VILLAGE OF WOLCOTT

VILLAGE HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 8, 2020

7:30 pm

Members Present: Mayor Chris Henner, Trustees: Dan Smith, Andrew Marshall, Dave Lewis and Norma Stewart

Others Present: Ron Lancy, George Buckalew, and Brett Norsworthy

Mayor Henner called the Meeting to order at 7:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

**Water / Sewer Billing Software Contract Renewal**

Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the renewal contract of the water/sewer billing software through Williamson Law Book Co. in the amount of $1,007. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Unregistered/Abandoned Cars in Municipal Parking Lot**

Discussion was held about the two unregistered vehicles that have been parked in the North St parking lot for some time. Mayor Henner stated that in a situation like this, he would like to see the landlord or owner of the building that the tenant who parked said cars lives in be contacted per our Nuisance Abatement and Property Maintenance laws. This would give them a chance to correct the violation. Mr. Norsworthy reported that one of the vehicles had been removed. He also stated that Officer Powell did run a VIN# search on the other car. Mr. Norsworthy contacted Officer Powell via text message during this discussion. Officer Powell reported that the remaining car came back to a Peggy Greenwood from the apartments on New Hartford St. Officer Powell has also contacted the lien holder, Credit Acceptance Corporation to inform them of the location of the vehicle. As of this meeting they had not picked up the car. Officer Powell stated he would attempt to contact Ms. Greenwood again.

**Payroll Software Contract Renewal**

Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the renewal contract of the payroll software through Williamson Law Book Co. in the amount of $864. Trustee Marshall seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Election Reminder**

Mayor Henner reminded all those present that Village Elections will be held next Tuesday, September 15, 2020 from noon till 9:00pm here at the Village Hall.

**Meeting Minutes**

Trustee Smith made a motion to accept and approve the meeting minutes from the August 11, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Abstract #009**

Trustee Smith made the motion to approve Abstract #003 in the amount of $65,082.45 with vouchers numbered 94-136 and checks numbered 30082-30124. Total claims from the General Fund are $19,572.07. Total claims from the Water Fund are $15,680.60. Total claims from the Sewer Fund are $29,829.78. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

**Mayor Henner**

Mayor Henner stated that he was in receipt of the quote from Evoqua for continuing the maintenance contract for monitoring the sewer plant. He felt that there was room for negotiation on this quote and would reach out to Evoqua to discuss this.

Mayor Henner provided an update on the quotes for repairing Wadsworth St. He stated while the contractor claims the quote to be accurate. He would feel more comfortable if we were to increase the original $12,000 dedicated to this project to $20,000. He also added that there is a sinkhole on Tyrrell St that he would like repaired with this project. Trustee Smith made a motion to increase the budget for repairing Wadsworth St & Tyrrell St from $12,000 to $20,000. Trustee Marshall seconded the motion. All voted in Favor.

Mayor Henner stated that the last day for Dean Starczewski would be Friday September 11, 2020. An ad is currently running for his replacement and we have already received two applications. The applications were shared with the Board.

Mayor Henner then renewed conversation regarding the Trap Neuter Release program for cats. Mayor Henner stated that he would like to move forward with this program by the Village dedicating $1,000 towards this program. Mayor Henner stated that it was up to the Board to decide if we would move forward, but this was the final time he would bring up the subject. Trustee Marshall stated that Clerk-Treasurer Fran Acker had been reaching out to other organizations regarding this program. He felt the Board should wait for results from that before we give money to an organization. Mayor Henner Stated that this money was not actually going to an organization, it will be utilized by the volunteers to cover the veterinary costs of the process. Trustee Smith made a motion to allocate $500 towards the program. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Trustee Stewart**

Trustee Stewart reported that the Village would be receiving some free trees from the Atlantic States Legal Foundation. These may be used wherever we wish. We are not sure as to what kind of trees they are. Mr Norsworthy stated that Otis Vezzose stated earlier in the day that the trees are located in Syracuse and should all fit in his van for transport.

Trustee Stewart then reported that a Jefferson St resident had lodged a complaint about a stray cat in the area. Trustee Stewart stated that this cat has been seen around the Historical Society carriage barn and was destroying plants and bushes there.

**Trustee Smith**

Trustee Smith inquired if Donna Graham was around the village. Mr. Norsworthy stated that she had been recently in to discuss some abatement issues with Otis Vezzose.

**Trustee Marshall**

Trustee Marshall informed the Board that the bills from Wayne County Water Sewer Authority are now being audited monthly against meter reads provided monthly by Tommy Mettler. Mayor Henner stated that this should have been happening from the beginning by Mr. Mettler. Mr. Norsworthy stated that he had put together a basic spreadsheet that will easily do the audit for comparison.

Trustee Marshall then asked the Board if the Village should be charging Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority or the Town of Wolcott the $2600 fee for the Town barn sewer hookup as allowed in the contract. Mayor Henner stated that he felt the Village should not charge the fee to either entity. He feels that working together with the Town is in everyone’s best interest.

**Trustee Lewis**

Trustee Lewis said that he was going to mention a need for tree trimming to be done on Cemetery St. However, he noticed earlier today that it had been done. He thanked the Highway Department for their work.

Trustee Lewis brought a copy of the waiver that customer’s will need to sign in order to claim financial distress due to Covid-19. The waiver states that not only is there a moratorium on shut-offs for 180 days after the official end of the pandemic emergency, but if the customer shows financial stress due to it, the Village must suspend late fees as well.

**Time for the Public**

Ron Lancy mentioned to the Board that the current timeline for shutting of water service for delinquency is difficult to work with. He stated that there are only 3 days during the week he is allowed to shut water off and the current policy of waiting 15 days from the final penalty date to shut off water, is hard to work with. He feels that moving the allowed shut off time to a week after the final penalty would help. Trustee Smith stated that we would have to do the best we can and that with the new law signed by Governor Cuomo, the shut off policy is likely to change a bit with municipalities not being allowed to shut utilities off if financial distress due to Covid-19 can be proven.

**Executive Session**

Trustee Smith made a motion to enter into executive session for contractual discussion at 8:17pm. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Trustee Smith made a motion to move the meeting out of executive session at 8:51pm. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

**Nuisance Abatement Committee**

Trustee Smith made a motion to appoint George Buckalew to the Nuisance Abatement Committee as liaison to the board. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Trustee Smith then asked Mr. Norsworthy to send letters to both Fred Smith and Allan Gow asking them to attend the October 13th meeting to discuss their properties.

**Adjournment**

Trustee Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56pm. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

The next regularly scheduled Village Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on September 22, 2020 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brett Norsworthy

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer