

Village of Homer Board of Trustees Meeting
February 14, 2023
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Village of Homer Board of Trustees was held remotely via zoom and in person at the Homer Town Hall at 31 North Main St. with Mayor McCabe presiding.

Members present:

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

Also, present were Village Clerk Dan Egnor, Village Treasurer Tanya Digennaro, Chief of Police Bob Pitman, Dante Armideo Village Lawyer, Kim Hubbard, Don Ferris Homer News, Fred Forbes Town of Homer Superintendent, Buzz Barber Water/Sewer Superintendent, Phil Stockton DPW Superintendent, Kevin Smith Cortland Voice, Eddie Velazquez, Margaret Mellott Cortland Standard.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING #1: Pursuant to Not-for-Profit Corporation Law 404(f), the Homer Fire Department desires to become incorporated as a 501C3 Corporation.

The proposed area to be protected is the whole of the Village of Homer and any area outside thereof pursuant to contract or authorization by statute or upon the dissolution of the Village, any successor to such Village. The proposed Certificate of Incorporation is signed by Richard Elmer, Sr., Mahlon Irish, Jr., and Tim Maxson. **Motion** to accept the resolution as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes**.

Trustee Slack made a **Motion** to approve minutes of January 10 and January 24, 2023 as written, Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes**

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

➤ F & G Funds – Vouchers	# 336-354	\$7,797.45
➤ A Fund – Vouchers	# 938-1002	\$80,976.30
➤ TA Fund – Vouchers	#106-108	\$2,325.38

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

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

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

CODES REPORT – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee McGrath Seconded by Trustee Clune- **all ayes.**

ANIMAL CONTROL-- No Report currently.

DPW/PARKS – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee McGrath- **all ayes.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT – 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.**

POLICE – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee McGrath- **all ayes.**

FIRE INSPECTOR REPORT- No Report currently.

RECREATION – Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee McGrath- **all ayes.**

WATER/SEWER –The Village will try again to apply for grant money for a new water tank. Report was received as submitted. Mayor McCabe read the report. **Motion** to accept the report as submitted by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee Clune - **all ayes.**

Privilege of the floor: Fred Forbes Town of Homer Supervisor congratulated the Village winning the DRI grant money. The Town will have a public hearing on the code of ethics March 8th. The Town is replacing carpeting in the Town and Village office hallway. There are 45 streetlights that need to be replaced outside the Village. The application for Bridge New York has been sent in. The Clerks have high approval for the ATC Tax program they are using this year. Thanks to the Village DPW for keeping the parking lot at Town Hall clear of snow.

Old Business: No updates

New Business:

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner to approve the increase of NSF fees, for ACH payments, to \$35.00 to cover what the Village is being charged by the bank, Second by Trustee McGrath– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner to approve water and sewer credits requests, Second by Trustee Slack– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee McGrath to accept a \$200.00 donation to be used exclusively for the Homer Football Recreation program, Second by Trustee Clune– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Slack to declare 5 turnout gear as surplus due to damage in a fire, Second by Trustee Clune– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune to approve a budget increase for the Homer Fire Department to replace the 5 damaged turnout gear through insurance proceeds, Second by Trustee Slack– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Slack to approve authorizing Mayor McCabe or Deputy Mayor Patrick Clune in his absence, signing of grant application for use of \$10,000 energy grant, Second by Trustee McGrath– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee McGrath to approve applying to Assistance to Firefighters Grant with 9 local fire departments for portable radios for \$617,075. The Village's share would be \$102,325 with a match of \$9,302.27, Second by Trustee Clune– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune to approve the transferring of \$9,302.27 to the fire department reequipment reserves for the match for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, Second by Trustee Slack– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Slack to approve fire department software contract with Data Demon Second by Trustee Clune– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune to approve fire department installation plan with Plan First for Data Demon Second by Trustee Slack– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner to approve G&G Income Survey Proposal, Second by Trustee McGrath– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner to approve Dafoe Tree Cutting Company, LLC contract for the 2023-2024 fiscal year for the Village of Homer, Second by Trustee Clune– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune to approve Dafoe Tree Cutting Company, LLC contract for \$6,000.00 for 2023 for the removal of 3 trees in Glenwood Cemetery, Second by Trustee McGrath– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Slack to accept DEC Grant for \$1,500.00 for equipment, Second by Trustee Clune– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune to approve Community Garden Contract for 2023 Season, Second by Trustee McGrath– **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner to approve budget adjustments, Second by Trustee McGrath– **All ayes.**

Recording and Admittance in Non-Public Forums

Whereas, the Village of Homer wishes to note restrictions of access in non-public forums to protect the security and privacy of taxpayer and employee information;

Whereas, the Village of Homer wishes to protect the safety of Village employees, vendors, and taxpayers.

Whereas, the Village of Homer wishes to protect employees' and taxpayers' protected data;

The Village of Homer wishes to restrict access to the following non-public forums:

- a. Village Clerk's Office Behind Counter Access
- b. Village Mayor's Office
- c. Village Office
- d. Village Treasurer's Office
- e. Village Recreation Office
- f. Village Codes Office
- g. Village DPW Buildings
- h. Village Water/Sewer Garage and Office
- i. Village Police Department Building
- j. Village Fire Department Building
- k. Village Recreation Office
- l. Village Historian Office
- m. Village Sewer Pump Houses

The Village of Homer wishes to restrict recording in the following non-public forums without consent ahead of time:

- a. Village Clerk's Office
- b. Village Mayor's Office
- c. Village Office
- d. Village Treasurer's Office
- e. Village Recreation Office
- f. Village Codes Office
- g. Village DPW Buildings
- h. Village Water/Sewer Garage and Office
- i. Village Police Department Building
- j. Village Cemetery Office Building
- k. Village Fire Department Building
- l. Village Recreation Office
- m. Village Sewer Pump Houses
- n. Village Historian Office

Exceptions to the Policy:

The only exceptions to the policy are the following:

- a. Individuals or vendors invited for business purposes.
- b. Oversight Agencies
- c. When a building or office noted is used for a public forum

Required signage:

Signs will be posted noting either No employees beyond point or no recording allowed. No recording means no recording of sound, tapes, videos, through use of cameras, phones, Ipad, computers or any electronic devices without written consent.

Responsible for policy:

The responsibility of the policy lies with the Village Board of Trustees. Each year, the policy will be reviewed annually during the Organizational meeting.

Compliance or questions with the policy from employees, individuals, businesses, oversight agencies or others will be sent to the foil officer in writing using the foil form, or to the alternate foil officer in the foil officer's absence.

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner to approve recording and admittance policy, Second by Trustee McGrath– **All ayes.**

The Mayor announced that the Village of Homer won but now the real work begins. The State will assign a consultant at the cost of \$300,000 from the DRI Grant money to decide what projects go forward. There will be no eminent domain used for any of the projects. Thanks to Trustee Finkbeiner for all the hard work he did to help the Village get this money.

Attorney:

Dante is still working to finalize the sale of the LWC.

Comments by Board Members:

Trustee Finkbeiner thanked the many people who helped to win the DRI money. Now we need to get the CFA, River Trail and the dog park moving forward.

Trustee Slack addressed the LED signs from the January 31st meeting and asked for the people responsible for the present signs and ask what they think about the LED change. Trustee Slack the Sign Master needs to look at repainting the Homer entry signs and adding LED uplighting.

Trustee Clune there is \$2,700.00 from the Amnesty Credit from the landfill for 2023 allowing the Village to offset the cost of the Village Amnesty Day. The Village and Town are sponsoring a food and pet food drive that will stay in the community.

Trustee McGrath is glad to see that the Village is looking at signage that will be good for the Village.

Mayor McCabe had no further comments.

Questions from the Media:

Don Ferris would like to know if the work completed through the DRI grant is at prevailing wages. The Mayor said believes it has to be.

On **Motion** by Trustee Finkbeiner, Seconded by Trustee McGrath, the Board entered Executive session at 7:03 P.M. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune, Seconded by Trustee Finkbeiner, the Board exited Executive session at 7:35 P.M. **All ayes.**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune to allow Donna Kotas to work from home when released or limited release by Doctor, Second by Trustee Slack– **All aye**

On **Motion** by Trustee Clune to approve to reimburse the cost of uniforms less tax,
Second by Trustee Slack– **All aye**

On Motion to adjourn by Trustee Clune Seconded by Trustee Slack at 7:40 PM-**All ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Hoy, Account Clerk

DRAFT