 regular board meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to approve Abstract #007 dated December 18, 2023 in the amount of \$367,602.05 (General fund \$154,290.43, Water fund \$43,485.61, Sewer fund \$149,939.19, and Trust and Agency fund \$19,886.82). Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to accept the Police Report dated November, 2023, Street Report dated December 2023, Water Report dated 12/14/2023, Sewer Report dated December 13, 2023, Code Enforcement Officer's Report dated 11/15/23 – 12/12/23, Treasurer Report for July 2023, August 2023, September 2023 and October 2023 and Clerk's Report dated December 18, 2023. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch reported for the **Police Committee**.

Trustee Fitch mentioned that police sold Dexter to Delaware County for \$5,000 and he would like that money put into a reserve, in case there are expenses when Dexter works with Delhi PD.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to move the \$5,000 from General fund to Police Reserve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch also mentioned police are working on the decibel meter, FT officer and preparing for budget.

Mayor Gearhart reported for the **Public Works Committee**.

Village of Delhi Water District Energy Assessment – August 2023 – was given to the board members.

Mayor Gearhart mentioned the report indicates that the water (Jay Decker) is on top of things.

O & M Agreement – Mayor Gearhart indicated he has been in touch with Stacey Eggers and will be meeting with her later to work on updating the O&M agreement. Trustee Lamont indicated the committee has a meeting with DEC and Dave Hornbeck next week.

Request from Buena Vista Inn – 18718 State Hwy 28 for relief of penalties on acct #C6528.

Discussion was had about allowing Buena Vista pay the original \$8,050.99 amount by 12/31/2023 or

he can get a payment plan with no relief from the penalty. The Village Board wants the Village Clerk to confirm with Jay Decker his recommendations for routine monthly inspection of each of the units

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to allow Clerk's office to offer Buena Vista to pay original amount of \$8,050.99 by 12/31/2023 or to arrange a payment plan, to include penalized amount of \$8,690.44. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

CAP fees – discussion. There was a discussion by the Village Board about the fact that some customers (sewer only) and property owners that have availability of water (curb stops) but have decided for whatever reason not to hook in should be paying a CAP charge. This item will be referred to committee and the committee can bring recommendations back to the Village board for the 1/22/2024 meeting.

Trustee Lamont indicated the Sewer report included a quote from Turnkey that Dave Hornbeck is looking for board approval to move forward on this item – he indicates this is 100% reimbursable by the DEP.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve Turnkey quote (Ref QFM43-23-2270) in the amount of \$16,984. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Tweed reported for the **Parks & Recreation Committee**.

Trustee Tweed reported that she has meet with all the recreation directors and they are looking to return for the 2024 Summer season. Trustee Tweed also will look into O'Connor funding for replacement equipment. Trustee Tweed reported that the community gardens are now available and we need to communicate next year of their availability.

There was also some discussion regarding the article in "The Reporter" indicating the ice skating rink is "Village". The Village has conveyed they are willing to do this as a "shared service" but they are not necessarily interested in being primary in charge of this project.

Kayaks – Mayor Gearhart indicated he has been in touch with the individuals and the cost for a 4 kayak cage is \$18,000 and a 8 kayak cage is \$27,000 with a 5 year commitment. Discussion is that the Village could recoup it's investment in 2 years – there seems to be much interest but we need to find a funding source in whole or part.

Trustee Sturdevant indicated she had no report for the **Joint Services Committee**.

Trustee Tweed indicated that we need to get started on revising the Joint Town/Village Comprehensive Plan – Maya Boukai is interested in participating as well as Josh Morgan and Matt Krzysten.

Mayor Gearhart also indicated that he is still working on a joint Town/Village building – Glenn Nealis has indicated there is money available through grants for this.

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

Bishop update – use of property (Canon Park) – Mayor Gearhart reported that Josh Morgan, Code Enforcement Officer, has been in touch with the Town Court – Bishop is currently in compliance with the front portion of the building close to completion, December is suppose to be the side of the building and February 2024 for the back of the building. If Bishop doesn't meet the timeline stipulated by the Town Court, Village can take this back to court.

Cloud Permitting Software – Josh Morgan is still looking into software option and will bring to the Village board at a later date.

Furnace at Village Hall – Mayor Gearhart indicated the furnace is being installed – there is a part that exploded /broken that needs to be replaced but the furnace is operational but would not pass inspection.

Mayor Gearhart also indicated the elevator has been repaired.

Trustee Sturdevant advised she has no report for the **Finance Committee**.

Budget season starts January – committees make plans to meet

Treasurer is looking to complete November 2023 bank reconciliations and then she will print budget sheets for each Dept. head and copy the village board to get the budget process started.

The Village board had a discussion about tax foreclosure and where we stand with this with our Village attorney. Mayor Gearhart will follow up with Earl Redding for an update.

There were two (2) bills received today from Williamson Law Book - \$1,148 for WLB Accounting support and \$1,148 for WLB Payroll software that need approval for payment as our next meeting is 1/22/2024.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to authorize the Mayor to sign the annual software support contract for Municipal Accounting & Budget Preparation and Payroll and direct the Clerk's office to remit payment of \$1,148 for each of these renewal contracts. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding a check for \$5,000 that was received from The Helfgott-Renfroe Foundation – the note indicates “please use this donation towards community events and other areas you see fit to keep our Delhi great!” Discussion was had about using this donation for:

Sidewalk at Cannon Memorial Park, VH landscape, kiosk, etc.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to direct the Clerk's office to deposit \$5,000 check from “The Helfgott’Renfroe Foundation” to General fund under donation revenue line. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

EV charging station – Mayor Gearhart indicated the paperwork is complete, the equipment has been ordered and will be installed upon receipt.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Climate Smart Communities – Trustee Tweed indicated there was no meeting last month – Village hired an intern and KZ is working closely with the intern process. Trustee Tweed also indicated NYSERDA has released a report and the Village needs to do a heating / cooling campaign.

Nuisance Critter Removal – there was much discussion about the incredible cost for this service. It was mentioned that perhaps a street employee could perform this service, as was done in the past – Mayor Gearhart will talk to some employees to see if anyone is interested.

Fuel Charges – Mayor Gearhart mentioned that Pam Ferguson has noticed that the Village is being overcharged by many vendors, ie: Mirabito, etc. and she will be looking into perhaps bidding the fuel, etc.

## **Mayor's Report**

County Mayor meeting with NYCOM on 12/13/2023 – Mayor Gearhart indicated they had an excellent meeting with Wade Beltramo from NYCOM present and Mayor from Honeoye Falls zooming in. It was felt that incorporating was a bad idea and there has been discussion about forming an association. The Mayor's group has received by-laws from another association to get that in order as well as discussion about meetings, member / fee and leader role. The group also felt a grant writer might be useful to this group as well as shared services with Code Enforcement.

There was also an updated contract received today from Delaware County Planning along with an invoice for \$3,500.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to authorize the Mayor to sign the updated contract from Delaware County Planning Board for 2024 Town Planning Advisory Service (TPAS) and direct the Clerk's office to remit payment of \$3,500. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Cairns  
Village Treasurer