

The Work Session scheduled for June 1, 2020 was canceled due to lack of business.

## VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES



June 8, 2020 7:00PM  
@ Barker Fire Hall Parking Lot/Pavilion

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

COVID-19 precautions taken: Meeting outside, social distancing, masks worn, gloves provided and sanitized pen provided

In **Attendance:** DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Paul Beakman & Neal Gordon.

At 7:00pm meeting was called to order by Mayor Nellist by administering the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **Sales tax** received for May 2020 was \$7,147.80 a decrease of \$3,369.24 from May 2019.

The **Approval of Minutes** for the monthly board meeting May 11, 2020 was motioned for approval by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Davis.

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

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

- Village Tax collection is underway, residents can pay without penalty until July 1, 2019 and then 5% penalty for the month of July, 6% for the month of August, 7% for the month of September, 8% for the month of October. Any unpaid tax amounts as of November 1, 2020 will be turned over to NC treasurer for collection in January on the Town/County tax roll
- Because of a resignation on the NYSACVC Executive Board, I will be responsible for administering the NYS RMC program/accreditation for City and Village Clerks across the State effective June 1, 2020
- Approval to update Microsoft Office 2007 to Office 365, our current software is outdated. Our 2007 outlook for email has been corrupted and I've been unable to access it for over a week, Joe has spent many hours trying to find a fix. I've been having problems since mid April. The annual cost of Office 365 is \$99.00, which includes all the programs I currently have, Word, Excel, Outlook, Publisher & PowerPoint.

A **motion to allow upgrade of windows for the Village Hall Office & Police Department** was made by Trustee Baker and was seconded by Deputy Corwin-Bradley.

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

- A discussion of the water account balance ensued, as well as the imminent need to increase water rates to ensure the water fund is self sustaining
- Also a brief discussion ensued about revisiting the new adopted budget to see where we can put projects on hold or decrease expenditures to offset loss of revenue due to COVID-19
- Barton & Loguidice submitted a draft of the Municipal Building Facility Replacement Concept Plan Memorandum pertaining to the rebuilding of the Village Hall & Library facility. The document was thoughtfully written and well prepared. A future zoom meeting will be held to go through document and iron out changes within the next week

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

Mayor Nellist stated the Parks look beautiful and noted how much use Bicentennial Park is getting lately. Mayor Nellist also brought up giving out recycling bins to apartment buildings to encourage increase recycling. This will be revisited in the future. Mayor Nellist also asked DPW Superintendent Remington to repair the lamp that is out in front of the Gazebo. Trustee Davis stated he saw a golf cart drive into Bicentennial Park when he was there and ask about our policy regarding this or if we've had damage to the park from such visitors.

The **Code Enforcement Report** not submitted.

Mayor Nellist stated he saw Code Enforcement Officer Mark Remington taking pictures of overgrown lawns and making phone calls. Most have been remedied and the couple remaining will receive letters.

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

- **Acceptance of a letter of resignation from Paul Beakman on his decision to retire from the BPD, effective June 8, 2020** was motioned for acceptance from Trustee Davis and was seconded by Trustee Seward.

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

Mayor Nellist wished Sergeant Beakman a happy retirement and thanked him for his service. Mr. Beakman stated he was proud to serve the Village. Mayor Nellist presented Mr. Beakman with a Proclamation honoring his service.

Proclamation Honoring Paul Beakman’s Retirement

WHEREAS, Paul Beakman, Sergeant of the Village of Barker Police Department officially retired on June 8, 2020, after 21 months of outstanding and meritorious service to the residents of Barker; and

WHEREAS, throughout his thirty-five years of service as a Police professional first serving the City of Lockport and then onto various local departments, Paul advanced through the ranks as a result of diligent work and demonstrated ability to become the Sergeant of the Village of Barker; and

WHEREAS, Paul has served as an example to his peers, and the residents of this community and this State, both in his personal achievements and employment achievements, with fairness and dedication;

WHEREAS, on behalf of the Village Board of Trustees, we want to express our sincere appreciation to Paul for his dedication to the Village of Barker, in which he retires as a member in excellent standing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE I T RESOLVED, that we, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker, take this opportunity to express our sincere and grateful appreciation, and hereby extend to Paul Beakman, our congratulations on this well-earned retirement and our best wishes to him for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come.

A brief discussion about tractor trailer traffic on Main Street and ways to curtail it ensued. It was decided to place graphic sign indicating no truck traffic.

Correspondence: Charter Communications- Programming Changes & Updates- May 15, 2020  
ARGO Insurance- Letter regarding fire claim- May 18, 2020  
NC Water- Gallonage Report  
National Grid- Smart Street lighting updated proposal

Approval of Claims and Bill Payment:

FY END 2019/2020

Abstract 013 Voucher #'s 410-442 H3-FUND Voucher #34-36  
General Fund-\$8,423.59 Water Fund-\$145.00 T&A Fund-\$1,550.33 H3-Fund- \$11,111.62 TOTAL  
\$21,230.54

FY BEGIN 2020/2021

Abstract 001 Voucher #'s 001-16  
General Fund-\$27,670.50 Water Fund-\$30,559.72 T&A Fund-\$700.00 TOTAL \$58,930.22

A motion to approve the above audited claims by all members of the Board of Trustees was made by Trustee Seward and was seconded by Trustee Baker.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Seward NAYS-0.None Motioned Carried.

Budget Transfers: FY END 2019/2020  
A1420.4 Law Contractual \$655.00 to A1325.42 C/T Supplies  
A1325.43 C/T Training \$261.00 to A1410.4 Dep.C/T Contractual  
A1640.41 DPW Gasoline \$50.00 to A1640.44 DPW Heat  
A3120.41 Police Insurance \$.20 to A3120.1 Police PS Chief  
A3120.41 Police Insurance \$104.00 to A3120.12 Police PS Officers  
A3120.42 Police Gasoline \$30.00 to A3120.45 Police Supplies  
A3120.47 Police Building Maintenance \$200.00 to A3120.46 Police Vehicle Maintenance  
A3620.4 Building Inspector Contractual \$370.00 to A5110.4 Street Maintenance Contractual  
A5142.4 Snow Removal-Contractual \$100.00 to A5182.4 Street Lighting Contractual  
A9010.8 State Retirement \$312.00 to A7110.43 Parks-Misc.  
A7110.43 Parks Portable Toilet \$120.00 to A7110.43 Parks Misc.  
A9060.8 Medical Insurance \$2,751.00 to A9030.8 Social Security  
A1640.41 DPW Gasoline \$1,000.00 to A8160.4 Refuse Contract  
A1640.43 DPW Vehicle Maintenance \$1,000.00 to A8160.4 Refuse Contract

A motion to approve the above budget transfers was made by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Davis.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Seward NAYS-0.None Motioned Carried.

Public Comment was offered by:  
Neal Gordon: Mr. Gordon stated he would like to rectify the ownership of the 158.7 feet beyond the pavement at the end of Woodward Avenue so he can access his property that has frontage of 24ft west of Woodward Avenue, which has been in dispute since 1987. Mr. Gordon’s property is 30+ acres of undeveloped land, which used to have access off of the end of Woodward Avenue. Mr. Gordon stated it would be the benefit of the Village to remedy the situation regarding ownership at the end of Woodward Avenue. Mayor Nellist stated that there are compounding issues that complicate the ownership issue from the property owner on the South, such as a building in the 158.7 feet in question. The Village has consulted with outside council on this issue before and Mr. Gordon stated he has spent time and money getting records, having a survey done and on attorney fees. Mr. Gordon stated he is willing to also obtain an enhanced title search if necessary. The Board had a discussion about the property in question and unanimously decided that it was in the Village’s best interest to maintain access to 30+ acres of undeveloped land. A letter will be written to the bank owned property to the North explaining what is taking place. First step was decided to remove the trees that have grown in what used to be the access for Mr. Gordon and the Board agreed these should be removed to allow access again. Legal counsel for the Village will be notified of the decision to remedy this issue.  
A motion to remove the trees in the Village owned land off the end of Woodward Avenue not to exceed \$1,000.00 was made by Trustee Seward and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley.  
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Seward NAYS-0.None Motioned Carried.

**Board Comment** was offered by:

Trustee Seward: Stated he tried to reach out to Mr. Flegal (IT) about the windows upgrade and was unable to reach him. The Village may need to purchase an enterprise license or individual licenses based on what gets up the software we need for the least price. July will most likely be Trustee Seward's last meeting before he resigns due to moving out of the Village.

Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley: Asked for a motion to go into Executive Session based on matters of appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. The **motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:57pm** was made by Trustee Davis and was seconded by Trustee Baker.

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

A **motion to ask the Clerk-Treasurer to stay for the Executive Session** was made by Trustee Seward and was seconded by Trustee Davis.

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

**Executive Session was adjourned at 8:25pm** on a motion from Trustee Davis and was seconded by Trustee Baker.

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

A **motion for Adjournment was made at 8:28pm** by Trustee Davis and was seconded by Trustee Seward.

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

**Next work session will be Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is Canceled due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday.**

**Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, July 13, 2020 @ 7:00pm at the Barker Fire Hall.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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