

**Village Board Meeting
September 21st 2021**

Attended:	John Burrell	Mayor
	Caitlin Croft	Trustee
	Gary Palumbo	Planner
	Sean Lowes	Trustee
	Doug Bush	Trustee
	Ben Slotman	Engineer
	Mark Chudy	DPW Supervisor
	Mary Klahn	Clerk

Also Attended: Caitlin Croft, Greg Cappeilli, and Lynn Lazarro via zoom. Dean Morakis, Vicky Conner, Scott Conner, David Parker and Kathleen Kellogg.

Call meeting to order

Pledge to the flag

Good News

New Zoom Account for more effective meetings – Zoom account in progress.

Business from the Floor

Vicky Connor introduced the Divide New York organization and their mission to separate NY State into 3 autonomous regions. Divide New York claims that the separation of NY is needed to reduce the impact of unconstitutional mandates from New York City and Albany legislatures. This organization was seeking to have a local municipality pass a resolution in support of the Divide New York mission that would force the State to respond to. The Board heard this request and would bring this topic back to a future meeting if there was any interest in supporting the request.

Dean Morakis of Grand Island, who has worked with 62nd District Senator Robert G. Ort (D-Lockport), as well as 147th District Assemblyman David Dipietro (R-EastAurora), authored a bill several years ago calling for the division. Morakis said he has been visiting local governments “far and wide to help out in this” and also asked the Board to adopt the resolution offered by Conner. He added that a clause in the state constitution was discovered enabling local efforts to change state government. It obligates Assembly members and Senators to support such legislation then local governments adopt resolutions in support of it.

Mayor Burrell spoke of the possibility for adding an employee in the Public Works Department to focus on maintenance of the Village’s parks and other tasks in the public works dept.

Burrell congratulated Village employees Tony Fedorowicz and Zach Golley for earning wage rate increases after receiving training in sewer and water operations.

Approve minutes

Motion: by Mr. Bush to approve the minutes from 8/7/2021.

Second: by Mr. Imhoff All ayes. Carried

August 31, 2021 Financial reports and Audit of Claims

Motion: to approve the financial reports by Mr. Lowes

Second: by Mr. Bush All ayes. Carried

General: **\$41,229.47**

Sewer: **\$12,599.19**

Motion: to pay the bills by Mr. Imhoff

Second: by Mr. Bush All ayes Carried

Mayor's Report

8/19/2021 Village Officials Association of Erie County (North Collins)

8/23/2021 DRI Meeting

09/02/2021 Worked with Village Accountant

09/07/2021 DRI Public Meeting – Mayor Burrell highlighted the efforts of the Village and Town to submit a grant application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI). The grant team focused their application on using the funds to make Ellicottville more livable to those who work in the area to avoid the “Aspen Effect” where local employees are forced to live outside the area and commute due to the high cost of living in a resort town. The grant application was submitted on September 15th.

09/09/2021 DRI Meeting

09/14/2021 WNY South towns Scenic Byway Meeting-Springville

Commitment from Mr. McAndrew to put \$1,000 in budget towards the byway sign

\$1,000 will be from the Byway and Village will also give \$1,000.

Lacrosse Festival this Weekend.

Department and Committee Reports for Approval

Planning Report

Motion: by Mr. Bush to accept the Planning Report.

Second: by Mr. Lowes All ayes. Carried

Mr. Palumbo presented a summary of the Planning activities which saw 9 applications last month and 6 on tap for next month. Mr. Palumbo detailed that a sign amendment is in the works along with zoning updates are being drafted for review with the moratorium committee. Mayor Burrell requested that the Village Attorney look into the opportunity to update zoning laws via a resolution instead of the lengthy amendment process.

Engineering

Motion: to accept the Engineering report by Mr. Imhoff

Second: by Mr. Bush All ayes. Carried

Mr. Stockman stated that the Mill Street sidewalk project is nearly complete with minor landscaping remaining. Sidewalk leveling approaches are being reviewed to make the Village more walk friendly and ADA compliant.

Motion: to accept the August DPW Report by Mr. Imhoff

Second: by Mr. Bush All ayes Carried

Elk Creek – Soil and water prepared a permit and submitted to DEC and Army Cor. This was for dredging 400 feet down stream from Elizabeth to 219 to the right of way easement. Once we hear back we can move forward. The clearing can happen and we need permission to do it for access. Maybe make up a flyer of what residents can do to help keep the creeks cleaned up. Not sure how long the permit will take. Working on coordinating the project and get some pricing.

Wastewater agreements, renew with the Town of Concord, Informed that we intend to renew the contract for the same price for next year. All seem to be onboard at this point stated Ben.

Accepted bids for the Wastewater treatment plant boiler for \$28,300 recommended by Mr. Stockman to award Parise Mechanical, Inc. the bid. Our plan is to get it in by the end of October beginning of November.

Motion: to award the bid to Parise Mechanical, Inc. by Mr. Bush for \$28,300.00

Second: by Mr Imhoff All ayes. Carried

Mayor Burrell will sign the contracts.

Water and Sewer Schooling

Tony Fedorowicz and Zach Golley Wage Rate Increase Approvals

Much explanation on the schoolings and policy for raises.

Anthony will get a .64cent raise per hour once we receive his license.

Zach will get a 4.80 cent per hour raise retroactive from the day they received their license.

Motion: by Mr. Bush to approve the wage increase.

Second: by Mr. Lowes All ayes. Carried

Approve Mark Morino as a new member of fire commissioner board.

Motion: to appoint Mr. Morino by Mr. Imhoff

Second: by Mr. Lowes All ayes. Carried

Beautification – Sean Lowes

Four trees on Main Street have been taken down and will be replanted.

Special Events-Doug Bush

Fall Festival is progressing.

Village Clerk – Mary Klahn

Ms. Klahn's recommendation is that we stay with Blue Cross and Blue Shield once again this year.

Motion: to renew Blue Cross and Blue Shield by Mr. Lowes

Second: by Mr. Imhoff All ayes. Carried

Old Business

Moratorium – Mr. Palumbo will work with Mr. Stanton and will get to the planning board committee by the October meeting.

Correspondence

Additional premium will be paid out of this year's budget in the amount of \$5,076.83 to the NYSIF.

Motion: by Mr. Lowes to go into Executive Session.

Second: by Mr. Imhoff All ayes. Carried

Motion: to go out of Executive Session by Mr. Imhoff

Second: by Mr. Lowes All ayes. Carried

Motion: to adjourn by Mr. Bush

Second: by Mr. Lowes at 8:15pm.