The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on February 5, 2024, at the Middleburgh Library.

Present: Mayor Timothy Knight; Trustees: Amanda Fernandez, Sheryl Adams-absent, Robert Tinker attended on Zoom, Kevin Young Also present: Clerk Laraway, DPW Keyser, Attorney Mauhs, ZBA Wingfield, Mountain Eagle David Avitabile, Joan Wissert, Wes Andrew, Fred Risse, Frank Githo, David Spaulding, Chance Smigiel and Talya Shulman.

Mayor Knight called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez, to approve Board minutes for January 8, 2024. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 3-0.

Mayor Knight announced Cell Tower flag is down while repairs are made to flagpole by T-Mobile. Depending on the state of the flag, it will be either put back up or replaced with a new one in the spring.

Fire Chief Gregory Monthly Report: Was unable to attend meeting.

Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Was unable to attend meeting. A mini-split heating and cooling unit has been installed.

DPW Superintendent Keyser monthly report:

**Streets:** Snow removal, repairing truck for snow removal, building new Community Sign will be replaced in the spring. Discussed increasing boot allowance from $100 to $200. Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker, to approve boot allowance increase to $200.00. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

**Water:** Replacing water line on Lawyer Lane as soon as blacktop plant reopens in spring. EPA Safe Water Act of 1986: to eliminate lead and galvanized water lines. The EPA is now requiring the Village to verify all water hooks ups and water mains. The village will be required to document all inside water lines and all water lines at the curb stops to houses. The Village has a quote from Badger for a dirt vac machine at a cost of $2,952 per day. The Village crew will also be digging up curb stops to help the process move along. The Village has until October 2024 to meet a portion of the requirements. A letter will be going out to residents to make appointments to take pictures of water hookup in their homes. Village crew is looking to start digging in April.

**Sewer:** Operations are working great.

Mayor Knight presented RESOLUTION #2 of 2024 Cemetery Charges. The new resolution will increase charges for the cemetery and add another option for single burial lots. Now a single burial lot can be deeded to hold four cremations. Only deeds with this wording will be allowed to be used for four cremations. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez, to pass resolution as presented. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Mayor Knight presented RESOLUTION #3 of 2024 NYCLASS. NYCLASS is an investment corporation for municipalities and schools. It yields a higher interest rate for the organization. Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to pass resolution as presented and have Clerk Laraway fill out application and set up funds for investment. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0. Mayor Knight thanked Trustee Fernandez and Clerk Laraway for all of their hard work on this project.

Resident Fred Risse was present to discuss his PDD at 151 Main Street Valley View Estates: Mr. Risse presented Village with the engineering plans, Historical Review is complete, only required Phase #1 as no significant findings and Planning Board checklist. Village will need to set Public Hearing date for SEQR and site plan. Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to set a Special Meeting date for February 28, 2024, at 4:30pm at the Middleburgh Library. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to set the Public Hearing date to complete SEQR for February 28, 2024, at 4:35pm at the Middleburgh Library. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to approve February 2024 Water Rents in the amount of $ $50,404.60 and Sewer Rents in the amount of $55,925.39. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Rotarians Wes Andrew and Joan Wissert were present to discuss 2024 Rotary projects. Rotary would like to replace the Main Street Memorial Park Sign. It was the consensus of the Board to approve the request to replace the Memorial Park Sign. It was also discussed for Rotary to meet with Trustee Fernandez and make a comprehensive plan of future projects in Memorial Park. Mrs. Wissert informed the Board six benches with flower planters will be in place on Main Street before the First Friday’s. Rotary will be holding an open house on February 29, 2024. Village along with Rotary, and DOT need to form a Tree Board for Arbor Day. This is the first step in getting grant to possible replace trees or plant new trees in the Village.

Chance Smigiel and Talya Shulman were present to discuss RC Car racing and if Village would possibly have a spot to dedicate for this project. They are looking for a large area to build an oval track, crawler basher track, and drag strip. Property would need electricity, lighting, and place to build a small shed. Looking for something close to the Village and get the youth involved. Mr. Githo and Mr. Spaulding were present to discuss how they run their Radio Aircraft Club. It was discussed that the Village doesn’t have a large enough area outside of the floodway to accommodate project. Mr. Smigiel and Ms. Shulman will be meeting with the Town Board this month to discuss a potential project in the Town.

Mayor Knight opened the floor for public comment: Mr. Risse discussed if anyone had thought of a Farmers Market on Baker Ave; Mayor Knight has discussed the issue with Nicholas Kossman at the County, and there was a positive reaction from the Board about this possibility. Mr. Risse also asked whether the State or County could possibly spray the knot weed along the creek on River Street. He suggested reaching out to Pete Nichols Schoharie County Soil and Water or DOT.

Clerk Laraway presented the Board with a monthly balance sheet report and a profit vs. actual report.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to pay the Bills: Bills from the General Fund in the amount of $ 88,360.86 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of $ 3,699.77 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of $ 4,506.57 were audited and ordered paid. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to enter executive session at 8:03 pm to discuss ongoing litigation with advice of Village Attorney. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to enter back into regular session at 8:26 pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Correspondence: 1/1/24 Jean Cain re: Thank you; 1/2/24 Saxton, UPS re: Cert. Liability; Letter Scho. Co re: Oath of office; 1/9/24 Sch. Co. re: Pilot; Charter Comm re: Channels; 1/10/24 Sch. Co. re: Election; Sch Co re: Directory; 1/16/24 National Grid re: Energy Service; Letter NYSDOT re: Chips; 1/22/24 MVEDD re: Meeting; 1/24/24 BP Energy, IDT Corp., Ameriavision, Ooma, RingCentral re: gross tax; Letter Gary Hayes re: response to ZBA letter; 1/26/24 NBT Ins re: policy.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion to adjourn at 8:28pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted by, Melanie Laraway - Clerk.