

Village of Portville

Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2021

Present:

Michael DeBarbieri, Trustee
Joseph McLarney, Deputy Mayor
Kristen Harriger, Clerk/Treasurer
John Krist, DPW Supervisor
Anthony Evans, Mayor
Ben Smith, Village Attorney
Francisco Morales, Trustee
Wendy VanCuren, Clerk Typist

Excused:

Vincent Pascucci, Trustee

Attendees:

Becky Johnstone
Bob Johnstone
Syd Evans
Bob Fischer
Holly Fischer
Cindy Wagner
Val Latten
Taylor Crosson
FJ Wilson

Meeting opened with the pledge to the flag at _6:00__p.m.

MOTION: was made to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting of May 17, 2021.

Michael DeBarbieri 2nd: Joseph McLarney **ALL AYES**

MOTION: to approve Abstract #001 Voucher #01 - #58 in the amount of \$76,623.08.

Michael DeBarbieri 2nd: Francisco Morales **ALL AYES**

MOTION: was made to approve the financial statement through May 31, 2021.

Francisco Morales 2nd: Michael DeBarbieri **ALL AYES**

Police Report – placed on file

Officer in Charge Shawn Recktenwald submitted his letter of resignation to the Board which was accepted with regrets. Officer Recktenwald requested to step down from the position of Supervisor. Shawn will stay on with the Village as a part-time Officer.

MOTION: was made to accept the resignation of Officer in Charge of Officer Shawn Recktenwald

Joseph McLarney 2nd: Michael DeBarbieri **ALL AYES**

Officer Mark Crosson was appointed as Officer in Charge and was sworn into his Supervisor position by Mayor Anthony Evans

Attorney Report:

- Ben Smith previously sent letter from Hodgson Russ regarding Seneca Nation claim. Hodgson Russ are experts pertaining to The Clean Water Act, which will be advantageous to the Village. The

board agreed to sign letter with Hodgson Russ, retaining their services. Senator George Borrello wants to also be of assistance.

MOTION: was made to Hire Hodgson Russ Attorney
Francisco Morales 2nd: Michael DeBarbieri ALL AYES

Old & New Business:

The Village Board of Trustees set as a resolution to sell two Village Properties empty lot on Pine Street and "Salt Shed properties on Maple Ave. Lots will be appraised and advertised. Sealed bids will be accepted.

Resolution #21-13 BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of Trustees does hereby agree to sell Village property.

Francisco Morales 2nd; Joseph McLarney **ALL AYES**

Justice Report:

- Mayor Tony Evans reported that Village Judge Judy McClain anticipates the court to re-open soon. Waiting on word from the governor but anticipates August or September.

Clerk Report:

- In future meetings, Kristen Harriger will begin giving a clerk report. She will inform and educate the board on the financials and the budget, as well as be present for questions and/or concerns.

DPW Report:

- Water Valves: John Krist stated that water valves are being replaced on Maple, Lillibridge between Maple and Temple Street. He wants

all repairs done before paving begins. He also mentioned that some manholes are being raised in order to level the road(s) before blacktopping begins.

- Sewer Plan: A new bar screen has been built and will be installed in order to stop items from binding up in the pumps.
- RPI evaluating system is being implemented. Pumps and equipment have been ordered in order for quick (same day) and efficient replacement. Pumps are now automatically operating, and John will have the ability to monitor all operations with his phone.
- Private subways will no longer be mowed by the Village, as we recently learned our insurance does not cover it. John will communicate with residents of such properties as well as write them a letter with information.
- Railings have been removed in front of Subway. Yellow ribbon is currently blocking foot traffic. New railings will be installed in the near future.
- Village Property: The property on Mersereau Place/Pine Street (large field across from cemetery) is of no use to the village. The Mayor proposed selling said property, as well as the old salt shed property on Maple Avenue. As recommended by village lawyer and approved by board, an appraisal will be requested in order to proceed.
- Water Service: Village water is available to all residents. If residents chose not to use water, it is their choice. FJ Wilson currently does not use the village water because of lack of access. He would like to drill a well for agricultural purposes (greenhouse only). John Krist will check local law as to what requirements are needed such as a check/test by county and DEC approval. Bob Fisher stated that there is documentation stating a well is approved, and Becky Johnstone (retired from the Cattaraugus County Health Department) said if there are 5 or more service connections, well(s) must be inspected. The Mayor thanked FJ for operating his business in the village.

Police Report:

- Mark Crosson is on light duty, but he reported that the evidence room has been cleaned out. He is also working on implementing a FJS track system. They are waiting for the MDT system, which will automatically transfer information from the scanner. Information will electronically go to jurisdiction. They are currently using Tracks, which is working well. Mark is also going to several trainings, including Police Reform that encourages the use of social media, making the department more transparent. He is working with Syd Evans and other officers to meet these objectives.
- Mark Crosson also reported that there is a coverage shortage in the village. Depending on budget, he is proposing hiring a few officers to cover nights and weekends (Fridays and Saturdays). Interviews are currently being conducted.
- Contract with Portville Central School is going to be discussed with Tom Simon the week after July 4.
- Mark is doing Alert Training in July, which is an advanced sobriety testing and the new marijuana laws.
- There are lots of complaints about speeding on Temple Street and Brooklyn Street. Radar equipment is old and being evaluated for replacement.
A mobile speed trailer from the sheriff's department will be placed in varying locations. Storage and electric locations are required and being looked into.

Mayor's Report:

- Communications continue with Matt Zarbo from B& L. The Mayor received an email from our House member, Tom Reed. It looks like we are going to get some allocation, but the amount is not known. We asked for \$5,000,000.00. They are working out numbers in Washington.
- Tony and Syd Evans, John Krist, and Kristen Harriger met with Candace Balmer from RCAP (Rural Communities Alliance Partnership). RCAP will help us with applications for grants.

- American Rescue Plan Act. We are going to apply with hopes of receiving some monies.
- Portville Central School permitted to have fireworks for graduation on 06/25/2021
- Community Garage Sales this weekend (June 24, 25, 26), which is free to community. The library is listing participants.
- The annual Portville Garbage cleanup day is scheduled for Monday, June 28. The cost is \$25.00 people have signed up.
- IMPACT has installed internet and WIFI in both parks and the ball field. They would like to display signs for advertisement.
- Code Committee:
 - Mayor setting up meeting to review codes with General Codes, Inc. for July.

Old & New Business:

- The Mayor stated that the \$7000.00 fine from. NYS DEC can be used for a project in the community. The Mayor is working with Albany, striving for an educational component. A committee is being established. Holly Fisher suggested a pavilion in Lyman Baker Park as a quiet place. She is working with a several people on programs, including Karen Davies (NYS DEC Counsel) , Penny Felski from the Buffalo Zoo, and Jennifer Miller. Holly Fisher also mentioned a QR code program, such as she and Bob Fisher have set to listen to frog sounds.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at __7:28__pm.

Motion: Joseph McLarney 2nd: Michael DeBarbieri ALL AYES

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Van Curen
Account Clerk Typist