

**Village of Afton**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY**  
**February 12, 2024**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held February 12, 2024 in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY.

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm, by Mayor Dedman.

**Present:** Mayor Dedman, Trustee D. Lawrence, Trustee Humphrey, Trustee T. Lawrence, Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier, DPW Supervisor DeBetta, Village Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler and Officer in Charge Frank Ventura.

**Absent:** Trustee Winans

**Visitors:** Angelina Echevarris, Brandon Clapper, Daron Schultes, April Leggett, John Lawrence, Brendon Becker -Lamont Engineers, Maryann Palmetier.

- A motion made by Trustee T. Lawrence authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor motion passed.

**General Fund Voucher's # 196 - 221, totaling \$13,207.72.**  
**Water Fund Voucher's # 80 – 91, totaling \$10,334.18.**

- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or correction, made by Trustee T. Lawrence. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Mayor Dedman stated that the Local Law #1 of 2024, entitled "A LOCAL LAW ENTITLED 'FENCES will remained open, as there is one more change needed before moving forward.

**Monthly Report:**

- DPW/ Water: Verbal report given by DPW Supervisor DeBetta.
- Police Department. Report distributed, read aloud by Officer in Charge, Ventura.
- Code Enforcement: Report distributed, read aloud by Code Enforcement Officer Butler.
- Planning Board: Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board looked into whether the persons wishing to host go-cart racing at the fairgrounds is required to have a 239 review plan by Chenango County. The Planning Board was informed that a 239 review plan is not necessary, as it falls under the same guidelines as the stock car racing.
- Visitor Brendon Clapper was informed by the Village Board of Trustees that they request that he follow the guidelines set forth for the stock car racing and obtain his required permits to host go-cart races at the fairgrounds. He will need to discuss further negotiations with the Fair Board, to move forward.

- Finance/Insurance: Remains the same, up to date.
- 4 Towns Forward: DPW Supervisor DeBetta stated that when there are more than 4 Tuesday's within a month the meeting for, 4 Towns Forward are held on last Tuesday of the month, therefore he had missed the last meeting. Officer in Charge, Ventura attended a summit pertaining to rural homelessness within the surrounding communities, held by 4 Towns Forward.
- Historian Report: No representative, Mayor Dedman stated that he has received the report for the Historian, he will forward it to the village office to be distributed.
- Dog Control Officer: - No representative
- Afton Central School – No representative.

### **Old Business:**

- Discussion of election poll watchers remains the same.
- Progress on the 2 yellow houses, Trustee T. Lawrence informed the Village Board of Trustees that he has spoken with the Town Assessor, pertaining to these properties.
- Memorial Day discussion. - Visitor Daron Schultes, expressed that he's willing to make the necessary arrangements in hosting the Memorial Day Parade. Trustee D. Lawrence informed Mr. Schultes that she will take care of the arrangements pertaining to the school, as they provide the sound system. Mayor Dedman stated that he has the information pertaining to the program layout provided to him by Mrs. Gloria Harvey. There were many discussions among the Village Board of Trustees as to what would need to be done for the parade to come together.
- Trustee D. Lawrence asked where we were with the Web-Master discussion. Mayor Dedman stated that he has some quotes.
- Trustee D. Lawrence asked where we were with the Norfolk Railroad discussion. Currently the paperwork is in the hands of the Village Attorney.

### **New Business:**

- Mr. Brendon Becker, Lamont Engineers supplied the Village of Board Trustees with a bid summary sheet of companies pertaining to the placement of water meters for review. Mr. Becker has obtained the bid summary in conjunction with the Town of Guildford, NY, to help both governed bodies to obtain the best suited products and pricing, Mr. Becker would like to have the village DPW Supervisor DeBetta, and 2 Trustees to attend a meeting with these supplies to conduct interviews about their products. It was decided that Trustee T. Lawrence and Trustee Humphrey would attend the meeting to be held in Guildford. Mr. Becker informed the Village Board of Trustees that the pricing for the meters are considerably good. Therefore the village should be able to obtain more meters than originally thought. Along with extras, with the grant money that has been awarded. There were discussions among the Village Board of Trustees as to the different type of meters, and how they work.
- Mr. Becker from Lamont Engineers supplied the village with the final payment to DN Tank of New York, LLC for the work completed on the water tank.

- A motion made by Trustee D. Lawrence to move \$20,000.00, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for payment of Invoice # 11 - to DN Tanks of New York, LLC for the Capital Reserves Water Storage Tank replacement, to the following: (9950.90 – Transfer to Capital Projects Funds – for \$20,000.00). Seconded by Trustee T. Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee T. Lawrence to sign the affidavit of returned unpaid 2023 village taxes to Chenango County to be relieved. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee D. Lawrence to pay the Monroe Tractor billing in the amount of \$1,355.97 from the DPW Equipment Capital Reserves Savings Account # A9725. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A letter of request has been received by the Afton Chamber of Commerce. They are asking that the Village of Afton allow them use of village owned property and a waiver on the license(s) for peddling and vending for the Afton Arts and Crafts Festival. The dates on this request do not reflect the actual dates of the intended Festival. The Village Board of Trustees ask that a second letter of request be resubmitted.
- A motion made by Trustee D. Lawrence set a budget workshop date for Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:45 pm at the Jack D. Bolster Communities Center, 105 Main Street. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Trustee T. Lawrence expressed that the Town of Afton would like to use Office in Charge, Ventura to be present at the Town Court, every Tuesday for a total of four hours. Trustee T. Lawrence feels as though the town should reimburse the village for the cost of the Officer in Charges wages. Trustee D. Lawrence expressed that if the town needs the Officer in Charge then they need to pay him.

### **Recognition of Visitors:**

- Jeffrey Butler asked the Village Board of Trustees if there was any news on the mussel survey, pertaining to the proposed new location of a boat ramp. It was stated that at the cost of the survey along with the possible finding of mussels that may need removal by being rehomed would be quite costly for the village to take on. Perhaps the best solution would be to use the existing ramp. This ramp could possibly be cleaned out making accessibility much easier to get into the water, regular maintenance would help.
- Visitor Angelina Echevarris asked the Village Board of Trustees if the Community Garden Boxes were available for use, as she would like to be able to have the local school kids do a community service by fixing and cleaning out the boxes. This would allow for them to have more options to give back to the community. Ms. Echevarris was informed that they could place the debris at the side of the parking lot, the DPW crew will pick it up. If the group would like to use the boxes for planting proposes, please inform the clerk which boxes you intend on using.
- Visitor Maryann Palmetier stated that she was asked by a member of the Presbyterian Church to inquire about the placement of two handicap parking spots. DPW Supervisor DeBetta stated that when they are ready for placement, just let him know.

- Visitor Brendon Clapper asked about the fees for the required racing permits. Mr. Clapper was informed that the race permit is \$50.00 per day and any food vending would be \$10.00 for each concession. If Mr. Clapper has an outside vendor service food, they too must comply with getting the required permit. Mr. Clapper was told that no race can start after 11:00 pm, due to noise ordinances, no race can start before noon on Sundays.
- A motion made by Trustee D. Lawrence to adjourn our regular meeting at 8:40 pm. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Palmatier,  
Clerk / Treasurer