

VILLAGE OF BARKER
WORK SESSION/BUDGET SESSION MINUTES



March 11, 2024
6:00pm @Barker Fire Hall

Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley
Deputy Mayor Aaron Davis
Trustee Melanie Hirschman
Trustee Val DiTommaso-*Absent*
Trustee-Vacant

In **Attendance:** DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Zander Detschner, Matthew Goodwin

At 6:16pm the meeting was called to order by Mayor Corwin-Bradley administering the Pledge of Allegiance.

Updated tentative budget numbers given to the Board of Trustees to reflect the changes made at the March 4, 2024, meeting.

The Board of Trustees members present were comfortable with the totals as presented and discussed the tax rate of \$7.90/M for the new budget. Overall general appropriations are up for the General and Water funds, but the General fund will use 120,000 in State Aid (CHIPS), ARPA/SLFRF Funds and equipment reserves to offset the cost. The increase in the water budget is to account for the increased amount of purchasing the water from NC.

The General Fund budget will fund a 16x20 pavilion in David Barker Park (Main Street), purchasing a 2500 pickup truck to replace the 2015 pickup truck, paving East Avenue from Coleman to Church St and Church Street and sidewalk repair/replacement in select locations.

	Appropriations	Revenue w/o taxes	Taxes Levied	Appropriated Fund Balance/Reserves
GENERAL FUND	570,617.00	252,510.00	154,498.00	163,609.00
WATER FUND	102,258.00	89,833.00	-----	11,425.00
TOTALS	672,875.00	342,343.00	154,498.00	175,034.00

The **budget meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm** on a motion from Trustee Hirschman and seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES



March 11, 2024 7:00PM
@ Barker Fire Hall

Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley
Deputy Mayor Aaron Davis
Trustee Val Ditommaso-*Absent*
Trustee Melanie Hirschman
Trustee-Vacant

In **Attendance:** DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Martin Padilla, Eric Alivers, Zander Detschner. Kathie Smith & Lisa Thompson arrived at 7:04pm. Trustee DiTommaso was absent from the meeting.

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

The **Sales tax** received for February 2024 was \$17,204.90 an increase of \$561.93 from February 2023.

The **Approval of Minutes** for the work session/budget session February 5, 2024
monthly board meeting February 12, 2024
budget session February 27, 2024
work session/budget session March 4, 2024

was motioned for approval by Trustee Hirschman and seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

A motion to set the public hearing for FY 2024-2025 Budget for April 1st, 2024 at 7:00pm was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

Resolution #2 -2024 Herbert W. Carr Post #425 Agreement

WHEREAS, the American Legion, Herbert W. Carr Post #425 was formed in the Town of Somerset/Village of Barker to ensure the remembrance of veterans that have served the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion, Herbert W. Carr Post #425 provides flags of Town/Village veterans to honor Somerset/Barker residents that have served the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker desires to assist the American Legion, Herbert W. Carr Post #425 with the placement and removal of said flags on utility poles throughout the Village; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Barker hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Herbert W. Carr Post #425 of the American Legion to assist the American Legion placing and removing veteran’s flags on utility poles in consideration of publicity for Town/Village veterans.

A motion to ADOPT Resolution #2-2024 was made by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

Resolution #3-2024 Calling for an Increase in AIM Funding

WHEREAS, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State; and

WHEREAS, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

WHEREAS, New York’s local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals; and

WHEREAS, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during that same period; and

WHEREAS, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and

WHEREAS, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and Whereas, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s 2024-25 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and Whereas, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Barker urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator Robert Ort, Assemblymember Michael Norris and the New York State Conference of Mayors.

A motion to ADOPT Resolution #3-2024 was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

A motion to allow **permission for the Corn Festival community event** to utilize the David Barker Park (Main St.) and Main Street closure on July 27, 2024 by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried

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

- ✓ Any unpaid water accounts as of April 1, 2024 will be re-levied onto the Village tax roll for collection June. Final notices were mailed to each unpaid account on February 15, 2024
- ✓ Please begin to think about the Spring newsletter and any articles that you would like to submit. This newsletter must be kept to 4 pages because of the annual drinking water quality report, target date is April 15th
- ✓ Village Election will be held March 19th from Noon until 9:00pm at the Barker Fire Hall

A motion to close Village operations on April 8, 2024 at 11:00am (solar eclipse day) was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

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

The increasing water loss has been investigated by DPW Superintendent Remington, Rural Water leak detection on 2 occasions and NC Water District. NC Water District changed out the meter pit meter last week to determine if the

meter was the problem, after several days of reading it has been determined that the meter is working properly, and the loss is the same. DPW Superintendent Remington has contracted LNR Industries to help dig an area on East Ave between Coleman Road and High Street to see if a water leak is detected. Work will begin the week of March 18th, 2024.

Quotes received for a 30ft wind rated commercial flag pole were as follows:

- Uncommon USA \$3750.00 + \$300 shipping= \$4050.0
- Online Stores \$4329.99
- American Flag & Gift \$5070.00

A motion to approve the purchase of a 30ft commercial flag pole from Uncommon USA in the amount of \$4050.00 for the new Village Hall/Library building was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

Code Enforcement Report- Not submitted

Correspondence: Corn Fest Request Letter- David Barker Park & Main Street-July 27, 2024
NYCOM 202 Annual Membership Dues Notice- No Change
Niagara USA 250 Committee Press Release
NC Sales Tax Formula for 2024
Cornell University- Local Roads Program Infographics
Charter Communications-Upcoming Programming Changes-February 23, 2024
Charter Communications-Upcoming Programming Changes-February 27, 2024
NC Gallonage Report

Approval of Claims and Bill Payment: Abstract 010 Voucher #'s 311-342 H3 Voucher #69
General Fund-\$16,438.61 Water Fund-\$860.56 T&A Fund-\$1400.00 H-3 Fund-\$63,420.40
TOTAL \$82,119.57

A motion to approve the payment of the above claims and bill payments audited by the entire Board of Trustees was made by Trustee Hirschman and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

Budget Transfers: A1910.4 Insurance \$17.00 to A1920.4 Municipal Association Dues
A motion to approve the above budget transfer was made by Trustee Hirschman and seconded by Deputy Mayor Davis.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

Public Comment was offered by:
Lisa Thompson: Stated the Library has a limited number of solar eclipse glasses available for the public.
Kathie Smith: Inquired about the date of completion for the VH/Library building. A date is not available at this time.
Eric Alivers: Inquired about the status of the business plan he submitted to the Village on March 4, 2024. Mayor Corwin-Bradley stated it has been submitted to the Village attorney for review.
Martin Padilla: Voiced concerns about Code Enforcement violations around the Village, especially debris and trash strown about at several properties in the Village, especially his neighbor’s property. Mr. Padilla stated he finds the lack of enforcement intolerable and wants it addressed. Mayor Corwin-Bradley acknowledged an issue at this neighbors and reviewed the attempts of remediation, education of proper disposal of garbage and policy/procedures that have been followed.

Board Comment was offered by:
Deputy Mayor Davis: Proposed transferring funds from the snow removal, parks miscellaneous and tree removal lines to fund the removal of the tree in front of 1695 Quaker Road that splits the sidewalk to facilitate sidewalk repair. A second was not offered. Mayor Corwin-Bradley stated she would like to wait until the full Board is present to decide on the tree removal.

A motion for Adjournment was made at 7:40pm by Deputy Mayor Davis and was seconded by Trustee Hirschman. The previous was ADOPTED. AYES-3-Corwin-Bradley,Davis,Hirschman NAYS-0/None ABSENT-DiTommaso Motion Carried.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be the Annual Organizational Meeting Monday, April 1, 2024 at 7:00pm at Barker Fire Hall, 1660 Quaker Road

Respectfully Submitted,

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