



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes February 7, 2022

Present: Mayor Murphy, Deputy Mayor Mayer, Trustees Brian Martin, Don Hackett, Vince Buono, Terry Parisian Others: Ed Quirk, Dave Gordon – Hudson Valley 1, Anne Meiswinkel

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

Trustee Parisian led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor

Anne Meiswinkel spoke to the Board regarding the businesses and residents that don't shovel the sidewalks. Many are icy and hazardous. Even before this recent ice storm there are many properties where the sidewalks were not cleared.

Mayor Murphy stated this is a tremendous ice storm and sidewalk violation letters will not be issued this time. We will try to assist wherever we can. Mayor Murphy said to call the office, when it is a regular storm, and the walks are not shoveled. The Building Dept. will notify the property owner.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2022.

Trustee Buono made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2022. The motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2022, was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mayer. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstracts for February 7, 2022.

- General \$ 44,554.73
- Water \$ 15,692.25
- Wastewater \$ 22,096.33

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for February 7, 2022. The motion to approve the Abstract for February 7, 2022, was seconded Trustee Martin. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – see attached report.

Paula Kerbert reported that taxes dating back to 2013, in the amount of \$34,000, were paid by Ulster County on a property foreclosure. The tax installment plan has been a big help to recover the back taxes. The residents really appreciate it. The department budgets will be presented to the Mayor by Friday and then appointments will be made with Supervisors to review and finalize by March 3rd. The tentative 2022 -23 budget will be presented to the Village Clerk by March 4th.

Trustee Parisian reported that DPW has two sander trucks that are out for transmission repairs. One is at Sawyer Motors and the other is at the DPW garage until they get fixed.

The DPW crew is helping pick up tree limbs and branches that have fallen during the ice storm. Residents are asked to bring the branches to the curb, if possible and DPW will be coming through to pick them up. DPW will not be going into back yards.

The DPW garage does not have a backup generator. Their power was out on Friday and Saturday. They had to manually open the garage doors and there was no heat or lights. Trustee Parisian stated that the ARPA money is available for the purchase of a generator for the DPW garage. The purchase would qualify as public safety according to ARPA.

Trustee Parisian made a motion to get pricing for a generator for the DPW garage to purchase through the ARPA program. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to get for a generator for the DPW garage to purchase through the ARPA program. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Hackett reported for the Building Dept.

The Building Dept. budget is being worked on.

Ulster County has declared a state of emergency due to the ice storm. No sidewalk shoveling violations will be issued at this time.

Trustee Hackett stated that Joseph Myers has been hired as a part time wastewater consultant as of February 1st.

Joe Myers is a consultant with North Dome Operations in Catskill. He has a 1year contract and will be working 20 hours per week at \$75 per hour. A 30-day notice to break the 1year contract is required, if needed.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the hiring of Joseph Myers as a parttime consultant for the wastewater plant on a 1-year contract. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion to approve the hiring of Joseph Myers as a parttime consultant for the wastewater plant on a 1-year contract. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Hackett reported that two lift stations, Sawyerkill Terrace and Latham Circle, were out of power and had to be vactored out. A mobile generator is needed for these lift stations.

Trustee Martin reported that the Fire Dept. responded to 46 calls for assistance during the severe ice storm.

Four more calls were received today as well as a house fire at 31 Bennett Avenue. Smoke detectors alerted the family, and the fire was contained with minor damage.

Rosemarie Brackett, Chair of the Tree Commission is working with Mike Karashay regarding a NYS grant to purchase land for a tree farm. Spring planting at the Montross Park is being planned. **Trustee Hackett** questioned the water hook up for the park. The water hook up will have to be able to be locked.

Trustee Parisian questioned the availability of bluestone for the Montross Park. **Clerk Mayone** stated that the Tree Commission had asked if there was bluestone available to use for the park and was told that the pallets of bluestone at DPW was set aside for sidewalk repair/replacement projects planned for the spring. Rosemarie Brackett was told to contact Rich Forbes regarding pieces of bluestone that are available to use for the park.

Trustee Buono had nothing new to report.

Deputy Mayor Mayer reported:

- The Arts Commission Chair, Isabelle Soffer, was the guest speaker at the Saugerties Chamber of Commerce meeting.
Sponsorships for "Rocky", the owl street art, are due. The amount for each Trustees will be determined by the number of participants from the Town and Village. The Trustees will be advised of the amount.
Representatives from Winston Farm spoke regarding the 800-acre farm. They plan to leave 50% as green space and develop the rest. They want input from the community. There are Zoning issues that need to be addressed before moving forward.
- The Arts Commission will be holding a meet and greet at the Orpheum theatre regarding fundraising on February 15th.
- There have only been 3 responses to the 24 Holiday Building lights letter sent to Village businesses on Main Street. One negative and two positives. The project will not move forward since there is not much interest. The property owners are welcome to put up their own lights if they chose to.

Special Projects – see attached report.

Resolution #4 - Reservoir Dredging Bid Award was presented by Mayor Murphy. See attached.

The bids for the Reservoir Dredging project had been opened on January 20th with four bids being received. The project is being awarded to the lowest bidder – Metropolitan Environmental Services, Hilliard Ohio with a bid of \$520,202.00.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve Resolution #4 – Reservoir Dredging Bid Award seconded by Trustee Martin. A roll call of the Mayor and Trustees was 6 yes and 1 absent. Motion carried.

The dredging project will be paid through a bond. **Treasurer Kerbert** is contacting the Attorney regarding the terms of the bond. The rates are currently at a low percentage.

Jeff Domanski, executive director of the nonprofit partner in the CCA, called into the meeting to discuss the Community Choice Aggregation program. Ten communities in the Hudson Valley including the Town of Saugerties are participating in the CCA.

The Village selected Joule Community Power as the administrator. The timeline goal is to have the CCA program in place by November 2022.

The next step in the program is to have a kickoff meeting to start the minimum 60day of awareness building, education, and outreach. The RFP would be ready for May or June and the letter to the community would go out in late summer. The kickoff meeting is a leadership meeting to make sure you know what the schedule is for the launch period.

Joule would be the resource to the community regarding questions about the program. They will address questions regarding billing and how the program works.

The education and outreach will include explaining the billing, supply, and delivery and how it compares to solar and CCA options.

The kickoff internal leadership meeting date is confirmed for February 22 a 6:30pm. The meeting should include a member of the community.

Mayor Murphy suggested to reach out to Mike Campbell and Skip Arthur to participate in the leadership meeting with himself and Deputy Mayor Mayer.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Buono seconded the motion to adjourn. The Board meeting adjourned at 6:12pm.

The next Village Board meeting is **Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 5:30 pm.**

Lisa Mayone
Village Clerk

February 10, 2022