



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 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 Supervisors: Mike Hopf, Eyal Saad Others: Alex Wade, Paula Kerbert, Bill Kemble, Marcus Arthur, William Barr, Pamela Ross, Justine Tomkiell, 2 unidentified callers

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

Mayor Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor

Marcus Arthur, Mynderse St., spoke in support of the Community Choice Aggregation project. Mr. Arthur spoke about other options and enesco's that are available to residents. The CCA was a model developed by the state to be a partnership between the municipality and the administrator. It is only an available option when the municipality joins with an administrator of the CCA. The towns that are currently signed with Joule are very happy, Marbletown, New Paltz, Clinton and Philipstown. **Mayor Murphy** requested that Mr. Arthur share the references or contacts for the municipalities that are currently participating in the CCA. Thank you to Mr. Arthur for taking the lead and being so enthusiastic about this project.

William Barr and **Pamela Ross** also strongly support the CCA concept as good for the environment and lowering energy bills and believe that they have a good track record and are reputable. Mr. Barr had experienced door to door salesmen trying to sell solar systems that are spreading misleading information.

Justine Tomkiell, Finger St., is strongly in support of the CCA. Ms. Tomkiell appreciates the green energy and the ability to reduce her families carbon footprint. The cost savings may allow her to save on her Central Hudson bill and not require the HEAP assistance.

Mayor Murphy stated that there will be some savings with the CCA program. The Board passed a motion at the last meeting to move forward with the program. We are still reviewing the program and the next step is to pass a local law for enabling legislation and a Public Hearing. The administrator will then be able to spread the information to the residents and set up Public Hearings for residents to get all the information they need.

Deputy Mayor Jeannine Mayer is glad that we are getting closer to approve this project.

Mayor Murphy thanked everyone for their comments.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2021.

Deputy Mayor Mayer made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2021. The motion to approve the minutes from March 1, 2021 was seconded by Trustee Helmuth. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy presented the Abstract for March 15, 2021:

- General \$ 24,607.68
- Water \$ 17,983.72
- Wastewater \$ 13,565.67

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for March 15, 2021. The motion to approve the Abstract for March 15, 2021 was seconded Deputy Mayor Mayer. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Reports

Mike Hopf reported for the Water Department. Report attached.

The Prefilter project training has been completed. A filter performance test is scheduled.

The Village is continuing to work with Saugerties Farms owners for the Secondary Water Source Project.

A new location on the property for the well is being explored.

There was a water main break on Hill Street. It took several hours to dig, repair, and complete. The traffic was detoured and worked out well. Thank you to all departments for their assistance.

The new billing software is scheduled to go live on March 18th.

The vehicle bid for a 2021 Ram 3500 was opened and awarded to Sawyer Motors. Option three of the three versions was the one selected.

Trustee Parisian questioned if the CRZ project money would cover the drilling of the second well. Mike Hopf stated that the CRZ project funding is still available and useful until the project is complete. **Mayor Murphy and Mike Hopf** are scheduled for a meeting with the new owners regarding their plans for the property and a site for the well and easement.

Resolution #7- Vehicle Purchase - See attached.

Trustee Parisian made a motion to approve Resolution #7- Vehicle Purchase seconded by Trustee Buono. A roll call of the Trustees was yes to all present. Motion carried.

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

The Village court will be opening next week so that all Building Department's pending cases will move forward.

Mayor Murphy questioned the status of the burnt -out house on Post Street. **Eyal Saad** stated that the new owners are going to rebuild but have run into a few issues due to COVID.

Alex Wade – Reported for Special Projects. Report attached.

The Comprehensive Plan revisions are done. The bump out confusion was due to the power pole and not the ADA compliance. The large bump out on Washington Avenue was needed to accommodate the power pole.

Trustee Parisian reported for the DPW. See attached.

The dumpster rental agreement has been revised and the rates have changed from \$205 to \$250 per 4day rental up to 2 tons in the Village. There are additional fees for specific items based on the charges from UCRRA to be paid by the applicant.

Deputy Mayor Mayer made a motion to approve the change of the dumpster rental fee from \$205 to \$250. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to approve the change of the dumpster rental fee from \$205 to \$250. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Hackett- reported for the Wastewater Dept. See report.

Another letter has been sent to the manufacturer regarding the RBC and medium. Benson Steel will be repairing cross beams for the thickener. A meeting with Dennis Larios addressed upgrades to the sewer plant.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Hackett – Ulster County Community Action will be distributing free farm fresh produce to families who may be in need. They will be located at the Senior Center on Market Street beginning April 23rd through October. 10am – 1pm.

We are keeping an eye on the creek to see when the invasive species starts to grow in order remove it while it is young with the Harvester. **Mayor Murphy** stated the John Mullins will need a weeks' notice get the Harvester ready.

Trustee Martin – Reported for the Fire Department. See attached.

There is No Open Burning ban March 16 – May 14. Please no open burning! The Fire Department has already had to respond to 2 fires due to open burning.

Trustee Helmuth – Nothing new to report.

Deputy Mayor Mayer

- The Village and Town will be sponsoring Erica Krum as the Chamber of Commerce butterfly street art artist. There are 35 artists this year. The restaurant gift cards and take out project has gone very well.
- The Arm of the Sea Theatre has received a grant from the Malcolm Gordon Charitable Fund for educational projects.
- Good luck to all on the election.
- The Comprehensive Plan Committee was revised to include the bump out changes. A revised plan was forward to all Trustees. Once approved by the Town, a final version will be emailed and printed.

Trustee Buono made a motion to approve the Village and Town Comprehensive Plan for 2021. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to approve the Village and Town Comprehensive Plan for 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy stated that local restaurants were notified of COVID vaccinations being available to staff. Eighteen restaurants responded. The 100 appointments were filled up within 2 hours. If there is another pop up for vaccine shots, the restaurants that did not get in this time, will be notified first.

Dr. Neal Smoller will administer seventeen vaccinees this Wednesday for 60 years old and over at the High School. Lower age brackets will possibly be opening in April.

There are maybe other site possibilities once the school is no longer available.

Ulster County will be utilizing the empty Best Buy building.

Mayor Murphy stated that the proposed budget has been distributed to all the Trustees to review. Any questions may be directed to Paula, Trustee Buono or the Mayor.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to set a public hearing for the 2021-22 Village Budget. The motion to set a public hearing for the 2021-22 Village Budget was seconded by Trustee Hackett. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono stated that the a portion of the stimulus money from Delgado's office was estimated at \$25,000 and is included in the budget.

Mayor Murphy stated that the COVID relief monies must be used for physical assets or replenishment not to balance a budget. We must be able to prove where the money was used. Our big item this year is upgrades at the sewer plant. An estimate of the amount of we may receive is approximately \$660,000 at 30% or \$550,000 at 25%. There is a question as to how the Village population versus the Town's is calculated. **Alex Wade** is checking the population figures with the census report.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the March 15, 2021 Village Board Meeting seconded by Trustee Buono. The motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 6:31pm.

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

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

Lisa Mayone

Village Clerk March 19, 2021