

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, February 19th, 2025

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-Absent

Trustee Davis-Present

Trustee Barbarite-Present

Also Present:

James Snowden, Village Manager

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk

Motion to accept the agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Jenkins with a second by Trustee Barbarite 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 February 5th, 2025 Regular Board meeting

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

Manager's Report

Mr. Snowden appointed Irving Haynes to the Planning Board and also Avraham Richard to the Monticello Housing Authority Board.

Mayors Comments

Once again let me state that all throughout American history, Black people have been among our country's most significant trailblazers. They have shaped cultural and political destiny in profound ways. In my last newsletter I brought you an account of the contributions of so many Black women who have indelibly shaped our Nation's history. I tried to portray to you the little-known fact that so many Black women had previously run for the office of president of the United States. This time in honor of National Black History Month, let us celebrate those Black person-based inventions that affect your everyday life without you knowing.

1. 1750- First American Clock-Benjamin Banneker
2. 1853- Potato Chips-George Crum
3. 1887- Automatic elevator doors- Alexander Miles
4. 1892- Ironing Board-Sarah Boone
5. 1923- The 3 light traffic signal and the 1914, Gas Mask, Hair Relaxer- Garrett Morgan
6. 1939- Work developed the understanding of blood plasma leading to Blood Banks-Dr.

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Charles Drew

7. 1940- Automatic Refrigerating system, self-starting gas engine- Fredric McKinley Jones (his company later became Thermo King)
8. 1962-Foil Electric Microphone-James E West and Gerhard Sessler (this technology is still used in baby monitors and telephones)
9. 1966- Home Security System- Marie Van Brittan Brown
10. 1984- Co-creator of Personal Computer, Color imaging for computers and led a team to develop the first gigahertz microchip -Mark Dean

The list could go on and on and on with inventions such as the pencil sharpener, mop, dustpan, folding chair, clothes dryer, ice cream scoop and call waiting/caller id. Today, let us salute not just these inventors but all Black Americans for their innovation, tenacity, and desire to make life better than that faced by the generations before.

Now down to business:

It is still our major goal to remain focused upon the appearance of our community so remember:

1. Garbage must be placed inside trash bins with lids on.
2. The recycling of cardboard requires it to be broken down and tied with string.
3. Garbage bags cannot be placed on the outside nor the side of the trash bin. Extra bags found to be located outside of the container will be fined at a cost of \$15.00 per bag.
4. Sidewalks must be maintained by individuals. If the Village finds it necessary to do it for you, it will come at a cost.
5. If individuals are present within crosswalks, it is illegal for vehicles to proceed.

We all must make volunteering a personal priority. The initiative with Catholic Charities Foundation that was looking for volunteers to restock the food pantry has not garnered much of a buzz. I implore you all to get out there and commit to serving your neighbors in need. This event is held every Wednesday from 9-1. So, give your time and undertake racking up some good Karma.

As we work towards all of our planned initiatives, I encourage everyone in our community to get involved. You can stay informed by attending the board meetings. Whether it's getting involved in local activities, volunteering, or simply supporting one another, every effort contributes to the strong sense of community that defines Monticello.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Together, we can progress and achieve for the Village of Monticello. look forward to keeping you updated as we take on more projects moving forward and to hearing your thoughts and ideas along the way.

Ongoing Events:

1. Weekly AA/NA Meetings-Ted Strobel Center 7-8:30 pm
2. Behavioral Health Services for Youth- Offered by Astor Services Satellite Clinic they also

have online providers. They can be located at the Monticello High School and St. John Street building; parental consent is necessary.

Resolution authorizing the payment of the Village Bills in the amount of \$90,377.33

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

Resolution authorizing payment to Yisorel Konig in the amount of \$1,500.00 from app#A.1620.421(Building & Grounds-Repairs/Maintenance) for repairs to the TSC Bathrooms. Account balance after repairs is \$24,039.44

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 the denial of the Correction of Errors Application for SBL#117.-4-1.1/0801 aka 19 Waverly Avenue, due to the claimed error not being correctable pursuant to RPTL §556

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

Resolution authorizing payment to the Police Chief's Association of Orange County for the Police Academy Fee in the amount of \$3,000.00 from app#A.3120.445(Police-Training). Current account balance after expense is \$17,974.38

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 payment to Schmidt's Wholesale Inc. in the amount of \$1,354.05 from app#A.5110.228(Street Maintenance-Catch Basin) for the Replacement of pipes on Fulton Street & Prince Street. Account balance after expense is \$8,745.79

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 payment to Schmidt's Wholesale Inc. in the amount of \$5,268.93 from app#F.8320.235(Water....Source of Supply: Parts for Intake Line Repair) for parts for the Splash Pad. Account balance after expense is \$38,931.22

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 payment to DO Supply LLC in the amount of \$1,800.00 from app#G.1940.400(Reserved Sewer Project) for the Emergency Replacement of a Touch Screen Panelview Plus 6 for one of the machines in the Sewer Department. Account balance after expense is \$67,475.99

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

Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to sign a yearly Service Contract with Hydrodyne Engineering in the amount of \$5,800.00 for 2 visits per year and the Urgent Onsite Requests at \$3,400.00 for the HDE Equipment at the Village Sewer Department and the New Jail on Old Rte 17 from app#G. 1940.400(Reserved Sewer Project). Current account balance is \$67,475.99

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

Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to sign a contract with L.G. Boucher to function as the Village's TPA who will handle all of the village insurance claims in the amount of \$500.00 a month

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

Resolution authorizing the job duties of the Pro-Housing Coordinator for the Village of Monticello and making an appointment to the position

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

Add Ons:

1. **Resolution setting a Public Hearing to introduce Laketricity to the Village residents on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:00pm**

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

2. **Resolution to appeal the PERB decision regarding Mr. Sherb**

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

3. **Resolution of Support against the NYSEG rate increase**

Whereas, the citizens of Monticello, New York are facing unprecedented economic challenges, with rising costs of living, inflation, and other financial hardships; and

Whereas, the most recent electric rate increase imposed by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation places an undue burden on households and businesses in Monticello, New York, many of which are already struggling to make ends meet; and

Whereas, the electric rate increase disproportionately impacts low-income families, senior citizens, and vulnerable populations who spend a higher percentage of their income on utilities; and

Whereas, while the electric company has cited rising operational and maintenance costs and support for green energy initiatives as justifications for the rate hike, there has been a lack of sufficient transparency regarding the necessity and fairness of this

increase, and its impact on consumers; and

Whereas, the global shift toward green energy is a crucial step in addressing climate change, promoting sustainability, and building a cleaner future as we move toward a renewable energy future, it is critical that the cost of this transition not be unfairly passed onto consumers through their utility electric bills. Utility bills should reflect the actual cost of providing reliable and affordable electricity-not the financial burden of funding green energy projects that benefit the environment and society at large; and

Whereas, incorporating the costs of green energy projects into utility bills-essentially charging consumers to fund the future of the energy grid-may seem like an easy solution, it is an inequitable one. This approach disproportionately impacts low-income households, senior citizens, and vulnerable communities who already face financial difficulties. Rather than providing immediate relief to these groups, it makes energy bills even more unaffordable.

Additionally, the burden of paying for green energy through monthly utility bills risks eroding public support for the very transition that society needs to make. Ultimately, green energy should be seen as an investment in the future-a public good that benefits all, rather than a financial strain that disproportionately affects households. The future of energy should be one that prioritizes affordability, equity, and accessibility for all, without relying on utility customers to bear the brunt of the costs; and

Whereas, as stewards of the public good, we believe that both the Public Service Commission and the Governor must prioritize the economic well-being of citizens by ensuring that utility rates remain fair, just, and affordable for all residents of Sullivan County.

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved:

That the Village of Monticello, New York, hereby formally opposes the latest electric rate increase imposed by New York State Electric and Gas Corporation, and urges the Governor, the Public Service Commission, and New York State Electric and Gas Corporation to reconsider and reverse the decision; and

Be it Further Resolved, that we call on the Governor and the Public Service Commission to initiate a thorough investigation into the rate-setting process, including an audit of the electric company's financial statements, with the goal of ensuring transparency, fairness, and accountability in all future rate decisions; and

Be it Further Resolved, that we strongly advocate for the expansion of energy assistance programs, the promotion of renewable energy solutions, and policies that protect low-income families and vulnerable populations from excessive utility costs; and

Be it Finally Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor of New York, the Public Service Commission, and New York State Electric and Gas Corporation for their immediate attention and action.

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

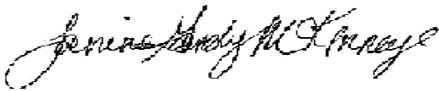
Executive Session

There was no Executive Session

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Davis with a second by Trustee Jenkins to close the meeting at 6:22pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy-McKinney
Village Clerk