

Board of Trustees Emergency Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Tuesday, April 23, 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

Also Present:

James Snowden, Village Manager

Michael Sussman, Special Counsel

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk

Motion to accept the agenda

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

Manager Report

Village Manager Snowden reported that he met with Mayor Massey, Trustee Davis and the Sewer & Water Superintendents in regards to the placement of the Splash Pad for DeHoyos Park. He stated that he has a meeting with the Engineer that will be installing it on Thursday, and if it is not installed by next month, our window will be lost and we will have to wait until next spring.

Resolution authorizing the payment of Village Bills in the amount of \$93,864.43

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

Resolution setting a Public Hearing date for proposed Local Law #2 of 2024-“A Local Law authorizing a Property Tax Levy in excess of the limit established in the General Municipal Law Section 3C” for Wednesday, May 15th, 2024 at 6:00pm

Village Special Counsel Michael Sussman stated that the Board needs to understand that this is just a mechanism to have in place in case the Board decides to go over the NYS Tax Cap of 2%. In no way is the Board bound to do this by setting a Public Hearing and holding one, but this is good to have this done and out of the way in case a decision to do so is made.

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

Special Counsel Report

Mr. Sussman reported that the NYS Budget passed over the weekend and there were provisions put in place for local municipalities to set up their own regulations for Tenant Protections in regards to Evictions and also Rent Control. He stated that he encourages the Board to look into these items as these are two persistent items that plague the Village of Monticello. He stated that he would like to possibly begin discussions with the Village Manager with the Boards blessing to see how to help the Board get some type of control over the issues facing this community. He also mentioned that he received a call from Attorney Kurlander in regards to his client, Mr. Skuletsky, who lost a vacant lot due to foreclosure procedures and is claiming that the Village is in the process of selling the lot, which we are not and asked the Clerk for further information as she is more familiar with the situation.

Mrs. McKinney, the Village Clerk responded that this property was foreclosed upon over a year ago, it is a vacant lot located on Hillside Avenue abutting the park and is less than an acre. The owner sent someone in with a check to pay for the property in the amount of the back taxes that were owed. Once former Mayor Nikolados realized where the property was, he stated that the Board had decided that the Village would maintain possession of the vacant lot because it can be used to expand the park and under Village code section 226-36(c), which is completely legal. Mayor Nikolados then asked me to send back the payment along with the Village Code section as stated. Now, earlier today, I get a call from Mr. Skuletsky, the one who sent in the payment stating that the Village is selling the property and that he is owed money.

Mr. Sussman stated that he also made Mr. Kurlander aware that the Village has not done anything wrong and the property is not for sale and stated that he will convey that in the form of a letter on behalf of the board if that is their desire.

Mayor Massey and the Board stated that it is their desire to keep the property for the expansion of the park and to please send a letter to Mr. Kurlander stating the same.

Executive Session-

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to go into Executive Session at 6:19 pm for:

Personnel & Possible Litigation

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

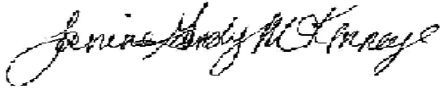
A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to come out of Executive Session at 6:44pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Davis to close the meeting at 6:45pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

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Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Janine Gandy-McKinney".

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk