



VILLAGE OF SAUGERTIES
43 PARTITION STREET
SAUGERTIES, N.Y. 12477

Village Board Meeting Minutes April 19, 2021

Due to the COVID19 pandemic and the Governor's Executive Order 202 regarding open meetings, this meeting was held via Webex. Connection information was broadcast online for residents to participate.

Present: Mayor Murphy, Deputy Mayor Mayer, Trustees Terry Parisian, Don Hackett, Jeff Helmuth, Brian Martin, Vince Buono, Supervisors: Mike Hopf, Eyal Saad Others: Chief Sinagra, Alex Wade, Paula Kerbert, Bill Kemble, Marcus Arthur, Ed Quirk, Andrew Zink, Steven and Elizabeth Shafer, Mary O'Donnell, Leanne Thornton,

Mayor Murphy opened the Village Board meeting at 5:30pm.

Mayor Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Hearings

Village Tentative 2021-22 Budget

Mayor Murphy opened the Public Hearings for the Village of Saugerties tentative 2021-22 Budget at 5:30pm.

There was no one on the call that had any questions or comments regarding the tentative 2021-22 Budget.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to close the Public Hearing for the Village Tentative 2021-22 Budget.

Mayor Murphy seconded the motion to close the Public Hearing for the Village Tentative 2021-22 Budget.

The motion carried unanimously.

Local Law #1 – Establish CCA program

Mayor Murphy opened the Public Hearings for the Local Law #1 to establish a CCA Program at 5:40pm.

Marcus Arthur, Mynderse St., spoke in support of the Community Choice Aggregation project and had previously shared contacts, for the municipalities that are currently participating in the CCA, with the Board. Mr. Arthur was concerned about the recent article in the Daily Freeman regarding the problems in Texas. He explained that the failure in Texas was due to the wind, gas, and solar systems all having failures not just the renewables. The grid was not connected to a backup system and there was not a contingency plan. The up charges were applied to those people that did not have a rate agreement. The CCA would have been a fixed rate. The opt out issue is also part of the current Central Hudson contracts and is harder to opt out.

The PSC, as an oversight, is concerned about the public and what rates are available to them and CCA gives the option to choose. The CCA helps the residents by having the PSC and the Village as an oversight.

Mayor Murphy appreciated the additional information.

Elizabeth Shafer, Mynderse Str., stated that there is a very strong case for the Village to go ahead with the CCA for its residents.

Leanne Thornton, Washington Ave., stated that as a Village resident she would like to have the option to decide whether she would like to participate. Saving money on electric bills is important for families and businesses. She is on the Town Board and participated in getting the CCA program available to Town residents.

Trustee Helmuth commented that he has read that the PSC has not endorsed the CCA programs.

Mr. Arthur stated that the PSC has overseen the CCA programs since 2016. The CCA has to report back to the PSC after the public outreach. Jeff Domanski would be the person to verify this with.

Mary O'Donnell, Coordinator of Climate Smart Task Force, spoke in favor of the CCA program and its benefits. The most important aspects of the CCA program that is overseen by the PSC and all the Escos get completely vetted. The Local Law is a way to get the information out to the residents and get an idea of the level of interest. There is no commitment other than interest.

Mayor Murphy state that he does not want to take away the option for residents to decide to opt in or out of the CCA program.

Trustee Helmuth stated that he was concerned that his research of Joule is not accredited with the Better Business Bureau. The Joule he researched was based out of Louisiana.

Mary O'Donnell stated that Joule had been vetted by the Town when they were in the process of adopting a CCA program and Joule Community Power is from Westchester NY and their financials were all in order. The PSC would not certify their plan or allow them to be an administrator in NY if there was a problem with the Better Business Bureau.

Mr. Arthur stated that 10 other local communities have been very satisfied with the CCA.

Trustee Buono had made several calls to the participating community leaders. They were all very satisfied with the CCA program, Joule and the PSC oversight. New Paltz, Town of Clinton, and Marletown were all very positive about the program and are renewing their contract again. They agreed that the CCA will lead to better pricing for all.

Mayor Murphy thanked everyone for their comments.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to close the Public Hearing for the Local law #1 – Establish a CCA. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to close the Public Hearing for the Local law #1 – Establish a CCA. The motion carried unanimously.

Privilege of the Floor

There was no one on the call that had any additional questions or comments for the Board.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2021.

Trustee Helmuth made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2021. The motion to approve the minutes from April 5, 2021 was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mayer.

All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for April 19, 2021:

- General \$ 23,414.99
- Water \$ 12,034.62
- Wastewater \$ 7,991.94

Deputy Mayor Mayer made a motion to approve the Abstract for April 19, 2021. The motion to approve the Abstract for April 19, 2021 was seconded Trustee Parisian. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Chief Sinagra addressed the Board regarding a local law he is proposing for the Town and Village. The law would address issues left out of the NYS cannabis law. The new cannabis law mirrors the Alcohol Beverage Control Law 65C. This proposed law would be a provision until the NYS amends the current law. The current law does not have any provision to detain or seize cannabis more than 3 oz. from a person under 21 years of age. The proposed law has been forwarded to the Town attorney for review. The new law would be a violation with no fine or criminal impact. Town Supervisor, Village Mayor and Senator Hinchey have been consulted.

The law would help in keeping the Town and Village from liability and lawsuits when seizing cannabis from someone under 21-year-old.

The Office of Cannabis management has not been formed yet so until it does the maximum fine of \$50 cannot be issued to that office.

Mayor Murphy stated that the proposed law has been forwarded to the Village attorney for review and comment.

Mike Hopf reported for the Water Department. Report attached.

The Prefilter project has been inspected by Ulster County Dept. of Health. We are waiting for the results and for the certificate of completion to be issued.

The Village is continuing to work with Saugerties Farms owners for the Secondary Water Source Project. A meeting will be held next week to consider a new location on the property for the well.

The annual fishing tournament has been finalized for Sunday, May 23rd, 9am -12 at the reservoir.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the use of the Blue Mountain Reservoir for the annual fishing tournament on May 23, 2021 from 9am – 12. Deputy Mayor seconded the motion to approve the use of the Blue Mountain Reservoir for the annual fishing tournament on May 23, 2021 from 9am – 12. The motion carried unanimously.

Eyal Saad – Reported for the Building Department. Report attached.

We are waiting for a response from the Village attorney for the best option to proceed for the derelict property.

The Safety meetings will be held in the Donlon to allow for social distancing..

The proposal for the replacement of the heating system in the bay area in the fire house has been accepted and scheduled for June.

Alex Wade – Reported for Special Projects. Report attached.

Emphasized that all generators should be prepared and ready for possible black outs when the Indian Point Power Plant shuts down at the end of the month.

Deputy Mayor Mayer will have report for the next meeting.

Trustee Hackett – reported for the Wastewater Dept.

The Wastewater plant was inspected to see what upgrades are needed. A meeting with Mayor Murphy, Mike Marino, Alex Wade, Trustee Buono and Paula Kerbert to review the financials for the upgrades is scheduled for Tuesday.

There are concerns regarding the contractor for the RBC and medium. There has been no response and we may have to investigate a different distributor.

Mary Leahy has resigned as the chairwoman of the Planning Board as of March.

Ulster County Community Action will be distributing free farm fresh produce at the Senior Center on Market Street beginning April 23rd 10am – 2pm.

Trustee Martin reported that the Fire Department had the annual election of officers.

Chief	Chris Wade
1 st Assistant Chief	Scott Campbell
2 nd Assistant Chief	Chris Mason

Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the Fire Department Election results. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve the Fire Department Election results. The motion carried unanimously.

A meeting for planning the Fourth of July parade will be held Wednesday night. Ulster County COVID guidelines will be followed to allow for the parade to be held.

Resolution #8- Fire Truck Purchase - See attached.

Trustee Martin presented and read Resolution #8.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve Resolution #8- Fire Truck Purchase seconded by Trustee Hackett. A roll call of the Trustees was yes to all present. Motion carried.

Resolution #9- Notice of Estoppel for Fire Truck Purchase - See attached.

Trustee Martin presented Resolution #9.

Paula Kerbert explained that the Village is being offered an \$11,000 discount from Garrison if the funds are received by May 20th. The estoppel needs to be published now to meet the May 20th date.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve Resolution #9- Notice of Estoppel for Fire Truck Purchase seconded by Trustee Martin. A roll call of the Trustees was yes to all present. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Mayer reported that the Chamber of Commerce is requesting permission for the planned Summer Concert Series to be held at Tina Chorvas Park again this summer. The concerts are scheduled for Friday evenings in June and July.

Deputy Mayor Mayer made a motion to approve the Chamber of Commerce Summer Concert series beginning held at Tina Chorvas Park in June and July. Mayor Murphy seconded the motion to approve the Chamber of Commerce Summer Concert series beginning held at Tina Chorvas Park in June and July. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy thanked everyone for their hard work with preparing the proposed 2021-22 Budget.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the Village 2021-22 Budget. Trustee Helmuth seconded the motion to approve the Village 2021-22 Budget. A roll call of the Trustees was yes to all present. Motion carried.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve Local Law #1 for the Community Choice Aggregation Program. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve Local Law #1 for the Community Choice Aggregation Program. A roll call of the Trustees was yes to all present. Motion carried.

Mayor Murphy read through the list of appointments for 201-22 and the Holiday schedule. See attached.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the Holiday schedule and the list of appointments for 2021-22. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve the Holiday schedule and the list of appointments for 2021-22. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Helmuth made a motion to adjourn the April 19, 2021 Village Board Meeting seconded by Mayor Murphy. The motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

The next Village Board meeting is Monday May 3, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Webex.

<https://villageofsaugerties.my.webex.com/join/bmurphy>

Lisa Mayone

Village Clerk April 23, 2021