

## Village of Schoharie – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2025

**Presiding: Deputy Mayor Peter Johnson**

**Present:** Trustees Palmer, Medak and DeGroff, Clerk/Treasurer Leslie Price, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Debby Byrne, John Borst, Chris Kenny, Mary Kruger. Christine Corrigan, Ross Guernsey IV, James McFee, Tom Hitter, Diana Bell Jackson, Liz Vedder, Patsy Nicosia from Times Journal and Josh Walther from the Mountain Eagle.

**Excused :** Mayor Colleen Henry

### **Board Meeting**

**Meeting brought to order** by Deputy Mayor Johnson at 6:30PM

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **1. Privilege of the Floor:**

- a. Chris Kenney
  - i. Would like to have a shed built at the Little League Field to house soccer equipment.
- b. Diana Bell Jackson
  - i. Gave an update on Welcome Baskets that Schoharie Promotional gives out. Will send an email to the Village Office to have information approved. Diana also asked that the Office use the new Text.Gov to give residents notice of Public Hearings.
- c. Mary Kruger
  - i. Inquired about the status of the Jeremy May property. Trustee Johnson gave an update, and the case has been moved to the State Supreme Court, they are filing papers with the State this week.
  - ii. Inquired about the property at the corner of Prospect Street and Main Street. Trustee Johnson explained that the land was deeded over to the Village. Promotion has said that they have some ideas for the property. Trustee Johnson explained that any suggestions need to be presented to the Village Board.
  - iii. Feels the trees on the sidewalk on Main Street need some attention. She would like to work with Schoharie Promotional and DPW and will present ideas to the Village Board.
- d. James McFee
  - i. Had questions regarding the Trail project. Asked if the map on the website is the final trail route and if the yellow house on Bridge Street will be part of the Trail project. Trustee Johnson gave an update on the Trail project and stated that putting up a new bridge on Bridge Street has complicated the Trail project. Right now, everything is up in the air because of this project and federal funding. The exact route of the Trail project has not been finalized. James has stated that he is against putting the trail behind his home.

**Public Hearing – Street Light Project**

**Motion** made by Trustee Palmer seconded by Trustee Medak unanimously carried to open the Public Hearing regarding the Street Light Project at 7:00PM.

- Clerk Price gave an update on the project. The Village is buying streetlights from National Grid. Clerk Price has received a letter of Surety. NYPA will supply LED lights.
- The Office is waiting for one more signature page which should come tomorrow.
- There are approximately 110 lights being replaced which will greatly improve illumination and save the Village a significant amount of money.
- The Village will have a closing with National Grid and then a closing with NYPA.

**Motion** made by Trustee Medak seconded by Trustee DeGroff unanimously carried to close the Public Meeting at 7:40PM

**2. Minutes**

- a. January 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes and January 15, 2025, Employee Meeting Minutes were previously distributed to the Board for their review.

**Motion** made by Trustee DeGroff, second by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to approve the January 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Minutes and January 15, 2025, Employee Meeting Minutes.

**3. Bills and Bank Statements review and sign.**

**4. Abstracts and Bank Statements:**

- a. General \$ 13,656.30 (January 15, 2025- February 11, 2025)
- b. Water \$ 49,466.20 (January 15, 2025- February 11, 2025)
- c. Sewer \$ 5,200.37 ((January 15, 2025- February 11, 2025)
- d. Pool \$ 8.60 (January 15, 2025- February 11, 2025)

**Motion** made by Trustee Palmer, seconded by Trustee DeGroff, unanimously carried to approve paying the invoices and the approval of the Abstract Amounts.

**5. Incoming Correspondence:**

- a. The Village Office received David Ornoski letter declining the Codes Enforcement Officer position.

**6. Outgoing Correspondence: N/A**

**7. New Business:**

- a. Mayor and Board needs to appoint two Trustees to audit the 2024 Justice books. Trustee Medak and Trustee Palmer agreed to take on this task. Clerk Price asked them to let her know of the date they want to start working on this as Justice Kennedy does want to be present.

**Motion** made by Trustee Johnson seconded by Trustee DeGroff unanimously carried to approve the appointment of Trustee Medak and Trustee Palmer to audit the 2024 Justice books.

- b. Mayor Henry, Trustee DeGroff and Clerk/Treasurer Price will be attending the Empire State Development Commissioner Hope Knight for a special event on Wednesday, February 12, 2025.
- c. There have been more than normal number of sidewalks that are not shoveled this season. DPW is taking pictures of the sidewalks they are shoveling.

**8. Old Business:**

- a. Multi-use Trail and Bridge Street bridge expansion – Mayor Henry has update and will share at the Employee Meeting.
- b. Mike Harrington requested a Motion to approve Peter Luizzi & Bros Contracting, Inc. retainage for the 2024 street paving (Hilgert Parkway, Walnut and Brookside Place) in the amount of \$7,492.50.

**Motion** made by Trustee Johnson seconded by Trustee Palmer unanimously carried to approve paying Peter Luizzi & Bros Contracting Inc. \$7,492.50 for retainage of the 2024 street paving project.

- c. The Town and Village Comprehensive Plan meeting will be held on March 12, 2025, at 7:00PM at the Town and Village Hall, 300 Main Street, Schoharie. The Public Hearing will be on February 25, 2025. Clerk Price will send out a Text.Gov message. A copy of the Comprehensive Plan is available in the Village Office as well as being posted on our Website.

**9. Other**

- a. Trustee Johnson discussed the letter received from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation sending a Notice of Complete Application in which Cobleskill Stone is proposing to excavate additional reserves in the northwest corner of the quarry. This modification will include blasting within 100 feet of the new Village water tank. Trustee Johnson sees this as a threat to the Village and has written a letter to DEC stating his concerns. Mayor John Borst also wrote a letter that was distributed to the Board. The Village Board encourages residents to write letters to DEC regarding this action.
- b. Mary Kruger mentioned that she noticed a large hole on Spring Street. Trustee Johnson will have DPW Superintendent Ken Bernhardt take a look at it.

**10. Adjourn**

**Motion** made by Trustee Palmer seconded by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to approve adjourning the Board Meeting at 7:41 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leslie Price  
Village Clerk/Treasurer