

**PROCEEDINGS OF A BUDGET MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

April 14, 2021, at 4:00 PM

Present:

Mayor:	Alysa Plummer
Trustees:	Lili Lanphear
	Renee Stetzer
	Dan Keating
	Justin Leitgeb
Treasurer:	Mary Marowski
Recording Secretary:	Dorothea Ciccarelli

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Mayor Plummer, and seconded by Trustee Leitgeb, to call the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Vote: Plummer – yes, Lanphear – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes, Leitgeb - yes. *Motion Carries.*

Discussion is had amongst Board members and the Village Treasurer regarding payment of outstanding attorney bills.

Motion by Trustee Keating, and seconded by Trustee Stetzer, to pay outstanding attorney bills in the amount of \$6,713.50.

Vote: Plummer – yes, Lanphear – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes, Leitgeb - yes. *Motion Carries.*

Mayor Plummer brought up the minutes that were held over from last meeting for approval.

Motion by Trustee Lanphear, and seconded by Trustee Stetzer, to approve with edits the minutes of Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

Vote: Plummer – abstain, Lanphear – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes, Leitgeb - abstain. *Motion Carries.*

Mayor Plummer & Trustee Leitgeb abstained from voting since they were not members of the Board at the time the meeting occurred.

Trustees Keating and Stetzer stated that they had edits to the minutes from March 23rd.

Motion by Trustee Keating, and seconded by Trustee Stetzer, to approve with edits the minutes of Tuesday, March 23, 2021.

Vote: Plummer – abstain, Lanphear – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes, Leitgeb - abstain. *Motion Carries.*

Mayor Plummer & Trustee Leitgeb abstained from voting since they were not members of the Board at the time the meeting occurred.

Trustee Keating stated that he had edits to the minutes from March 29th.

Motion by Trustee Keating, and seconded by Trustee Lanphear, to approve with edits the minutes of Monday, March 29, 2021.

Vote: Plummer – abstain, Lanphear – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes, Leitgeb - abstain. *Motion Carries.*

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Mayor Plummer & Trustee Leitgeb abstained from voting since they were not members of the Board at the time the meeting occurred.

Several board members discuss the possibility of sharing and reviewing edits to the minutes via Google Docs. General consensus is that it will be helpful in terms of distributing the packets and tracking edits made to documents.

2021-2022 VILLAGE BUDGET

The Village Treasurer reviewed the budget and then opened the floor to questions and comments from members of the Board.

Some discussion was had regarding the amounts being budgeted for legal work. Mayor Plummer to follow up with Attorney Zoghlin to discuss estimates provided.

Justin Vlietstra – 19 Boughton Avenue: “So just as a reminder to the Board, we have the ability to charge back consultant fees for large projects to the applicants, and attorney fees should be one of those things, and I don’t know why, and I don’t want to say much about that particular project, but I don’t know why discussions are on-going at resident’s expense, about new application. That seems to be something that could be charged back to an applicant. I understand defending litigation, I understand things like that. So, I would encourage you to figure out when it’s reasonable to charge back attorney fees to an applicant.”

The Village Treasurer explained to Mr. Vlietstra that she is aware of “chargeback monies” and has previously billed them back but there has not been many in recent years.

Justin Vlietstra – 19 Boughton Avenue: “So in my opinion, I think there are some very substantial blunders that have been made in that regard. And I don’t know where that needs to go moving forward, but I know when we had the Schoen Place application to look at, we knew that it was going to be a fairly sizable project on the Planning Board. We asked for consultant fees. They declined to pay it, so we said well now your application is incomplete. We’re not going forward with anything until you can get us some funding for consultants. So, I think the trustees had additional discussions with their attorneys, but I think it takes good discipline on the Boards to not dial up the attorneys if they’re not funded on large projects. So, I think it’s a better approach to just not use the attorneys until they’re funded”

Mayor Plummer stated that she would discuss the project funding matter further with the attorneys.

Trustee Leitgeb stated that he believes that there is a provision in the code that allows for the chargeback of consultant fees, including attorney fees. The Village Treasurer responded that she must be notified in instances where fees must be charged back.

Board members discuss funding for the South St. Design and bridge work line items.

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Mayor Plummer suggested the possibility of reaching out to the Town to conduct the design review. The DPW Superintendent explained that the money allocated for the design review also cover site management for the project.

Board Members discuss budget line item regarding Speed sentries.

The Village Treasurer reviewed line items regarding DPW “catch all” purchases, snow removal, streetlighting, sidewalks and curbs. And parks and recreations.

In regard to the flowers/wreaths/benches line item, the Mayor suggested allowing residents to donate those items. Trustee Lanphear stated that the Pittsford Garden club has funded the urns at the 4 Corners.

The Village Treasurer reviewed line items regarding street cleaning, drainage, and tree purchases/maintenance

Mayor Plummer stated that there may be another opportunity to invite Villagers to make donations to dedicate trees planted in the Village, like the bench program. May help to offset the costs.

The Village Treasurer reviewed line items regarding employee benefits, bonds, and leased equipment.

Mayor Plummer asked for clarification if we were on year 6 of our 10-year bond. The Village Treasurer confirmed.

The Village Treasurer reviewed several line items regarding revenue and the general fund. Opened the floor to questions from the Board. There were none.

The Village Treasurer reviewed the sewer fund.

Trustee Leitgeb asked if the sewer fund included changes as suggested by the Comptroller. The Village Treasurer responded that they are not, and it is because the sewer reserve must be built up so that there are funds in the event of a major incident. Suggested holding a workshop so that the Board may understand the state of Village infrastructure.

Regarding the General Fund, Trustee Leitgeb cited concerns of the Comptroller regarding cost-of-living increases.

Trustee Keating stated that for the past 10 years Village tax rates have outpaced the cost-of-living so it is very important in his opinion to keep the tax rate at 0% for this budget.

Trustee Leitgeb asked where the Treasurer anticipates the fund to be by May and what percentage of appropriations would be we left with. The Village Treasurer stated that she is unable to answer that at this time.

Trustee Keating proposed an idea from a resident on how to solve an issue with the packet postings. The Village Clerk explained why the procedure for the packet is the way that it is.

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Motion by Mayor Plummer, and seconded by Stetzer, to approve the change of DPW summer hours to 6 AM to 3 PM, with Friday hours of 7 AM to 10 AM, beginning April 26 lasting through Labor Day, in order to facilitate changes in traffic caused by the bridge construction, with the condition that a Memorandum of Understanding be provided to the union to explain the reason for the change.

Vote: Plummer – yes, Lanphear – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes, Leitgeb - yes. *Motion Carries.*

The Village Treasurer asked the Board if the budget may go forward as is (deadline being April 27th) or if the Board would need another meeting in order to make changes.

Board Members outline some of the questions that will need to be followed up on before the budget is approved. The Village Clerk explained that the budget is currently within the Comptroller's suggested parameters.

Mayor Plummer suggested that Trustee Leitgeb meet with the accountant and then follow up with the Board. Mayor Plummer to follow up with Attorney Zoghlin.

The Village Clerk proposed a meeting date of April 21, 2021, at 4:30 PM. Board members agreed.

Motion by Mayor Plummer, and seconded by Trustee Lanphear, to adjourn.

Vote: Plummer – yes, Lanphear – yes, Keating – yes, Stetzer – yes, Leitgeb - yes. *Motion Carries.*

Marina Pacheco, Recording Secretary