

Village of Homer Board of Trustees Meeting
April 13, 2021
6:01 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Village of Homer Board of Trustees was held remotely via zoom with Mayor McCabe presiding.

Members present:

Mayor, Hal McCabe
Trustee, Patrick Clune
Trustee, Edward Finkbeiner
Trustee, Kevin Slack

Also, present were: Village Treasurer Tanya Digennaro; Village Clerk Dan Egnor; Homer Fire Chief Mahlon Irish, Homer Police Chief Pitman, Town of Homer Superintendent Fred Forbes, Water/Sewer Superintendent Buzz Barber, DPW Phil Stockton, Recreation Director Zack Pollak, Attorney Dante Armideo, Homer News Reporter Don Ferris and Vince Bellardini.

Mayor McCabe called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Trustee Finkbeiner made a motion to approve minutes of March 9 and 23, 2021 Motion was Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune, to accept the Treasurer's report. – **all ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack, to pay the following bills for March 2021 – **all ayes.**

- **F & G Funds – Vouchers 17-40 \$16,736.97**
- **A Fund – Vouchers 35-89 \$48,964.54**

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY: Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Trustee Clune noted that mowing will start soon. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Slack, Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes.**

CODES – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Mayor McCabe noted that Kevin has been busy. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes.**

ANIMAL CONTROL: Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Trustee Clune noted that he does not like the new style of this report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes.**

DPW- Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Trustee Finkbeiner noted that sidewalks need to be repaired. Asked Phil to get a quote from a company that would fix the unevenness. Phil thought tree roots were the problem. Trustee Finkbeiner noted there should be a coordination with Buzz Barber to have a plan on how to use Federal Government money when handed out. Trustee Clune noted that the paving list is out too. Mayor McCabe noted where it could be used. The bid for the new water tank came in at \$500,000.00 but funding would go through CFA. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT– Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Trustee Finkbeiner noted that the “old” Chief was in attendance. Mayor McCabe and all the Trustees recognized the all the work Chief Irish has done for Homer Fire Department. Malhon asked Buzz Barber about the broken hydrant markers and fixing them. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes.**

FIRE INSPECTOR REPORT– Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Chief Irish noted that the Annual Fire Reports are posted. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes.**

POLICE – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Trustee Finkbeiner noted what is the police department is doing to for training in taser use. Chief Pitman noted that the officers are trained and will use de-escalation techniques. Chief Pitman noted dates of the Drug Take Back Day is April 24 at the Town Hall, 2nd Covid shot clinic at the High School and April is Child Abuse awareness. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes.**

RECREATION – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Zack has replaced old equipment. Softball will be starting soon. There are 3 concerts booked. There is a total refund of \$140.00 for non-use of parks. Mayor McCabe noted to have Zack reach out to Tim Daley about opening the basketball courts. **Motion** to accept the refunds submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner- **all ayes.**

WATER BILLING – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Trustee Finkbeiner noted that there should be long term plans and cost of revitalizing the aging water system. Mayor McCabe noted that Buzz helped Cortland County with storm drains using shared services. More conversation about the water tanks and finding funding for the new tank and where to place it. A letter of recommendation from Cortland and Cortlandville would help because they list Homer as a backup to them. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Fred Forbes from the Town of Homer noted that there is still a search for 2 Clerks. Stimulus money allocations for the Town and the Village was discussed. The rules are posted, and it is a wait and see if and when the money comes in.

OLD BUSINESS:

None Noted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor McCabe presented the proposal for Budget Adjustments. **Motion** to approve the proposed Budget Adjustments by Trustee Finkbeiner, Second by Trustee Slack **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to continue the Community Garden program requirements for 2021. **Motion** to approve proposed Community Garden Program requirements for 2021 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to continue the Community Garden Program Lease for 2021. **Motion** to approve the proposed Community Garden Program Lease for 2021 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to credit and refund Mike Myers water bill at 112 North Main St. Village Treasurer DiGennaro detailed the reasoning for the refund and credit. **Motion** to approve the proposed credit of \$180.00 and a refund \$360.00 to Mike Myers by Trustee Fink, Seconded by Trustee Cline **-1 abstained 3 ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to Recreation Specialist for softball umpires at the rate of \$30 a game for 2 umpires and \$45 a game for 1. Umpires are Cecelia Rappleyea, Bailey Webster, Riley Johnson, Morgan Fickett and Rob Felt. **Motion** to approve the proposal Umpires by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to approve the purchase of a car for Police Chief Pitman. **Motion** to approve purchase of a car for Police Chief Pitman by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack **-all ayes.**

Attorney:

None Noted.

Comments from Board Members:

Trustee Clune noted that the Rt. 11 project bids have been posted in the Cortland Standard for 3 days.

Mayor McCabe discussed the cost to do core samples should be covered by NYSEG or Albany International. DEC wants the work done before the dam is removed. The bus

shelter will be located at the old Village offices, met with County Landmark Society to fast track the use funding before it is lost.

Trustee Clune and Village Historian met with Finger Lakes National Heritage Area, the County is looking into this. This would open the Village for grant funding and increase tourism. There will be more at a later date.

Trustee Slack asked why traffic can't turn right on red at the end of James St and Rt 11. Mayor McCabe will present the question to Police Chief Pitman. Rt 281 ariel view will be completed. Maybe a flower box at the corner of Rt 41 and Clinton St. would be nice and ask if DPW could help in any way. Mayor McCabe asked if NYSEG rebate money could help pay for this. Village Treasure will follow up on the money. Water billing issues are being worked on. Once the meters are changed problems should be resolved.

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Finkbeiner and Seconded by Trustee Clune at 7:08 PM-**All ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Tanya DiGennaro, Village Treasurer