

Village of Schoharie – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2024

Presiding: Mayor Henry

Present: Trustees Johnson, Palmer, and DeGroff, Clerk/Treasurer Leslie Price, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Debby Byrne, DPW Superintendent Ken Bernhardt, OIC Jason Temple, Planning Board Chair Tom Hitter, Trish Bergan from SEEC, David Ornoski, Liz Vedder, Diana Bell, Patsy Nicosia From Times Journal and Josh Walther from The Mountain Eagle.

Excused: Trustee Medak, Codes Enforcement Officer and Fire Chief Doug Stinson, and Mike Harrington from Lamont Engineers.

Board Meeting

Meeting brought to order: By Mayor Henry at 6:45PM

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Privilege of the Floor:

- a. Trish Bergan from SEEC gave the Board an update on current projects.
 - i. Trish reviewed the Villages third attempt to go after grant money from DRI and NY Forward.
 - ii. Trish went over the results of the survey. See Attached.
 - iii. Mayor Henry spoke with the Mayor of the City of Oneonta which was a highly informative conversation with someone who has received such grant money.

2. Minutes

- a. September 10th Employee Meeting Minutes and Board Meeting Minutes were previously distributed to the Board for their review.

Motion made by Mayor Henry second by Trustee Johnson approved by majority vote with Trustee DeGroff abstaining, to approve the Minutes from September 10, 2024, and the Board Meeting Minutes from September 10, 2024, as written.

3. Bills and Bank Statements review and sign.

4. Abstracts and Bank Statements:

- a. General \$ 17,719.69 (September 11, 2024 – October 08, 2024)
- b. Water \$ 30,308.95 (September 11, 2024 – October 08, 2024)
- c. Sewer \$ 14,539.04 (September 11, 2024 – October 08, 2024)
- d. Pool \$ 5,130.30 (September 11, 2024 – October 08, 2024)

Motion made by Trustee Johnson, second by Trustee DeGroff unanimously carried to approve paying the invoices and the approval of the Abstract Amounts.

5. Incoming Correspondence:

- a. N/A

6. Outgoing Correspondence:

- a. Mailed out courtesy reminder notice of delinquent tax bills and water/sewer invoices before relevy to the County.

7. Old Business:

- a. Mayor Henry gave an update on Dr. Elbially's PDA on 218 Main Street. The Mayor is in contact with Nan Stolzenburg and Shane Nichols. Nan suggested a SEQR should be done. The Mayor said that Robert Stout of Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP has sent an Environmental Assessment Report which the Board can review however no decisions will be made until Nan tells us we need a SEWR or an E.A. The Board's opinion is that the application is incomplete. Mayor Henry will reach out to Mr. Stout and Nan Stolzenburg.
- b. Mayor Henry and Trustee DeGroff had a Zoom meeting with National Grid and NYPA regarding the LED Street lighting project. A Contract has not yet been sent. Mayor Henry and Clerk/Treasurer Leslie Price will get the final numbers together and check if Arpa money can be applied. This should be paid by the end of the year.
- c. Trustee Johnson gave an update on the old Fire house property. Noone has been able to find a written Agreement between the Town, Village and Fire Department that says if we help the Fire Department pay down their loan, they will transfer this property over to the Village.
- d. HARVA Co. celebrated 75 years in business with a gala held on October 4, 2024. Trustee Johnson attended and said the event was genuinely nice.
- e. A trial date is set for Town of Schoharie vs Cobleskill Stone for October 22, 2024. Trustee Johnson explained that this is a Vested Rights Trial, and the Board needs to make a Motion to approve the engagement letter between the Village of Schoharie and Rupp Pfalzgraf, John Barone partner in regard to the CSP DFEC Administrative Action.

Motion made by Mayor Henry, second by Trustee DeGroff unanimously carried to approve the engagement letter between the Village of Schoharie and Rupp Pfalzgraf, John L. Barone Partner, in regard to the CSP DEC Administrative Action.

8. New Business:

- a. Clerk/Treasurer Leslie Price shared information updating the phone system in the Village Office. This will actually save the Village money and improve the phone system for the Office, Police Department and DPW. The Board agrees with these improvements and Leslie has entered this dollar amount into next year's budget.
- b. Clerk/Treasurer Leslie Price shared information on TEXTMYGOV which was developed to open lines of communication with local governments and the residents they serve. Leslie has entered this dollar amount into the 2025 Budget and has a Zoom meeting planned for later this week. The Board agrees with this improvement and feels it will be extremely helpful in the future.
- c. A meeting will be set up with Town of Schoharie's Supervisor Ben Oevering on collaboration between the Town and Village. This should also include DPW.
- d. Clerk/Treasurer asked for a Motion to submit Utica Mutual Insurance application to NFP for approval for a three-year contract.

Motion made by Mayor Henry, second by Trustee DeGross, unanimously carried to approve the submittal of Utica Mutual Insurance application to NFP for a three-year contract to include Police and DPW.

9. **Other: N/A**

10. **MOTION to Adjourn.**

Motion made by Trustee Palmer, second by Trustee Johnson unanimously carried to adjourn Meeting at 7:36PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie Price
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Approved