

Village of Afton
Board of Trustees Meeting
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY
June 8, 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held June 8, 2020 at 7 pm, in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton.

General public participation through Zoom

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm, by Mayor Nickerson.

Present: Mayor Nickerson, Trustees Lawrence, Trustee Humphrey and Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier

Present via Phone: Trustee Simonds and Trustee Muller

Present via Zoom: Trustee Muller, Village Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler and Officer in Charge Quanison Wright.

Visitors via Zoom: William VanGorder, Kathy Ryan and unknown I-Phone user.

- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers, Seconded by Trustee Muller. All in favor, motion passed.
General Fund Vouchers # 1 - 37, Totaling \$40,021.27.
Water Fund Vouchers # 1 – 7, Totaling \$21,847.67.
- Mayor Nickerson stated that the Board Meeting Minutes for the May 11, 2020 Meeting, had not recorded, due to technical difficulties.
- A motion was, made by Trustee Muller to ratify all votes taken at the Board Meeting held on May 11, 2020. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or corrections made by Trustee Lawrence, seconded by Trustee Muller. All in favor, motion passed.
- The Village Insurance Representative Mr. William VanGorder was present to discuss the NYMIR renewal insurance policy for the 2020/2021 for the Village of Afton.
- At this time, there were technical difficulties with the zoom meeting application. There were moments of breaking in and out within the meeting.

Monthly Report:

- DPW/ Water: No representative.
- Police Department. Report distributed prior to zoom meeting. Report read aloud by Mayor Nickerson.

- Code Enforcement: Report distributed prior to zoom meeting. Report read aloud by Village Code Enforcement Officer, Jeffrey Butler.
- Planning Board: Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board intended to hold a meeting last week, but only one member was able to attend. He stated that Mr. Butler the Village Code Enforcement Officer was able to obtain three different laws pertaining to chickens. Which the Planning Board will be reviewing. Trustee Humphrey stated that the Planning Board would be working on updating the one – day license for peddling and vending. Currently the charge is \$10.00 daily, which has been for 15 years. Trustee Humphrey stated that if you do the math on the yearly rate of \$500.00 it translates to \$1.36 a day.
- Finance/Insurance: Up to date.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Trustee Simonds stated that the Committee has placed flowers within the Main Street District.
- Parks Committee: Trustee Muller informed everyone that the Parks Committee has canceled the current scheduled events, due to the Coronavirus. Trustee Muller stated that the Sidewalk Day set for August 2020 has been canceled. Currently all events are on hold. Trustee Simonds informed everyone that the Parks Committee has already secured the bands Short Change and Sun Down for the dances that they host in October and February.
- Historian Report: Report distributed prior to zoom meeting. Mayor Nickerson stated that the report was available at the Village office if anyone wants a copy.
- Dog Control Officer: - Report distributed prior to zoom meeting. Mayor Nickerson stated that the report was available at the Village office if anyone wants a copy.

Old Business:

Mayor Nickerson stated that most of the Old Business on the agenda would remain tabled, until a DPW Superintendent is hired.

- Fire Hydrants – Trustee Humphrey stated that the Village has received the last estimate for the valve shut off. Trustee Humphrey mentioned that this may be a little expensive, but he thinks it is what is best for the residents. Trustee Lawrence stated that there are two streets that require the hydrant replacement, which are Spring and Academy Streets.
- Playground Equipment -
- Crosswalks – Trustee Lawrence and Trustee Humphrey stated that the DPW Crew had painted some of the crosswalks by the School.
- Sidewalks -
- Tree Removal – Trustee Lawrence stated that she has reached out to the State Highway DOT to see if they are able to assist with some tree removals. She is awaiting a response. Trustee Humphrey stated that the trees between the streets and the homes along those

sidewalks are the landowner's responsibility. Trustee Muller stated that this is why the Village started the tree program to assist the homeowners to help remove the older decaying trees. Trustee Humphrey stated that he was working on gathering estimates for tree removals. Trustee Muller asked Trustee Humphrey to check with the person from Whitney Point for a tree estimate.

- Chicken Discussion - Village Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler was able to obtain three copies of laws already in place by other municipalities as a guide.

New Business:

- Continued Policy Updates – Mayor Nickerson informed the Village Board of Trustees that this is an ongoing process.
- Agricultural Farms – Mayor Nickerson stated that there is a resident growing mushroom's, who inquired about becoming, registered as an agricultural farm.
- Trustee Muller stated that this person should reach out to the County for information on the type of status available for his farm. The Village does not have the licensing authority; he needs to seek higher government guidance.
- Mayor Nickerson informed the Village Board of Trustees that she had set up a meeting with a person from Waste Recovery to discuss the cleanup, of the debris of yard waste. This person was unable to make this scheduled appointment.
- Mayor Nickerson informed the Village Board of Trustees that she has had a request from a property owner to remove the handicap parking spot in front of their property, as there is no longer a business at this location. Mayor Nickerson will contact DOT to see what the regulations are on the handicap placements within the Village.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to purchase for the DPW Department, portable radios along with the FCC licensing requirements under state bid with Tri-County Communications, Inc. at no more than \$1500.00. Seconded by Trustee Muller. All in favor, motion passed.

Recognition of Visitors:

- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to enter into executive session at 8:20 pm to discuss personnel. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to exit executive session to enter back into our regular session at 8:45 pm. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to hire a DPW Superintendent with a starting salary of \$46,400.00 yearly, as well as looking at affordable health insurance plans. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to pay Town Superintendent of Highway, Kirk Hoyt \$21.58 hourly for 8 hours a week for overseeing the DPW Department. Seconded by Trustee Muller. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Lawrence to adjourn our regular meeting at 8:50 pm. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted
Ann Palmatier
Clerk / Treasurer