

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Delhi was held **Tuesday, September 17, 2024** at 6:00 pm at Village Hall.

The meeting started at 6:01 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Guests: Edward Chytalo, Elizabeth DeFalco, The Reporter, Anna Kellam, Kevin Lee, and Reverend James Tyrrell.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Edward Chytalo discussed the wonderful turnout for the Soap Box Derby, held on July 29, more than 300 residents were at the finish line. Edward presented the Board an aerial photo of the finish line.

Rev. James Tyrrell, from the First Presbyterian Church, discussed the block party planned for Cross Street on September 22, 2024 from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The residents would like the Village Police to close the road. Rev. Tyrrell stated that emergency vehicles will be able to get through if needed. Mayor Gearhart said the Board would ask the Police to close the road.

Anna Kellam discussed her concerns regarding vehicles speeding on the upper part of Franklin Street, especially since it is very narrow and is not safe for residents to walk. A signed petition was presented to the Board from residents on upper Franklin Street, requesting a crosswalk or speed bump installed. The Board discussed options; Trustee Lamont suggested a three-way stop sign at Franklin Street and Edgerton Street. Mayor Gearhart said the Village's electronic radar sign is being repaired and would be installed on upper Franklin Street temporarily to try and slow traffic down. Mayor Gearhart would also discuss the matter with Chief Mills. Since Franklin Street is a County Road, options may need to be discussed with the County.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2024 regular meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to approve Abstract #004 dated September 17, 2024 in the amount of \$157,111.72 (General fund \$68,954.18, Water fund \$13,273.51, Sewer fund \$51,301.48, Joint Activities \$867.80, and Trust & Agency fund \$22,714.25) with the addition of reimbursement for Jay Decker for 50% of his cruise WiFi of \$400.00 (est) to be paid out Water fund. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that Jay Decker will be going on a cruise for vacation and will not have cellphone service. In the past we have paid for 50% of the WiFi purchase so Jay would be available for emergencies. Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve the reimbursement of 50% of the cruise WiFi of \$400.00 (est). Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to accept the Bingo Inspections Report dated 9/11/2024, Police Report dated August 2024, Street Report dated September 2024, Water Report dated 9/16/2024, Sewer Report dated September 11, 2024, Code Enforcement Report 8/14/2024 – 9/10/2024, Treasurer reports dated May 2024, June 2024, July 2024 and August 2024 and Clerk Report dated September 17, 2024. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch reported for the **Police Committee**

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to accept the resignation from Sharon Radtke, Police Clerk, effective 9/30/2024. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to hire Elinor Wood, as a part-time Police Clerk, at a rate of \$18.50 per hour, effective 9/25/2024. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Trustee Lamont reported for the **Public Works Committee**.

Trustee Lamont mentioned that CHIPS resurfacing has been put back to 5 years.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve the purchase of 8 garbage cans as per Toter quote #WQ-10319651 for \$2,522.00. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously. Mayor Gearhart discussed the need for more garbage cans due to the increase of the amount of garbage. Jim Smart has asked for garbage cans to be placed on Main Street by the old Pizza Hut building and by McDonalds.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve the purchase of the Bobcat Compact Track Loader as per Bobcat quote #LR738559 in the amount of \$90,871.14. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously. The price increased from when it was approved last month. The amount will be reimbursed by CHIPS.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve the Sewer Department's request to purchase the victaulic wasting and return activated sludge valve as per F.W. Webb quote #87266451 for \$2,347.28, Turbidimeter for filter bay as per Turnkey Control Solutions quote #QFM43-24-2411 for \$3,759.32 and plug valve repair for aeration tanks 1 and 2 as per Jett Industries email proposal for \$24,500. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart shared a letter from Matt Krzyston requesting better signage for public parking, specifically at Hoyt Park. Mayor Gearhart will discuss with Daren about ordering the parking symbol signs for Main Street and Kingston Street. Trustee Lamont suggested putting icons on Google Maps, he will email Dave Kopecek to see what needs to be done.

Trustee Tweed reported for the **Joint Services Committee**.

Trustee Tweed mentioned that the local Jiu-Jitsu class is in need of a space temporarily while their building is under construction. Trustee Fitch suggested them contacting the Legion or Delaware Academy.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that he has had discussions with Maya, from the Town of Delhi, regarding possibly expanding the joint recreation program. Mayor Gearhart let Maya know that the Village of Delhi will no longer be involved with the ice skating rink.

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

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to approve the Summer Recreation, Basketball, Little League, Tennis, Volleyball and Recreation Director reports. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart and Trustee Sturdevant mentioned that Dave Curley will be building a new 36" x 36" x 4" kiosk for Village Hall.

Bishop building update – Mayor Gearhart indicated that Josh Morgan, Code Enforcement Officer, is trying to find out the status of their Order to Remedy repairs.

Trustee Lamont mentioned the need to hold public meetings for the low impact business zone, ADU's and short-term rentals. We will need Roemer's office to write-up the Local Laws/Resolutions. Possibly hold public meetings during the November Board meeting.

Discussion regarding Court Street – Mayor Gearhart mentioned that Shelly Johnson offered assistance with the study from Sean Leddy and Kent Manuel. Sean Leddy will put a proposal together for the Board's review.

Village Hall painting – Mayor Gearhart indicated that Steve sent an email and is still not fully recovered from his injury. Painting has not started yet.

Mayor Gearhart discussed the need to replace the signage on Village Hall after the painting is finished. Trustee Lamont would like to get more quotes before deciding, possibly get a quote from Deb Flemming.

Trustee Fitch discussed the Dunkin Donuts project. Dunkin Donuts is 100% committed to building a location in the Village, in the old Pizza Hut building. It will either be the end of 2024 or the beginning of 2025; they have had issues with the Cooperstown location which is also in an old Pizza Hut building that has caused delays in the Delhi location.

Trustee Sturdevant reported for the **Finance Committee**.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$4,500 (consent order fines) from the G200 (Sewer checking account) to the G231 (Sewer Equipment reserve) account. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Trustee Sturdevant stated the audit for 2021/2022 fiscal year is complete and she is now working on the audit for 2022/2023 fiscal year.

Trustee Fitch mentioned there has been progress on collecting previous years past due taxes.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Gearhart mentioned he has had conversations with the Department of Health regarding hepatitis shots for Village employees. The Department of Health would need to know when the last time every employee received the hepatitis shot was and how they handle human waste and sharp objects. Trustee Lamont stated the hepatitis shot would be voluntary but any employee who opts not to receive the hepatitis shot would need to sign a waiver.

NEW BUSINESS

ChargePoint Contract – Mayor Gearhart is trying to contact ChargePoint to get an answer why the connection to the iCloud is not working and why they are asking for payment again for the maintenance program. It was supposed to be a onetime payment.

Village of Delhi Special Event Permit Application - Chief Mills has submitted a draft application for Special Events Permit. Trustee Tweed suggested holding a public workshop to get input from the community. Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to schedule public workshop on 11/14/2024 at 6:00 pm. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Climate Smart Communities – Mayor Gearhart indicated that the Village has already received the \$15,000 grant from NYSERTA for installation of 3 split units at Village Hall. Everything has been done for the \$50,000 grant, just waiting for approval from NYSERTA. Possibly for the purchase of an electric car for Village use. The Board discussed possible other options.

Possible Sale of Spring Lake Property – Trustee Lamont stated we still need to find the deed and do title searches.

Village Cemetery – Trustee Tweed mentioned that she would reach out to SUNY Delhi's history club to see if they would be interested in assisting with clean up and restoration.

Village Election – changing term of office to 4 years – Mayor Gearhart drafted a resolution and the Board discussed changing the term of office. The Board decided to table the discussion until next month in order to find out that NYCOM's instructions are, they need to be included in the resolution.

Marey Payge from the Law Office of Nicholas Frandsen, would like to replace tree in front of the Law Office at 118 Main Street – The Board will refer her to the Tree Committee after the committee is formed.

Mayor Gearhart mentioned the Meet your Elected Officials event at the Harvest Festival. Village and Town officials will be scooping ice cream for the community on September 21st from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

First Aid cabinets for all Village buildings – Mayor Gearhart discussed the need to update the first aid cabinets for all of the Village buildings. A replenishment program would work best. The Board decided to table the discussion until next month so we can receive clearer pricing.

Copier/Printer for Clerk's office – The Village has received 4 quotes: 1 from BME, 2 from Ed & Ed Business Technology and 1 from Higher Information Group. The Board discussed the quotes and would like the warranty information on both of the Ed & Ed Business Technology options.

Mayor's Report

Delaware County Council of Mayors last meeting was 9/11/2024 – next meeting is 10/9/2024.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing open full-time police officer positions. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and executive session started at 9:13 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 10:20 pm.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to hire Wyatt Malave, as a full-time Police Officer, at the pay scale of After One Year rate of \$28.15 per hour effective 10/18/2024, with probationary period of 18 months. The Village of Delhi will pay a portion of Wyatt's contract with the Village of Walton; maximum amount to be paid by the Village of Delhi is \$5,600.00. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to hire Logan Wood, as a full-time Police Officer, at the pay scale of After Two Years rate of \$29.20 per hour effective 10/4/2024, with probationary period of 18 months. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart would like to start next month's Board meeting at the Clark property so the Board and community could see the status of their project on Phoebe Lane. The Board agreed. Josh will make the arrangements.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Ferguson
Village Clerk