

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, July 3rd, 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-Absent

Also Present:

James Snowden, Village Manager

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 the following amendments:

1. We will add item #8a, which will be a discussion on the NYSwims Grant and the Grant Writer
2. Adding item #8b the Bill Pay
3. Adding item #8c the Pro-Housing Resolution
4. Item #9, instead of a 10% increase, it will be a 7.5% increase and the Administrative Fee will be \$125.00.
5. Items #10-12, the public Hearing date should be July 17th, 2024, not June 17th, 2024.

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

Approval of Minutes for the June 18th, 2024 Regular Meeting & the June 21st, 2024 Emergency Meeting & the June 27th, 2024 Special Meeting

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

Mayors Comments

On a personal note, this week I received a correspondence from John DeGennaro praising the actions and equipment of the village's first responders. He gave a special shout-out to the firefighters at Station 22 (especially Justin??) In addition, I received a letter from Evelyn Harmin, the wife of a former mayor. She congratulated me on the victory and assured me I would be able to make a difference in this tiny alcove.

On another note, in my last newsletter, I let everyone know that I and Trustee Gordon Jenkins were harassed at our home by an individual. However, the laws of the Village were not enforced to their fullest. The district attorney that handled the case decided that I, as a Black female mayor did not

7/3/24-Village Board Meeting Minutes

warrant the protection of the law from this individual and he was subsequently let off. I have decided that because of my status as Mayor, that if he will not ensure the protection of my safety, then I will ensure it myself.

Since our last newsletter, here's what we have been working towards:

- 1) We had to make a tough decision to increase taxes above the 2% cap because of the contracts that were given by the prior administration's rule. Even the health insurance premiums had gone unpaid.
- 2) I attended a meeting regarding the homeless population. There are 301 homeless of which 89 are children. I asked for a breakdown of how many veterans, seniors or residents within the village are. They had no clear answer. I insisted they provide me with these statistics as soon as possible.
- 3) With the help of the village clerk, we sent out a correspondence to the legislator to make the village whole and a separate entity from the Town of Thompson. This is due to our deficit and the inability to collect overdue taxes. In addition, we discussed the fact that we need to upgrade the billing system software to make an easier understanding of water usage, etc.

I stress once again that Homeowners and landlords will be held accountable for maintenance of their properties and buildings. Garbage and recycling containers should have lids and be placed at the rear of the building. If they are kept in the front, then they should be enclosed in a structure.

Workers, I will say and continuously say, you are responsible for the maintenance of the Village and Town and the jobs that you have been entrusted with. You need to be aware of your responsibilities and uphold them. It is tax-payer money that funds your salary.

Again, please remind residents to scoop their poop. This is an on-going problem, and we must find a resolution.

Reminders:

1. There is no overnight parking on Broadway. All resident vehicles will be ticketed or towed and fined daily.
2. The Village Hall is closed from 12-1pm
3. I have been continuously litter-plucking which should involve all community members, I want to stress the importance of maintaining the appearance and integrity of the visuals of the town, so we all have to work together to maintain it.

Dates to remember:

June 20th- September 26th

Sullivan Fresh Monticello Farmers Market-Cornell Cooperative Extension-Every Thursday 10am-1pm Behind the Ted Strobel Recreation Center-10 Jefferson Street-Accepts SNAP and EBT

July 8th

Presentation by Nessin Cultural Arts Center-1pm Temple Shalom-5 East Dillion Rd

7/3/24-Village Board Meeting Minutes

July 14th

The Church of Saint Peter is hosting their 150th Anniversary Celebration. There will be a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Timothy Dolan. This event will be held at St. Peters Church located at 10 Liberty Street Monticello, New York.

July 18th

Bus trip to Wind Creek Casino in Bethlehem PA-Cost- \$55/pp-Benefit-\$30 free play

August 1st

1st Annual Mayor Meet and Greet Luncheon-Ted Strobel Center 1:00 pm

August 10th

Piggy Jiggy 21st Annual Picnic-Pig Roast/Fish Fry-DeHoyos Park 11:30 am

Ongoing

Weekly AA/NA Meetings-Ted Strobel Center-7pm-8:30 pm

Managers' Report

Mr. Snowden reported that he took the initiative and secured the Turk property on Waverly Avenue. The gates were closed, cinderblocks were put around the property and "No Trespassing" signs were posted.

He stated that he is also pushing to have the concrete poured for the Splash Pad by next week, the first contractor wanted to wait another two weeks, so we got a local guy to do it.

The Pool opened on Monday, July 1st, there were some issues because the prior administration did not winterize the pool after it closed last season, a temporary repair was done so that it could be used, after this season, the proper repairs and winterization will be made to the pool.

There was a large fire at the top of the hill at the old Monticello Manor that basically gutted the whole place. There was a lot of water used to put the fire out, they believe it was from someone smoking on the roof. The biggest issue was that some of the hydrants didn't work, so now I have to implement a policy to make sure that all of the hydrants are working.

Glenn Smith-Draft Agreement for Developers to Fund any Required Water Improvements

Mr. Smith stated that he along with Richard Baum, the Planning Board attorney formulated an agreement for all developers who are doing projects in the village in regards to the water issues. The agreement states that each developer will have to contribute to assist the Village with the Well Fields so that a study can be done to see what is going on there, maybe it could be broken pipes, pumps or whatever, having this study done would show the issues and then we can move forward with what we can do to correct the problems to produce more water for the Village as a whole. We will have a meeting with all the developers in regards to the stages of what needs to be done, the first stage will be a commitment of \$50,000.00 per developer to get things started with a consultant to see what needs to be done. Then we will move to Stage 2 and have the developers set up an escrow and move forward from there. Those wells used to produce of 900K gallons of water a day

7/3/24-Village Board Meeting Minutes

and now they are barely producing 100K -400K gallons, so there are some major things that obviously need to be done at the site and we would like to get on this as soon as possible. The agreement has already been circulated and hopefully you have already reviewed it.

Mr. Sussman commented that he spoke with some of the attorney's for these projects along with Mr. Baum while drafting the agreement along with Mr. Smith. It is important for the Board to understand and that the developer's understand that the current agreement is for \$50,000.00 to get the study initiated with the understanding that if things cost more than that, the escrow will be set up to pick up any additional cost. Most importantly, the developers are going to pay for the improvements required by the study, each of them will not pay the same amount because they all need different amounts of water, so they each will pay a portion that will suffice their need. Tonight it is the responsibility of this Board to make a decision to sign or authorize the signing of this agreement by the Mayor to put this agreement in place, more so because you have people that are willing to pay to have the study completed that will benefit the Village and if after the study is complete, you decide that you do not want to go any further, that's your decision.

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins authorizing the Mayor to sign the Agreement for Developers to Fund any Required Water Improvements. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

NYSwims Grant

Mayor Massey made the public aware that there is a grant available through the State for pools up to \$900K and the Village would like to apply for it.

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Hutchins authoring the Village Mayor and or Village Manager to sign off on the NYSwims grant. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Mr. Sussman stated that subsequently if a Public Hearing is needed for the grant, the Public Hearing will be held on July 17th, but as of right now, he is not aware of one being necessary, but he will advise the Board accordingly.

Bill Pay

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Hutchins to pay the bills in the amount of \$8,788.00. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Pro-Housing Resolution

Read into the minutes by Mr. Sussman:

WHEREAS, the Village of Monticello Board of Trustees (hereinafter "the Village government") affirms that the lack of housing for New York residents of all ages and income levels negatively impacts the future of New York State's economic growth and community well-being;

WHEREAS, the housing crisis has negative effects at regional and local levels and we believe that every community must do its fair share to contribute to housing growth and benefit from the positive impacts a healthy housing market brings to communities;

WHEREAS, supporting housing production of all kinds in our community will bring multiple benefits, including increasing housing access and choices for current and future residents, providing integrated accessible housing options that meet the needs of people with sensory and mobility disabilities, bringing economic opportunities and vitality to our communities, and allowing workers at all levels to improve their quality of life through living closer to their employment opportunities;

WHEREAS, we believe that evidence showing that infill development that reduces sprawl and supports walkable communities has significant environmental and public health benefits;

and WHEREAS, we believe that affirmatively furthering fair housing and reducing segregation is not only required by law, but is essential for keeping our community strong and vibrant;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Village of Monticello, affirms its intent to take positive steps to alleviate the housing crisis and now adopts the Pro-Housing Communities pledge, and pledge to take the follow steps:

1. Streamline permitting for multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.
2. Adopt policies that affirmatively further fair housing.
3. Incorporate regional housing needs into our Village's planning process and decisions.
4. Increase development capacity for residential uses.
5. Enact policies that encourage a broad range of housing development, including multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.

To implement this resolution, the Village Board hereby creates a PRO-HOUSING Committee which shall consist of the following persons:

The Village Manager, the Mayor, the Special Counsel, The Chair of the Planning Board, the Chair of the ZBA, Counsel to the Planning Board, the Village Engineer, the Commissioner of Public Works, representatives appointed by the Department heads of the Water and Sewer Departments and a representative appointed by the County legislator[s] representing the Village of Monticello.

The Mayor shall either chair this Committee or designate its Chairperson.

Said committee shall meet at least monthly commencing in July 2024 and shall prepare within 90 days a concrete plan to meet the objectives set forth in this resolution.

SO RESOLVED:

Mr. Sussman stated that basically this resolution is so that developers that want to build in the Village of Monticello and want to further these objectives to apply for Federal & State monies, knowing that the Village has adopted a Pro- Housing policy, which is now a requirement of State law for such applications. If you are in a Village that does not have such policies, the State will not give you any money.

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 setting a Public Hearing to Increase the Outside User Rate for Water and Sewer Users

by 7.5% and adding an Administrative Fee in the amount of \$125.00 for Wednesday, July 17th, 2024 at 6:00pm

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 setting a Public Hearing for a Health Insurance Coverage Change from NYSHIP to MVP for all of the current Village Employees for Wednesday, July 17th, 2024 at 6:15pm

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 setting a Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law #4 of 2024 to amend Local Law#3 of 1976, Article XVII entitled "Lane Designations" Chapter 252 section 46 entitled "Penalties for Offenses" to mirror the current Schedule of Fee's as listed in Chapter A90 of the Village Code for Wednesday, July 17th, 2024 at 6:30pm

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 setting a Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law #5 of 2024, adding section 89-22 (E) "Any owner or said person responsible for any domesticated pet in the Village will be responsible for picking up their animals feces and properly disposing of it. Any owner or said person responsible that does not pick up their animals feces and does not dispose of them properly will be fined a fee of \$250.00 per act if occurred in any residential neighborhood and \$350.00 per act if occurred on Broadway or the Village's main thorough ways" for Wednesday, June 17th, 2024 at 6:45pm

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 of the Village Board authorizing all employees time to be recorded as stated in their CBA as of August 1st, 2024 due to improper records being maintained by the prior administration. Any and all corrections & updates will be made once the payroll audit is completed by the Forensic Auditors

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 Suspension and Termination of the quarterly Medicare Reimbursement payments to all of those that were overpaid or were not entitled to them at all effective immediately

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 attached amendments to the Village of Monticello Code, Chapter A90, and Entitled "Fee Schedule" as listed in the attached schedule "A"

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 a letter to all Outside Users with open balances regarding the Shut-Off of their services provided by the Village if balances are not paid within thirty (30) days of said notice

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 amendments and fees in this agenda to be reflected in the 2024/2025 Budget as necessary

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 repair and payment of Well#3 by WM. Fulton & Son Well Drilling, Inc. & Water Pumps in the amount of \$11,500.00 for the Water Department from app#F.8320.235(Source of Supply: Parts for Intake Line Repair). Current account balance before the expense is \$48,000.00

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

Mr. Sussman introduced Dr. Wendy Page, she is the new pastor at the United Methodist Church at 445 Broadway.

Pastor Page stated that she is happy to be here and she is looking forward to coming together to make our voices heard in this community.

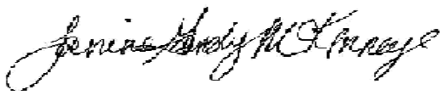
Executive Session (if necessary)

There was no Executive Session

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to close the meeting at 6:38pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk