

Village of Schoharie – Regular Meeting
January 09, 2024

Presiding: Mayor Henry

Present: Trustees Johnson, Medak, Palmer, Robinson-Bullock, Clerk/Treasurer Leslie Price, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Debby Byrne, Julie Pacatte from SEEC, Amber McGiver from The HARVA Company, Inc., Tracy Booth, Tom Hitter from Village Planning, Terry Wilbur and DPW Superintendent, Ken Bernhardt

Meeting brought to order: By Mayor Henry at 6:37 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion made by Trustee Johnson second by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to approve to open Public Meeting at 6:38 PM

1. Grant Request for The HARVA Company

- a. Julie Pacatte and Amber McGiver presented the Board with information regarding the CDBG Small Business Assistance grant opportunity to purchase new equipment. HARVA's anticipated investment of \$255,000 will include job retention (19) and creation of four (4) new jobs, at a starting rate of \$17.00/hour.

Motion made by Trustee Johnson second by Trustee Robinson-Bullock unanimously carried to approve closing the Public Hearing at 6:48PM.

Motion made by Trustee Palmer second by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2-2024 to submit a Pre-Submission form for NYS CDBG Economic Development/Small Business/Microenterprise funds to assist/create the HARVA Company Inc.

Motion made by Trustee Robinson-Bullock second by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve opening the 2024 Reorganizational Meeting at 6:50PM

Motion made by Trustee Medak second by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to approve closing the 2024 Reorganization Meeting at 6:59PM.

Motion made by Trustee Robinson-Bullock second by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to approve the 2024 Reorganization Chart. Reorganizational Chart is attached.

2. Privilege of the Floor:

- a. Resident Terry Wilbur asked the Board about the decision to hire Evening Star Bookkeeping. Trustee Medak and Trustee Robinson-Bullock explained that this is a growing best practice of Municipalities within the County and that the Board feels it will help with the workload in the Village Office.
- b. Resident Terry Wilbur also wanted to compliment DPW Superintendent Ken Bernhardt and his team for keeping the Village roads clean and that she appreciated their efforts.

3. Minutes: Review and Motion to approve

- a. December 12, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes
- b. December 20, 2023, Employee Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Trustee Robinson-Bullock second by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve the December 12, 2023, Monthly Meeting Minutes and the December 20, 2023, Employee Meeting Minutes with changes.

4. Abstracts and Bank Statements:

- a. General \$ 20,341.46 (December 13, 2023 – January 9, 2024)
- b. Water \$ 57,424.11 (December 13, 2023 – January 9, 2024)

- c. Sewer \$ 26,115.48 (December 13, 2023 – January 9, 2024)
- d. Pool \$ 8.44 (December 13, 2023 – January 9, 2024)

Motion made by Trustee Medak second by Trustee Robinson-Bullock unanimously carried to approve paying the invoices and the approval of the Abstract Amounts as written.

Motion made by Trustee Robinson-Bullock second by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to approve Local Law 1-2024 changing the residency requirements for the position of the Village Clerk/Treasurer to be within the County of Schoharie.

5. Incoming Correspondence:

Motion made by Trustee Johnson second by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to approve reversing Tax Bill # 388 to the Town of Schoharie in the amount of \$204.73. This invoice was accidentally generated from a water/sewer invoice that was levied to the Village Taxes.

Motion made by Trustee Johnson second by Trustee Robinson-Bullock unanimously carried to approve reversing Tax Bill # 344 to the Village of Schoharie in the amount of \$58.03 for the parcel of property located at the corner of Prospect Street and Main Street.

Leslie Price excused from the Meeting at 7:15PM

6. Outgoing Correspondence:

- a. N/A

7. New Business:

- a. Dr. Elbially is bringing in a new application for building expansion. All studies have been completed. There seems to be no concerns approving this application. A Public Meeting will be held since this is a new application.

Motion made by Trustee Medak second by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to approve waiving all new fees related to the new application from Dr. Elbially and all fees related to the expansion of the dental office waiting room at 229 Main Street in Schoharie.

- b. Mayor Henry would like to change the Planning Board Law to have an Alternate included on the Planning Board. This person would attend meetings but not vote unless there are not enough members to vote. Mayor Henry will present this to the Village Attorney and make a Motion at next month's Board Meeting. The Board held a discussion on how to find new members for the Planning and Zoning Boards and suggested a flyer be included with the next Water/Sewer Bills. Trustee Johnson has agreed to write something up to be included in the next mailing.
- c. Mayor Henry asked that Russell Shaw be appointed to the Village Planning Board. The Board approved this appointment. Mayor Henry also mentioned that Paul Conroy submitted his application to the Village Planning Board but later removed his application.
- d. Mayor Henry has announced that Planning Board Chair Dusty Putnam has resigned as Chair but will continue to be a member of the Planning Board. Mayor Henry would like to appoint Tom Hitter as Chair of the Planning Board and asked for a Motion to approve.

Motion made by Trustee Robinson-Bullock second by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve appointing Tom Hitter as Chair of the Schoharie Village Planning Board.

- e. Nan Stolzenburg was unable to attend tonight's Meeting but notified the Board that the Village needs to find a spot for the Kayak launch. Right now the committee is leaning towards the Letterman Lane Location. Nan has requested an extension on this Grant.

- f. The Board needs to make a Motion regarding the Health Insurance buyout for Fiscal Year 2024 for Ken Bernhardt and Paul Liddle in the amount of \$3,000.00.

Motion made by Trustee Robinson-Bullock second by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to approve paying Ken Bernhardt and Paul Liddle \$3,000.00 for the health insurance.

8. Old Business: N/A

9. Other:

- a. Mayor Henry discussed with the Board that Sal Medak has received an unusually high Water/Sewer Invoice and asked the Board's approval to adjust this, Bill. DPW Superintendent explained why the bill should be adjusted. The Board asked that a history of previous water bills be reviewed and will figure the average bill due based on the findings.
- b. DPW Superintendent Ken Bernhardt informed the Board that the Town of Schoharie has a used Backhoe which they may be willing to sell to the Village for a total price of \$35,630.00 which will include two new tires. Ken feels this equipment is in excellent condition and the Village does need a new backhoe. Trustee Medak stated that he did put money in the budget for the purchase of equipment for DPW. The Board does support purchasing this backhoe. Ken will attend the next Town Meeting and let the Town of Schoharie know that the Village is interested in this purchase.

10. MOTION to Adjourn.

Motion made by Trustee Palmer second by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to adjourn at 8:06 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Byrne
Village Deputy Clerk/Treasurer