# Village Board Meeting Minutes for the Annual Organizational Meeting April 28, 2015

**Trustees Present:** 

Marion Case John Wade

Dawn Locastro Mayor Ed Trufant

Diego Ruiz

Also in attendance: From the Department of Public Works: Bob Kneaskern and Jeff Weaver, Code Enforcement Officer: Howard Tanner, Clerk Treasurer: Joanne Fleming, Village Attorney: Chad Hayden

From the Public: Ted and Diedra Alnutt

## Pledge to the Flag

In accordance with General Municipal Election Law, a notation to the minutes that the signatures of the newly elected officials signatures have been recorded in the Oath of Office Book by Mayor Trufant, Trustees Case and Wade terms to expire April 2017.

<u>ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING</u> motion to open meeting and Public Hearing for the 2015-16 Budget at 7:10 pm made by Trustee Case and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ruiz. Passed.

## OFFERED FOR CONSIDERATION BY TRUSTEES: APPOINTMENTS

## One Year Term for the following:

Village Attorney
Village Tax Collector
Village Deputy Clerk
Chestnut Hill Cemetery Registrar
Historian
Registrar of Vital Statistics
Superintendent of Public Works

Chad R. Hayden
Joanne Fleming
Jean Lanning
Deborah Waldron
Robert J. Kneaskern, Jr.

Code Enforcement Officer Howard Tanner

Motion to accept all of the above made by Trustee Locastro, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ruiz, motion passed.

## NOTATION OF CURRENT TWO YEAR TERM for the following:

Village Clerk/Treasurer Joanne Fleming Term expires 4/16

## OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER, BANK & MEETING NIGHT

Newspaper The Citizen
Meeting Night Third Tuesday

Official Bank Cayuga Lake National Bank

Motion to approve made by Trustee Locastro and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Case, passed.

Official Undertakings: Pursuant to Village Law, the Village Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer, and Deputy Clerk are bonded as per NYMIR contract up to \$360,000 less a \$250 deductible, cost to be paid by the village.

## ESTABLISH THE DATE OF THE NEXT VILLAGE ELECTION: Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

Establish the date of the March 2016 Board Meeting. Motion made by Trustee Wade and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Locastro to hold the board meeting on March 22, 2016. Motion passed.

# ESTABLISH THE DATE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: April 19, 2016.

## Dates the Village Office and the Dept. of Public Works will be closed in 2016:

Jan. 1, 2016 New Year's Day	Jan 18, 2016 Martin Luther King Day	
Feb. 15, 2016 President's Day	March 25, 2016 Good Friday	
May 30, 2016 Memorial Day	July 4, 2016 Independence Day	
Sept. 5, 2016 Labor Day	Oct. 10, 2016 Columbus Day	
Nov. 11, 2016 Veteran's Day	Nov. 24 & 25 Thanksgiving Day	
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## Dec. 25 & 26 Christmas Day

#### AGREEMENTS WITH THE TOWN OF SPRINGPORT

The Village of Union Springs will participate with the Town of Springport in the Youth Program and the Mayor shall be authorized to sign a contract with the Town and make application to the NYS Division for Youth for matching Youth Program funds, and the Village will administer the Youth Program;

The Village will participate in the Program for the Aging with the Town, and that the Mayor is authorized to sign a contract with the Town and make application to the NYS Office for the Aging for matching funds, and that the Town will administer the Program for the Aging. Motion to approve by Trustee Locastro and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ruiz. Motion passed.

## PROCUREMENT POLICY

Adoption of the existing procurement policy. Motion to approve by Locastro, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ruiz. Motion passed.

#### EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Personnel Committee to update the existing employee handbook and approve policy that all employees sign the employee handbook annually in May. The following policies are to be incorporated into the employee handbook.

Personnel Committee members are Trustee Marion Case (Chairperson), Trustees Wade, Locastro, and Ruiz. They will look at all aspects of the Employee Handbook and incorporate the following items into the Handbook.

Cell Phone Use Policy
Code of Ethics Policy
Internet Use Policy
Sexual Harassment Policy
Workplace Violence Prevention Policy
Vehicle Use Policy
Policy to include the addition of NYS Retirement for Tier 5 & 6

#### AGREEMENT TO ASSIST OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

Authorize the Superintendent of Public Works to render such assistance to other municipalities and to receive such assistance from other municipalities as he deems necessary. Motion made by Trustee Ruiz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Case. Passed.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES**

**Whereas** the Board of Trustees has determined to authorize payment in advance of audit claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges; and

Whereas all such claims must be presented at the next regular meeting for audit; and

Whereas the claimant and the office incurring or approving the claim are jointly and severally liable for any amount the board of trustees disallows.

## NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

**Advance Approval of Bills** – Bills for postage, freight, utility payments, revolving credit accounts, express charges, attendance of Mayor, Trustees, Clerk, and Deputy Clerk at Cayuga Co. Assoc. of Villages monthly meeting, Blue Cross/Blue Shield premiums, NYCOM Fall Training School attendance, and NYS DOT highway work permit deposit shall be deemed to have been pre-approved for payment by the Board of Trustees. Motion made by Trustee Locastro and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ruiz. Passed.

**Mileage Allowance Reimbursement** – The Mileage Reimbursement rate for officers and employees using their personal vehicle while performing the official duties on behalf of the Village at the current rate adopted by the U S Internal Revenue Service as amended by the IRS from time to time. As of January 1, 2015, the rate is \$ .575 per mile. Motion entered by Trustee Case and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ruiz. Passed.

## ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS AND CONFERENCES:

Pursuant to General Municipal Law §77-b, municipal officials and employees may attend schools, conferences, and seminars conducted for the benefit of the local government. If attendance is not authorized, no reimbursement can be applied for, unless the Board of Trustees approves of the attendance in advance. This would include such meetings as NYCOM'S Annual Meeting and Training School, the NYCOM Fall Training School for Fiscal Officers and Municipal Clerks, The NYCOM Public Works School, etc.

Whereas there is to be held during the coming official year a)the New York State Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting and Training School; b) the New York State Conference of Mayors and Fall Training School for Fiscal Advisors and Municipal Clerks; c) the New York Conference of Mayors Public Works School, d) the following county association meetings; etc. and

Whereas attendance by certain municipal officials and employees at one or more of these meetings, conferences or schools benefits the municipality;

#### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. The following officers and employees are authorized to attend schools: All Trustees, Mayor, Superintendent of Public Works, Clerk/Treasurer, WWTP Operator.

Section 2. This resolution is effective immediately. Motion made by Trustee Ruiz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Case. Motion passed.

## APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR

Deputy Mayor	John Wade	2015
Water Commissioner	John Wade	2017
Sewer Commissioner	Diego Ruiz	2015

Park Commissioner Dawn Locastro 2016 Street Commissioner Marion Case 2016

**Both ZBA and Planning Board** will consist of five member boards with staggered 5 year expiring terms. Each Board member must obtain a minimum of four hours of annual training. Attorney Hayden asked if the Clerk tracked the training requirements for the ZBA and PB members. She commented that she does maintain those records,

## **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:**

Chris Zippel Term expires 2023
Melinda Kostreva Term expires 2022
Jason Guy Term expires 2021
Angela Kneaskern (Chair)
Romayne LaBaron Term expires 2020
Term expires 2020

## **PLANNING BOARD:**

Dale Katovitch

Bud Shattuck

Chris Yorkey

Sidney Wolff (Chair)

John Becker

Term expires 2022

Term expires 2021

Term expires 2020

Term expires 2020

## **CODE OF ETHICS POLICY:**

Mayor Trufant and Attorney Hayden introduced the **Code of Ethics Policy**. Both recommended tabling the Ethics Policy until the May meeting. Trustees should take their time reviewing the policy and bring questions, concerns, and comments to the May meeting.

WHEREAS, article 18 of the General Municipal Law prohibits the officers and employees of a municipality from having certain conflicts of interest, and

WHEREAS section 806 of the General Municipal Law requires the governing body of each county, city (other than the City of New York), town, village, school district and fire district<sup>1</sup> to adopt a code of ethics that sets forth for the guidance of its officers and employees standards of conduct reasonably expected of them, and

WHEREAS section 806 of the General Municipal Law also authorizes the governing body of any other municipality to adopt such a code of ethics, and

WHEREAS, a code of ethics adopted by the governing body of a municipality must set forth standards of conduct for the guidance of the officers and employees of the municipality with respect to disclosure of interests in legislation before the local governing body, holding of investments in conflict with official duties, private employment in conflict with official duties, future employment, and such other standards as may be deemed advisable.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Union Springs hereby adopts a code of ethics to read as follows:

## **Code of Ethics of the Village of Union Springs**

## Section 1. Purpose.

Officers and employees of the Village of Union Springs hold their positions to serve and benefit the public, and not for obtaining unwarranted personal or private gain in the exercise and performance of their official powers and duties. The Village of Union Springs recognizes that, in furtherance of this fundamental principle, there is a need for clear and reasonable standards of ethical conduct. This code of ethics establishes those standards.

#### **Section 2. Definitions.**

- (a) "Board" means the governing board of a municipality and any municipal administrative board (e.g. Planning Board, Zoning of Board of Appeals), commission, or other agency or body comprised of two or more municipal officers or employees.
- (b) "Code" means this code of ethics.

<sup>1</sup> This model code of ethics is for use by municipalities other than fire districts. The State Comptroller has promulgated a separate model code of ethics for fire districts.

- (c) "Interest" means a direct or indirect financial or material benefit, but does not include any benefit arising from the provision or receipt of any services generally available to the residents or taxpayers of the municipality or an area of the municipality, or a lawful class of such residents or taxpayers. A municipal officer or employee is deemed to have an interest in any private organization when he or she, his or her spouse, or a member of his or her household, is an owner, partner, member, director, officer, employee, or directly or indirectly owns or controls more than 5% of the organization's outstanding stock.
- (d) "Municipality" means Village of Union Springs. The word "municipal" refers to the municipality.
- (e) "Municipal officer or employee" means a paid or unpaid officer or employee of the Village of Union Springs, including, but not limited to, the members of any municipal board.
- (f) "Relative" means a spouse, parent, step-parent, sibling, step-sibling, sibling's spouse, child, step-child, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, first cousin, or household member of a municipal officer or employee, and individuals having any of these relationships to the spouse of the officer or employee.

## Section 3. Applicability.

This code of ethics applies to the officers and employees of the [insert name of municipality], and shall supersede any prior municipal code of ethics. The provisions of this code of ethics shall apply in addition to all applicable State and local laws relating to conflicts of interest and ethics including, but not limited to, article 18 of the General Municipal Law and all rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the Village of Union Springs.

## Section 4. Prohibition on use of municipal position for personal or private gain.

No municipal officer or employee shall use his or her municipal position or official powers and duties to secure a financial or material benefit for himself or herself, a relative, or any private organization in which he or she is deemed to have an interest.

#### Section 5. Disclosure of interest in legislation and other matters.

- (a) Whenever a matter requiring the exercise of discretion comes before a municipal officer or employee, either individually or as a member of a board, and disposition of the matter could result in a direct or indirect financial or material benefit to himself or herself, a relative, or any private organization in which he or she is deemed to have an interest, the municipal officer or employee shall disclose in writing the nature of the interest.
- (b) The disclosure shall be made when the matter requiring disclosure first comes before the municipal officer or employee, or when the municipal officer or employee first acquires knowledge of the interest requiring disclosure, whichever is earlier.
- (c) In the case of a person serving in an elective office, the disclosure shall be filed with the governing board of the municipality. In all other cases, the disclosure shall be filed with the person's supervisor or, if the person does not have a supervisor, the disclosure shall be filed with the municipal officer, employee or board having the power to appoint to the person's position.

In addition, in the case of a person serving on a municipal board, a copy of the disclosure shall be filed with the board. Any disclosure made to a board shall be made publicly at a meeting of the board and must be included in the minutes of the meeting.

#### Section 6. Recusal and abstention.

- (a) No municipal officer or employee may participate in any decision or take any official action with respect to any matter requiring the exercise of discretion, including discussing the matter and voting on it, when he or she knows or has reason to know that the action could confer a direct or indirect financial or material benefit on himself or herself, a relative, or any private organization in which he or she is deemed to have an interest.
- (b) In the event that this section prohibits a municipal officer or employee from exercising or performing a power or duty:
- (1) if the power or duty is vested in a municipal officer as a member of a board, then the power or duty shall be exercised or performed by the other members of the board; or
- (2) if the power or duty that is vested in a municipal officer individually, then the power or duty shall be exercised or performed by his or her deputy or, if the officer does not have a deputy, the power or duty shall be performed by another person to whom the officer may lawfully delegate the function.
- (3) if the power or duty is vested in a municipal employee, he or she must refer the matter to his or her immediate supervisor, and the immediate supervisor shall designate another person to exercise or perform the power or duty.

#### Section 7. Prohibition inapplicable; disclosure, recusal and abstention not required.

(a) This code's prohibition on use of a municipal position (section 4), disclosure requirements (section 5), and requirements relating to recusal and abstention (section 6), shall not apply with respect to the following matters:

- (1) Adoption of the municipality's annual budget;
- (2) Any matter requiring the exercise of discretion that directly affects any of the following groups of people or a lawful class of such groups:
  - (i) all municipal officers or employees;
  - (ii) all residents or taxpayers of the municipality or an area of the municipality; or
    - (iii) the general public; or
  - (3) any matter that does not require the exercise of discretion.
- (b) Recusal and abstention shall not be required with respect to any matter:
- (1) Which comes before a board when a majority of the board's total membership would otherwise be prohibited from acting by Section 6 of this code;
- (2) Which comes before a municipal officer when the officer would be prohibited from acting by Section 6 of this code and the matter cannot be lawfully delegated to another person.

#### Section 8. Investments in conflict with official duties.

- (a) No municipal officer or employee may acquire the following investments:
- (1) Investments that can be reasonably expected to require more than sporadic recusal and abstention under section 6 of this code; or
- (2) Investments that would otherwise impair the person's independence of judgment in the exercise or performance of his or her official powers and duties.
- (b) This section does not prohibit a municipal officer or employee from acquiring any other investments or the following assets:
  - (1) Real property located within the municipality and used as his or her personal residence;
  - (2) Less than five percent of the stock of a publicly traded corporation; or
- (3) Bonds or notes issued by the municipality and acquired more than one year after the date on which the bonds or notes were originally issued.

## Section 9. Private employment in conflict with official duties.

No municipal officer or employee, during his or her tenure as a municipal officer or employee, may engage in any private employment, including the rendition of any business, commercial, professional or other types of services, when the employment:

- (a) can be reasonably expected to require more than sporadic recusal and abstention pursuant to section 6 of this code;
- (b) can be reasonably expected to require disclosure or use of confidential information gained by reason of serving as a municipal officer or employee;
  - (c) violates Section 805-a(1)(c) or (d) of the General Municipal Law; or
- (d) requires representation of a person or organization other than the municipality in connection with litigation, negotiations or any other matter to which the municipality is a party.

## Section 10. Future employment.

- (a) No municipal officer or employee may ask for, pursue or accept a private post-government employment opportunity with any person or organization that has a matter requiring the exercise of discretion pending before the municipal officer or employee, either individually or as a member of a board, while the matter is pending or within the 30 days following final disposition of the matter.
- (b) No municipal officer or employee, for the two-year period after serving as a municipal officer or employee, may represent or render services to a private person or organization in connection with any matter involving the exercise of discretion before the municipal office, board, department or comparable organizational unit for which he or she serves.
- (c) No municipal officer or employee, at any time after serving as a municipal officer or employee, may represent or render services to a private person or organization in connection with any particular transaction in which he or she personally and substantially participated while serving as a municipal officer or employee.

## Section 11. Personal representations and claims permitted.

This code shall not be construed as prohibiting a municipal officer or employee from:

- (a) Representing himself or herself, or his or her spouse or minor children before the municipality; or
- (b) Asserting a claim against the municipality on his or her own behalf, or on behalf of his or her spouse or minor children.

## Section 12. Use of municipal resources

- (a) Municipal resources shall be used for lawful municipal purposes. Municipal resources include, but are not limited to, municipal personnel, and the municipality's money, vehicles, equipment, materials, supplies or other property.
- (b) No municipal officer or employee may use or permit the use of municipal resources for personal or private purposes, but this provision shall not be construed as prohibiting:
  - (1) any use of municipal resources authorized by law or municipal policy;

- (2) the use of municipal resources for personal or private purposes when provided to a municipal officer or employee as part of his or her compensation; or
- (3) the occasional and incidental use during the business day of municipal telephones and computers for necessary personal matters such as family care and changes in work schedule. (c) No municipal officer or employee shall cause the municipality to spend more than is reasonably necessary for transportation, meals or lodging in connection with official travel.

#### **Section 13. Interests in Contracts.**

- (a) No municipal officer or employee may have an interest in a contract that is prohibited by section 801 of the General Municipal Law.
- (b) Every municipal officer and employee shall disclose interests in contracts with the municipality at the time and in the manner required by section 803 of the General Municipal Law.

## Section 14. Nepotism.

Except as otherwise required by law:

- (a) No municipal officer or employee, either individually or as a member of a board, may participate in any decision specifically to appoint, hire, promote, discipline or discharge a relative for any position at, for or within the municipality or a municipal board.
- (b) No municipal officer or employee may supervise a relative in the performance of the relative's official powers or duties.

## Section 15. Political Solicitations.

- (a) No municipal officer or employee shall directly or indirectly compel or induce a subordinate municipal officer or employee to make, or promise to make, any political contribution, whether by gift of money, service or other thing of value.
- (b) No municipal officer or employee may act or decline to act in relation to appointing, hiring or promoting, discharging, disciplining, or in any manner changing the official rank, status or compensation of any municipal officer or employee, or an applicant for a position as a municipal officer or employee, on the basis of the giving or withholding or neglecting to make any contribution of money or service or any other valuable thing for any political purpose.

## Section 16. Confidential Information.

No municipal officer or employee who acquires confidential information in the course of exercising or performing his or her official powers or duties may disclose or use such information unless the disclosure or use is required by law or in the course of exercising or performing his or her official powers and duties.

#### Section 17. Gifts.

(a) No municipal officer or employee shall solicit, accept or receive a gift in violation of section 805-a(1)(a) of the General Municipal Law as interpreted in this section.

- (b) No municipal officer or employee may directly or indirectly solicit any gift.
- (c) No municipal officer or employee may accept or receive any gift, or multiple gifts from the same donor, having an annual aggregate value of seventy-five dollars or more when:
- (1) the gift reasonably appears to be intended to influence the officer or employee in the exercise or performance of his or her official powers or duties;
- (2) the gift could reasonably be expected to influence the officer or employee in the exercise or performance of his or her official powers or duties; or
  - (3) the gift is intended as a reward for any official action on the part of the officer or employee.
- (d) For purposes of this section, a "gift" includes anything of value, whether in the form of money, service, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or in any other form. The value of a gift is the gift's fair market value, determined by the retail cost of the item or a comparable item. The fair market value of a ticket entitling the holder to food, refreshments, entertainment, or any other benefit is the face value of the ticket, or the actual cost to the donor, whichever is greater. Determination of whether multiple gifts from a single donor exceed seventy-five dollars must be made by adding together the value of all gifts received from the donor by an officer or employee during the twelve-month period preceding the receipt of the most recent gift.
- (e) (1) A gift to a municipal officer or employee is presumed to be intended to influence the exercise or performance of his or her official powers or duties when the gift is from a private person or organization that seeks municipal action involving the exercise of discretion by or with the participation of the officer or employee.
- (2) A gift to a municipal officer or employee is presumed to be intended as a reward for official action when the gift is from a private person or organization that has obtained municipal action involving the exercise of discretion by or with the participation of the officer or employee during the preceding twelve months.
- (f) This section does not prohibit any other gift, including: (1) gifts

made to the municipality;

- (2) gifts from a person with a family or personal relationship with the officer or employee when the circumstances make it clear that the personal relationship, rather than the recipient's status as a municipal officer or employee, is the primary motivating factor for the gift;
- (3) Gifts given on special occasions, such as marriage, illness, or retirement, which are modest, reasonable and customary;
- (4) Unsolicited advertising or promotional material of little intrinsic value, such as pens, pencils, note pads, and calendars;
- (5) awards and plaques having a value of seventy-five dollars or less which are publicly presented in recognition of service as a municipal officer or employee, or other service to the community; or

· /	when a municipal officer or employee is a speaker or cational conference or program and the meals and refreshments
Employee Signature	
Date	

## Public Hearing on the Budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Discussion of proposed budget, no one from the Public made any comment(s)
Review of proposed 2015-2016 Budget & Salary Schedule no action taken, tabled until May meeting.
Budget was proposed for a 3% increase across the board with the exception of Frontenac Park
Lifeguards and Mr. Kneaskern's compensation which will also remain the same.
Adoption of a Tax Rate of \$ 4.20 per thousand of assessed valuation for 2015-2016 Budget.

Motion entered by Trustee Case and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Locastro to adopt the 2015-16 Budget as presented with a property tax rate of \$4.40 per thousand of assessed value. Motion carried. **2015-16 Budget adopted April 28**, **2015.** 

Motion to close the Public Hearing on the Budget and also close the Annual Organizational Meeting was made by Trustee Locastro and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ruiz @ 9:10 pm. Motion carried.

# Opening of the regular Board of Trustees meeting began at the conclusion of the Annual Organizational Meeting.

No one from the Public spoke.

<u>Minutes of the Previous</u> Meeting were reviewed and approved. The motion was made by Trustee Case with a  $2^{nd}$  entered by Trustee Locastro. Passed.

<u>Code Enforcement Report</u> was submitted by the CEO, Howard Tanner. He made some additional comments, the first being that the appearance tickets written for violation of LL #1 & 2 of 1985 relating to parking on Cayuga St. were all dismissed by Judge Knolls. The court felt there was not adequate signage informing the public that it is illegal to park where the tickets had been issued. This will be addressed by the Department of Public Works and additional signs shall be placed in those locations.

Dave Palmer has now decided to demolish part of the building at 125 Cayuga St. He has been unable to find an engineer who will sign off on rehabbing the building. Mr. Tanner has compiled a list of commercial properties as well as residential properties. He discussed how buildings need to be tagged for 911 purposes. Providing the list of vacant properties to 911 will avoid having to place a large hash sign on a property.

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## March/April Report

### **Union Springs 2015**

#### **Building Permits Issued**

1501-Mike Hollister Basin Street (fence)

1502-Dave Palmer renewal of permit# 1403

1503- Anne Wallace - 2 Schobey Street (deck)

#### Orders to Remedy

- 1) Terri Halcott 107 Cayuga Street (abandoned house needs to be kept secured, broken windows, skunks living in the basement)
- 2. )Ken Freece Old Rt. 326 (Junk , collection of rubbish, to many trailers,)

## **Updates**

- -Parking Tickets (signage)
- -Dave Palmer (court)
- Vacant Buildings

Village of Union Spring Vacant Buildings

#### **Residential properties**

- 4 Spring Street
- 21 Center Street
- 62 Grove Street
- 25 Park Street
- 58 Grove Street
- 223 Cayuga Street
- 107 Cayuga street
- 109 Cayuga Street

#### **Commercial properties**

- •129 Cayuga St. (Dave Palmer Bldg)
- •139 Cayuga St. (Legends' Tavern)
- •145 Cayuga Street (Rosenkrans)
- •151 Cayuga (Rosenkrans)
- •157 Cayuga (Halverson)

Respectfully submitted: Howard Tanner 4/17/15

He has received a complaint that a family of skunks has moved into the basement of 107 Cayuga St. The property owner has received an Order to Remedy.

**Clerk Fleming:** Discussed the upcoming tax collection and remarked that unpaid water and sewer bills need to be added to the tax bills, the relevy list will be submitted at the May meeting.

<u>Audit of the Bills:</u> Motion entered by Trustee Ruiz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Locastro to make payment as indicated on Abstract #11. Passed.

General Fund: Vouchers # 488-534 for \$55,043.76 Water Fund: Vouchers #488-524 for \$7,687.33 Sewer Fund: Vouchers #488-532 for \$10, 282.73 Trust & Agency Vouchers: #508-523 for \$8,194.53 WWTP Capital Project: #499-527 for: \$17,148.05

Mayor Trufant remarked that Attorney Hayden was able to negotiate the legal bill received from O'Connell and Aronowitz for the CIN litigation from \$50k to \$20k. Attorney Hayden went on to say that Judge Hurd has not rendered a decision on the CIN case.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: The Budget Modifications for the month of March were reviewed by the Treasurer. Ms. Fleming advised the Board that the April sales tax has been received from the County but is not reflected in the March reports. She thought the sales tax revenue should be higher since the Bass Elite Tournament took place. The sales tax received in 2014 and for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2015 was very close to the previous year's revenues. Mayor Trufant has been trying to get County Treasurer to review the numbers. He plans to invite him to the August Association of Villages in Cayuga County when Union Springs is the host Village. The Treasurer also said that the Board will need to set wage increases for all employees. The list that she presented to the Board was for the 2014-15 fiscal year. She will update the spreadsheet and distribute for the May meeting. Payroll adjustment will need to be made with the 1<sup>st</sup> payroll in June 2015.

<u>Dept. of Public Works:</u> Bob Kneaskern and Jeff Weaver: Spring Clean up date has been set for Saturday, May 30, 2015 from 7am-11am. There will also be an Electronics Waste Collection at the BOCES Campus on May 30, 2015 from 9am-2pm. This was anyone who comes to the Village clean up that has E waste can easily be directed to proceed to the BOCES Location. Bob commented that he is going through a punch list of items for the WWTP capital project. He then asked Attorney Hayden about the status of the Right of Way for a water line to serve a few residents on Creager Rd. He will follow up.

**Jeff Weaver:** showed the board **biodegradable bags** which would be ideal for residents to place leaves in. He said the DPW is spending a great deal of time just cutting open bags and putting them in the composting pile. Using the biodegradable bags will be more environmentally friendly and save a tremendous amount of time for the DPW. A July 1 date to transition to the bags was decided on. Residents can come into the Village Office and get their first bag for free when they pay their Village tax bill.

Approval to purchase a model **2032 compact utility skidster** for \$14,682 was entered by Trustee Wade and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Locastro. The purchase will be made from the 2014-15 budget.

Tietsworth Auctions recommended not taking the equipment out of service until the replacement equipment is here. Tietsworth is still catching up from this past winter.

Staffing for **DPW**: Returning seasonal employees: Forrest Vreeland will be available 5/10/15, Zach Curtis when school is out, Mike Weaver as a fill in when his schedule allows. An application was also received from Dan Pantoliano, however, Mr. Weaver felt that he should be able to get by with the seasonal employees: Forrest, Zach, and Mike.

<u>Old Business:</u> Water Meter Upgrade: Mayor Trufant would like to meet with Jeff Weaver and Bob Kneaskern on May 15, 2015 and develop a request for proposal from different water meter vendors

<u>New Business:</u> Request from Memorial Day Committee for use of Park and closing of boat launch during ceremony. Mayor Trufant asked which Trustees would be available to assist with set up and tear down. Trustee Locastro will be available to provide assistance. Legal notice will go in the Citizen for boat launch closing on 5-25, also notice on Village website.

New signage for disabled citizens is required per New York State Dept. of Transportation. We can use the remaining supply on hand and then order the new and improved when a new order is necessary.

#### **Resolution for Local Waterfront Revitalization Project.** (attachment)

**Village Attorney Hayden** informed the Trustees about NYMIR's response for submission of our claim for reimbursement for legal fees with respect to the CIN litigation case. There is no provision for coverage for this type of claim. We will have to seek reimbursement under Section 10 from New York State.

## **Trustee's Reports:**

Case: Suggested installation of web cams for the Park-she was not aware that there are a number of cameras located throughout the park. She is also working on the Employee Handbook.

Locastro: no report given

**Ruiz:** Looking into other parks that have boat launches to see if anyone has an automated system or honor system for user fee collection. Also discussed, was assessing user fees to businesses such as Frontenac Fowlers, Frontenac Harbor and The Burger Boat.

Wade: No report given.

## Mayor's Report:

Mayor Trufant said he had been given a signed petition by a number of Homer St. residents. There appears to be some dangerous individuals who are driving recklessly up and down the street usually late in the evening. The residents asked if the Village could help remedy the problem. Mayor Trufant will send an email to the County Sheriff's Dept. and ask for Road Patrol to make the rounds. This will hopefully discourage whoever the individuals are.

Any other business to come before the board: It has been reported that beavers have returned to the South pond and they are doing a great deal of damage.

Clerk Fleming reported that the Produce Place has contacted her and they will fill the flower boxes at the Village Office again in time for the Memorial Day activities.

Motion to Adjourn: made by Trustee Ruiz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Locastro at 9:15pm. Passed.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Joanne Fleming, Village Clerk-Treasurer

**Attachments:** RESOLUTION #4 of 2015

Homer St. Residents Petition