

The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on March 3, 2025, at the Middleburgh Library.

Present: Mayor Timothy Knight; Trustees: Sheryl Adams, Robert Tinker-zoom, Kevin Young, Amanda Fernandez; Also present: Clerk Laraway, Attorney Mauhs-zoom, DPW Superintendent Keyser, Code Officer Fink, Shylia Hanson, David Avitabile – Mountain Eagle, John Wingfield, and Lena Keyser.

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

Mayor Knight announced National Grid has started street light conversion to LEDs; Village DPW completed Historic Light conversion to LEDs on River Street; Forget Me Not Soda Shoppe opened on Railroad Avenue; and Clerk Laraway filed the Annual Financial Report.

Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to approve Board minutes for February 3, 2025. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0; Trustee Fernandez abstained. Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams, to approve Special Board meeting minutes for February 11, 2025. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Fire Chief Gregory was unable to attend. Mayor Knight stated Fire Department has had a busy month; the Village and Fire Department have been working on updating insurance policy with increased vehicle replacement and building replacement costs; building appraisal is likely.

Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Issued building permits for windows, baseboard heat, and kitchen cabinets. The permit codes program is up for renewal for \$2,800. It was discussed that the program isn't user friendly, doesn't work as described and customer support has not been effective. Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to decline renewing Cloudpermit software and look for a more user-friendly program. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

111 Railroad Avenue update: Mayor Knight reported that paperwork was filed with Supreme Court last week; Code Officer Fink posted the notice on building; Building owner will be served abandonment proceedings paperwork; Judge will schedule hearing.

DPW Superintendent Keyser Monthly Report:

Streets: Patched potholes; Historic lights on River Street have been replaced with LEDs; Lots of icy streets and sidewalks this month; New sidewalks on Scribner Ave. will start this spring.

Water: Service line repair; Still having high flows

Sewer: Everything is working great.

Stephen Hoerz requested to adopt Richard Hanson Park. This is the park to the right of the Community Board on River Street. It was the consensus of the Board to approve request.

Discussion on 137 Grove Street sewer connection. Farrells own lot next to last sewer manhole on Grove Street. They would like to hook into sewer main, incurring all costs from home to sewer main. The Village inquired with Delaware Engineering on extending the sewer lines 250' and 1000' to the end of Grove Street. The cost for 250' would be \$45,000 and to the end of Grove would be over \$200,000. The Village does not have the funds but will be looking for grant funding to start working towards extending sewer lines. Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to approve 137 Grove Street requests as presented: Robert and Jackie Farrell will incur all costs associated with running line from residents to sewer main with correct pitch to tie into sewer. Village DPW will inspect and oversee connection. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Mayor Knight gave an update on Village Grant Survey sent out with February water & sewer bills:

| Project | Number of Responses | Percentage of Responses |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Improving Village Pool</i> | 22 | 55% |
| <i>Extending Sewer Lines</i> | 19 | 47.5% |
| <i>Replacing Residential Sidewalks</i> | 15 | 37.5% |
| <i>Improving Village Parking</i> | 15 | 37.5% |
| <i>Replacing Main St. Sidewalks</i> | 12 | 30% |
| <i>Making Village Hall Accessible</i> | 12 | 30% |
| <i>Improving Main St. Crosswalks</i> | 12 | 30% |
| <i>Reducing Speed Limits</i> | 10 | 25% |
| <i>Installing More Crosswalks</i> | 9 | 22.5% |
| <i>Planting More Trees</i> | 9 | 22.5% |
| <i>Building a new Firehouse</i> | 8 | 20% |
| <i>Replacing Railroad Sidewalks</i> | 7 | 17.5% |

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|------------------------------------|---|-------|
| <i>Improving Public Parks</i> | 6 | 15% |
| <i>Building a new DPW Facility</i> | 5 | 12.5% |

In addition to the aforementioned projects, the following needs and projects were identified by residents with no prioritization intended:

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|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Install More Handicapped Accessible Parking</i> | <i>Extend Clauverwie Sidewalks to Indian Acres</i> | <i>Extend Sidewalks on Maple</i> |
| <i>Greater Speed Enforcement</i> | <i>Repair Clauverwie Sidewalks</i> | <i>Extend Sidewalks on Scribner</i> |
| <i>Install More Basketball Courts</i> | <i>Remove Parking Meters</i> | <i>Replace Scribner Sidewalks</i> |
| <i>No Multi-Family Units</i> | <i>More Benches on Main</i> | <i>Improve Streetlights</i> |
| <i>Street Repairs</i> | <i>Stop Light at Clauverwie/Main</i> | <i>Advertise Village Events</i> |
| <i>Invest in Water Infrastructure</i> | <i>Turn Depot into Music Venue</i> | <i>Improve Water Drainage</i> |
| <i>Offer Garbage Pick-Up</i> | <i>Buy Street Cleaning Machine</i> | <i>Plant More Flowers</i> |
| <i>Develop Village Vision</i> | <i>Reduce Water & Sewer Costs</i> | <i>Increase Village Taxes</i> |
| <i>Appoint Village Constable</i> | <i>Repair Straub Lane Bridge</i> | <i>Traffic Control at Events</i> |

Lastly, several Village residents, property owners, and business owners volunteered to serve on the **Village Grants Committee**, which the Village Board of Trustees will be appointing in April. The volunteers include: Karen Brathauer, Patty Paser, Nathan Searles, James Snyder, David Avitabile, Candy Reynolds-Cummings, Susan London, and Sara Masterson. DPW Keyser stated water infrastructure should be top priority.

Trustee Adams updated Board on 250 years American Independence Committee meeting. The committee met and are working on ideas for next year's celebration. Some ideas were fireworks, banners, and flags.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to approve seasonal DPW laborer hire Joseph Gilroy at \$16.83 per hour for 24 weeks starting date retroactive to February 18, 2025. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0. Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to approve hiring Stephen Torrado as a seasonal DPW laborer for \$16.83 per hour, starting April 29, 2025, for 20 weeks. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Public Comment: None

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to pay the Bills: Bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$22,793.57 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of \$ 1,903.86 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$15,657.78 were audited and ordered paid. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to enter executive session at 7:26pm to discuss proposed sale of real property, parking lot by High School with the advice of Village Attorney. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to enter back into regular session at 8:07 pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to approve the purchase of larger "No Parking" and "Violators will be Towed" signage for Wells Avenue and Railroad Avenue. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Fernandez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to empower Mayor Knight to send a letter to MCS inquiring about purchasing parking lot and expiration day when Village will move forward with other avenues for lot. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

It was consensus of the Village Board that they are in complete support of DPW on enforcement of parking violations. The Board will come back to next meeting with ideas for moving forward with parking enforcement.

Correspondence: 2/3/25 Board Election slate; Letter NYS Gaming Comm re: Bingo; Letter Charter Comm re: channels; Email CDPHP re: incorrect credit; 2/14/25 Letter NYS re: withholding change; 2/18/25 Letter Village Middleburgh re: Historical Society Depot; Letter PERMA re: grant award; 2/25/25 County re: Sales Tax; 2/28/25 letter Charter Comm re: Channels; Letter Preville re: increase; Letters Ring Central, Google North, Time Warner, IDT Corp re: 0.00 gross tax.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker, to adjourn at 8:15pm. Upon a roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by,
Melanie Laraway - Clerk.