

**Public Hearing – Solar Law and  
Regular Meeting of the Chaumont Board of Trustees**

**October 15, 2019**

**Held at the Village of Chaumont/Town of Lyme Municipal Office**

**Located at 12175 NYS Route 12E**

**Chaumont, New York 13622**

**Held on the 15<sup>th</sup> Day of October, 2019**

**Board Members Present:**

Mayor: Valerie Rust

Deputy Mayor: Michael Nichols

Trustee: Patricia Reome

Trustee: Dori-Ann Froelich (arrived at 6:55 pm)

**Also Present:**

Village Clerk: Karen Fitzgerald

DPW Superintendent: Greg Ingerson

**Others Present:**

David Norbut

Jarred Perral

**Public Hearing –Solar Law--6:00 P.M**

Mayor Rust opened the Public Hearing regarding the tentative solar law at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Rust informed Mr. Norbut that Mr. Don Alexander of the JCIDA was invited to attend the joint meeting with the Village, Town and School to discuss pilot funding,

Mayor Rust concluded the Public Hearing for the Village of Chaumont Solar Law at 6:40 p.m leaving the public hearing open to be continued at the October 15, 2019 Village Board meeting.

**Regular Board meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees**

Mayor Rust opened the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees October 15, 2019 Regular Board Meeting at 6:40 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Rust requested that the minutes reflect that Trustee Froelich will arrive later in the meeting.

**Privilege of the Floor**

No one was present for privilege of the floor.

**DPW Updates**

Mayor Rust asked Greg if the plan to pick up the Lafontaine's garbage is working. Greg said the Village and Jessman's have been turning around in the marina's driveway. Mr. LaFontaine had spoken to Joan O'Brien who said she was not adverse to the trucks coming down the hill, but she did not want any area of the property plowed. Greg said he understands that the DPW will only be plowing straight down the road. They will not be plowing in any other area other than the roadway to reduce the chance of stones being placed on her lawn.

Trustee Nichols asked Greg to identify light poles that are not working. He stated there are two streetlights inside the Village. Trustee Reome asked if a streetlight is available on Washington

Street in front of the school. Greg will get pole numbers so that Karen can call in to National Grid for service.

Greg asked if Limolene could be purchased to fight grease built up in the pump stations. The cost is over \$2,500.00. Karen asked Greg to get a quote for the cost and most likely we could order within the month.

Koester should be completed soon. The delay seems to be because a bearing needs to be fabricated. Koester has assured Greg that the repair will be completed soon.

### **Solar Law**

As noted in the public hearing notes above, the public hearing was left open to continue the discussion of the decommissioning requirements of the law. The hearing will be concluded when more information regarding decommissioning is received from the JCIDA. Mayor Rust requested that when information is made available, Karen share the information via email with all trustees. She stated that if a quorum of votes are received via email to either change the decommissioning or keep it as written,, there is no need to wait until the next VBT meeting in November to adopt the solar law. Karen can then file the adopted amendment to the Land Use Codes to add the Solar addendum.

### **Battery Storage and PILOT law**

Legislator Bill Johnson's email was read in response to Karen's question regarding NYSERDA's recommendation to adopt a Battery Storage Law and a PILOT law. In short, Bill stated that since the Village has not opted out of tax law 487, it remains in effect. Mr. Norbut has made application with the JCIDA to negotiate a PILOT with all jurisdictions, there is no need to worry about either law at this time.

### **2020 Employee Health Insurance**

Rates for the Standard Gold plan have increased by 6% for 2020. The 2020 costs are as follows: SINGLE: from \$740.95 to 785.26, EMPLOYEE & SPOUSE: from \$1,481.90 to \$1,570.51 and FAMILY: from \$2,111.71 to \$2,237.98. The Village will continue to pay 75% of the premium and the employee will contribute 25% of the premium. Upon a motion by Trustee Reome, seconded by Trustee Froelich, and unanimously passed, it was determined to offer the Standard Gold plan to the employees of the Village for 2020.

### **Trident Insurance Cancellation**

Insurance quotes received for the 2019-2020 Village property and liability insurance are as follows: NYMIR \$25,936.74, Selective Ins \$29,349.00 and Glatfelter \$24,242.00. The policy deductible will increase to \$5,000.00 for each insurance carrier. The substantial increase in premium is said to be the result of previous claims with the most expensive being the WWTP in excess of \$250,000.00. Because Trident's cancelation date was October 15<sup>th</sup> and prior to the VBT meeting, Karen sent an email to the Village Board for their approval. Responses from Trustee Morrow, Mayor Rust and Trustee Reome provided the quorum to select Glatfelter as our new insurance carrier. Upon a motion by Trustee Nichols and a second by Trustee Reome, it was accept the quorum vote to insure with Glatfelter Ins. Co. for the coming year. Mike Gillette of Fuller Insurance will remain our agent. Glatfelter allows for quarterly payments of their premiums which the Village will most likely take advantage of.

## **Village Dissolution Committee**

The first Public Information meeting regarding Phase 1 of the Village Dissolution will be held at the Chaumont Firehall on Thursday, October 24 at 7 pm. This meeting will discuss the exiting conditions of both the Village and Town. Karen will mail a flyer to all Village residents. Other notifications include posters in prominent places throughout the Town, the Lymelight newsletter and the message alert system at LCS.

### **September 2019 Accounts Receivable: General/Water/Sewer Fund Updates:**

Real Property Tax	A1001:	\$	4,704.31
Lieu of Taxes	A1081:	\$	-0-
Jeff. County Sales Tax	A1120:	\$	-0-
Penalty/Interest:	A1090:	\$	289.48
Gross Utility Tax:	A1130:	\$	20.19
Franchise Fees:	A1170:	\$	2,480.94
Clerk Fees: -	A1255:	\$	0.00
Registrar Fees:	A1603:	\$	10.00
Building Permits:	A2555:	\$	70.00
<u>Unclassified</u>	A2770:	\$	179.18
Beach fees:	A7140:	\$	57.00
Chips	A3501	\$	0.00
State Aid: Aid & Incentives	A3001	\$	0.00
Total:		\$	7,811.10

### **Water Fund**

Metered Water Sales	F2140-1:	\$	9,763.52
O&M/DCC FEES:	F2140-2:	\$	6,317.60
Unmetered Water:	F2142:	\$	0.00
Interest & Penalty Fee:	F2148:	\$	145.66
Water Meter Fees	F2144:	\$	302.40
Service Connection:	F2145:	\$	0.00
Total:		\$	16,529.18

### **Sewer Fund**

Debt Service:	G2122:	\$	4,656.53
Usage Fee Sewer Rent:	G2120:	\$	7,446.16
Interest & Penalty Fees:	G2128:	\$	145.64
O&M Fees:	G2770:	\$	1,982.39
Total:		\$	14,230.72

### **Motion to Approve Minutes of the September 17, 2019 board meeting:**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Reome, Seconded by Trustee Morrow, and unanimously passed, it was **“Resolved** to Approve the Minutes of the August 20, 2019 Village of Chaumont Regular Board Meeting.

### **Motion to Approve Payment of Abstract #5 of the October 19, 2019 Board Meeting:**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Nichols, Seconded by Trustee Morrow, and unanimously passed, It was **“Resolved”** to Approve Payment for Abstract #5 of the October 19, 2019 Regular Board Meeting in the amounts of \$10,345.20 General Fund Vouchers 1133-1151 , \$631.42 Water Fund, Vouchers 326-328 , \$7,577.67 Waste Water Fund, Vouchers 517-524, Trust & Agency: \$5,684.40 Voucher #55, River Crossing Project \$285.05, Voucher #9.

## **Water/Sewer Report**

Karen reported that Jerry Vecchio, Acct # 1071 has been erroneously charged as a water outside user for two billing cycles. An adjustment of \$40.00 will be made to correct his account.

Kristi Henderson previously requested sewer charge relief for 24k/gal due to two pool fillings in early June. The VBT had asked to wait until two billing cycles were complete to determine the actual usage during that time. Each cycle recorded 13k/gal each. The VBT decided to credit 8k/gal for sewer credit (\$40) based on the average usage of the household.

Mayor Rust stated that any pool fillings or requests for sewer credit in the future will require the amount of water be measured by the portable meter.

Karen read a note from Patricia Bradley stating that water & sewer rates are too high. She stated that no matter how much she tries to conserve, the bill remains the same or sometimes higher. Mayor Rust acknowledged that it is unfortunate that our water & sewer bills seem expensive. however Chaumont is not the highest in our area.

## **Mayor's Report**

### **REDI Program (Resiliency & Economic Dev. Initiative)**

Mayor Rust read an email sent to the Village and Senator Ritchie's office from Tara Morina of Chaumont Bay Marina requesting updates regarding REDI business funding and their concern that they had missed an application deadline. Mayor Rust reported that to date, neither the Village or Town has received REDI business funding information. Most recent announcements were for owner's of primary residences who could apply for flood relief assistance via an application available around Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Sarah Compo of Senator Ritchie's office replied that they have record as of July 8<sup>th</sup> of the Marino's business and that the REDI commission has an inventory of all affected marinas in the region. The REDI Commission is currently in the process of determining how the funds will be allocated.

Mayor Rust stated that the Chaumont Bay Marina was also included in the Village's REDI Funding potential project list.

Mayor Rust also read an email from Joan Sharlow, Wilson Lane, in regards to her submerged concrete dock and concern for boater safety. The Board agreed that this is a concern for many permanent docks under water in the bay. Mayor Rust stated that the initial phase for funding was for municipal repairs and improvements and is unclear how REDI funding will pertain to docks on private property. Mayor Rust will contact Joan to inform her of the anticipated homeowner REDI application for flood relief. She stated that if the municipality is given an opportunity to address other flood relief projects, we will submit for funding relief to address permanent docks on private property.

### **River Crossing/ NYSDOT**

Mayor Rust reported that the DOT's updated budget to place the river crossing waterline on the new bridge is \$280,000. DOT has also added an additional \$150,000 for potential inflation and contingency. On Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, a conference call with Gregor Smith, Val, Karen, Erin Kelly of EFC, Scott Alden of DOH and others discussed the project funding and financing options. We were told that additional funding is always an option if necessary. Gregor will remain in contact with the DOT and will keep us informed of any future changes.

## **Committee Reports**

**Trustee Nichols:** Mike asked if the pine tree at the tennis court monument could be trimmed. He also requested that the Beach rules sign be straightened. He asked if the entrance fence to the beach could be straightened and strengthened. Mike also reported that the Youth Commission purchased a larger storage shed to be placed at the 12E ballfields. The existing shed will be moved to another location. He also informed the Board that he will not be present at the November VBT meeting.

**Trustee Reome:** The Planning Board's meeting in October was cancelled.

**Trustee Froelich:** Trustee Froelich stated that an individual had approached her to ask that since the tennis courts are in such poor condition with anticipation of repairing it, perhaps the VBT could consider using the tennis courts as a dog park. Mayor Rust stated that it could be something for the Board to consider.

**Trustee Morrow:** Nothing to Report.

## **New Business**

Mayor Rust reported that she contacted Sargent Rose to report the speeding that is occurring in the Village. He is the traffic control person for the area. She asked if there could be more police presence to monitor for speeding. He said he will be sending units when possible.

**AIM Funding:** Mayor Rust explained that although the Governor has reinstated AIM funding but payments will be made in May 2020. The amount will be deducted from the sales tax

## **Old Business**

**REDI Funding:** Mayor Rust stated that she was contacted by

## **Correspondence:**

**BOCES:** Federal Motor and Carrier Safety Admin Clearinghouse information letter. BOCES will conduct queries on employer's behalf, however it is the employer's responsibility to purchase the appropriate query plan. A flyer was enclosed with plan costs. Mandatory use of the Clearinghouse goes into effect January 6, 2020.

**NYS Dept of Health:** Letter from Claude Curley summarizing the inspection of the Village's public water system. In his letter, he recommended that the Village consider monitoring water usage to determine the amount of unaccounted for water usage.

**NYS DEC:** Letter from DEC regarding the WWTP and that the facility rating is satisfactory.

## **Motion to Adjourn:**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Reome, Seconded by Trustee Froelich, and unanimously passed, It was " **Resolved** to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees September 17, 2019 meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Fitzgerald  
Village Clerk/Treasurer