



VILLAGE OF BARKER WORK SESSION MINUTES

February 3, 2020
6:00pm @Barker Fire Hall

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

In **Attendance**: DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jennifer Mason, Lisa Thompson, Kathie Smith, Terry Upton & Sarah Alexander of the Library Board

The **meeting was opened at 6:01pm** with the Pledge of Allegiance administered by Mayor Nellist.

The Barker Public Library Board members had questions for the Village Board. President Sarah Alexander stated the Library was inquiring as to any movement with our insurance company, how much money was coming for the building and the status of the architectural drawings. They stated they have a substantial amount of grant money on the line with deadlines of when it has to be spent, so they wanted some answers that the Village just can't give at this time. Mayor Nellist stated that we have been in communication with MRB Group about geotechnical testing to determine if a basement is feasible. MRB Group did advise that the geotechnical not be completed until the exact footprint of the building is determined, but the Board felt that they should go forward with testing. The Library could contribute to this expenditure and it would show the State they are starting to use the grant money awarded. This particular grant of \$85,000 needs to be spent by June of 2021. The money is earmarked for construction costs associated with the new building for the Library. Mayor Nellist also stated that the Village is looking to have another firm present to the Village Board in the near future in order to keep our options open. The Library board members stated they would like more communication between the Library and Village, so Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner offered to have them comprise a list of questions that could be answered on a bi-weekly basis as to keep everyone informed. Email addresses were exchanged. The Library is back to every other month meetings. Kathie Smith inquired about the Village's intentions of moving forward with a shared building and it was reiterated that a shared building is still the focus of the Village, but at what size is undetermined until the building and contents settlements are reached with the insurance company. It is not the intention of the Village to bond any portion of this project, the size and scope will have to stay within the amount paid out by the insurance company. An agreement will have to be drawn up between the Village and Library in order to outline the responsibility of each party. The Village will reach out to their attorney to begin this process. This portion ended at 6:42pm with the Library members in attendance leaving the meeting.

- Need to purchase fire king to securely store paper documents ready to come back

The paper court documents are ready to come back to the Village after being restored by Document Reprocessors. The Village will reach out to the County to help with storage, but a fire king will still need to be purchased. A conversation will be held with Legislator Syracuse and the County Clerk as to the particulars.

- LED Street Lighting update

Trustee Davis attended a meeting on Jan. 29, 2020 at the Town of Lockport. This process has been held up for quite some time due to National Grid imposing charges on to municipality owned poles making hand holes to installed mandatory. This has been resolved due to the PSC determining this is an erroneous change. During this time many municipalities have backed out of the NYPA program. The Village of Middleport, Village of Barker, Town of Porter and possibly the Town of Niagara are moving forward with NYPA. The design phase can now begin and the Village needs to execute the Purchase Agreement with National Grid. The Purchase Agreement will take approximately 5 to 8 months. Arcadias will be the engineer for NYPA on the project. NYPA is asking that the extra sensors be purchased that detect street lighting outages, meter usage and the option of being able to dim the lighting if needed. There are grants and incentives available for smart technologies such as Wi-Fi, shot detection, snow and ice detection etc.

No **Public Comment** was offered.

Board Comment was offered by:

Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley: Inquired about why the farmer's market failed. An explanation was given by Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner. Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley also inquired about bringing a summer festival to the Village. The idea was well received.

Trustee Davis: Stated that someone should be designated the Police Liaison, currently Mayor Nellist is facilitating this role and will continue to do so. Grants are available to the Police Dept. through the NYS traffic safety coalition. The website is safe.ny.gov for more information.

Trustee Baker: Thanked the Board for their support during this difficult time for the Baker family. Victoria will be sorely missed, she was a valuable member of the Village family and her joyous spirit will never be forgotten.

A motion for **Adjournment was made at 7:12pm** by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Baker.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Seward NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Next meeting is the Monthly Board Meeting, Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00pm @ Barker Fire Hall

****immediately followed by a Budget Session**

Immediately followed was a Budget session to being FY 2020-2021 budget

The Revenue accounts were discussed, as well the water revenues. The state of the water fund was discussed at length, due to the steadily declining fund balance. A discussion about water rates lasted several minutes. The Clerk-Treasurer will do a bracketed usage breakdown and present to the Board so a decision can be made. General fund expenditures were discussed from A1010.1 to A3310.4. The budget session was adjourned at 8:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES



February 10, 2020 7:00PM
@ Barker Fire Hall

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

In **Attendance:** Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jennifer Mason & K-9 Officer Anthony Bartucca

At **7:01pm meeting was called to order** by Mayor Nellist by administering the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **Sales tax** received for January 2020 was \$15,981.80 a \$1,086.39 decrease from January 2019.

The **Approval of Minutes** for the monthly board meeting January 13, 2020 was motioned by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Baker.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Seward NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley presented K-9 Officer Anthony Bartucca with a certificate of appreciation for the contributions that he made to the Light up Barker event. A certificate was also presented to Chief Timothy Braughler who was not in attendance. Both Officer Bartucca and Chief Braughler contributed to Light up Barker in various ways to make the event a success, including building a sleigh on a trailer and a photo prop of the K-9 unit vehicle for photo opts and countless hours of labor.

The **Clerk-Treasurer's financial Reports** were reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

- ✓ Unpaid water as of March 31, 2020 will be re-levied onto the Village tax roll for the property, final notices of the deadline will be sent on Feb. 28th to all unpaid customers
- ✓ Election petitions are due by Tuesday, February 11, 2020 in order to be on the ballot
- ✓ Friday, March 6, 2020 is the last day for residents to register with the Niagara County Board of Elections to be able to vote on March 18, 2020

The **Public Works Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley stated that the DPW crew has done a really nice job on the streets.

Mayor Nellist stated people are still disposing of TV/Electronics in the dumpster, by law they have to be taken to an electronics recycling facility. The Town of Somerset does provide this service at the water treatment plant on garbage days from 7:30am-3:00pm. A reminder will be put in the spring newsletter.

The **Code Enforcement Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

Mayor Nellist inquired about demolition quotes for the 8685 Main Street, they are being sought and the quotes are being forwarded to the NORLIC land back.

The **Police Report** was reviewed and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

K-9 Officer Bartucca stated the Village is having increasing issues with the tractor trailer traffic on Quaker Road, Main Street and East Avenue. Recently there are police reports on two incidents that involve tractor trailer traffic. Investigations are being conducted trying to hold the companies responsible. Increased presence and citations may help alleviate some of the problem. The Village PD will continue to work cooperatively with Mayer Brothers dispatch to further help resolve the problem. It's a safety concern for the members of the community and cannot be ignored. K-9 Officer Bartucca also stated that he would like to conduct child identity kits for parents in the event that a child becomes missing or kidnapped. The Masons used to conduct a similar event at the school, but they haven't in recent years. Officer Bartucca stated that they usually take photographs, DNA sample of hair/old toothbrush and fingerprints to have on file in case of such an incident were to occur. The Board of Trustees was receptive to this idea and expressed interest in proceeding with planning such an event, maybe in conjunction with the Masons. Trustee Davis stated that the Barker Police should be on the Niagara County traffic safety board and to do this they should contact Chief Swick from the Village of Middleport. Trustee Davis also stated the Police should be utilizing the PTS (Police Traffic Safety) grants available from Niagara County.

Correspondence: *NYS DOT CHIPS balance notification- CHIPS \$17,305.56 PAVENY \$3,950.17 ERW \$3,113.02 TOTAL \$24,388.75
Already submitted for reimbursement for the paving of Pallister Avenue
BJ's Membership Info^^
Disability Education & Awareness for Municipalities- Seminar March 24, 2020 9:00-4:30pm
Bankruptcy paperwork- Fusion Connect, Inc. Chapter 11
Friends of Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, Inc. Letter- May 2, 2020 from 9:00am-4:00pm^^^
NC Gallonage Report-January 2020
NC Dept. of Health-Update on Annual Sanitary Inspections 2019 & Lead Sampling locations for summer 2020
NC Center for Economic Development- 2020 CEDS Report- Municipality Priority Projects requested by Feb.28, 2020
Cornell Local Roads Program Brochure

Approval of Claims and Bill Payment: Abstract 009 Voucher #'s 280-300 H3-Voucher #'s 29-30
 General Fund-\$8,247.43 Water Fund-\$771.72 T&A Fund-\$1,400.00 H3 Fund-\$2,196.60 TOTAL \$12,615.75
 A motion to authorize the audited claims and bill payment by the Board of Trustees was made by Deputy Mayor
 Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Seward.
 The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Seward NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

Public Comment was offered by:
Anthony Bartucca: Requested a couple load of stone be bought and placed at the DPW garage in front of the metal building because the mud and pot holes are getting out of hand. Mayor Nellist stated he would talk to Mr. Remington about getting some stone.

A motion for Adjournment was made at 8:02pm by Trustee Davis and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Seward NAYS-0/None Motion Carried.

A Budget Session to immediately followed the board meeting, which began at 8:03pm and was adjourned at 8:32pm. The expenditure lines of A1325.4 were reviewed, as well as A3310.4 through A5182.4.

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