

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, August 7th, 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

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.

Approval of Minutes for the July 17th, 2024 Regular Meeting

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

Mayors Comments

There will be a Recognition Dinner on August 10th, 2024 at the First Baptist Church in South Fallsburg, NY for Pastor Brian Lyles who will be stepping Down from First Baptist Church in Monticello due to health concerns. The luncheon cost is \$25.00

Managers' Report

The Splash Pad officially opened on Monday. We had a beautiful Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and I just want to thank the Board and everyone that showed up.

Lastly, I'd like to appoint Ernesto Middlehof as the Spanish Community Liaison for the Village residents.

Special Counsel Update

Mr. Sussman made the Board aware that he was given permission to reach out to the Union regarding the switching of health insurance from NYSHIP to MVP for the current Village employees. To date, there has not be any response from the Union regarding his letter or the Boards desire. The Union has thirty (30) days to respond to his request, if no response is received upon the 30 days, then the board has a right to move forward with their decision.

I also received a call from Ms. Bruno's attorney. She is the owner of We Care Taxi in regards to the Taxi Committee as mentioned in the Village Code. It is my advice that the Board move forward with forming this committee as quickly as possible so that we are not in violation of our own Code.

Finally, litigation is being pursued against the Village in regards to a \$179,000.00 backhoe purchase from Hoffman International Inc. Apparently the previous Board attempted to make this purchase from an account that only was budgeted for \$70,000.00, which is a third of the amount of the equipment. When this new Board got elected and Mr. Snowden was re-hired, once he was made aware of this purchase and the Village's financial dilemma, he immediately tried to cancel this purchase on several occasions to no avail. Needless to say, now this company is pursuing a judgment against us for breach of contract. As you can see, this Board is determined to be fiscally prudent and we will not be making erroneous purchases that are not budgeted for or that we cannot afford.

Public Hearing- Proposed Local Law #6 of 2024, the amendment of Chapter 252, entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" section 32, Notice of Removal to add the following, "Upon receiving notification from the Village Police Chief of said removal, the Village Clerk shall ascertain from the Chief and/or the Justice Court whether said owner has outstanding and unpaid parking tickets and, if so, shall require as a condition of the release of said towed vehicle the payment in full of said tickets and any penalties which to date have been imposed by the Village Justice Court. Once collected, the Village Clerk shall cause their distribution in accordance with law"

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to open the Public Hearing at 6:24pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

The floor was opened to the Public three (3) times and no one spoke.

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to close the Public Hearing at 6:25pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution adopting Local Law #6 of 2024, amending Chapter 252, "Vehicles and Traffic"

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

Public Hearing-Proposed Local Law #7 of 2024, to amend Chapter 202, "Rental Permits" by adding subsection 202-3(c) to the Definitions and adding subsection, 202-4a, "Regulating Air B & Bs in the Village of Monticello-Permit Required, adding the applicable fees as noted to the Schedule of Fee's, Chapter A290 of the Village Code" and adding subsection 202-5(b)(3)(a-e)

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to open the Public Hearing at 6:28 pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

The floor was opened to the Public three (3) times and the following people spoke:
Yankel Mandelovicz

Trustee Jenkins
Ernesto Middlehof

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to close the Public Hearing at 6:33pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution adopting Local Law #7 of 2024, amending Chapter 202, “Rental Permits”

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

Public Hearing- Proposed Local Law #8 of 2024, to amend Chapter 12, entitled, “Defense and Indemnification” to add the Mayor, Trustees and Village Manager of the Village of Monticello

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to open the Public Hearing at 6:35pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Special Counsel commented that just so that the Public is aware, this Indemnification to cover the Trustees and the Village Manager in case any type of litigation is filed against them regarding the duties they perform at Village. Please understand, anything issue’s that they create on their own and on their own time, is not the responsibility of the Village to cover them, they are on their own, but if they are in the regular course of their Village functions as the Mayor, Board Member or Village Manager and something occurs, this will cover them.

The floor was opened to the Public three (3) times and no one spoke.

A motion was made by Trustee Davis with a second by Trustee Jenkins to close the Public Hearing at 6:36pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution adopting Local Law #8 of 2024, amending Chapter 12, entitled “Defense and Indemnification”

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- Barton & Loguidice-Water Treatment Plant Grant

Mr. Snowden went over the Budget that was presented for the Water Grant Project as follows:

1. The project was an \$18M project and now just the WTP is \$18M with the full project being \$28M. That is why it is important that the Village keep receiving grant support, to make this affordable even as costs have increased
2. The costs have increased as the plant has deteriorated. Additional work was designed and scoped due to the failures of more portions of the plant.
3. Since COVID, costs of materials have skyrocketed, causing increased costs.
4. The Village is funded from RD for the following:
 - o \$5.69M RD REAP grant
 - o \$12,453,000 RD loan
 - o We are seeking additional funding now that costs are at \$28M

Without further funding, we will only be able to build the WTP. The Village needs Hospital Hill tank and East Dillon PS, so further funding is necessary.

Discussion-Splash Pad Rental & Fees

Mr. Snowden stated that the Board needs to set fees for the Splash Pad because it is costing the Village taxpayers over 7,000 gallons a minute. Because of the excessive water usage, it was discussed to only run it for 4 hours a day, weather permitting, so the hours will be from 12-4pm Tuesday through Sunday and it will be closed on Monday, just like the pool, but the park itself will remain open to the Public. The Clerk had someone call and wanted to bring a lot of kids here, I'll let her speak on that.

The Village Clerk responded that she got a call from an individual that when asked where they were from replied Monsey and that they were coming to visit the Zoo in Monticello and also to have a picnic lunch and they wanted to use the Park and the Splash Pad and they were bringing over 400 children. The Clerk said that she told them that they would have to rent the Park, but that rental does not include the Splash Pad, because that is something separate.

Mr. Snowden stated that people need to understand that just because they rent the Park, that rental does not automatically include the Splash Pad, because we have to pay someone to run the controls that run the Splash Pad and even if they pay for the Splash Pad, that does not preclude others from using it at the same time. He stated that it should be free for Village residents and any and all outsiders should have to pay for it. We have to set a fee to recoup the water we are using and to pay the attendant. I feel a \$500.00 fee is sufficient along with the insurance requirement, but again, others can still utilize it even though someone paid to rent it. The Clerk and I will come up with some type of system to differentiate between the Village residents and the non-Village residents.

A motion was made by Trustee Hutchins with a second by Trustee Jenkins to charge a fee of \$500.00 for non-residents and the must meet the \$1M dollar liability insurance requirement and it will be free for Village residents. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment of the Village Bills

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

Resolution authorizing the renewal of the Village's Liability Insurance Policy

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

Resolution authorizing payment to the Reis Group for a 60-Day renewal of the Villages following Insurance policies: Auto, Commercial, Umbrella, Excess Law Enforcement Liability & Law Enforcement Liability in the amount of \$194,171.54 from app#A.1910.400, CL.1910.400, F.1910.400 & G.1910.400 in the 2024/2025 Budget

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

Resolution restoring and amending the Village Justice salary in the 2024/2025 Budget back to the original amount

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

Mayor Massey-yea
Trustee Jenkins-yea
Trustee Hutchins-nay
Trustee Davis-yea

Resolution authorizing the renewal of the insurance for the Men's Basketball Program held at the St. John St. School

Mr. Sussman stated for purposes of clarity, because there was some confusion regarding this. Everyone needs to understand that this particular item from my understanding has been going on for a number of years. It is an older group of men that get together at this particular school on a weekly basis. This is not a professional or semi-pro league and there are no membership fees or anything like that. The Village's liability coverage does allow for this like this to be covered under their umbrella policy at no additional cost, it is already in the coverage.

Trustee Hutchins also stated that this Program have been covered for many years by the Village and it should continue.

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

Resolution authorizing the repair and purchase of a pump in the Sewer Department from Empire State Electric Motor Inc. (sole source provider) from app#F.8320.233 (Water-Source of Supply-Equipment) in the amount of \$1,250.00 for the Water Department. Current account balance before expense is \$51,492.93

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 the Emergency Purchase of parts for Well#1 in the amount of \$14,800.00 from Layne Christensen Co from app#F.8320.233 (Water-Source of Supply-Equipment). Account balance before purchase is \$50,242.93

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

Resolution authorizing the return of two (2) \$15,000.00 Bonds to Rose Improvement from app#T.0033.609 & T.0033.655 for work completed on Waverly Avenue

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 McDowall Electric Inc. in the amount of \$3,200.00 for the Emergency Installation of underground pipes and wiring for the Slash Pad from app#A.7140.451(Recreation/Youth Activities)

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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 Barco Products LLC in the amount of \$2,406.26 for the replacement of the Bus Enclosure on the corner of Smith and Pleasant Street from app#A.2680 (General Insurance Recoveries). Current account balance before expense is \$10,089.20

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 IMA between the Village of Monticello and the Town of Thompson for the 17BPump Station and authorizing the Village Mayor and Village Manager to sign the agreement with modifications

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

Resolution authorizing payment to North Jersey Pump & Controls, LLC in the amount of \$1,180.00 for purchase of a Spare Transducer from app#G.8120.421(Sewer-Repairs& Maintenance). Current account balance before expense is \$3,386.23

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

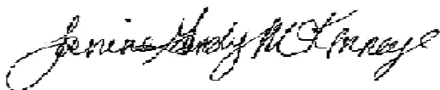
Executive Session (if necessary)

There was no Executive Session

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Davis to close the meeting at 7:22pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy-Mckinney, Village Clerk