

Village of Homer Board of Trustees Meeting
July 14, 2021
5:07 p.m.

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

Members present:

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

Also, present were: Village Treasurer Tanya Digennaro, Chief of Police Pitman, Homer News Reporter Don Ferris of the Homer News, Kevin Smith and George Murphy-Wilkins of Cortland Voice, Kevin Conlon Cortland Standard, Tim Bennett, John, and Maxine Seamans.

Mayor McCabe called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

Two Public Hearings

1. Mayor McCabe read Community Block Application proposal. Strike the “on the Homer Village Greens” **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes.**
2. Mayor McCabe read proposal to purchase more water meters from the reserves, not to exceed \$35,00.00. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner- **all ayes.**

Trustee Clune made a motion to approve minutes of June 22, with the correction 2nd page regarding the sale of fire truck wording. The wording should be “the Village will accept the \$30,000 only if offered”. Motion was Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner- **all ayes.**

Treasurer’s report: Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes.**

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

➤ **F & G Funds – Vouchers #104-127 \$6,694.01**
➤ **A Fund – Vouchers #286-350 \$146,958.66**

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY: Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Trustee Slack remarked on Jim's retirement and how he is a great mentor to his son. Trustee **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes**.

CODES/FIRE INSPECTOR REPORT – Report was received as submitted. Trustee Finkbeiner asked if the people taking advantage of garbage bins in the Village will get tickets. There will be a discussion at a later time. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner- **all ayes**.

ANIMAL CONTROL: Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes**.

DPW- Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Had to deal with some problems with the trees in the Green this week. The Village needs to stop mulching around the base of the trees to keep them healthy. Need to look at getting solar up-lights for the Village signs at about \$35.00. Met with DDS - 4 items were discussed, 3 will be resolved, the 4th will need a follow up. **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. Fire truck buyers will be in town to look at the truck for sale. Presently there are 61 firefighters with 15 of them interior certified. Chicken BBQ is 7/17. **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. Chief Pitman attended the first of 3 informational session, the next meetings are July 22nd and 30th. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner- **all ayes**.

RECREATION – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. Steve Williams at High Key Science is running with success. Missing one pole for the basketball court, working on getting this corrected. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune - **all ayes**.

WATER BILLING – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. When meters are done the Village will be able to monitor water use and prevent problems before it is costly to both the Village and residents. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack- **all ayes**.

NEW BUSINESS:

Maxine and John Seamans read the code for residents who want to have chickens in the Village. They would also like to know who will take complaints when the code is not followed. Kevin McMahon (CEO) has been working with the residents that own the chickens to get them back into compliance. Mayor McCabe noted that fines can be assessed if needed.

High Key Science 1 year lease in the Rec Building is based on 10 hours a week of labor. Important documents have been moved. **Motion** to approve High Key lease by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Slack-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve Steve Morgan and Quentin Giles as temporary Firearms trainers at \$30 per hour by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune-**all ayes**.

NYS Parks grant application is for \$100,000 if we want to apply for. Thoma thinks it will affect the money the Village is getting for the Little White Church.

Two quotes have come in for the HVAC in the Rec Building. Ron Van Dee's bid is the lowest at \$10,200 for the heating \$8,675 for A/C. **Motion** to approve the bid by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Daley-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve hiring B&L to write an engineering report for the water tank application, not to exceed \$15,000 by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve budget reserve transfer of \$134,000 for the fire truck by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Clune-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve budget adjustments by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve to sell on Auction Internationals a second police car, Snap-on SCNA tool, 7 light bars and 2 Ammco brake rotor lathe by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Daley-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve granting girl/boy scouts' rental space for Rt 90 garage sale, at Newton Park by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Clune-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve contract with Cortland County Youth Soccer Association by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner-**all ayes**.

Mayor McCabe noted that money from American Recovery Protection Act is allocated to be spent on specific items. Half will be awarded this year and half next year. The money will be in a savings account that needs to be opened. **Motion** to approve opening a savings account for ARPA funds not to exceed \$316,000 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Daley-**all ayes**.

Motion to approve the contract with Keystone for environmental testing required by DEC, at the dam site as part of the grant. If possible, collect the cost from NYSEG. by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Clune-**all ayes**.

Mayor McCabe asked if mailing the garbage schedule to both owners and renters help solve the problems with trash removal. The truck did break down today which created other problems. Asked if Don Ferris at The Homer News could post it. Steve at High Key should be able to get the information out to residents also. A mailing list needs to be created for tenants as items in water bills only go to landlords.

Attorney:

None Noted.

Comments from Board Members:

Trustee Finkbeiner - everything looks good. DRI grants are still in the works, potential ten million for revitalization of the Village.

Trustee Clune - the bus shelter has been ordered and the base pad needs to be fitted. Fred Forbes is working with the Village to get Conservation signs that need to be replaced at a cost of under \$1,000.00. Added the MRTA taxation act of the opt in and opt out will need future discussion.

Trustee Slack - the Rt 281 Flags are out. Would like to see informational signs at Rt 41 and 281. Asked about Exit 12 flower box and solar up-lights on Village signs. Thanks to the DPW for keeping the flowers in the Village looking great. **Motion** to approve getting more flags by moving money from the farmers market surplus, by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner-**all ayes**.

Mayor McCabe **Motion** to approve waiving the fee for a high-water bill, as there was use when owner was away by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Daley-**all ayes**.

Trustee Daley waiting on the missing pole for the basketball set up. Mayor McCabe commented on the replacement of LED lights at the courts.

Reporters asked about the ways High Key will help in the trash problems - they will help by getting the info out stated Mayor McCabe. The address for the "Rec building" is 53 S. Main St. Trustee Finkbeiner was asked to get more information to getting the DRI grant money.

On **Motion** by Trustee Slack, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner, the Board entered Executive session at 6:08 P.M. **All ayes**.

On **Motion** by Trustee Slack, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner, the Board exited Executive session at 7:14 P.M. **All ayes**.

On **Motion** to approve the slate roof repair on the fire house by Charles Evan for \$5,364.00 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes**.

On **Motion** to approve Phil Stockton a new rate of \$58,500 as of July 1, 2021 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes**.

On **Motion** to accept Jim Toolan Sr. retirement effective July 23, 2021 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept Jim Toolan Sr. appointment as Cemetery Commissioner at the rate of \$262.70 per quarter by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to approve to move Jim Toolan Sr. sick time of 176 hours to vacation time by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept Jim Toolan Jr. review by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept Jim Toolan Jr. appointment as Cemetery Sexton as of July 24, 2021 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept Jim Toolan Jr. appointment as Cemetery Sexton at the rate of \$21.00 per hour by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept Jim Toolan Jr. MEO the rate of \$21.00 per hour by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept the revised (#3 through year 5) proposal to the police salary by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept Charles Smiley a rate of \$44,765.12 retro to one year anniversary salary by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to accept Tim Roodenburg a rate of \$44,765.12 retro to one year anniversary salary by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to approve the one-year exception to carry all vacation and holiday hours for full-time police officers until December 31, 2022 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to approve Chief Pitman pay out of vacation time that is unable to be carried forward by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to approve certified P/T Officers rate to \$21.00 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to approve uncertified entry Officers rate to \$19.00 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner. **All ayes.**

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Finkbeiner and Seconded by Trustee Clune at 7:20 PM-**All ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Tanya DiGennaro, Village Treasurer