

Regular Meeting of the Chaumont Board of Trustees-6:30 pm

**Village of Chaumont/Town of Lyme Municipal Office
Located at 12175 NYS Route 12E
Held on the 21st Day of February, 2023**

Board Members Present:

Deputy Mayor: James Morrow
Trustee: Dori-Ann Froelich
Trustee: Michael Nichols
Trustee: Jose Sosa

Also Present:

Deputy Clerk: Karen Fitzgerald
Gunther Shaller

Regular Board meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees

Deputy Mayor Morrow opened the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees February 21, 2023 Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Deputy Mayor Morrow asked that the minutes reflect that Mayor Rust is absent this evening.

Privilege of the Floor

Gunther Shaller attended tonight's meeting to get an update to his recent letter and email communications regarding the Town of Lyme Veterans' Park sub-division. Deputy Mayor Morrow explained that the Board is still in the process of gathering information. Mr. Shaller stated that corrective action should have started immediately regarding the Schweitzer land locked parcel upon his notice that a violation of the law had occurred. He reiterated that the whole process of purchase and sub-division of the Magee parcel was flawed from the start. He also contends that the public was not properly advised. He envisions the remedy to this violation would be that the Village Board proceed to uphold their law and immediately seek legal counsel to attain this. Mayor Rust informed him via email that she is gathering comments and documentation from the Village Planning Board. She will be in attendance at the March 14th VBT meeting and will address his concerns at that time.

Mr. Shaller also raised concerns regarding teleconferencing for Village Board meetings and pointed out that the Open Meetings Law has changed since the State of Emergency has lifted. He was informed that the VBT will not be passing a Local Law for teleconferencing of their meetings however the Village Planning Board intends to allow it for a certain member with a medical concern.

DPW Updates

No DPW report was given this evening.

Motion to Approve Minutes of the January 17, 2023 board meeting:

Upon a Motion by Trustee Sosa, Second by Trustee Froelich, and unanimously passed, it was **"Resolved** to Approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2023 Village of Chaumont Regular Board Meeting with a revision to the minutes indicating that Mayor Rust attended the meeting via Zoom teleconferencing.

Motion to Approve Payment of Abstract #9 of the February 21, 2023 Board Meeting:

Upon a Motion by Trustee Nichols, second by Trustee Sosa and unanimously passed, It was **"Resolved"** to Approve Payment for Abstract #9 of the February 21, 2023 Regular Board Meeting in the amounts of \$12,380.49 General Fund; Vouchers 130-146, \$3,042.86 Water

on April 5th. Cost to attend the training is \$75.00 and mileage reimbursement at the federal rate of 65.5 cents per mile totals \$135.00.

Upon a motion by Trustee Froelich, second by Trustee Sosa, and unanimously passed, it was resolved to approve reimbursement to Mr. Stumpf in the amount of \$210.00.

New Business

No new business was discussed.

Correspondence

Kendall, Walton & Burrows: letter of notification of amendments by NYS to the Real Property Tax Law §466 pertaining to volunteer firefighters/ambulance workers tax exemption. Municipalities may adopt a Local Law or Resolution to provide volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers a real property exemption of up to 10% of assessed value of their residence within the municipality if the applicant resides in the municipality together with additional requirements. **(Enclosure of notice provided by NYS)**

The Workplace: Notification of the 2023 Summer Youth Employment Program and attached requests for positions if the Village would like to apply for summer youth help this year.

Donna Burden, Atty: Overview of testimony of Mrs. Susan Roof on December 13, 2022 .

Taylor Robbins, Gouveneur Savings & Loan: Third party Custodian Agreement to transfer our pledged securities to Federal Home Loan Bank of NY (FHLB) from UBS Financial Services, Inc.

Crescent Yacht Club: Notice of application to renew their liquor license for 2023.

System for Award Management: Acknowledgment that the entity registration has been successfully submitted.

Committee Reports

Trustee Sosa: The Youth Commission elected officers at their last meeting -- Chairman: Scott Radley, Co-chair: Jim Morrow and Secretary: Kathy Gardner. Youth basketball started on January 9th, however participation is declining. Applications are being accepted for a Summer Rec Coordinator for this season. A request has been made for upgraded helmets and catcher gear for the softball program.

Trustee Morrow: A special meeting on February 22nd of the Regional Water Line has been called for all six municipalities to discuss their proposed budget and municipality rate increases.

Trustee Nichols: Leaning road signs and beach signs still are not corrected. It was mentioned this may be caused due to the frozen ground. Trustee Nichols stated that these items should be corrected as soon as the weather allows.

Trustee Froelich: The Planning Board reviewed and submitted their final suggestions to the law. Regarding annual training, it was suggested that some classes may be done remotely.

Motion to Adjourn:

Upon a Motion by Trustee Nichols, Seconded by Trustee Sosa, and unanimously passed, It was **Resolved** to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees February 21, 2023 at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Fitzgerald, Deputy Clerk.