

**VILLAGE OF COXSACKIE
BOARD MINUTES
December 11, 2023**

Mayor Mark Evans called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present was Trustee Rodney Levine, and Trustee Rebecca Vermilyea. Trustee Donald Daoust and Trustee Katlyn Irwin was absent.

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2023 Workshop Meeting was made by Trustee Levine and seconded by Trustee Vermilyea. Mayor Evans voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2023 Board Meeting was made by Trustee Vermilyea and seconded by Trustee Levine. Mayor Evans voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

Liaisons & Board Reports

Mayor Evans stated that the Village Board will dispense with the reading of the monthly department head reports, but that all monthly reports are on file with the Village Clerk.

Motions & Resolutions

A motion to approve water/sewer adjustments from November 1-30, 2023 was made by Trustee Vermilyea and seconded by Trustee Levine. Mayor Evans voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the bills on General Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 374-436 totaling \$285,689.64; Water Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 190-227 totaling \$73,199.17; Sewer Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 169-196 totaling \$56,768.80; Capital Projects Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 8-9 totaling \$7,921.00; Heroes Banner Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 18-19 totaling \$318.29; Owl Project Fund Abstract #7, voucher 22 totaling \$3,043.26; Trust & Agency Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 11-13 totaling \$2,645.50 was made by Trustee Levine and seconded by Trustee Vermilyea. Mayor Evans voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

Trustee Daoust arrived at 7:08 p.m.

A motion to approve the request received from Brandi & Nick Gatti, of 10 Spencer Boulevard, asking to have the penalties removed from their water/sewer account in the amount of \$29.66, due to misplacing the bill was made by Trustee Daoust and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the request received from Nick Oringer, of 35 Wayne Drive, asking to have the penalties removed from his water/sewer account in the amount of \$33.49, due to misplacing the bill was made by Trustee Daoust and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve renewing the annual agreement with Columbia-Greene Humane Society for 2024 was made by Trustee Daoust and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve renewing the annual contract agreement with UHY to provide auditing and

Annual Financial Report filing services for the fiscal year of 1/1/23-5/31/24 was made by Trustee Daoust and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the contract with Voltus for demand response for the Wastewater Treatment Plant was made by Trustee Daoust and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

Public Comment Period

Veronica Foley, via Zoom Video Conference, stated that the Village has asked for \$2,332,601.00 from the NY Forward grant program for three projects. This grant program is reimbursable, meaning grantees pay for the winning projects and then are reimbursed by the State. She asked if the Village's projects are chosen, how the Village expects to raise the funds necessary to complete the projects.

Mayor Evans stated that the Village would ask Bond Counsel what the best way to approach it. It would probably involve going and getting a Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN). Those are customary for when you know that you are going to get funding, but you have to expend funds on a project first. The Village has done that a number of times in the past, and are currently doing that with the money for the new McQuade Park pavilion. The Village will receive \$102,000.00 from Senator Hinchey's office, but did not have those funds set aside in the regular budget, so a RAN was taken out. Once the pavilion is constructed, the Village will be able to submit for reimbursement to the State. Once the funds are received from the State, the Village can turn around and pay the RAN off with the bank.

Veronica Foley, via Zoom, asked if the Village expects to raise taxes again.

Mayor Evans stated that he wouldn't expect to raise taxes again, but the Village is a long ways off from looking at the budget for 2024-2025.

Veronica Foley, via Zoom, asked what the status is of United Mobile Homes (UMH).

Mayor Evans stated that the Village doesn't really know what the status with UMH is. They are working on gathering all of their required information and updating things on their end. He has not heard from them, and he doesn't think the Village's Counsel has heard from them in many months. He would anticipate hearing from them sometime in 2024, but the Village has no specific timeframe as of right now.

Mayor Evans stated that he just has a couple of things he would like to note. The first thing being that the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) closing for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project finally happened at the end of last week. So, a project that initially cost around \$16 million dollars, after the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) paid their portion, and the Village received the \$2.5 million dollar grant, the Village will be financing the remaining costs for a term of 30 years, with a payment of \$174,670.00/year. Secondly, the eminent domain that the Village is pursuing for the old American Valve property on Mansion Street is still in progress. There is only one issue to be resolved, and that involves a right of way owned by Central Hudson that goes across the property. Central Hudson is not even sure why they have the right of way, because they do not have any facilities that go across the property. It could have been something that was put in a long time ago. The next, and hopefully final, meeting with the Judge is January 26th. The right of way issue should be resolved, and then it will be in the hands of the Judge to make her ruling, and hopefully the Village doesn't see any barriers to obtaining that front half of the property. Lastly, the Town of Coxsackie received the bids for the Ely Street Water Line Replacement Project, of which 50% is the Village's responsibility, and 50% is the Town's responsibility. The project is being run through the Town. So, they are handling all of the bid documents, etc., but the cost is broken out between the Town and the Village. The breakout cost for the Village is just about \$200,000.00, which is right where the Village anticipated and hoped it would be. The Village has the \$100,000.00 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that will be used, and the Village has the \$100,000.00 that

Greene County paid as well that will be used. The Village has that accounted for, so no direct Village funds need to be used. The Town is supposed to award the bid to JAT Construction, of Coeymans, at their monthly Board Meeting on Tuesday, December 12th. He anticipates the project to hopefully commence in early spring. The project should only take a week or two since they are boring under the road.

Trustee Vermilyea stated that she went down to the Wastewater Treatment Plant today to see how they made out with all of the rain, and everything was fine with no problems. That was good. She also went over to where the Department of Public Works put up the barriers on South River Street to control flooding, and it looks like everything is good there too.

No further public comments were offered.

A motion to adjourn the Board meeting was made by Trustee Daoust and seconded by Trustee Levine. Trustee Daoust voted yes. Trustee Levine voted yes. Trustee Vermilyea voted yes. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nikki Berezna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nikki Berezna
Clerk