

WORK SESSION OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 2019 AT THE DEPOSIT THEATER AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Moore, C/T Budine, DCT Shirkey, Trustees Brown, Warner and Rynearson, Attorney Beth Westfall, DPW Supervisor Evans, CEO Pete Hathaway, Police Chief Flavell, Fire Chief Shaun Rynearson, Judge Lantz, Sarah Evans, Ed Pavlov Jr., Neal & Delores MacDonald, Aaron Smith, Morgan Kay, Lisa Smith, Traci Stewart, Pearl and Dan Strauss, Doren Stevens, Jim Gruscavage, Robert Cantwell, Jim Conklin, Deb Stever and John O'Connor.

ABSENT: Trustee Durning

MOTION#272/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Rynearson and seconded by Trustee Warner to accept for filing the Planning Board minutes of September 11, 2019. Motion passed unanimously.

STREETS-old and new business

Supervisor Evans stated that the first tank at the WWTP has been filled and the next one was being worked on. Mr. Evans informed the board that NY Rural Water had found 3 water leaks in the street, one of which is up by the old Cranes restaurant. Tomorrow the crew will be working on replacing the guiderails on Pine Street extension. Mr. Evans told the board that Aqua Store will be conducting a tank inspection on the 31st. On Monday they will be draining the Maple Lane tank for cleaning. This should not interfere with water service.

FIRE DEPT- old/new business

Chief Rynearson stated that there was a problem with the internet at the Fire Station. Mayor Moore said he would call computer Emergency room and have them come over and look at.

EMS

No old or new business

POLICE DEPT:

Chief Flavell reported that 561 has the new computer and he needs to have Computer Emergency Room come over and get it going with Trax.

TRUSTEE:

No old or new business.

PRESIDENT:

Mayor Moore explained that as a courtesy last week he notified department heads and employees were told that the board was considering possible cuts to their jobs. Things got out of hand right away and there was a lot of misinformation. He stated that the Board would decide if we moved forward with allowing Beth Westfall to move forward with dissolution of the Court and the Police Department. He went over scenario 8, which are a part-time court and the intermunicipal agreement with BC Sheriff. This option would have BC provide a day shift Monday-Friday fulltime and a Saturday night shift. Mr. Moore stated that the NYS Troopers are covering weekends. Mr. Moore stated that approximately 40% of our shifts are covered in a budget of \$178,000. Talk of eliminating the police department is nothing new; it comes up every budget season. Mr.

Moore felt that the taxpayer would get more service for \$60,000 with BC Sheriff, than they are getting for \$178,000 police budget. Mayor Moore stated that BC Sheriff would cover both counties in the Village and that there was a process in order to dissolve the Court and Police department. Mayor Moore stated that we will have a public hearing in November and if there is a petition, it must have approximately 168 validated signatures to cause this to go to a permissive referendum. Mr. Moore stated he was not sure how the board would vote. Resident Lisa Smith asked what would be the proposed hours of the BC Sheriff. Mayor Moore responded that it would be Monday thru Friday, day shift and part-time evening weekends. Village resident Jay Vandermark said that the Sheriff's office was busy going from complaint to complaint, would they stay solely in Deposit. Mayor Moore stated that they would go as far west as Windsor, and we would have a contract with them. Resident Dan Strauss asked about the fingerprint reader. Mayor Moore stated that for one year we could use the current fingerprint reader but the cards would have to be taken to their respective counties. Village resident Jay Vandermark Jr. asked if the BC Sheriff could go into Delaware County. Beth Westfall stated that they had intermunicipal agreements. Mayor Moore stated that had asked Sheriff Harder and Jason Garner and they had both assure him that they could and indeed would go into the Delaware County side of the Village. Mr. Vandermark stated that he had spoke to Sheriff Dumond of Delaware County and Mr. Dumond had told him that he was unaware of any agreement between Broome County and Delaware County, and Mr. Vandermark was concerned for the safety of the Delaware County side Village residents. Village resident Aaron Smith asked if BC Sheriff had permission to patrol Delaware County. Mayor Moore stated again that Sheriff Harder assured us they would patrol the Delaware County side of the Village. Mr. Smith stated that since BC Sheriff's office had no authority in Delaware County, they would essentially be peace officers and had no authority for arrests. Mr. Smith asked what was the Police department's budget in scenario #2. Mr. Moore stated that he did not have that information at hand. Mayor Moore stated that 40% of the schedules are filled and that hours were cut in the budget because they were not filled. Chief Flavell stated that his budget went down last year to \$165,000 from \$178,000. Mayor Moore stated that that was because we did not fill the fulltime officer position that was budgeted. Chief Flavell did not feel that the fingerprint reader should be included in this year's budget. CT Budine stated that option #2 was Chief Flavell's budget, but included the fingerprint reader. Village Resident Aaron Smith said that the software for the new fingerprint readers does not even exist. Mr. Vandermark stated that we let patrolmen go and had not advertised to fill these positions. CT Budine stated that the Chief had always brought applications to the board and could not remember ever advertising for officers. Mr. Vandermark stated he knew people who were willing to work. Mr. Vandermark stated he felt the Village would not get equal coverage from the BC Sheriff. He also felt that the board had a knee jerk reaction and it was a slap in the face to the police department to cut hours. Mayor Moore stated hours were cut because they were not being use. Trustee Rynearson stated that people seek employment. Mr. Rynearson stated also that the budget process has not changed and that Mr. Vandermark should be thankful that all options were looked at. Mr. Vandermark stated that options are there and that there is a lot of fat in the budget scenarios and they were not realistic. Mayor Moore stated that every option had to be considered, before a decision could be reached. Village resident Traci Stewart stated that the board would be giving up experience for non experience. She couldn't speak for the BC Sheriff, but the State Troopers had inexperienced officers. She felt the board should seriously look at the end result giving up protection for money, there must be another solution. Mayor Moore stated that is not what they were saying. Jay Vandermark stated that solutions can be sorted out. Judge Paul Lantz stated we should advertise for police vacancies otherwise how anyone would know we were looking. Resident Neil MacDonald asked if we could give the BC Sheriff a 6 month trial and see what happened. What if it didn't work out,

would we get our police department back? Mayor Moore stated you will always have the State Police. Lisa Smith stated that the level of crime was higher in the Village. Mayor Moore stated that we never have a patrol on after midnight. Jay Vandermark stated that we did. Mayor Moor asked Chief Flavell how often we had patrols after midnight and he responded not often. Jay Vandermark asked what would happen to the police department equipment to which Mayor Moore responded some would be used and some would be sold. Lisa Smith asked that if the board went through with dissolving the court and police department and then decide it was a mistake, then what would happen. Mayor Moore stated that he had spoken with the Mayor of Windsor, who had dissolved their police department years ago, and they do not regret it. Neal MacDonald asked if the County would be using our space and Mayor Moore confirmed they would. He also stated that to bring back the police department after dissolving it would be cost prohibitive. Mr. Moore explained that over the years many of our officers were fresh out of academy and inexperienced. He also stated that the driver for change was we have approximately 732 taxpayers and the majority of them were low income or on fixed incomes and we had to think of them also. Aaron Smith stated that we should dissolve the Village. CT Budine stated that a study had been done and there was not cost savings to the taxpayer, costs would just be transferred over to the town tax bill. Mayor Moore stated that he proposed keeping the court for a year and see how it goes. Judge Lantz stated that we could dissolve the court after this March's election until the 4 year term of the Judge was up. But he said that if it is not working he could resign. Lisa Smith asked what would be the point of having a court with no police department. Judge Lantz stated revenues. Resident John O'Connor asked what happens if you get rid of the police department is there a law that you can't have it back. Beth Westfall stated no, but it would be a budgetary issue. Lisa Smith asked how many tickets were issued in a day. CT Budine stated she did not know but last year the court budget was \$31,826 and ticket revenue after the State received their portion was \$15,728. Ms. Smith stated that it would be pointless to keep the court if we wouldn't receive anything with the BC Sheriff covering us. Neal MacDonald asked that the board wait for all four board members. The CT Budine stated that Mr. Durning was absent due to a death in the family.

MOTION#273/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Rynearson and seconded by Trustee Brown to authorize the Village attorney Beth Westfall to prepare a local law to dissolve the Village Justice Court and schedule a public hearing on November 12, 2018 at 7PM. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#274/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Rynearson and seconded by Trustee Brown to authorize the Village attorney Beth Westfall to prepare a local law to dissolve the Village Police Department and schedule a public hearing on November 12, 2018 at 7PM. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#275/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Rynearson and seconded by Trustee Brown to schedule a public hearing on November 12, 2018 immediately following the first 2 Public Hearings, for a Tax Cap override. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#276/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Rynearson to enter into a 5 year lease for \$1.00/year. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE:

MOTION #277/19-20

A motion was made to allow the Pool Director to purchase 6 new weirs for the pool @\$2500 each, with the left over lifeguard wages, by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Warner. Motion passed.

MOTION #278/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Warner and seconded by Trustee Brown to approve the amended grant administrator's invoice for \$1,037.50. Motion passed

MOTION #279/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Warner to approve the Mayor's signature on change order #2 for G.DeVinVCintis & Sons to allow a time extension for the punch list. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#280/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Warner and seconded by Trustee Rynearson to authorize the Mayor's signature on Abstract #8 of Also Audited Vouchers as follows:

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|---------------|------------------|
| GENERAL FUND: | \$89,378.31 |
| WATER FUND: | \$11,575.72 |
| SEWER FUND: | <u>\$ 772.18</u> |
| | \$101,726.21 |

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION#281/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Rynearson and seconded by Trustee Brown to approve pay application #4 PK Songer in the amount of \$31,587.50 for the WWTP upgrade. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#282/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Rynearson and seconded by Trustee Warner to approve the application for the Halloween parade on the 31st at 1PM. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#283/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Warner and seconded by Trustee Brown to approve the application for the Christmas parade on the November 29th^t from 4-8PM. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#284/19-20

A motion was made by Trustee Rynearson and seconded by Trustee Warner to approve the Mayor's signature on the funding Resolution for Front Street Streetscape project. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION#285/19-20

Motion to adjourn at 7:30 PM was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Durning. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen L. Budine
Clerk Treasurer