

Village of Schoharie – Regular Meeting
September 14th, 2021

Presiding: Mayor Caza

Present: Trustees Johnson, Palmer, Medak, Robinson-Bullock, Clerk/Treasurer Leslie J Price, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Debby Byrne, DPW Superintendent Ken Bernhardt, Lamont Engineers Mike Harrington, Times Journal Patsy Nicosia, and Residents, Ben Griffin, Vanessa Repicky and Karen Frankel

Meeting brought to order: By Mayor Caza at 6:36 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence honoring September 11, 2001

1. Privilege of the Floor:

- a. Vanessa Repicky wanted an update on the barriers around New Slate Fitness that are interfering with the sidewalk and street. She did contact the property owner but received no response. Mayor responded saying that he has read the emails that have been sent and has been in touch with the Village Attorney. Mayor also looked into the deed information as far as easements. There is a usage law which could trump any easements but would like to wait to hear what our Attorney has to say. If Village Attorney says we have a right of way, Mayor will ask DPW to paint sidewalk lines.
- b. Karen Frankel inquired on the crosswalk by the Schoharie Dental Office. The crosswalks are faded and should be repainted. Mayor responded saying this is already being addressed.
- c. Ben Griffin stated he too was concerned with the Bridge Street crosswalk as well as the property of New Slate Fitness and was satisfied with the Mayor's response. Mr. Griffin also asked about no parking road signs throughout the Village and asked if they could be removed. Trustee Palmer also mentioned no parking signs that are still on Hilgert Parkway near Doc Sackett's old office building. Mr. Griffin does not however want any parking on these roads. Trustee Medak also mentioned a discussion with Mr. Griffin regarding the traffic on the back streets during Garage Sale weekend and both suggested making the back streets one way only during this weekend. After receiving permission from the property owner, Mr. Griffin trimmed a tree at the end of Fair Street to improve site conditions when pulling onto Main Street. He also asked for permission from New Slate Fitness to trim trees at that corner but was denied by the property owner. Ken Bernhardt also contacted the property owner about the tree but was also denied. Mayor will ask Ken and Doug Stintson to go over the Code Book and see what can be done regarding trimming the trees.
- d. Mike Harrington discussed the parking lot project behind Main Street businesses as requested at last month's meeting by Trustee Palmer. Mike bought in paperwork dating back to 1999 when he was first working on this project. He suggested if the Village wants to go ahead with this project to have a public meeting with property owners to see how they feel about pursuing this project. In the meantime, Mike will look into any grant money that may be available and Mayor will discuss with the Village Attorney regarding easements or deeding over property to the Village. Mike estimated the cost of the project would be between \$100,000 - \$150,000.
- e. Mike Harrington also gave a status of the water improvement project. He is moving forward with easements which will take about a month for the survey company to have their part complete.
- f. Ken Bernhardt received a letter from DEC regarding compliance documents which should have been delivered. Ken contacted Mike Harrington about this letter, neither of them knew anything about this. Mike will call DEC and get deadlines readjusted. The Village is NOT in violation with any of the requirements listed.

2. **Minutes:** Review and Motion to approve
- a. August 10th, 2021 Regular Monthly Minutes and August 18th, 2021 Employee Meeting Minutes.
- Motion** made by Trustee Johnson second by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to approve the August 10th, 2021 Regular Monthly Minutes and the August 18th, 2021 Employee Meeting Minutes as written.

3. **Abstracts and Bank Statements:**
- a. General \$13,170.90 (August 11, 2021 – September 14, 2021)
 - b. Water \$ 5,668.19 (August 11, 2021 – September 14, 2021)
 - c. Sewer \$ 6,152.44 (August 11, 2021 – September 14, 2021)
 - d. Pool \$ 5,832.46 (August 11, 2021 – September 14, 2021)

Motion made by Trustee Johnson second by Trustee Robinson-Bullock unanimously carried to approve Abstract Amounts as written.

4. **Incoming Correspondence:**

- a. N/A.

5. **Outgoing Correspondence**

- a. N/A

6. **New Business**

- a. N/A.

7. **Old Business**

- a. Discussion on how the Board might use the \$41,846.04 American Rescue Plan Act funding for 2021. Trustee Johnson would like to focus on broadband infrastructure improvements throughout the Village. Trustee Johnson feels it would be beneficial for the Village to dovetail on the County project and extend service for the Village. The cost is estimated to be approximately \$40,000.00. Trustee Johnson and Trustee Robinson-Bullock feel this could be a real boast for the Village business district. Mayor Caza asked that Clerk Price reshare documents for ARPA with the Board. Trustee Johnson will follow up with Midtel and gather more information.

8. **Other**

- a. Clerk Price gave 2022 budget numbers for Health Insurance, Liability Insurance, Workers Comp Insurance, Flood Insurance, NYS Retirement, estimate for new Water/Sewer Billing Program, Vendor increases and budget increases from Police Department, Fire Department, and Clerk/Treasurer's Office to Trustee Medak. Ken Bernhardt and Doug Stintson will give their information at the next employees meeting.

Next Regular Village Board meeting is Tuesday October 12th, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

Next Employees Workshop Meeting is Wednesday September 22nd, 2021, at 6:30 PM.

MOTION to Adjourn.

Motion made by Trustee Palmer second by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to adjourn at 8:02PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie J. Price Clerk/Treasurer