

The Work Session scheduled for January 4, 2021 was canceled due to lack of business.

VILLAGE OF BARKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2021 7:00PM

@ Barker Fire Hall



Mayor Aaron Nellist
Deputy Mayor Seanna Corwin-Bradley
Trustee R. James Baker
Trustee Aaron Davis
Trustee Jordan Gow

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS IN PLACE: MASKS WORN, HAND SANITIZER AVAILABLE, SOCIAL DISTANCING & DISINFECTING AFTER USE

In Attendance: DPW Superintendent Mark Remington, Neal Gordon

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

The Sales tax received for December 2020 was \$9,578.99 a decrease of \$799.95 from December 2019
A year to date decrease of \$5,013.68 from 2019

The Approval of Minutes for the monthly board meeting held December 14, 2020 was motioned for approval by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Gow.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Gow NAY-0/None Motioned Carried.

Resolution #1-2021 Village 2021 Election

RESOLVED, that the Village Election shall be held at the Barker Fire Hall, 1660 Quaker Road, Barker, NY on March 16, 2021, and the polls shall be open between the hours of Noon and 9:00pm of such day.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the rate of pay for the Election Inspectors shall be \$13.00 per hour, \$130.00 per day

A motion to ADOPT Resolution #1-2021 was made by Trustee Baker and was seconded by Trustee Davis.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Gow NAY-0/None Motioned Carried.

The Offices of:

Mayor- Two (2) year term
Trustee- Two (2) year term
Trustee- Two (2) year term

are open for the upcoming Election. Petitions began being released on December 29, 2020. The signed petitions must be filed with the Clerk-Treasurer's Office between February 2, 2021 and February 9, 2021 to be on the ballot.

Resolution #2-2021

Street Lighting Inventory Purchase from National Grid to Facilitate LED Conversion through NYPA

A resolution approving a contract with Niagara Mohawk, dba National Grid, for the acquisition of streetlights within the Village and related license and attachment agreement; and

WHEREAS, to acquire existing street lighting from their respective utility company owners, and the procurement and installation necessary to upgrade all lighting fixtures to LED lighting under the Village's ownership, and

WHEREAS, provides guaranteed savings from energy efficiencies resulting from the use of Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology, reduced maintenance costs, and through the elimination of certain service and maintenance charges from existing utility owners, and

WHEREAS, the inventory results in a sale price for the 64 existing luminaires offered to the Village by National Grid of \$6,846.00 for such streetlights plus \$1,442.41 in transition and transaction costs pursuant to regulations from the NYS Public Service Commission for the book value of such utility assets for a total estimated purchase price at NBV of \$8,288.41, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board wishes to purchase all streetlights owned by National Grid within the Village pursuant to the New York State Streetlight Replacement and Savings Act, and related regulatory changes that authorized municipal acquisition of such utility owned streetlights, to replace and upgrade such equipment with new LED technology to achieve substantial energy savings associated with the more efficient LED lights pursuant to contract with NY Power Authority (NYPA), and

WHEREAS, National Grid has also provided a detailed license and attachment agreement intended to govern the Village's rights and responsibilities in maintaining, replacing, and operating new LED streetlights and Nightwork Lighting Control Nodes to allow for "Smart Cities" applications and technology going forward; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Deputy Mayor is authorized to execute the attached for the Purchase and Sale Agreement with National Grid for their utility-owned streetlights within the Village and related License Agreement for Customer-Owned Area Lighting attachments; and

This project needs approval from NYS Public Service Commission and must meet their standards and be fair to all parties.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #2-2021** was made by Trustee Davis and was seconded by Trustee Gow. The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-4- Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Gow NAY-0/None ABSTAIN-1-Nellist Motioned Carried.

Resolution #3-2021 Lake Ontario Preparedness Group

Establish a work group with the Towns and Villages of the Lake Ontario Preparedness group to collaborate on Local Waterfront Revitalization Initiatives and trails.

WHEREAS, the Lake Ontario Preparedness group share over 36 miles of New York's Niagara River and Lake Ontario shorelines and:

WHEREAS, these shorelines are significant regional assets identified in each communities Local Waterfront Revitalization Plans (LWRP) and,

WHEREAS, each community contains significant multi-use trails which combine to form essential connections of the Shoreline and Empire State Trail networks and,

WHEREAS, said communities acknowledge the regional significance of the confluences of these greenways and wish to collaborate to maximize taxpayer investments to ensure community strengths and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Lewiston, Village of Lewiston, Village of Youngstown, Town of Porter, Village of Wilson, Town of Wilson, Town of Newfane, Village of Barker, and the Town of Somerset, actively participate in the work group identified as the Lake Ontario Preparedness group and to work to fulfill its stated vision.

A **motion to ADOPT Resolution #3-2021** was made by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Davis.

The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Gow NAY-0/None Motioned Carried.

USDA Rural Development Business Grant (RDBG) & the Village of Barker Business Development Committee update was given by Mayor Nellist. On January 5, 2021, a conference call with the NC EDC Director Michael Casale, County Grant Writer Diana Cihak, Mayor Nellist, Clerk-Treasurer Amanda Detschner took place to discuss the Village applying for USDA Rural Business Development Grant. The USDA RDBG must be applied for by the Municipality to help all businesses within the Village limits. This could be done through a revolving grant fund that would allow businesses in the Village to apply for low interest loan to help keep jobs, fund improvements, marketing etc. The Village first discovered this grant by having a local business (Energy Electrical Limited-EEL) ask the Village for assistance with obtaining this grant to help them fund getting product to market. Unfortunately, this revenue stream would not work for the purpose in which EEL is seeking, but the Village could apply to set up a revolving loan fund. The conference call was very informative and eye opening as to the opportunities available. Many other types of grants were discussed that could help the Village in the future, such as the Main Street Grant, community's facility funding and wastewater/water funding. The timelines for applying for the forenamed grants are rapidly approaching or have passed, but they are funding streams to look at in the future. Mayor Nellist expressed this is forward movement for the Village and will continue the discussion at the work session in February.

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

- ✓ February 1, 2021 immediately following the work session will be a budget session to begin discussion the FY 2021-2022 budget
- ✓ Village Independent nominating petitions are due between Tuesday, February 2nd and Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 at 5:00pm
- ✓ Friday, March 5th, 2021 is the last day an individual may register with the County Board of Elections to be eligible to vote in the Village Election
- ✓ Water Bills were mailed January 8th and are due February 10th without penalty. The new rate increase is included in this billing cycle

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

4th Quarter 2020 Water Loss=6.9%

Mayor Nellist discussed several grant opportunities that Barton & Loguidice (B&L) brought to his attention recently. One program is for purchasing of water meters, another program helps fund stormwater drainage. Another opportunity that Mayor Nellist would like to investigate is helping the few remaining lead water service connections get replaced or homes with poor water pressure. Possibly partnering with a contractor to facilitate the work in the same time frame to help the residents get better pricing on this task. The stormwater drainage grant is through NYS Homes & Community Renewal and would require a public hearing in February. **A public hearing is set for February 8, 2021 at 7:00pm for the NYS H&CR grant application to apply for funding to investigate, plan and devise a comprehensive master plan to remediate the Village's stormwater drainage issues and its infrastructure.** Mayor Nellist asked Trustee Gow to help DPW Superintendent put together a plan on water meter needs and possibly switching to radio reads in the future.

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

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

Correspondence: ARGO Insurance Group-Fire claim update letter-December 14, 2020
ARGO Insurance Group-Fire claim update letter-January 5, 2021
Time for Homes-Information based letter regarding homelessness
Charter Communications-Programming Changes & Update-December 31, 2020
Charter Communications-Programming Changes & Update-December 18, 2020
NC Sales Tax Distribution Report 2020
NC Gallonage Report

Approval of Claims and Bill Payment: Abstract 008 Voucher #'s 238-264
General Fund-\$8,996.55 Water Fund-\$3,202.33 T&A Fund-\$2,100.00 TOTAL \$14,298.88
A **motion to approve the above audited claims by the entire Board of Trustees** was made by Trustee Baker and was seconded.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Gow NAY-0/None Motioned Carried.

Budget Transfer: A8160.4 Refuse Contract \$26.00 to A8160.2 Refuse Equipment
F8310.4 Water Admin \$37.00 to F8340.4 Transmission & Distribution Contractual
A **motion to approve the above budget transfers** was made by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley and was seconded by Trustee Gow.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Gow NAY-0/None Motioned Carried.

Public Comment was offered by:
Neal Gordon: Stated he thought the Board was doing a fine job.

Board Comment was offered by:
Mayor Nellist: Go Bills!

A motion for **Adjournment was made at 7:36pm** by Trustee Davis and was seconded by Deputy Mayor Corwin-Bradley.
The previous was ADOPTED. AYE-5-Nellist, Corwin-Bradley, Baker, Davis, Gow NAY-0/None Motioned Carried.

**Next work session will be Monday, February 1, 2021 at 6:00pm at the Barker Fire Hall
Immediately followed by a Budget Session for FY 2021-2022**

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, February 8, 2021 at 7:00pm at the Barker Fire Hall

Respectfully Submitted,

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