**Village Of Chaumont**

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees**

**March 15, 2022**

**6:30 PM**

**Location of Meeting:**

Village Office

12175 State Route 12E

Chaumont, New York 13622

**Present at Meeting:** Valerie Rust, James Morrow, Michael Nichols, Jose Sosa, Dori-Ann Froelich, Karen Fitzgerald, & Erin Fulton

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont was called to order at 6:30 PM on March 15, 2022 at the Village Office by Mayor Valerie Rust.

**I. Privilege of the Floor**

Mayor Rust began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There was no Privilege of the Floor.

**II. ARPA Funding**

Mayor Rust asked if there was any major changes of note with the Village’s ARPA funding. Clerk Fulton attended a webinar training on eligible uses, as well as reporting guidelines, and feels confident that we can use the grant to fund the repair of the rotating biological contractor (RBC) at the wastewater treatment plant, as we found that our insurance will not cover parts & labor for this repair. She plans on contacting the Treasury to confirm and will let the VBT know by the next Board Meeting.

**III. Tennis Courts**

Mayor Rust said she has reached out to Bob at Oakie Court Supply, and is waiting on a quotes for the resurfacing of the tennis courts. The basketball court will be updated, and the tennis courts will be modified to four pickle ball courts. She asked Clerk Fulton to make sure this info included in our newsletter submission for the Lyme Light for April.

**IV. DPW Updates**

Mayor Rust announced that Greg Ingerson will be starting with the DPW on April 3rd. He is a former employee that has been working as a consultant for the Village (while employed full-time in another company) who will be retiring, and starting with the Village in a part-time administrative supervisory role.

**V. Motion to Approve Abstract #10 of 2021/2022**

Deputy Mayor Morrow made a motion to approve Abstract #10 of 2021/2022 and Trustee Sosa seconded.

**VI. Motion to Approve Minutes of February 15, 2022 Board Meeting**

Trustee Froelich made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 15, 2022 Board Meeting and Deputy Mayor Morrow seconded.

**VII. Water/Sewer Report**

A resident at 12570 NYS RTE 12E is disputing 17,000 gallons of water usage in November and December of 2021 and requesting a credit. Being hospitalized during that time, he does not believe it is an accurate read. Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald talked at length with the resident about gauging usage, as well as unidentified toilet and faucet leaks. After sending over a member of the DPW, the clerk’s office was informed that the meter does not appear to be broken. Mayor Rust requested a little background concerning number of people in the home and location on the Village. It was determined that there are two parcels on the property, but they each have separate meters. The family averages a usage of 9,000 gallons regularly. Deputy Mayor Morrow suggested to split the overage of 8,000 gallons, giving the resident a credit of 4,000 gallons. The VBT agreed unanimously with this decision.

**VIII. Treasurer’s Report**

Clerk Fulton presented Treasurer’s Report as follows:





**IX. Old Business**

Clerk Fulton filed the 2021 Land Development Code and it can now be found with the DOS as well as the Village’s website. She said she would send the link to the Board of Trustees, as well as send them a copy of the Revised Zoning Map and Schedule of Uses, as her and Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald had noticed some zoning features that could be possible errors.

The resident letter that was sent out describing the NYS Low-Income Housing Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) was a real success with at least six residents applying and awaiting financial assistance in paying their delinquent water and sewer bills.

After snaking the line with a camera, it was found that the sewer issues at 12109 NYS Rte. 12E was due to hygiene wipes and debris being flushed down the pipes. Clerk Fulton called the owner of this commercial property to request she ask her clients to discontinue this practice.

**X. New Business**

There was brief discussion regarding the Village of Chaumont Public Beach. Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald informed the Board that we have received our Renewal Application for Permit to Operate from the DOH, and was wondering if everything will be the same this year. Stephanie Doney will be returning as Beach Director, and according to Deputy Morrow (who attended the Youth Commission meeting), it appears as though Summer Rec has been given the green light this year as well. Mayor Rust said we should begin advertising to fill our lifeguard positions, and she will also have Director Doney reach out to former guards who may wish to participate this year, as well.

**XI. Correspondence**

Clerk Fulton presented monthly correspondence. The only thing of note is that the City of Watertown’s Pollution Control Plant sent a notice that they will begin charging for Annual Laboratory Sampling fees after January 1, 2023. The clerk will reach out to Jay Slate (Pretreatment Coordinator) to determine these charges before our annual budget is finalized in April.

**XII. Mayor’s Report/Committee Report**

Mayor Rust asked about our water reading proposal for the Town. Clerk Fulton explained that Rachel Reusch, a product sales specialist from Core & Main, visited the Village Office about a problem with new meters not reading. While the Village does not have the correct hardware to activate Core & Main’s new Sensus meters/MXUs, the Town does – and asking Bill Scarpici to infrequently activate our new equipment as a “shared service” would save the Village about $2437.42 annually. Clerk Fulton and Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald have presented their request to Town Supervisor Terry Countryman and Water Board chair Marsha Barton, and are currently waiting on a response.

Mayor Rust said many things on her report were already discussed, but she and Deputy Mayor Morrow wanted to address Scott Radley’s concern about potholes. Deputy Morrow said there is a 20 ft. section of road on Park Drive that has at least six deep potholes. There is also a large pothole at the corner of the Church St. and Main St. intersection. Trustee Sosa said it’s about 3 ft. Val will call Al Netto to use Cold Patch and asked Deputy Morrow to please send her pictures of Park Drive.

Deputy Mayor Morrow informed the Trustees of our current status with the Village’s PILOT agreement from the SOLAR project on County Route 179. After the Village Clerk’s office received a Notice of Intent from Norbut Solar that it plans to build and operate a solar energy system in February of 2020, we missed a 60-day window of securing a PILOT, as we mistakenly assumed we were already in the process – and allowed the developer to secure a tax exempt status. Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald showed the Trustees the notification she received mere weeks before the government shutdown due to COVID-19, which showed no indication of a 60-day window. The Village of Chaumont’s attorney, Jim Burrows, had suggested we opt out of RPTL 487 going forward, which allows exemptions for certain energy systems, and the Village Board of Trustees completed this process and filed the law after Public Hearings on February 15th and February 24th, 2022. After a meeting with Lyme Central School District, the Town of Lyme, Jefferson County, the JCIDA, and representing attorneys in March, it was found that each jurisdiction is in varying stages in regards to negotiating PILOT and/or opting out of RPTL 487.

**XIII. Motion to Approve Site Plans for Valley Peetza**

A motion to approve the building permit/12x25 storage shed at Valley Peetza, 11329 Circle Dr., Chaumont, NY 13622, parcel number 61.34-1-4 was offered by Deputy Mayor Morrow and seconded by Trustee Froelich, and upon roll call vote of the Board was duly approved as follows:

Valerie Rust, Mayor: YES

James Morrow, Deputy Mayor: YES

Dori-Ann Froelich, Trustee: YES

Jose Sosa, Trustee: YES

Michael Nichols, Trustee: YES

**XIV. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM by Trustee Nichols, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Morrow.

Respectfully Submitted

Erin Fulton

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Village Clerk/Treasurer