

Village of Homer Board of Trustees Meeting
March 10th, 2020
6:03 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Village of Homer Board of Trustees was held at Town Hall, 31 North Main St., Homer, New York with Mayor McCabe presiding.

Members present:

Mayor, Hal McCabe
Trustee, Patrick Clune
Trustee, Edward Finkbeiner
Trustee, Tim Daley

Trustee, Kevin Slack - Absent

Also, present were: Village Clerk Dan Egnor; Town of Homer Supervisor Fred Forbes; Homer Police Chief Robert Pittman; Homer Fire Chief Mahlon Irish Jr.; Newton Waterworks Superintendent Buzz Barber; Village Attorney Dante Armideo; Homer News Reporter Don Ferris.

Mayor McCabe called the meeting to order.

Village Organizational Book presented to the Board and on **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner, the Board approved, **all ayes**, with the following concern:

Chief Irish states Planning Board may not have a full complement of five members

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board approved the Village of Homer Board of Trustees Minutes of February 11th & February 27th, 2020 as written, with the notation that voucher numbers are the same within both minutes and needs corrected – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner to pay the following bills for February 2020 – **all ayes**.

- **F & G Funds – Vouchers 331-337 \$3,027.26**
- **A Fund – Vouchers 1023-1049 \$12,379.54**

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

ANIMAL CONTROL – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe reads the report. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Clune - **all ayes**.

CODES – Report was received as submitted. Mayor reads the report, Trustee Clune offers that the Code Officer has been busy as usual. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Clune - **all ayes**.

DPW- Report was received as submitted. Mayor reads the report, Trustee Finkbeiner would like to know the status on sidewalks and the DPW haven't seen any work yet, Mayor McCabe did get a smaller grant last year. We've been waiting to see if we can secure TAP monies as well. Trustee Finkbeiner believes some just need a lip fixed, using the gel to straighten. Mayor McCabe offers to put it on the Work Session agenda, and we need to pick an area for the Community Board, and it needs protection. Trustee Finkbeiner states that sliders helped the Community Garden sign. Trustee Clune interjects that the new bus shelter needs to be integrated

with the Community Board, with Spring around the corner. Also, need to inventory on surplus equipment across all Departments. Amnesty Day will be the day before Mother's Day, May 9, 2020 and the Compost site will be closed the following day. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Clune - **all ayes**.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - Report was received as submitted. Chief Irish chortled missed you on the radio yesterday that was a Happening in Homer segment? Mayor McCabe no, but added that Chief Irish should be roped for the HFD in more Happenings in Homer spots, Chief Irish talked with Robert Bush's widow, his name will be added to the National Fallen Fire Fighters Registry. We need to look at payment, who goes, more details to follow, still waiting on NYS Fallen Fire Fighters decision, and Workman's Compensation paperwork needs to be processed. Would like to say on behalf HFD, the new truck will be delivered this Saturday and we are not in any debt for the truck. Hopefully we can keep doing that. Trustee Clune asks how's selling of the old one, Chief Irish mentions only one bite so far, should we reduce the price? Another thing is we need to make room for the new one, the truck is a '94, 26 years old, been working fine, well maintained. Mayor McCabe wants to coordinate a visit with State Senator Seward, for appreciation of the DASNY grant. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Daley – **all ayes**.

Items from New Business voted during report:

Approve final invoice payment for the fire truck once inspection is completed. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Daley – **all ayes**.

Approve Fire Chief Irish Jr. for Cortland County Emergency Response and Communications Specialty Teams Compliance. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Daley – **all ayes**.

POLICE – Report was received as submitted. Trustee Clune read the report. Trustee Finkbeiner is sorry to see Matt Compton is leaving, Trustee Clune wish god speed and good luck, Chief Pitman states it is a big loss. Trustee Clune announces that Chief Pitman is the new County Traffic Safety Chief, Congrats. Mayor McCabe asks did you get the training issue sorted; Chief Pitman informs it will be at the Living History Museum. There have been a couple meetings with Cortland County regarding Covid-19. It can be more serious with those with underlying medical conditions and meetings have been going over the basics of what to do. We should put help on the Village website. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Finkbeiner – **all ayes**.

RECREATION – Report was received as submitted. Recreation Director Pollak mentions soccer registration doing well, need meeting with Little League. Trustee Finkbeiner offers that we need a Recreation Committee meeting too. Trustee Daley would like to give thanks for getting basketball courts open and the new playground equipment is being used heavily. It was a good thing to do at Newton. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Clune– **all ayes**.

WATER & SEWER – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe asks do we have all the meters now, Superintendent Barber states they came in Friday, good to go. Trustee Finkbeiner would like to see a comprehensive plan on all pipes and sewers. A plan needs to put money aside, grants or both, need to prepare; Mayor McCabe concurs. Superintendent Barber went to lobby for CHIPS money in Albany. Mayor McCabe agrees the squeaky wheel gets the grease in Albany, Trustee Daley asks any cold weather breaks, Superintendent Barber replies not this season. **Motion** to accept by Trustee Clune - **all ayes**.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Supervisor Forbes reports the blinds in the Boardroom are already bad. No tint on the windows, upper blinds are warped from the heat. They have been replaced, but still an problem. He has bought a clock for the boardroom. Also, trying to get a Bridge Committee started again. There was a fall going up the stage area to the Assessor's office. It was recommended closing those stairs to public traffic. It was turned over to our insurance. The Assessor will clean out files from the stage storage room to give space to the Village.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board approved an Addendum to Crawford and Stern's LWCCC Contract for kitchen renovation – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Daley, the Board approved a Civil Service Exam costs to be considered training activities and paid for eligible employees by the Village for Village jobs only – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner, a new Board Quarterly Payroll Policy/Schedule – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board approved an Employee Equipment Use Policy– **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner, the Board approved Mike Ellis as seasonal Cemetery Laborer at \$14.17 per hour beginning March 30, 2020– **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board approved Glendale Cemetery Opening as of March 30, 2020– **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Daley, the Board approved removing Village Property from Water Tank Billing – **all ayes**

Attorney:

On the notion of combining Planning and ZBA, Board member Don Ferris recommends they be kept separate.

Comments from Board Members:

Trustee Finkbeiner would like to offer a speedy recovery for Trustee Slack's wife.

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board entered into Executive Session at 6:58pm – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board reconvened at 7:53pm – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board authorized that Planning and ZBA Board members be considered Village employees – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board authorized Joan Fitch as an Independent Contractor for both Planning and ZBA meeting – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, the Board approve the creation of and the listing in the Village Organizational Book, an Economic Development Committee with the Mayor as its lead – **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Daley, the Board approved, with a not to exceed of \$2,000.00, initiating a Mapping service for the DRI and LWRP– **all ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Daley, the Board adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:55pm– **all ayes**.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Egnor, Village Clerk
Darren “Hal” McCabe, Mayor