

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, July 15th, 2020

6:00pm

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by Mayor Gary Sommers.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Sommers-Present

Trustee Nikolados-Present

Trustee Rue-Present

Trustee Massey-Present

Trustee Sabatino-Present

Also Present:

Michael Davidoff, Special Counsel

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk

Gary Lasher, Village Treasurer

BJ Gettel-Building Department

Executive Order Compliance:

Mayor Sommers acknowledged that we are compliant with all Covid-19 Health Pandemic regulations and Executive orders issued by the Governor of NYS in respect to conducting this Village Board Meeting via Video Conferencing with the Zoom App.

Motion to accept the agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Massey to accept the agenda. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Approval of the minutes from the June 17th, 24th & 30th, 2020 meetings

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

Mayor Sommers-yea

Deputy Mayor Massey-yea

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Nikolados-abstain

Trustee Sabatino-yea

Manager's Report

There's been a lot of interest in property sales in the Village, a lot of people are looking to move her and or just invest in the area, which is a great thing. Getting properties back on the roll is the most important, so I am meeting with and talking to people regarding that.

Also, Jill Weyer is here and she has a representative present with her to discuss the Strong Building on Broadway.

Jill Weyer introduced, Rupp Co CEO, Kevin O'Conner. Mr. O'Conner stated that they have looked at the Strong Building on Broadway and they are interested in working to get the Building back up to Code and to remedy any and all issues associated with the building. He stated that his company works with buildings like this all the time and have had great success in remedying them with the help of the local municipality. They are asking that the Village work with them in regards to the current and future fines and issues with the buildings. He stated that they know the building is not in good condition, but with his help, he believes that they can revive it and get it back on the tax rolls over time with a viable buyer.

Michael Davidoff stated that he agrees and have heard good things with this company and that the Village should consider this proposal, it would get rid of a huge eye-sore in the Village and get it back on the tax rolls. The fines and violations can be worked out, but getting the building remedied is the biggest issue, the Village should allow this property to go to the Land Bank, let them get the grant and go from there.

Trustee Nikolados stated that he also agrees with Michael, no one is going to buy the property in its current condition and the current owner can't sell it in that condition. At least if we work with the Land Banks and they get this grant and work with Rupp Co, there will be some light at the end of the tunnel, but as of right no, it's on Broadway, our main fairway and it's another thing that has the Village looking bad, seeing that building doesn't want to make people invest or buy here. It's- a no-brainer or we will continue to be in the situation we are in with that building and many others on Broadway.

Trustee Sabatino stated that he also agrees and thinks that this could be a good thing for the Village and the current owner, it's a win-win.

Rich Manley, from the Building Department (FUSCO) stated that this building already has a ton of violations and they are mounting as we speak, the building is not safe, the roof has caved in, this building has been in violation since before he came and the current owners have done very little to remedy anything before it got to the state that it's in now. The property is currently in Court and the owner is still doing very little, now you want us to "look over" the violations and the man hours that was put into this and "work" with everyone? That's not right, nor is it fair to the Village. We have been more than lenient with this owner.

Trustee Rue and Trustee Massey asked what is meant by "work with them" regarding the violations and fines.

Mrs. Weyer expressed that they would ask that some of the fees be waived or lessened until they can make some progress if the Village decides to take this route.

Mayor Sommers stated that this is something that the Trustees would have to discuss further, because this item was not originally on the agenda, nor is the Board ready to make any decisions tonight.

Resolution authorizing the payment of Village Bills in the amount of \$418,658.86

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino to pay the bills. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution to adopt an updated policy against Discrimination and Harassment

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a comment and a second by Trustee Sabatino.

Trustee Rue commented that this policy is being updated per the new State regulations. The Village already has a policy in place that we utilize, this resolution is just updating the policy with the new information from the State.

Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the extension of building permits, local zoning board and local planning board approvals for up to 120 days amid the COVID-19 Pandemic

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the Mayor/Village Manager to execute a contract with Joseph Balzano d/b/a Four Seasons Logging for use of said right of way for the purpose of logging SBL#49.-1-6.1 for the period beginning July 15, 2020 and ending September 30, 2020

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing an Outside User Water Agreement for 155 Pleasant Street Extension aka SBL#14.-3-3, owner is Optimum Horizons, LLC

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the purchase of a High-Pressure Pump for the Wells from Maltz Sales, Inc. in the amount of \$1,162.00 for the Water Department from app#F.8320.233(Source of Supply-Equipment)

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to Smith & Loveless for the emergency repair of the Shaker Heights Pump Station in the amount of \$5,002.15 for the Sewer Department from app#G.8120.421(Sanitary Sewers-Repairs/Maintenance). Account balance after repair is \$3,811.98

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the Mayor/Village Manager to execute a new contract with Pitney Bowes Mailing System (Sole Source Provider) at \$169.00 per month for a 60-month lease plan with the meter rental & rate updates and maintenance included

A motion was made by Trustee Sabatino with a second by Trustee Rue. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to Idemia Identity & Security USA, LLC (Sole Source Provider) in the amount of \$4,195.00 for the annual maintenance of the RICI mugshot and digital fingerprint biometrics system for the Police Department from app#A.3120.408 (Police Service Contracts). Account balance is \$4,351.00

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing a one-time extension of the deadline for the repurchase program from to August 31, 2020 pursuant to the Executive Order of the Governor of the State of New York. Any prior owner that wishes to repurchase a parcel of real property that the Village took title to in the 2020 Article 11 proceeding (foreclosure of 2017 Village liens) must contact the Village Clerk and Tax Collector on or before August 31, 2020 and must make the full repurchase payment following the County's guidelines which include payment of all real property taxes, assessments, charges, interest, fees and penalties due and owing at the time of the sale plus additional 10% of that total, to be paid to the County's auctioneer, if any, plus an additional sum in the amount of 5% of the full equalized assessed value of the property plus any outstanding taxes due to the County of Sullivan; Plus other costs and surcharges, if any

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to Schmidt's Wholesale, Inc. for the emergency purchase of parts for the repair of the Rte 42 Pump Station in the amount of \$1,759.00 for the Sewer Department from app#G.8120.421(Sanitary Sewers-Repairs/Maintenance). Account balance after repair is \$2,052.98

A motion was made by Trustee Massey with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to ATC Tax Collection Program in the amount of \$4,000.00 for the licensing, bill design and maintenance fee for tax bill printing for the 20/21 Village Tax year. ATC Tax Collection is currently the Village's service provider for posting current tax payments, delinquencies and installments and is also currently used by the Sullivan County Treasurer's Office for delinquencies and installments. The Village will be utilizing them for this year in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and businesses being closed, the Village Clerk was not able to properly bid out the matter

A motion was made by Trustee Massey with a second by Trustee Sabatino.

Trustee Nikolados asked the Village Clerk if this will be a one-time thing or is this the company that we will be utilizing each year going forward?

Village Clerk, Janine Gandy-McKinney, responded we will start bidding out the billing in January of 21, but being that we are crunched for time, this is who we will be using for now and ATC Taxes is well aware that we will be going out to bid, they are the company that we currently use and they administer our current system and they are available for any and all questions.

Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to Springbrook in the amount of \$1,014.00 for the Web payment Setup/Training for Water Bills

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution adopting the attached, "Schedule A" as legal addresses in the Village of Monticello for the purposes of billing by the Village and receiving mail from the US Postal Service for Waverly Gardens

A motion was made by Trustee Sabatino with a second by Trustee Nikolados. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Comments from the Board

Trustee Rue commented that there is a statement out that she is claiming to be on the Human Rights Commission; she responded that the Human rights Commission was started in 1993 and she was appointed to it and was on it for several year until she declined the re-appointment in 2002 and the Commission was also dissolved by former Mayor Jim Barnacle. In 2013, former Mayor Gordon Jenkins re-instated the Commission but no one was never appointed as members, so I just wanted to make that clear that I am not claiming to be a member because it does not exist, because the County already has a paid Commission with a budget, so there is no need for the Village to have one which was explained by Jim Barnacle at that time.

Trustee Massey stated that her comment is in reference to the protest being held and some things that have been said which are false. "A man that stands for nothing will fall for anything we are non-violent with people who are non-violent with us, don't be in a hurry to condemn because we don't do what you do or think as you do or as fast", that's a quote from Malcolm X. I say this because George, you and your followers need to educate yourselves about the Black Lives Movement. BLM was founded in 2013 and it was formed by three black women. If you choose to carry a banner or shout pout Black Lives Matter, remember what it stands for. It is an organized group in the United States advocating non-violent, civil disobedience and instances of police brutality again African American people, so when I hear a young woman in the group shout out, "don't shop at local black business", it's a disgrace. This is not what BLM stands for. Black Lives Matter just had a day called "Black-Out" on July 7th, did you or your group know about that day, probably not. Most people in this County don't know about the black activist we do have, yeah, we need more, so work on that George. Let me explain who I am, I am raised by two wonderful parents, I have five sisters and four brothers, yes, I've been arrested, but I don't need anyone to put my arrest record out and I am not ashamed of it because in my heart, I know it was political. I have not been in trouble in my whole life and I'm not saying that makes me a

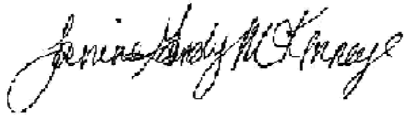
better person. I got involved in politics to help a person whom I thought was the better person for the DA job, but didn't get elected and now that person holds a grudge. I attended meetings all of my life and not just for one situation. George, you and your group cannot let yourselves just be involved for one incident in this whole County. Well guess what, I never heard you or this group get upset when a local Sheriff from Monticello made racist remarks about the Mexicans, no protest, also I didn't hear the group Mr. Greco, Michael Banks and others get upset when Mr. Perello, a Legislator who represents District 7 in Fallsburg who has minorities, say that all people, which he meant to say, black people, need to listen to the cops. Well Mr. Perello, it's easy for you to say, if only Sean Bell, Amadou Diallo, Eric Garner, Alton Sterling, Michael Brown, Shareese Francis, Remarley Graham, Ronald Madison, Kindra James, Rodney Mitchell, Brendon Glenn, Freddie Gray, Walter Scott, etc., etc. had been white, guess what, more than likely, they would be alive today. So don't you dare say if they had listened to the Police they'd be alive? I bet all of your life, you most likely have been privileged, and I bet you have never been stopped or harassed by the cops, if you were, I can put money on the fact that you had a friend of a friend that was able to get you out of it. How would you feel if your child was choked out by the cops, what would your ass do? So, shut up with your racist comments, it's called White Privilege Mr. Perello. George, you and your rah, rah crowd should protest about that. Again, Steve Vegliante, did you hire any Blacks or Hispanics yet? Nope, you didn't. Stop talking, stop taking these young kids on your side, your circle, Mr. Vegliante, is not good and these kids are already confused enough and don't need to be messed up any more than they already are. Teach them the truth and teach them right. Spike Lee said, "Do the Right Thing". Dana or whatever your name is, I don't owe you are anyone else any explanation and you better believe you're not going to get one. When you decide to protest about what's right, I'll be there, otherwise count me out of stupid nonsense because you are not in it for the right reasons and you're only stuck on one issue. By the way, what is this, we don't forgive people or we don't educate people? Malcolm X said, "Education is the passport to the future, but tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." Everybody deserves to be educated, if you don't educate the one who you call the racist, then the person goes back into society not knowing right from wrong, what have you accomplished by doing that? It appears that this group is for the election and will disappear once it over. Where have you all been all of these years? Again, I tell you and this group to protest about the \$100,000,000.00 jail, rent control, black in higher paying jobs, no youth center, slum lords, prison system, more black school teachers, speak up for the real issues in the County and not just one person. Message to the Village of Monticello employees, mind your damn business and stay out of the politics, I pay your salary. I expect clean roads, a clean Broadway, mowed lawns with garbage *not* in it, trimmed trees, pick up the criminals who do wrong, and say good morning and good evening to those in the Community, you shouldn't ignore people because you don't like them. Be blessed and before I finish George here are some books that you and your group can read, White Privilege by Paula S. Rothenberg, The Making of A Slave by Willie Lynch, Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison, Beloved by Toni Morrison, and The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander, you all be blessed and change your attitudes.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Massey with a second by Trustee Rue to close the meeting at 6:50pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

7/15/20-Village Board Meeting Minutes

Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janine Gandy-McKinney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'M'.

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk