

VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2019 9:30am



Mayor Aaron Nellist
Deputy Mayor Gregory Kerth
Trustee R. James Baker
Trustee Seanna Bradley-Corwin
Trustee Benjamin Seward

Meeting Location: 1707 Pallister Avenue, Barker, NY 14012

Meeting Called at 9:07am by Mayor Nellist

Reason:

The loss of the Village Hall & Library due to devastating fire that occurred at 11:55pm on Sunday, January 20, 2019

In **Attendance:** Mayor Nellist, Deputy Mayor Kerth, Trustee Corwin-Bradley, Trustee Seward, Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner, National Fire Adjustment Company representatives Michael Mckenica and Joseph Riscili

Mayor Nellist introduced the representatives from the National Fire Adjustment Company. Michael Mckenica and Joseph Riscili explained what their company can do to help the Village navigate the insurance claim process. NFA works for the person who had the fire, not the insurance company, to maximize the return to the person/entity. They will advocate for the Village, as well as handle the claims for the Village. It will help take some of the stress off the entity because they have been through this many times, as none of us has before. They are a local company out of Amherst and work off a percentage based fee of the total payment of the insurance company makes to the Village.

Mayor Nellist stated that we will have to call another meeting when Trustee Baker can attend to make a formal decision.

The fire was responded to by Barker Fire Department, Olcott Fire Department, Gasport Fire Department, Miller Hose Fire Department, as well as the Lyndonville Police Departments. The Hartland Fire Department had a full interior and exterior crew on standby in case they were needed. A press release was written by Mayor Nellist, Trustee Corwin-Bradley and Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner.

The media has been contacting Mayor Nellist and he will meet them at the fire scene at 11:45am and through the day. It was decided that Mayor Nellist will be the primary contact for the media, if requested by Mayor Nellist the Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner will accompany him.

It was suggested that the Board Meetings be held at the Barker Lions Club on Main Street on February 4th and February 11th, 2019.

Mayor Nellist stated that the Barker Fire Department has the panel boxes from the Village Hall fire locked for safe keeping.

Mayor Nellist also stated that Assemblyman Norris and Niagara County Legislature John Syracuse has reached out to him to express their desire to help as needed.

Creating a Capital Fund to house the monies received from the insurance was advised, as well as making a list of priorities the Village Board and employees have to get operations back up and running.

It was discussed and decided that the Village Hall will move to the Police Station at 1697 East Avenue tomorrow to resume operations.

The Clerk-Treasurer was asked to contact Verizon to have the phone number forwarded to the Police Station, as well. The Village Hall hours of 9:00am to Noon & 1:00pm-4:00pm will be kept.

Attorney Brian Seaman arrived at 10:40am and spoke with NFA representatives, as well as looked over the agreement that would need to be signed.

After the Board, employees & Attorney Brian Seaman came to the consensus to reconvene later in the evening when Trustee Baker could attend the meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda M. Detschner, CMC, RMC, CMFO
Clerk-Treasurer