

Special Meeting Minutes

Board of Trustees

Village of Monticello

Friday March 20th, 2015

8:00am

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am by Mayor Jenkins.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Jenkins-Present

Trustee Bennett-Present

Trustee Rue-Present

Trustee Solomon-Absent

Trustee Weyer-Present

Also Present: David Sager, Village Manager-Present
Michael Davidoff, Special Council

Motion to Accept the Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett to accept the agenda with the following add-ons:

1. Resolution authorizing legal representation from Hawkins, Delafield & Wood as Bond Counsel for the Village of Monticello regarding the Water System Improvement Project with the USDA

Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-abstain

Trustee Bennett-yea

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Weyer-yea

Trustee Solomon-absent

Discussion-Barton & Loguidice Application Process proposal for the Water System Delivery Improvements project in the amount of \$26,700.00

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett to retain the Engineering Services of Barton & Loguidice to assist the Village with the USDA Water System Improvement Project on an hourly basis not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-abstain

Trustee Bennett-yea

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Weyer-yea

Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution authorizing the Bond Resolutions for the Water System Improvement Project not to exceed \$7.6 million dollars. Funding will be a combination of loan and grants

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Weyer. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-yea

Trustee Bennett-yea

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Weyer-yea

Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution authorizing Legal Representation from Drew, Davidoff & Edwards for the Village of Monticello regarding the Water Systems Improvement Project with the USDA

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-yea

Trustee Bennett-yea

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Weyer-yea

Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution authorizing \$10,000.00 to be set aside for any and all inspections that are performed by the Village Engineer, Glenn Smith, on the Water Systems Improvement Project

A motion was made by Trustee Weyer with a second by Trustee Rue. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-abstain

Trustee Bennett-yea
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Weyer-yea
Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution rescinding the one passed on Tuesday, March 17th, 2015 for the Special Meeting dated for Tuesday, March 24th, 2015 at 5:00pm

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Weyer. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-abstain
Trustee Bennett-yea
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Weyer-yea
Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution setting a Special Meeting date for Tuesday, March 31st, 2015 at 6:00pm to make the Public aware of the upcoming Water Systems Improvement Project for the Village

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Weyer. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-abstain
Trustee Bennett-yea
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Weyer-yea
Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution authorizing the salary increase for the Village Treasurer, Lili Li, as an Officer of the Cooperation as stated in the Village Code Section 45-7 to \$60,000.00 to be paid retroactive to July 2013 effective immediately

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a discussion and a second by Trustee Bennett.

Trustee Rue stated, I do not have a problem with the salary increase, but it should not be retroactive to July 2013 when she was hired. All salary increases are retro to the fiscal year, which is August 1 of each fiscal year. I don't think we can legally go back that far and retro actively pay anyone. Mrs. Li has done a great job getting the Village finances back in order and getting us to where we are now, because we were not in a good place and I commend her for that, but to go all the way back to July 2013, that's the part that I have a problem with.

Mayor Jenkins stated, Mrs. Li was hired and when I hired her I hired her for \$5,000.00 less than Heather Berg was making and I promised her that I would take her up to Ms. Berg's salary a long time ago and she is still at the \$55,000.00. When I can in and even when I hired Ms. Gandy, I cut her salary to \$35,000.00 and was going to make it lower, but the Board at that time thought I was crazy and was concerned that we would not get anyone capable and knowledgeable at a lower salary, so I put it at the \$35,000.00. Now Mrs. Li came in when the finances were questionable and the future of the Village was not where it is today and she has done a really good job in securing our finances and getting things in order. If I could I would pay her double or triple her salary, but I know that the people here would have a fit. I never said anything until now about Mrs. Li's or Ms. Gandy's salaries because they are my appointments and I didn't want the finger pointed at me saying that I was playing favorites or only trying to give "my people" money or big salaries, but now, I don't know how much longer I have in this seat and I want to be sure that my appointments are being paid fair just like everyone else here that works in this Village. Mrs. Li has been an asset and was sent to apply here by the Department of Labor even though everyone says that I brought her here from China, she was sent here by the Department of Labor, I didn't know her and she did not know me until we met at her interview. That's another reason why I never said anything about her salary because of that nonsense being spread around, but at this point right is right and fair is fair, she deserves to make what everybody else makes. No one had a problem when the new Board came in with all of their hiring and paying them what they were making. We are currently paying two Code Enforcement Officers and TJ came in making the same salary as James Snowden at \$47,000.00 and there was no issue with that, then Brenda was hired making \$20.00+ an hour and that wasn't a problem, those resolutions passed and no one has problems paying them what everyone else was making and more. I told Mrs. Li that I would try to get her money back from when she was hired.

Mr. Sager stated that all that is being done is bringing Janine and Lilu up to where they should be paid, their salaries are being brought up to their predecessors like everyone else. They both do excellent jobs and are very knowledgeable in the work that they perform daily and should be paid fairly.

Trustee Weyer stated, I do not disagree that Lilu and Janine do not need salary increases, but my first hearing of this was three days ago in Executive Session and now this morning they are before us as resolutions to pass. I thought that we were going to sit down as the Board with the Manager and discuss these issues and come up with a plan of attack. I do not agree with this process and I feel that it is happening too fast and I am going to vote "no". It has nothing to do with the people, Lilu and Janine both do a great job, but I just heard about it on the 17th for the first time and Doug also and now we have to vote it. What budget lines is the money coming from, there is no information here. Plus, if we are talking about Lilu and Janine making

what their predecessors made, Janine is still being shorted. Edith made \$57,000.00 and Janine is being brought up to \$52,000.00 so she is still not being paid fairly.

Trustee Rue stated that the Manager has nothing to do with these salaries, they are strictly up to the Board.

Mr. Davidoff interjected, the issue is not the Clerk or Treasurer needing to be paid fairly; we are all aware of that and agree with that. The issue that I am having is the retro to July 2013 for the Treasurer. I am looking through my NYCOM handbook and legally that is not feasible. It clearly states that a raise or increase can only be affective and paid retroactive within the current fiscal year, so just to be clear paying to 2013 cannot be done, but we can go as far back as August, so this resolution needs to be amended.

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett to amend the resolution for the Treasurer to August 1, 2014. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-yea

Trustee Bennett-yea

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Weyer-nay

Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution authorizing the salary increase for the Village Treasurer, Lili Li, as an Officer of the Cooperation as stated in the Village Code Section 45-7 to \$60,000.00 to be paid retroactive to August 1, 2014 effective immediately

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-yea

Trustee Bennett-yea

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Weyer-nay

Trustee Solomon-absent

Resolution authorizing the salary increase for the Village Clerk, Janine Gandy, as an Officer of the Cooperation as stated in the Village Code Section 45-7 to \$52,000.00 to be paid retroactive to August 1, 2014 effective immediately

A motion was made by Trustee Bennett with a second by Trustee Rue. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-yea

Trustee Bennett-yea
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Weyer-nay
Trustee Solomon-absent

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett to close the meeting at 8:47am. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Jenkins-abstain
Trustee Bennett-yea
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Weyer-yea
Trustee Solomon-absent

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy, Village Clerk