

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, October 18th, 2023

6:00 pm

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Deputy Mayor Banks.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Nikolados-Absent

Trustee Rue-Present

Trustee Banks-Present

Trustee Massey-Present

Trustee Jenkins-Present

Also Present:

Antoinette Williams-Village Attorney

Gary Lasher-Village Treasurer

Rudolph (Chuck) Brodowsky

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, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Approval of Minutes from the October 4th, 2023 Meeting

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Mayor/Manager Report

Deputy Mayor Banks asked that we pray for Mayor Nikolados' father who is currently in the hospital.

Discussion-Constable for the Justice Court

Trustee Jenkins stated that he feels that we should hire a retired or part-time Police Officer, this way it will save the Village money with the salary, health insurance and there will be a full-time officer on the streets instead of in the court. Truthfully, I feel that we just need to dissolve the Court. It does not produce any money and for all it costs to heat it, keep the lights on and so forth, our judge can go right down to the Town of Thompson and hold court there. Having that court open in a complete waste.

Trustee Rue stated that in her opinion, it's a waste to hire anyone or make this Local Law. Court is only one hour on Mondays and this person that they have mentioned to hire is not local, and there are other personnel issues going on with him. She stated that she spoke with the worker's over there and they prefer that things stay as they are. Plus the Chief nor the Judge or Mayor is here to discuss this matter. In regards to closing the Court, that is not a decision of the Board, that's a decision of the people. It is a big process and it has been tried several times before and it has to go through a Permissive Referendum along with the election and it has not passed each time it was put forth before.

Trustee Banks stated that his concern is that they don't use a security guard. He stated that he heard that there was some talk of doing that and he is totally against that. He stated that we need someone with Peace Officer status, someone who is able to detain and arrest if necessary. I went to the Court the other night and even with two Sheriff's and our Police Officer, it was very sketchy and uncomfortable in there. I honestly think that we need to hire like 30 more Police Officers, but I know that something that can't be discussed right now due to contract negotiations.

Village Treasurer, Gary Lasher, stated that, we cannot close the Court while there is a sitting Judge, the Permissive Referendum has to be done during an election year when a Judge's term is up.

Trustee Banks said that we can hopefully finish this discussion at the next Board meeting when those missing players are present.

Discussion-Mobile Medic Rent Increase to \$4,000.00 per month

Trustee Banks asked what is the current rent and that he had previously heard that Mobile Medic contributes to the fuel oil, but he doesn't know the truth of that.

Trustee Jenkins stated that it's a shame what they are paying for a commercial space. He said that they used to pay only \$1,500.00 and they get everything free. That's a crying shame. I'd like to run my business out of there for that amount, even though I know it's a little more now, still for all that they are getting, that's a steal. You guys out there, the taxpayers, should be in

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uproar about that. Many of you pay more than that in rent and you have to pay all the utilities and some of your places are so small, it's a disgrace. This is a commercial space and they are robbing all of us.

Trustee Rue stated that her issue is that another company bought them and it's not the same owner's so they should get a different contract and then we can raise it that way. Also we just got a big grant from the Assembly to renovate and redo the building. The problem is, there's only one thermostat for the whole building, which is what's causing the extra expenses. It's just like when we let the County use it as a Warming Center, the heat in the whole building had to be on, which was in spaces that's not even being used at the time, so that's where the waste is coming in. With this grant, we can put more than one thermostat in and so forth and save money which will help with all the bills.

Treasurer Gary Lasher stated that they are currently paying \$3,000.00 in rent and they're contract has not been renewed, so it's month to month. We can raise it to whatever we want as long as we give them a 30 day notice. I also believe that they are not following their Service Contract, which is their ability to service the residents of the Village. Like Gordon said, the bills for the TSC are very high and they don't contribute anything other than the rent, but they are 24 hours, so they use the utilities the most. I believe now is a good time to do what we need to, but it's up to the Board.

Trustee Banks stated that so the rumor of them contributing to the utilities are false then, okay. Well, I can only speak from a real estate perspective, I actually agree with Gordon, we are being robbed. That is a commercial space and even if they are paying \$4,000.00, that's still robbery because the rent usually starts at \$1.00 to \$1.25 per sf for any commercial space and from the sounds of it, they are paying quarters. That definitely has to be changed. Gary, if you can find out the number of square feet of the space, then we need to charge them at least a \$1.25 per sf. He also asked Mr. Lasher if he heard anything back about the Fire Department concerning having an ambulance at their facility.

Mr. Lasher responded that he reached out to them and he hasn't heard anything back as of yet.

Trustee Banks stated like the Constable discussion, this one will also be continued at our next meeting and we can go from there.

Resolution authorizing the payment of the Village Bills in the amount of \$241,516.26

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

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Trustee Banks-yea
Trustee Massey-nay
Trustee Jenkins-nay

Resolution failed, will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting.

Resolution authorizing the Annual Audit of the Justice Court Records by the NY State Justice System for Compliance with Section 2019-a of the NYS Unified Court System

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Banks-yea
Trustee Massey-yea
Trustee Jenkins-yea

Resolution authorizing an emergency purchase of a Control, On-Off Remote box for Polybend Polymer System from BDP Industries in the amount of \$1,076.82 from app#G.1940.400 (Reserved Sewer Project). Current account balance after expense is \$74,320.61

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Banks-yea
Trustee Massey-nay
Trustee Jenkins-nay

Resolution failed, will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting.

Resolution authorizing payment to Barton & Loguidice in the amount of \$1,742.50 for General Services for the Sewer Department from app#G.1440.414(Engineer-Professional Services). Account balance is \$12,391.50

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Banks-yea
Trustee Massey-yea
Trustee Jenkins-yea

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Resolution authorizing payment to Barton & Loguidice in the amount of \$45,212.58 for work completed on the Water Systems Improvements from app#F.8320.484 (Source of Supply-Engineers). Account balance after the expense is \$135,708.60

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-nay

Trustee Jenkins-nay

Resolution failed, will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting.

Resolution authorizing payment to Callanan Industries for Patch for various Village streets in the amount of \$5,125.85 from app#A.5110.224 (Street Maintenance-Paving Supplies)

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Resolution authorizing payment to Barton & Loguidice in the amount of \$6,980.60 for the Ted Stroebele Building Conditions Audit from app#A.1440.414(Engineer-Professional Services). Current account balance is \$12,093.40 after the expense

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-nay

Trustee Jenkins-nay

Resolution failed, will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the Renewal Contract with Partners in Safety

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

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Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Banks-yea
Trustee Massey-yea
Trustee Jenkins-yea

Resolution authorizing payment to Barton & Loguidice in the amount of \$25,118.10 for work completed on the Water Project from app#F.8320.484 (Source of Supply-Engineers). Account balance after the expense is \$110,590.50

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Banks.

Trustee Jenkins asked what we are paying for.

The Village Water Superintendent, Chuck Brodowsky, was present and stated that from what he is aware of, this invoice is for the design phase.

Trustee Jenkins asked, so why are we paying them now instead of when the grant comes. If we put out all of this money now and don't get the grant then we are screwed, that's bad business.

Trustee Banks stated that from his understanding of the grant, there is the stipulation that we must put the money out for everything first, then we will be reimbursed from the grant.

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Banks-yea
Trustee Massey-nay
Trustee Jenkins-nay

Resolution failed, will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting.

Resolution authorizing payment to Barton & Loguidice in the amount of \$1,600.00 for the CBS Registration Assistance for the Sewer Department from app#G.1440.414(Engineer-Professional Services). Account balance is \$12,391.50 before the expense

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent
Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Banks-yea
Trustee Massey-yea
Trustee Jenkins-yea

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Resolution accepting the quote from Town and County Bridge and Rail (sole source provider) in the amount of \$3,644.00 for the replacement & installation of 187.5' of used Rail & Posts for Colonial Hill from app#A.5110.229 (Street Maintenance-CHIPS). Account balance before expense is \$14,659.50

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Banks.

Mr. Lasher stated that this is a sole source provider. This company is going to fix the guard rail by Judge Solomon's house by replacing and installing it for this price. It has been in need of repair for a while now and with winter coming, the need is even greater and they can have it done in the next few weeks.

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Resolution authorizing payment to North Jersey Pump & Controls, LLC (sole source provider) in the amount of \$14,538.00 for a Replacement Decant Pump and parts from app#F.8320.233(Source of Supply-Equipment). Account balance before expense is \$70,586.00

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-nay

Trustee Jenkins-nay

Resolution failed, will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting

Resolution authorizing the purchase of a Dell PC OptiPlex 3080 Micro Computer with monitor, Laser Printer, and Sticker printer for vehicle inspections in the amount of \$1,695.00 from State Bid and also authorizing payment to NYS Department of State Division of Licensing Services from app#A.1640.421(Central Garage-repair/Maintenance). Account balance after purchase is \$48,107.60

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Banks.

Mr. Lasher stated that this is a requirement by the State and off State Bid. We usually do everything ourselves and print our own inspection stickers for all of our vehicles in house, but no

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more. Everything has to go through the State now, so this is the computer equipment we need to make that happen.

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Resolution authorizing payment to Amthors (sole source provider) in the amount of \$2,142.86 for the purchase of a Cylinder Rear Post from app#A.1640.421 (Central Garage-Repair/Maintenance). Account balance after purchase is \$50,729.58

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

As per Mr. Lasher, this also sole source. They are the only company that can provide this piece of equipment.

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Resolution authorizing payment to Case Tire (lowest quote) in the amount of \$3,900.00 for the purchase of new tires and the installation for the Kubota machine at the Sewer Plant from app#G.8130.421 (Treatment/Disposal-Repair/Maintenance). Account balance before the purchase is \$26,115.65

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

The Treasurer made the Board aware that quotes were received and this is the lowest quote as you can see. This company is going to come to the Sewer Department themselves and put the new tires on so we don't have to do anything. Before we would have to load it and take it somewhere, but not this time, which is much easier for everyone.

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

Mayor Nikolados-absent

Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

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Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Banks to close the meeting at 6:54pm. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Nikolados-absent

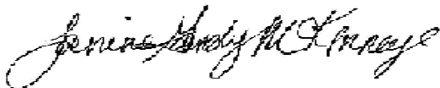
Trustee Rue-yea

Trustee Banks-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Trustee Jenkins-yea

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk