

Village of Homer Board of Trustees Meeting
July 27, 2021
6:02 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 Clerk Dan Egnor, Village Treasurer Tanya DiGennaro, Homer News-Don Ferris, Via Zoom Attorney Dante Armideo, Sewer & Water Superintendent-Buzz Barber, Fred Forbes Town of Homer Superintendent, Phil Stockton DPW Superintendent, Vince Bellardini, Jamie Costa of Cortland Standard

Mayor McCabe called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

- **F & G Funds – Vouchers #128-138 \$6080.36**
- **A Fund – Vouchers #351-380 \$21,402.45**

Privilege of the Floor:

Town of Homer Superintendent Fred Forbes and Trustee Clune have been meeting on the reduction of money going for Senior Centers in Cortland County.

NEW BUSINESS:

Village Treasurer Tanya DiGennaro presented the quarterly financial report to the Trustees noting the budget is in line. One exception possibly be the garbage situation with Syracuse Haulers. Mayor McCabe also wants to look at changing the water and sewer fees, going to low base rate and increase the consumption charge. Sales tax revenue has come back from the pandemic. This would make an equitable bill for the Village residents. Tanya noting that paving will have to move to the 3rd quarter billing. Mayor McCabe asked Phil about the paving. Phil responded that paving is behind due to the weather and should be done this year.

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to donate a Village of Homer Welcome sign for display at the Living History Center. **Motion** to approve the Mayor to sign a lease agreement with the Living History by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal allocate ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) funds for the following:

- a. Lost revenue \$68,731/2yrs.
- b. Purchase large water meters \$35,000/2yrs
- c. Peace trail allocation \$15,000/2yrs

The Village has received the first half in the amount of \$158,000; not all funds have been allocated. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Daley **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe approve the appointment of Nate Parker as a laborer for the DPW. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Slack, Seconded by Trustee Clune **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe approve the appointment of Jim Toolan Sr as a substitute laborer for the DPW. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Slack, Seconded by Trustee Clune **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to approve water/sewer refunds. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to approve letter of Authority Letter with ISO Claims Partners, Comp Alliance. Little White Church is in Phase 1 of repair with the \$450,000 in grant money. Thoma has advised to get the church stable due to deterioration. Future repairs are planned at later dates and other grants. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented a proposal to accept the internal budget adjustments. **Motion** to approve by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Daley **-all ayes.**

Mayor McCabe presented the problems the Village is having with Syracuse Haulers and to solve them. The board will take another look at the resolution #1 agreement (read by the Mayor) made in 2014 with Syracuse Haulers. The board wants to see a solution to be fair to all Village residents. Tanya and Trustee Slack will also be asking for input from the community. Included on the talk will be Kevin McMahan and Dante. There is a September 1 date that must be noted. **No vote**

Mayor McCabe presented MRTA (Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act) referendum was discussed, and they must decide on two options. Will the Village allow dispensaries and consumption establishments? The Village would like to get the 3% in tax revenue or share the revenue with the Town, dependent what the Town decides to do. There were concerns about codes regulations. Dante noted that there needs to be more of a discussion on referendums or a local law. December 31 is the opt out or in decision date. **Motion** to have Dante to prepare a local law to prohibit commercial on-site consumption establishments in the Village by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune **-3 ayes 2 nay.**

Comments from the Media:

Don Ferris noted that a year or two The Village Board tried to ban cigarette sales can the Village restrict the dispensaries. The Mayor read the ruling from the law as written about restrictions.

On **Motion** by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Clune, the Board entered Executive session at 7:20 P.M. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Daley, Seconded by Trustee Clune, the Board exited Executive session at 8:17 P.M. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** to one-time increase the rate given to Tammy Dowdle for \$500.00 by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Daley. **All ayes.**

Comments from the Board:

Trustee Clune and Fred Forbes Town Superintendent are meeting Kevin Williams to discuss the solution to the County creation of the hub for Seniors and the minimal amount of grant money for the Senior Center at Homer. The Rt 11 river remediation with NYSEG, contamination was found on Harter property, will meet on Thursday. The State has cleared the way for the Fire Department to do a noncombustible training on the property before demolition happens, along with Kevin McMahon. On **Motion** to allow the training by the Homer Fire Department at the Rt 11 property by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Slack. **All ayes.**

Also, at the Cortlandville meeting a discussion about the stump grinder that needs to be replaced. The Mayor has suggested a multiple municipal grant to cover the cost of \$705,000.00 for the new and better model. The Village has paid \$35,000.00 in repairs. The Southern Tier Aides needle exchange is asking for a place to set up the van for this purpose. The Mayor has invited them to the next meeting to present what they do.

Trustee Clune noted the bus shelter delivery date needs to be coordinated with the slab pouring.

Trustee Daley asked if pole for the basketball court is still missing. It is still not here.

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Clune and Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner at 8:27 PM-**All ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Tanya DiGennaro, Village Treasurer