**VILLAGE OF COXSACKIE**

**BOARD MINUTES**

**December 11, 2017**

Mayor Evans called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Trustee Stephen Hanse, Trustee Donald Daoust, Trustee Joseph Ellis and Trustee Dianne Ringwald.

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2017 Board Meeting and dispense with reading of the same was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Daoust. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 22, 2017 Health Insurance Renewal Special Meeting and dispense with reading of the same was made by Trustee Ellis and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. Trustee Hanse abstained. The motion carried.

**Correspondence Received**A letter was received from Joe Failla regarding a private water line on Ely Street.

A letter was received from Ray & Sandy Hamlin requesting the waiving of $40.05 in water/sewer late fees.

A letter was received from Jody Windland requesting we waive their water and sewer penalty in the amount of $135.15.

**Liaisons & Board Reports**

Trustee Ringwald reported that the Department of Public Works has been busy with leaf pickup and holiday season preparations, such as pole adornments, and putting up and decorating Christmas trees at the Gazebo and downtown. The men also completed the street light project on John Street and Mark Road. They put out Christmas by the River signs and traffic control signs for Christmas by the River. The men filled in a sink hole at 53 Van Dyck Street and did lawn reclamation around the new street lights on Mark Road and John Street. They did lawn reclamation, topsoil, seeded, put hay and blacktopped the road in front of Harley Johnson’s house on Railroad Avenue. The men blacktopped over where there was a past water break on Sutton Place and blacktopped over the lips of manhole covers to make it easier for plowing. They put lights on truck #17 for the parade of lights. She said that there were 3 water breaks on Saturday 11/11-11/12, with two on Lovecky Road and one on Smith Road which is both in the Town. Trustee Ringwald reported that the men also put the salt spreader on truck #2.

Trustee Daoust reported that all preventative maintenance is up to date for both the Water and Wastewater Departments. He stated that Thomas Wallbank, Water Plant Superintendent, is working on installing a backflush system up at Scheller Park, and that there was a water main break on Smith Road which is out in the Town.

Trustee Ellis reported that the Fire Chief, as well as the Board, would like to thank everyone who helped make this year’s parade of lights a success. He stated that the Fire Department’s new Scott air packs have been ordered and should be arriving early this week. The Village ordered a total of 20. He said that the Storz hydrant fittings have come in but there was a problem with the order, and that a representative of Garrison’s is working on fixing the problem. He stated that the Fire Chief has been trying to locate some used low band pagers for the Fire Department to use until Greene County gets their high band up and running. He said that the Fire Chief and the Board are considering the possibility of sectioning off a portion of the garage space next to D.M. Hamilton’s to make an office and storage space. He stated that there are some ongoing issues with Engine 5-2 and the Fire Department will be switching from their current vendor back to KME to see if they can figure out the issues. Trustee Ellis reported that the Fire Department will be meeting with Ranger Dawson this week at D.M. Hamilton’s to look over their grant purchase, and should be receiving a check for the wildland equipment.

Trustee Ringwald reported that Christmas by the River was larger this year and it was again well received by the Village residents. The Police Department helped with traffic control during the event. She said that the Police Department also helped with traffic and road closures during the Live Nativity which was organized by Judy Hallsted, and the event went very well. Trustee Ringwald stated that Police Officer John Cioccke was planning on leaving the Police Department in the early part of 2018, but the Police Chief has received notice from Officer Cioccke that he did not accept the offer for a job in Florida and is planning on remaining with the Village’s department which is good news for us. Trustee Ringwald reported that the Police Chief has been working on reviewing the law pertaining to Civil Service hiring for part time exempt employees.

Trustee Hanse reported that the Planning Board did not meet in November because they had no new projects before them. The IDA subdivision will be delayed until spring of 2018, and the 46-48 Van Dyck Street lot line adjustment is waiting for the survey to be completed. Village code revisions will be continued in January 2018, most likely focusing on Chapter 155-Zoning. He said that the Historic District Commission met on November 14, 2017, and their next meeting will be contingent on any new projects; otherwise they will meet in January 2018. Trustee Hanse reported that the Building Inspector has issued 6 building permits in the past month.

Mayor Evans reported that the Village has been moving forward with installing radio read meters, and using water and sewer money to pay back the General Fund. The Water Fund has been moving around $35,000 each month, while the Sewer Fund is paid up. The Village has been progressing quite well in attempting to get all the meters installed. John Hallsted, who was hired by the Village to do the installs, has installed 341 meters in the past 5 months or so when he started. This means that the Village is around 63% completed, with 474 meters left to be installed. The Board is optimistic that all the meters can be installed by sometime in 2018. Mayor Evans stated that the Village is currently halfway through the fiscal year and finances look good.

Mayor Evans stated that the position of Village Historian is currently empty, since Margaret Chaloner stepped down. He thanked Ms. Chaloner for her many years of service and stated that she has done a wonderful job over the years. Mayor Evans stated that the position of Village Historian is to be filled by Mayoral appointment, and that he hereby appoints Betty June Cure as Village Historian.

**Motions & Resolutions**

A motion to approve setting a Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2018-To Amend a Real Property Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans for January 8, 2018 at 6:45 p.m. was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the request received from Ray & Sandy Hamlin of 91 Lafayette Avenue to waive their water/sewer late fees in the amount of $40.05, due to the fact that their account has always been in good standing was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the request received from Jody Windland of 121 Riverside Avenue to waive their water/sewer late fees in the amount of $135.15, due to the fact that the bill was sent to the Coxsackie address instead of their mailing address in Brooklyn, and they will be signing up for automatic withdrawal was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the monthly amount to move from Water & Sewer Funds to the General Fund: Water: $35,000.00 Sewer: Paid Up was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve hiring Kevin Jung as Water Department Laborer at pay rate of $16.87/hr. was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the proposal received from Maser Consulting in the amount of $9,950.00 to evaluate the dams and provide the required Emergency Plans to bring the Village into NYS compliance was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken on Resolution No. 212017-Revised Greene County Mitigation and Resilience Plan. Mayor Evans voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The resolution was approved.

A motion to approve water/sewer adjustments from November 1-30, 2017 was made by Trustee Ellis and seconded by Trustee Daoust. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the bills on General Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 504-583 totaling $179,914.95; Water Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 163-196 totaling $ 59,275.21; Sewer Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 157-189 totaling $ 55,015.59; Capital Projects Fund Abstract #7, voucher 4 totaling $ 75,323.35 was made by Trustee Ringwald and seconded by Trustee Ellis. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

**Public Comment Period**

Mary Blinn provided the Board with a copy of a letter from Will Welling, of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, regarding the old American Valve property. In the letter it talks about fence removal for clean-up purposes, and how the DEC does not necessarily have to put fencing back up once clean-up is completed. The DEC will accommodate whatever the Village Board and Village residents wish to do. DEC is planning to return in the spring to do the landscaping. She stated that she sees a great opportunity for the Village obtaining the property and would like to see more green space.

Mayor Evans stated that the Village is looking to obtain the front piece of the property. DEC will turn the property over to the Village, but they will keep any liability in case of future potential issues. The Village will have to obtain the property through eminent domain which requires the Village to have a stated purpose. The Village has stated that it is looking to do a solar project on the land, but nothing is set in stone. Nothing is final yet with obtaining the property, and DEC is addressed the additional contamination along the fence line.

Mary Blinn said that Will Welling stated that only the owner of the property can divide the parcel. The Village would have to take all the property.

Mayor Evans stated that the Village needs to obtain the property through eminent domain, and DEC will only give the Village the remediated parcel, not the parcel including the mound. DEC will not entertain giving the whole parcel to the Village. The Village can still use the remaining property for something like a solar project, but the Village would not own the land. Obtaining the back section of the property was never on the table.

Trustee Ringwald stated that this is the last meeting in 2017, and wishes everyone a nice holiday and looks forward to 2018.

No further public comments were offered.

A motion to adjourn the Board meeting was made by Trustee Daoust and seconded by Trustee Hanse. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Ellis voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikki Bereznak

Clerk