

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees held at 7:30 p.m.
August 19, 2021**

Members Present: Deputy Mayor/Trustee Bruce Stebbins
Trustee Ruth Cico
Trustee Mark Wilder
Trustee Megan O'Donnell
Trustee Mike Shepard
Trustee Andrew Dryden

Absent: Mayor Dick Clarke via Zoom

Others Attending – Village Attorney Bob Baldwin; Village Clerk Maureen Butler; Treasurer Anna Custer; Superintendent of Public Works Chuck McAuliffe; Senior Center Coordinator Ruth Troy; Codes Enforcement Officer Gregg Humphrey; Police Chief Mike Lefancheck, resident and retired art teacher Mike Conway, Marcia Lamirande, two Lions Club members and PAC-B videographer Bob Edgett.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Resolution #91/2021 Moved by Trustee Dryden, second by Trustee Cico
Resolved that the minutes from the Village Board meeting of August 5, 2021, be approved.

Carried

Citizen's Comments

• **VFW Post 153 Auxiliary**

Marcia Lamirande, a member of the VFW auxiliary, enlightened the board about a fundraising idea that involved selling flags to honor individual veterans in our community. They are requesting to display them at Point Park, the juncture where Rt 31 and Oneida Street meet. The flags would be displayed the week of Veteran's Day and can be purchased through the VFW. Their fundraising proceeds funds a veteran's food pantry, a homeless shelter in Syracuse and in-house gatherings for the community. The board agreed that this is a worthy cause and gave their approval for the use of the property.

• **Baldwinsville Lions Club**

Bert Mead and a fellow Lions Club member spoke to the board about their Community Park event that was cancelled due to the insurance requirements of the village. The village's insurance agent Dan Schmidt from Mirabito and Gresham, explained that this requirement has been in effect for a few years and has been approved and enforced by the village. After much discussion, the board told the Lions Club members that the insurance requirements for village parks, other than Paper Mill Island, and a Hold Harmless clause will be reviewed for future events.

• **Art Kiosk Request**

Mike Conway, a former art teacher in the Baldwinsville School district and current art instructor at Canton Woods Senior Center, suggested to the board that a kiosk or a series of kiosks be placed along the canal/waterways to display artwork by high school students that are majoring in art, possibly with a Baldwinsville theme. Conway conveyed that he has seen other communities that have such kiosks, including Syracuse, Oswego and Fulton. He distributed photos of such locations. Trustee O'Donnell suggested that he contact the *Baldwinsville Center for the Arts* to see if they have any interest in helping him.

Trustee's Comments

Trustee Wilder requested that an executive session be held regarding the update of a contract issue.

Trustee O'Donnell told how nice it was to have people roaming around the village this past weekend due to the concert Friday night and Seneca River day event on Saturday.

Mayor's Comments

Deputy Mayor Stebbins:

- Added two items to the agenda - one motion to purchase 200 new water meters and the other authorizing the mayor to approve and sign the Main Street grant application that is due September 3, 2021.

Department Head

Senior Center Coordinator Ruth Troy informed the viewing audience

- that masks are required at Canton Woods Senior Center regardless of your vaccinated status.
- the County's congregate program is coming back indoors for vaccinated seniors only. The take-away meal will be available for all others.
- The Center is partnering with Onondaga County Health department for a grant they received supporting healthy schools and communities. The first part of this is the sale of a \$10 food box containing produce.
- The *annual car show* is scheduled for Monday, August 23rd and the *Walk for the Woods* event will be held on Saturday, September 18th. Call the Center for more information.

Superintendent of Public Works Chuck McAuliffe reported that:

- the Rotary Seneca River day event went quite well. He noted that the Rotary is a great organization to work with.
- Blacktopping and coating of the roads are completed.
- Crosswalk signs are up and adjusted.
- that flooding occurred earlier today. The sewer mains were overflowing and in combination with the run-off this caused a mess for many homeowners. McAuliffe noted that both sides of the river were backed-up. The fire department were pumping out basements.
- The grant for the Community Park playgrounds will be coming through soon. The County gave the green light after the environmental review. The DPW will also be installing the handicap swing that was donated by the Lions Club.
- The softball fields and all village-owned parks are getting a lot of use this year.

Police Chief Lefancheck informed the board that Paper Mill Island promoter's contract, as it regards to the security requirements, differs from the security requirements listed in the Paper Mill Island agreement, that is used by other promoters/applicants. Lefancheck requests that this is reviewed by the board and attorney in order to have consistency in the security requirements for all promoters/applicants.

Pending Business

- Post-Retirement Benefits Update

Resolution #92/2021 Moved by Trustee O'Donnell, second by Trustee Wilder

Resolved to add the following statement to the Employee Handbook **Section 706:**

Retirees - Full-time FLSA exempt-class employees who have completed at least fifteen (15) years of full-time service with the Village, and who retire directly into or under, the New York State Employees Retirement System (ERS) shall be offered a one-time election at the time of retirement to continue participation in the Village's Medical Insurance program as a retiree. The Village will pay 70% of the premium cost of individual coverage toward any form of coverage elected whether it be individual, two-person or family. The Retiree shall be responsible for the balance of the premium cost for the form of coverage chosen. Eligibility for Retiree coverage through the Village ends after three (3) years or when the retiree becomes eligible for Medicare, whichever occurs first.

Carried

Trustee O'Donnell spoke to this request noting that it had been board discussed for awhile now. It was determined to offer this post retirement benefit to those 15-year employees at retirement that have not been part of a union. Both village unions already enjoy this benefit at retirement.

New Business

- **Resignations – ZBA Member & PT Police Officer**

Resolution #93/2021 Moved by Trustee Dryden, second by Trustee O'Donnell

Resolved to accept with regrets the resignation of Zoning Board of Appeals member Frederick Thomas, effective August 9, 2021.

Carried

Code Enforcement Officer Humphrey commented that Fred Thomas was a very conscientious member visiting each site that was discussed at the ZBA. He became a member only after the Van Buren ZBA consolidated with their Planning Board and he was no longer needed there. He will be sorely missed.

Resolution #94/2021 Moved by Trustee Wilder, second by Trustee Shepard

Resolved to accept with regrets the resignation of Part time Police Officer Charles Giannino, effective August 31, 2021.

Carried

Chief Lefancheck spoke highly of Officer Giannino and was sad to see him leave. The Chief noted that he was one of the first to be appointed part-time.

- **Water Meter Purchase**

Resolution #95/2021 Moved by Trustee Dryden, second by Trustee O'Donnell

Resolved to purchase 200 new water meters at a cost of \$46,000.00. The funding will be taken from both the water and sewer accounts.

Carried

- **Main Street Application Approval**

Resolution #96/2021 Moved by Trustee Dryden, second by Trustee Shepard

Resolved to authorize the mayor to approve the final Main Street grant once it is finalized.

Carried

This was approved prior to the grant application being finalized because it is due before the next village board meeting.

- **Executive Session**

Resolution #97/2021 Moved by Trustee Dryden, second by Trustee Wilder

Resolved that the board retire into an executive session regarding an update of a contract issue at 8:30 p.m.

Carried

Resolution #98/2021 Moved by Trustee O'Donnell, second by Trustee Cico

Resolved that the board return from executive session at 8:38 p.m.

Carried

- **Motion to pay bills as audited**

Resolution #99/2021 Moved by Trustee O'Donnell, second by Trustee Cico
Resolved to pay the bills from their proper accounts, after audit.

Abstract #012

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| • General Fund Checks | #47186 - #47231 | \$ 155,795.96 |
| • Water Fund Checks | #25039 - #25046 | \$ 13,011.02 |
| • Sewer Fund Checks | #23988 - #23992 | \$ 66,001.02 |
| • Sidewalk Phase 8 | #1081 | \$ 3,647.50 |

Carried

- **Adjournment**

Resolution #100/2021 Moved by Trustee O'Donnell, second by Trustee Cico
Resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:39 p.m., until the next village board meeting on Thursday, September 2, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 16 West Genesee Street.

Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Butler

Village Clerk
Village of Baldwinsville