

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, December 18th, 2024

6:00 pm

Call Meeting to Order

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

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Massey-Present

Trustee Jenkins-Present

Trustee Hutchins-Present

Trustee Davis-Present

Trustee Barbarite-Present

Also Present:

James Snowden, Village Manager

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk

Michael Sussman, Special Counsel

Motion to accept the agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to accept the agenda with three (3) add-ons. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Approval of minutes for the December 4th, 2024 Regular Board meeting

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

Mayors Comments

First let me express to everyone that I understand that navigating family dynamics during the holiday season can be both joyous and challenging. But these are the occasions that bring together multiple generations of our families and help us to reconnect with relatives we don't see often. So, I hope you all will take this opportunity to reconnect and gather with your loved ones. View this holiday season as a unique opportunity to set a positive example for all your family members and foster healthier relationships that center upon empathy and effective communication. We are all aware of the fact that we cannot control others, we do have control over our own personal behavior. So go and create a harmonious environment that will allow you to engage in the festive season and create lasting memories.

Now, down to business. I have expressed time and again that I am on a mission to clean up this Village and I have not strayed from this goal. However, there are still those who either out of negligence or disrespect still do not comply. The maintenance of the Village is a priority because it is a direct reflection of me as your mayor. I will continue to uphold the previously stated requirements of residents to survey and maintain their properties and businesses. The first offense, a courtesy

reminder will be given. However, all subsequent violations will result in stiff penalties. There will be no exceptions.

Let me wrap up by saying that the situation within the Village is much worse than initially anticipated. In the interest of complete transparency, the details of this will be extensively outlined for review in my end of the year report. This report will contain a detailed accounting of all our accomplishments, shortfalls, deficits, as well as defining goals towards the next steps.

Please remember to support the Village's Inaugural Holiday Giveaway.

On a high note, a refrigerator has been secured for the Ted Strobel Center.

Moving on to more pleasing events. I would like to recognize our friend, our ally, our neighbor and Village attorney Micheal Sussman. Most of you are aware of his many accomplishments and impressive record. But let me reiterate a few for you. Mr. Sussman has over 40 years' experience in the fields of civil rights, environmental law, special education law, sexual harassment, police brutality, and public corruption.

He should feel right at home in Monticello!

As I undertook the role of mayor, the Board and I were blindsided by all the issues the Village faced. Mr. Sussman stepped up to the plate and undertook the role of Village attorney. As a result of this we gained a dedicated, loyal, faithful and diligent mentor and guide. Monticello is fortunate to be the beneficiary of his intellect, work ethic, experience, and his zeal for public service. He is always consistent, creative, and helpful, on the frontlines of the work.

As a result, we would like to present him this humble gift as a token of our esteem. Merry Christmas Everyone and have a safe, healthy and Happy New Year!

Manager's Report

Mr. Snowden stated that he had a meeting with one of the developments that are currently seasonal users in the Village and they are upset because the Board increased the water turn-on & turn-off rate from \$100.00 to \$250.00, so it is now costing them close to \$800.00 along with their bill, just to get their water turned off and on. He asked the Board if they would consider dropping the fee to \$150.00 and amending the Village Fee Schedule to accommodate them being that they have been established with the Village for a very long time.

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Barbarite to amend the turn-on & turn-off rate for Seasonal Users to \$150.00 for utilities. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Mr. Snowden also appointed Barbara Niosi to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of five (5) years. Lastly, he wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

SEQR- DeHoyas Park Pool

SEQR was completed and there was little to no impact found.

Add-Ons:

1. Resolution declaring the Village of Monticello Board of Trustees as Lead Agency for the new DeHoyas Park Pool

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

2. Resolution Declaring the DeHoyas Pool Project as an Unlisted Action and accepting a Negative Declaration for the Project

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

Discussion-Garbage

There was no discussion

Discussion-Sludge

There was no discussion

Discussion-Village Parking Lots

There was a discussion regarding the Village Municipal lots, possibly selling the North Street lot behind the old Woolworth's Building. There was a consensus of the Board that the Village already has a limited amount of parking on Broadway and that we need all of the parking that we have available, so selling that lot in particular would not be a wise decision.

Discussion-Creation of an Amnesty Program

Trustee Barbarite started that since we have a lot of multiple dwellings that do not have enough parking for their tenants, that the Village should create an Amnesty program that will assist the property owners in doing the correct thing and following the Code. This program will give them a certain amount of time to correct their issues with parking and or their illegal dwellings without having to shut them down completely.

Resolution authorizing payment of the Village Bills in the amount of \$569,009.04

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

Resolution authorizing the Village Clerk to divide the Village into five (5) Election Districts in accordance with the NYS Election Law §15-110(5) for the upcoming March 18th, 2025 Village Election and designating the Ted Stroebele Center at 10 Jefferson Street as the Polling Site for registered voters from 12pm-9pm

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

Resolution authorizing acceptance the offer to purchase of the Old Railroad on Ripple Rd in the

Village of Monticello in the amount of \$50,000.00 and the transfer of the Deed to the new owner, REGNJ LLC, and also authorizes the Village Mayor, Village Counsel and Village Clerk to fill out the necessary paperwork to complete the transaction

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

Resolution authorizing payment to Computer Doctor's in the amount of \$1,224.00 for the yearly maintenance of the Police Department's Security & Anti-Virus computer software from app#A.3120.206(Police Computer Equipment). Account balance before expense is \$16,200.47

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

Resolution authorizing payment to Transaxle for the purchase of a new Clutch for Truck #5 for the Highway Department in the amount \$7,819.93 from app#A.1640.421(Central Garage-Repair/Maintenance). Account balance after expense is \$48,520.88

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

Resolution authorizing payment to Cooke Brothers Truck Parts Co for the purchase of new parts for Truck #13 for the Highway Department in the amount \$2,999.00 from app#A.1640.421(Central Garage-Repair/Maintenance). Account balance after expense is \$45,521.88

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

Resolution authorizing payment to Landscape Structures in the amount of \$118,862.59 for the construction of the Splash Pad in DeHoyas Park from app#A.7140.451 (Recreation/Playground... Youth Activities). Account balance after expense is \$20,137.49. These monies are to be reimbursed to the Village

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

Resolution accepting the quote and authorizing payment to CTS Mobility for the upgrade of the Building Departments tablets in amount of \$1,477.08 from app#A.3620.403(Code Enforcement-Contract/Software Maintenance). Account balance before expense is \$8,522.92

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

Resolution authorizing payment to Lexipol for the Annual Law Enforcement Manual and Training Bulletins in the amount of \$11,849.32 from app#A.3120.206(Police Computer Equipment). Account balance before expense is \$16,200.47

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

Resolution authorizing the transfer of the \$500,000.00 HUD HOPE VI Grant to the Village of Monticello for 430 Broadway(Strong Building) to 418 Broadway(Black Library) and authorizing the attorney to send a letter

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis.

Trustee Jenkins commented that he thinks this is the start of an abandonment. He stated that the Board pushed and was behind the Landbank to get this grant for the Strong Building and he does not think it's right for them to now abandon that building and put the money somewhere else. He stated that if the monies were sought after for 430 Broadway, then that's where they should be applied. Now another eye-sore is being left on Broadway.

Mr. Snowden responded that he spoke with the Landbank in length regarding this. He stated that they told him that the Strong Building is going to need so much more work and monies applied to it and they did not want to lose the \$500,000.00, so this is why they would like to use it for 418 Broadway, the Black Library. The good thing is that although we would like the Strong Building fixed and corrected, at least something is getting done to enhance Broadway. Yes, that building is an eye-sore and needs major renovations, but understand, this \$500,000.00 is not going to be enough to barely start it, so they would rather out the money on another project and go through the Brownfield's Program and apply for money that way, because they can get bigger grants.

Trustee Jenkins stated that he understands why they are doing this, but he hates that the Strong Building will sit for another number of years because brownfield grants are almost impossible to get. He stated that a letter should be written to in concern from this Board that the renovations on the 430 (Strong) building continue and that to be made part of this resolution.

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

Resolution authorizing the Village Mayor or Manager to sign the Civic Engagement Agreement with The Kartrite Resort & Indoor Waterpark for the event on March 14th, 2025

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

Resolution authorizing an amended Postal Agreement for the increase in parking spaces from 23 to 30 and authorizing the Village Counsel to negotiate the rental agreement accordingly

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

Add-Ons:

Resolution re-approving the resolution appointing Lt. David Lindsay as the Village of Monticello Police Chief and Establishing the Terms and Conditions of his employment with any additional notes and corrections

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

Executive Session

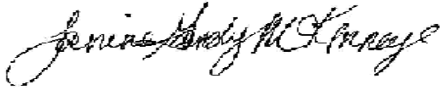
A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis to go into Executive Session at 7:05pm for Litigation & Personnel. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to come out of Executive Session at 9:10pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to close the meeting at 9:10pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy-McKinney
Village Clerk