

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Clayton on Monday, September 28, 2015 at 6:30 PM in the Municipal Building.

PRESENT:

Norma Zimmer, Mayor
Bruce Beattie, Trustee
Tony Randazzo, Trustee
Debra Rantanen, Trustee
Shauna Sherboneau, Trustee

ABSENT:

None

OTHERS:

Kevin Patenaude, Police Chief
Terry Jones, DPW Superintendent
Jeff Overstrom, W/WW Manager
Geneva Phelps-Miller, Clerk-Treasurer

Community Residents:

See sign-in sheet (on file in Clerk's office)

Pledge of Allegiance/Call to Order:

Mayor Norma Zimmer led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Police Report:

Kevin Patenaude, Police Chief, presented the department activity report. *St. Laurent* will be arriving at 5:00 a.m. tomorrow, and the DPW crew will set up the security fence at 4:00 a.m. Chief Patenaude discussed with the management of the *St. Laurent* coordination of its visit on October 17th during the Punkin' Chunkin' event. They will be here again October 8th. *Navitrans* has a list of dates for next season. Mayor Zimmer says we need to address the cost of having the cruise ships dock at the Regional Dock (i.e., overtime hours, water supply, etc.). Chief Patenaude has some solutions that may work and will present them to the Board.

DPW Report:

DPW Superintendent Terry Jones presented the department activity report. The new replacement backhoe arrived on Friday. The DPW crew worked with the Town to perform in-kind services for Town property where the TIERS building will be located (installed sewer line; dug the road cut, and backfilled with flowable fill). It may require temporary cold patch until they are able to do the final paving. The DPW will tap the water line for that service, which requires a special tapping tool as it is a plastic line. Mayor Zimmer inquired who was awarded the building contract. Supt. Jones stated the Town has site work and is doing the plumbing. Aubertine & Currier has included a small pump station in the design.

Hugunin Street Paving will begin in early October. Residents and businesses will be advised of the dates as they become available. The plan is to complete the work well before October 17th to not interfere with traffic flow during Punkin' Chunkin'.

The Board discussed the recent divers' cleanup and the related costs incurred (overtime for 2 men, 2 trucks for an entire day, lunch for the divers). Trustees Beattie and Randazzo expressed their feeling the cleanup may not be necessary going forward. Trustee Randazzo stated the need to seriously consider cutting taxes in this community or we will lose people, we have a serious duty to correct that problem now. He feels Village taxes are way too high and we need to work smarter and more efficiently.

W/WW Report:

W/WW Manager Overstrom reported receipt of TIERS application for a new water and sewer connection. He will review the application, and contact them regarding submission of additional data before approval of the final connections. The Board discussed waiving the connection fee as part of the Village's "in-kind" services with the Town. A resolution will be prepared for discussion at the next regular meeting.

2015-2016 Budget Transfers: After discussion, Trustee Rantanen presented a **MOTION** to approve transfers from reserves as recommended by W/WW Manager Overstrom at the August 24, 2015 meeting, as follows:

(1) Transfer \$9,750.00 from FR0201.205 to F08320.466 for the Water Plant roof replacement.

(2) Close out the Bar Screen Reserve Fund (GR0201.206 currently \$7,072.61), and transfer the remaining \$427.39 from GR0201.202 (Grit Machine Reserve) to G08130.200.

Trustee Sherboneau seconded; the motion was carried.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Consent Agenda Items:

MOTION by Trustee Rantanen, 2nd by Trustee Randazzo, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Minutes August 11, 2015 Public Information Session – Water System Improvements Project
2. Meeting Minutes September 2, 2015 Special Meeting – Water System Improvements Project
3. Meeting Minutes September 14, 2015 Regular Meeting
4. Meeting Minutes September 24, 2015 Special Meeting – Executive Session
5. Approve Payroll #8 – 08/27/2015-09/09/2015 – \$34,342.76
6. Approve Abstract #8 – \$40,880.17
7. Request for Use of Municipal Building – North Country Family Health (WIC) – March 22, June 28, September 27, and December 27, 2016

Payroll #8	08/27/2015-09/09/2015	34,342.76
Abstract #8	\$40,880.17	
General Fund	Vouchers A16-209 through A16-240	18,530.23
Water Fund	Vouchers F16-060 through F16-067	2,730.14
Sewer Fund	Vouchers G16-083 through G16-095	19,619.80

Clerk-Treasurer Report:

Clerk-Treasurer Miller reported the independent audit was conducted September 21-23, 2015. The \$542,000 BAN for the Municipal Building Window/ME Upgrades and Boiler/Generator Replacement, the Village Square Park Improvements, and the Mary Street Dock Electrical Upgrade Projects was renewed for one (1) year at 1.25%. This is a second renewal, with a reduction in interest of .25%. The Board authorized Mayor Zimmer to acknowledge the value of “in-kind” services to North Country Public Radio for its tower located on the Village’s water tower and execute the requested form.

Committee Reports:

Trustee Randazzo discussed several conversations he had this week in an attempt to clear up some misconceptions by the public about Chamber events. In addition, he is trying to clarify the Downtown Business Association’s mission and purpose. Unfortunately, rather than attendance at Village Board meetings to discuss these issues with the Board, people are discussing rumors and pointing fingers and nothing is getting solved. Trustee Randazzo plans to work with Buffy Golden (O’Brien’s Restaurant) to hold the barbeque portion of the Punkin’ Chunkin’ Event in the restaurant’s parking lot. He is most concerned about street closures in the downtown area, as adequate parking continues to be a concern. Trustee Rantanen stated the Chamber agreed to close just a small portion of the parking spaces near the Opera House. It appears that downtown business owners are the most vocal about the event planning, which is headed by the Chamber. Again, it would help if people would attend meetings to air these concerns before the Board. Each event will have its positives and negatives, and you just can’t make everyone happy all the time.

Trustee Randazzo stated that the Downtown Business Association is becoming a marketing tool and its membership is trying to identify business owners who have issues and work with them to improve its relationship with the Chamber. He feels it is the Village Board’s responsibility to make good, informed and right decisions regarding the events.

Trustee Rantanen reported Rebecca Gouge has been hired to replace Kristy Perry, Library Sr. Clerk/Director effective October 10, 2015 at an hourly rate of \$10.77.

Trustee Sherboneau reported the Chamber is adhering to its by-laws. She was pleased to see Meredith Fiorentino represented the Youth Commission at the recent Joint Town/Village meeting.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Zimmer submitted a donation of \$1,000 from the *Blue Moon* in appreciation of its time at the Regional Dock.

Riverwalk 3 – The easement negotiator met with five of the easement property owners on Friday. Brian Jones accompanied her. Riverwalk 2B - Legislation for abandonment of park lands was signed; the Village attorney will prepare the deed for the land exchange.

Remote Deposit Capture – Mayor Zimmer negotiated a free trial of the service, and believes this will allow for more efficiency in the Clerk's office during heavy collection times. The Board agreed to a trial of the new service.

NYS DOT has requested we form a committee of local people to work with them on the NYS 970L reconstruction project. The Board agreed to ask Teresa Christensen and Lori Durand to serve on the committee. Three more individuals are needed, and should be persons who will be in the area long-term and invested in the project. Trustee Randazzo said he would make some calls to find other volunteers. All Board members were requested to work on this before the next meeting.

Village Square Park Celebration: Senator Patty Ritchie presented a \$50,000 grant towards park improvements. 1st Sgt. Eric Earley, who led the soldier volunteers and worked most diligently during the project attended the event in uniform, representing all the soldiers who helped make the project possible. Senator Ritchie stayed at the hotel and said she really loves Clayton.

Executive Session:

MOTION by Trustee Randazzo, to enter Executive Session at 7:56 p.m. to discuss personnel matter(s) regarding specific individual(s). Trustee Beattie seconded; the motion was carried.

MOTION by Trustee Sherboneau to close Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. Trustee Rantanen seconded; the motion was carried.

Adjournment:

At 8:10 PM **MOTION** made by Trustee Randazzo to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Sherboneau seconded; the motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Geneva Phelps Miller, Clerk-Treasurer