

Village Of Chaumont
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees
April 16, 2024

Location of Meeting:

Village Office
12175 State Route 12E
Chaumont, New York 13622

Present at Meeting: Jim Morrow, Jose Sosa, Mike Nichols, Tammy McIntosh, Dori Froelich, Erin Fulton, and Rose Soules

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont was called to order by Mayor Morrow at 6:30 PM on April 16, 2024.

I. Privilege of the Floor

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence directed by Mayor Morrow in honor of the fallen sheriff's deputy and police officer, killed in the line of duty in Syracuse last night. There was no Privilege of the Floor.

II. DPW Update

Clerk Fulton and Mayor Morrow gave a brief summary of the most recent Department of Works meeting, which takes place at the Village of Chaumont offices biweekly on Monday mornings. Beach tasks continue to be executed for the opening this July, as well as village recycling, curb box repairs, seasonal water reconnections, lift station inspections, and crossing guard duties. On Park Drive, the DPW will be removing excess branches cut down by the Fire Department during the last wind storm and building up the berm over the waterline that leads to Flyzik's to help deter water on the road. Brush pickup will begin this month, as well. A new power steering line was delivered for the F350, as it needs replacement, and new tires were purchased and replaced on F250. Eventually, the F250 will need new brakes. Trustee McIntosh informed the Board that LCSD is looking for approval to have senior pictures installed on village light poles. The parents of seniors generally purchase these for their students. Mayor Morrow said that the Sons of The American Legion are looking to put veteran pictures up, as well. Todd LaSage called Mayor Morrow and requested to have a light put in on the corner of Academy and Washington Streets near Justine Dowe's. Clerk Fulton agreed to follow up with National Grid for costs related to that project. The belief is that it was removed due to traffic and parking issues a few years ago. Mayor Morrow suggested that the school may split the costs with the village. Trustee McIntosh mentioned that many street lights on Washington Street need repair. Deputy Clerk Soules has already submitted these requests to National Grid, but will follow up on status. Clerk Fulton briefly discussed the Lead Service Line Inventory she and Superintendent Ingerson will be conducting with the DPW staff around the Village of Chaumont that is due to the NYS Department of Health by October 16, 2024.

Clerk Fulton presented an update on current Zoning and Code violations in the village. Betsy Ring (Dog Control Officer) visited the Paladino residence multiple times in the last week with Friday evening being her last visit until this morning, due to some personal issues. She has yet to have someone answer the door. She is continuing to follow through with this to ticket for unlicensed pets at the residence. Trustee McIntosh believes there are seven (7) unlicensed dogs. It was suggested that Ms. Ring could possibly schedule a visit with a police officer or go over later in the evening. There is also a fence being erected without a permit from the Zoning and Codes department. Jim Millington should be sent over to verify this and follow up. Mr. Millington continues to work on the citation paperwork for the Tefft property. He attended his NYSBOC conference this month, completing his annual required training for ZEO/CEO for the villages of Chaumont and Dexter.

The Lyme Free Library Ramp Project is underway with a permit received from the village for an ADA compliant entrance for disabled library patrons. Mayor Morrow made a motion to approve a permit fee waiver for the library, as requested by the Lyme Free Library board. This was seconded by Trustee McIntosh. All in favor.

III. Motion to Approve Abstract #11 of 2023/2024

Mayor Morrow said he'd accept a motion to approve Abstract #11, with Trustee Sosa making a motion to approve and Trustee Froelich seconding the motion.

IV. Motion(s) to Approve Minutes

Mayor Morrow said he'd accept a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2024 regular Village Board meeting. Trustee McIntosh made a motion to approve the minutes and Deputy Mayor Nichols seconded the motion.

Deputy Mayor Nichols said he'd make a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2024 budget work session, with Trustee Sosa seconding the motion. Trustee Sosa said he'd make a motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2024 Public Hearing for the tentative budget, with Trustee Froelich seconding the motion.

V. Water/Sewer Report

Clerk Fulton reported on water and sewer balances relieved onto village property tax bills. There was one outside user who was delinquent and could not be relieved, but Clerk Fulton rectified this with the Town of Lyme resident.

Mayor Morrow reported on his decision for the Chaumont Volunteer Fire Department to only pay the village's cost for the large service meter (water which is used for emergencies and training, not day-to-day functionality of the fire hall). He realized during the solar fire that although that meter's usage does not go toward their sewer expenses, it should also not contribute to any additional water usage fees above what the village is required to pay to DANC. The Board of Trustees agreed with this decision, instructing water clerks to give the credit during each billing cycle, as is currently done with sewer costs.

VI. Treasurer's Report

VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT							
MARCH RECEIPTS							
YR ENDING <i>May 31, 2024</i>							
REAL PROP TAXES	LIEU OF TAXES	GROSS UTILITY TAX	FRANCHISE FEE	BLDG/PERMIT	UNCLASSIFIED	CHIPS	TOTAL
A1001	A1081	A1130	A1170	A2555	A2770	A3501	
		29.83	1430.16		436.74		1896.73
		21.38	1852.26				1873.64
		28.58					28.58
		0.01					0.01
							0.00
							0.00
							0.00
							0.00
							0.00
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							0.00
							0.00
							0.00
0.00	0.00	79.80	3282.42	0.00	436.74	0.00	3798.96

METERED WATER	O&M AND DCC	INT AND PEN	SERV CONNECTION	TOTAL	USAGE FEE SEWER RENT	DEBT SER	INT AND PENALTY	O&M AND CONNECTION	TOTAL
F2140	F2142	F2148	F2145	WATER	G2120	G2122	G2128	G2770	WASTE
564.65	80.00	10.01		654.66	260.18	419.34	10.00	200.00	889.52
362.46	120.00	35.00		517.46	116.67	482.16	35.00	328.06	961.89
150.66				150.66	175.66	53.35			229.01
402.45				402.45		407.75			407.75
555.88	171.71	15.00	25.00	767.59	353.15	932.69	15.01	457.06	1757.91
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
				0.00					0.00
2036.10	371.71	60.01	25.00	2492.82	905.66	2295.29	60.01	985.12	4246.08

VII. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

VIII. New Business

Clerk Fulton informed the board that brush pickup will begin on the last Thursday of this month. Mayor Morrow brought up the village's annual spring cleanup. Between scrappers and outside contributors, spring cleanup was messy and overwhelming – for our laborers and village aesthetic. For the last two years, we used a dumpster at the Town of Lyme Transfer Site and invited residents to

bring all items which would normally incur tipping fees to the dump on the village’s tab over two specially designated weekends. Mayor Morrow didn’t believe it was getting appropriate usage and does not believe we should move forward with the program. He made a motion to abolish spring cleanup. Trustee McIntosh seconded. Trustee Froelich said she would like to know what the village’s cost of using the Transfer Site was over the last two years before she agrees to end the program. Deputy Mayor Nichols agreed with her: “I’m not voting yes – I would like to have something still available.” Trustee Sosa said he was in the same boat. He would like to see what is available and costs of the options. Mayor Morrow suggested the village could possibly remove junk on a case-by-case basis, and Deputy Clerk Soules advised that it would be extra work for the DPW.

Because there wasn’t a quorum vote, Clerk Fulton offered to research and email the board with options including all previous spring cleanup costs to the Village of Chaumont. This discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

IX. Resolution #21 and #22 of 2023/2024

RESOLUTION NO. 21

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees will officially reappoint Bryan Stumpf and Jennifer Sosa to Village Planning Board Chair and Village Planning Secretary, respectively, to fulfill terms as set forth:

Bryan Stumpf, Chair, term expires December 1, 2025
 Jennifer Sosa, Secretary/Member, term expires December 1, 2027

These new terms are set in order to adhere to NYS Village law which requires staggered appointment terms for all members of a Village Planning Board. The following terms shall remain the same:

Robin Grovesteen, Vice Chair, expires December 1, 2024
 Robert Stevenson, Member, expires December 1, 2026
 Mark Morina, Member, expires December 1, 2028

VOTING:	Ayes 5	Nays	0
The roll call vote was:	Mayor, Jim Morrow		YES
	Deputy Mayor, Mike Nichols		YES
	Trustee, Jose Sosa		YES
	Trustee, Dori-Ann Froelich		YES
	Trustee, Tammy McIntosh		YES

RESOLUTION NO. 21 ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION NO. 22

RESOLVED, By the **Village Board of the Village of Chaumont** to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2024-2025 as filed in the Village Clerk's office and on the public website. The Total Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 6/1/24-5/31/25 is \$189,350, which is under the Tax Cap of \$189,428. The Tax Rate for '24-'25 will be \$4.77, which is \$.19 higher than '23-'24 Tax Rate of \$4.58.

VOTING: Ayes 5 Nays 0

The roll call vote was:	James Morrow, Mayor	YES
	Michael Nichols, Deputy Mayor	YES
	Tammy McIntosh, Trustee	YES
	Dori-Ann Froelich, Trustee	YES
	Jose Sosa, Trustee	YES

RESOLUTION NO. 22 ADOPTED.

X. Correspondence

Clerk Fulton presented monthly correspondence.

- Information about the Municipal Leasing Program from the Bank of Greene County
- Letter to the mayor from Paula Chester of Stevens Point, WI on the dangers of solar energy
- Informational letter from the NYS Department of Public Service on the Comprehensive Broadband Connectivity Act
- Invitation to become a member of the New York Association of Local Government Records Officers
- Changes to the Village of Chaumont's deposit agreement with Gouverneur Savings & Loan Association via Notice of Change of the Terms and Conditions of Your Account
- Letter from the NYS Comptroller showing the Village of Chaumont's Fiscal Stress score as 5.0 and Environmental Stress score of 10.0 for 2023. Each of these scores have a "No Designation," category as the scores do not meet the threshold of stress to fall within "Significant," "Moderate," or "Susceptible."
- A letter from Gabrielle Rickett of 27520 Church Street addressing her property concerns after the water construction project near her home

XI. Mayor's Report/Committee Reports

Mayor Morrow did a little research on "No Wake" signs in Sawmill Bay and other inlets in the Village of Chaumont. He has yet to determine if this is village responsibility, but will continue to research.

Could possibly the responsibility (or just a good deed) of whoever installs buoys. His next step is to call the Coast Guard.

Deputy Mayor Nichols did an inspection of the Village of Chaumont's streets and grounds. He inspected beach, tennis court, parks, etc. There are many sticks that must be removed before DPW starts mowing in these areas. There are still trees fallen on the fence line at the beach, pushing the wire dangerously down. Mayor Morrow said he talked to Terry Countryman when he was Town Supervisor, and we were waiting to repair fence when the town repaired their portion. Deputy Mayor Nichols talked of debris at Memorial Park as well as broken rope on the flag pole. The tennis court area (not tennis court themselves, but surrounding grounds) needs work, as well as the water shed.

Trustee Sosa reported on the Youth Commission signups for spring sports. With the help of Jennifer Sosa, Tia Henderson, Jack Shuler, Stephanie Doney, and many others, they are excited to be coaching about 10 kids for t-ball, 6 for grasshopper, 17 for peewee (over two teams), as well as 12U and 10U softball. Uniforms have been donated by Cape Vincent for peewee boys. Steph, Jeff, and Mindy will be doing open gym at the school on Sundays, and Sierra Walker will be filling the role of soccer coordinator.

Trustee Froelich reported on the Village Planning Board's last meeting. VPB members are working on Land Development Code sections 5-8. There was a lot of discussion surrounding parking on village streets during the last meeting. They also discussed the need to go back to staggered member terms and appointments, as the Board of Trustees rectified this evening. Finally, regarding the Open Meetings Law requirement for ZOOM policies, Trustee Froelich reported that the VPB has decided to comply with the NYS policy and move forward with teleconferencing.

Trustee McIntosh reported that the last Sesquicentennial Committee meeting was a success, as they continued to plan the "Sip and Sample." They have sent out over seventy (70) invites to vendors, and have received about ten (10) commitments so far. There will be another bake sale. Many activities are planned, and Trustee McIntosh feels they are right on schedule. Mayor Morrow asked Clerk Fulton to contact NYMIR regarding celebratory bonfire at the beach. Clerk Fulton agreed and mentioned that Karen Fitzgerald had approached her about renting extra port-o-johns for the beach during this event. Trustee McIntosh said they would be needed July 22nd – 28th. Trustee Sosa made a motion to approve the village securing extra facilities for this timeframe, seconded by Mayor Morrow. All in favor.

Clerk Fulton talked with Pat Weston regarding CHIPS funds and learned they do not expire. She brought Pay Application #12 from JL Excavation before the board for their review and approval. This was signed by Mayor Morrow. She received the village's permit from NYSDOT for annual highway maintenance. After speaking with Ryan Palmer on April 1, 2024, she learned that the Village Beach is not required to have AED at this time. DPW is now using timekeeping system. She continues to work on Hazard Mitigation paperwork for Jefferson County.

XII. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Trustee Froelich made a motion to adjourn at 8:06 PM, seconded by Trustee McIntosh. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted: Erin Fulton, Village Clerk/Treasurer