



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

## Village Board Meeting Minutes October 4, 2021

**Present:** Mayor Murphy, Trustees Don Hackett, Brian Martin, Vince Buono, Jeff Helmuth, Terry Parisian Others: Paula Kerbert, Andrew Zink, Brian Hubert, Ed Quirk, Mary McNamara

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

**Trustee Martin** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### Privilege of the Floor

**Mary McNamara** spoke to the Trustees regarding the Lower Esopus Creek Watershed Organizing and Municipal Stakeholders Voices including the Lower Esopus Watershed Partnership. Mary currently represents the Town of Saugerties for the Ashokan Release Working Group.

Mary would like to encourage the Village and the Town to reconvene the Aquatic Invasive Species Working Group that had met in 2019. There was action taken by the Town and Village based on the information from the meeting workshops. A scientific approach to accessing things. It was determined that harvesting is a smart way to go, that herbicides and doing nothing would not necessarily help. Mary is encouraging reconvening something that would look at current data based on what has been done to make decisions regarding the creek.

**Mayor Murphy** said the decision to purchase a second harvester is more to do with the size of the creek and the efficiency of the harvesting process. The Town has agreed with the purchase of a second machine to make the work more efficient and timelier. **Mayor Murphy** stated that there is GPS data from the harvester recorded where the harvester has traveled, and the ariel drone pictures show the before and after differences that will be used for further planning. Every path taken and hours spent on the creek have been recorded in the GPS. Approximately, 70 thousand tons were removed from the creek.

A meeting to present the data for review is a possibility before next season.

**Trustee Buono** questioned regarding the chemical usage in the creek. It has been used in smaller ponds, is it harmful in the creek? **Trustee Hackett** is concerned with using chemicals in the creek since it flows into the Hudson River which is used by several communities as a water source. **Mayor Murphy** stated there is no long-term data regarding the use of chemicals by communities like Croton to review.

Mary stated that Ulster County is actively preparing for a Stream Management Plan with an Aquatic Evasive Plant assessment for the 34 miles of the creek and the work done by Saugerties would be additional data to add to the project. **Mayor Murphy** stated that Saugerties is the last mile of the lower creek and is treading water based on the actions taken by communities above Saugerties. The data collected would be brought to whatever meeting is to be arranged.

**Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2021.**

**Trustee Buono made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2021.**

**The motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2021, was seconded by Trustee Martin. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Trustee Buono presented the Abstracts for October 4, 2021**

- General \$ 21,135.54
- Water \$ 7,685.95
- Wastewater \$ 6,537.19

**Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for October 4, 2021. The motion to approve the Abstract for October 4, 2021, was seconded Trustee Helmuth. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

### Treasurer's Report

**Paula Kerbert** reported that the unpaid back taxes are down to \$48,734.68. The monthly late notices have been working to get the payments on back taxes. The unpaid taxes for 2021 are \$31,115.47. All payment agreements have been paid on time and will be paid in full by December. **Mayor Murphy** stated that the payment agreement plan should be kept in place since it has helped residents.

### Trustee Reports

**Trustee Parisian** reported that the DPW has been busy working all over the Village. They have worked with the Tree Commission and volunteers at the Partition and Montross Street Park to remove trees, set boulders, and dig a trench for the arborvitaes.

**Trustee Parisian** asked when NYS DOT will be repairing the stone wall along Church Street. **Mayor Murphy** has been in contact with NYSDOT rep Dave Corrigan who said that it is on the list to be done by winter.

**Trustee Parisian** stated that it looks like the entire wall needs repair along with the section that is falling. **Trustee Parisian** inquired as to the status of the Union Contract. He understood that it had been ratified in September, but has it been signed? **Treasurer Paula Kerbert** stated that she has contacted the Union rep Mike Luftring but has not heard back from him. **Mayor Murphy** will contact Mr. Luftring to have him sign the contract.

**Trustee Helmuth** had nothing new to report.

**Trustee Hackett** reported that Michael Hopf has been doing a great job in managing the wastewater plant. The plant is cleaned up and some process changes have been made to improve the odor control. There is an interview scheduled with a candidate for the Wastewater Supervisor position on Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm.

**Trustee Hackett** reported that he has asked Building Insp. Eyal Saad to review the code for required parking spaces. Eyal will also research the air b and b regulations in other communities. Response is pending from the Village attorney.

**Mayor Murphy made a motion to set a Public Hearing for November 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm to review the new code for off street parking requirements. The motion to set a Public Hearing for November 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm to review the new code for off street parking requirements was seconded by Trustee Martin. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Trustee Buono** questioned the process on the Bond for the Wastewater plant upgrades. **Mayor Murphy** stated that Mike Hopf will meeting with the engineers to go over the plans again and streamline the amount. An update will be available at the next meeting.

**Trustee Martin** reported that the Fire Department Annual Halloween Parade will be Friday October 29<sup>th</sup>. Participants should meet in the municipal parking lot behind Mirrabella's at 5:30pm with step off at 6:00pm. The judging will take place outside of the fire house.

The tentative dates for the final inspection on the new ladder truck will be November 1,2 &3. Delivery to Garrison will possibly be December.

Fire Prevention Week started today. Classrooms of children will be visiting the firehouse.

**Trustee Parisian** inquired as to the progress of the apron in front of the firehouse. **Mayor Murphy** replied that the concrete apron may have to wait until spring when DPW repaves Partition Street and then the concrete apron can be done. **Trustee Martin** stated that the grade is fine for the new ladder truck to fit in the garage.

**Trustee Buono** questioned what the status of the condemned house on Post Street.

**Mayor Murphy** stated that Eyal and contracted for an asbestos survey and the building is too dangerous to enter but that the materials tested were positive for asbestos. Eyal is getting prices for the asbestos removal.

**Trustee Buono** thanked all the DPW, the community organizations and volunteers who helped with the Garlic Festival this weekend. There was a good turnout and vendors did well.

**Mayor Murphy** presented the request for sidewalk repair by Christine Johnson at 31 Elm Street. Based on Village Code 182-4, the village will pay half the cost of the lowest three estimates submitted. Three estimates were presented – J and J Tree the Arbor Barber \$1944., Osorio Tree Service \$2703., and Joe Lawless \$2862.

**Mayor Murphy made a motion to select the J and J Tree the Arbor Barber bid at \$1944 for the sidewalk repair at 31 Elm Street. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion to select the J and J Tree the Arbor Barber bid at \$1944 for the sidewalk repair at 31 Elm Street. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Mayor Murphy** made a statement regarding the fireworks application approved at the last meeting. There had been misinformation posted on social media where people complained about the approval. It got out of hand and people were bashing the decision and the people involved without having the correct information. A statement was posted with the correct information.

**Trustee Buono** thanked Deputy Mayor Mayer for her hard work and dedication to the Garlic Festival even after being stung by bees. “She is an asset to the community and this Board”.

**Trustee Hackett** made a motion to adjourn. **Trustee Helmuth** seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:14pm.

The next Village Board meeting is **Monday, October 18, 2021, at 5:30 pm.**

Lisa Mayone Village Clerk

October 5, 2021