

Regular Meeting of the Chaumont Board of Trustees
Village of Chaumont/Town of Lyme Municipal Office
Located at 12175 NYS Route 12E
Via zoom meeting
Held on the 19th Day of January, 2021

Board Members Present:

Mayor: Valerie Rust
Deputy Mayor: Michael Nichols
Trustee: Patricia Reome
Trustee: James Morrow
Trustee: Dori-ann Froelich

Also Present:

Village Clerk: Karen Fitzgerald

Regular Board meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees

Mayor Rust opened the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees January 19, 2021 Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. via zoom meeting. Mayor Rust requested that the minutes reflect that all trustees are present this evening.

Privilege of the Floor

No one was present for privilege of the floor.

DPW Updates

The bridge over Horse Creek has not been well maintained due to a number of factors. It appears as if it has not been shoveled and the snowblower can't remove the snow once snowmobiles have driven on it. Mayor Rust will reach out to DPW to discuss.

Trustee Morrow has offered to assist with supervision of the DPW. Mayor Rust will send Trustee Morrow the operational schedule for his review. He intends to meet with the DPW to discuss a plan.

DANC Proposal-NYS Public Employer Health Plan

Mayor Rust requested a quote from the Development Authority for their technical services to develop a Mandatory Operational Plan as required by NYS Labor Law 27-C. The scope of services that would be performed by the Authority consists of four tasks: 1) Research and data acquisition; 2) Plan development; 3) Draft Plan for municipal review and submission to unions/labor committees; and 4) Presentation of Final Plan. The quote indicated that the total cost of such services shall not exceed the amount of **\$2,500**.

After discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Froelich, seconded by Trustee Morrow and unanimously passed to decline the quote and complete the plan in house.

Chaumont Bridge Ornamental Lighting

Gregor Smith, BC&A, shared an email from NYSDOT regarding ornamental lighting on the new Chaumont bridge. The betterment would be for 10 ornamental lights and is estimated to cost \$84,000. If the project continues to be postponed, the email stated that we should be prepared to add an additional 3% annually. Although all trustees are in favor of the lights and believe they would be a beautiful enhancement, funding for the lights would have to increase Village taxes. Upon a motion by Trustee Nichols, seconded by Trustee Morrow and unanimously passed, it was decided to decline an authorization to include ornament lights on the new bridge

Asset Management Plan

Mayor Rust requested Karen to reach out to the Development Authority to determine if they can assist in developing an Asset Management Plan.

December 2020 Accounts Receivables

General Fund

Real Property Tax	A1001:	\$	-0-
Lieu of Taxes	A1081:	\$	-0-
Jeff. County Sales Tax	A1120:	\$	-0-
Penalty/Interest:	A1090:	\$	-0-
Gross Utility Tax:	A1130:	\$	1145.41
Franchise Fees:	A1170:	\$	34.98
Clerk Fees: -	A1255:	\$	20.00
Registrar Fees:	A1603:	\$	-0-
Building Permits:	A2555:	\$	497.00
Unclassified	A2770:	\$	-0-
Beach fees:	A7140:	\$	-0-
Chips	A3501	\$	-0-
State Aid: Aid & Incentives	A3001	\$	-0-
Total:		\$	1,697.39

Water Fund

Metered Water Sales	F2140-1:	\$	14,452.92
O&M/DCC FEES:	F2140-2:	\$	9,980.30
Unmetered Water:	F2142:	\$	0.00
Interest & Penalty Fee:	F2148:	\$	25.00
Water Meter Fees	F2144:	\$	0.00
Service Connection fees:	F2145:	\$	0.00
Total:		\$	26,458.22

Sewer Fund

Debt Service:	G2122:	\$	7,354.74
Usage Fee Sewer Rent:	G2120:	\$	11,107.59
Interest & Penalty Fees:	G2128:	\$	25.00
O&M Fees:	G2770:	\$	3,673.34
		\$	22,160.67

Motion to Approve Minutes of the December 15, 2020 board meeting:

Upon a Motion by Trustee Reome, Seconded by Trustee Froelich, and unanimously passed, it was **“Resolved** to Approve the Minutes of the December 15, 2020 Village of Chaumont Regular Board Meeting.

Motion to Approve Payment of Abstract #8 of the January 19, 2021 Board Meeting:

Upon a Motion by Mayor Rust and unanimously passed, It was **“Resolved”** to Approve Payment for Abstract #8 of the January 19, 2021 Regular Board Meeting via email confirmation of each trustee in the amounts of \$4,264.06 General Fund; Vouchers 1363-1375 \$17,298.50 Water Fund, Vouchers 396-399, \$17775.31 Waste Water Fund, Vouchers 656-662, Trust & Agency: \$1,666.43 Vouchers #77, River Crossing Project \$100,185.07, vouchers 31-34.

Water/Sewer Utility Application fees

The trustees were in agreement that the current application fees of \$300.00 for water and \$300.00 for sewer approval for new service requests is excessive. After some discussion, Trustee Morrow made a motion, seconded by Trustee Froelich and unanimously passed to reduce each application fee to \$150.00 per utility.

Water/ Sewer Report

On the last meter read, Jan 6th, Justine Dowe, 11891 Academy St read electronically to indicate a usage of 249 k/gal. A manual read was done to verify the reading. Since 2015, this account has been estimated as it could not be read manually. DPW was never able to get inside the house to read the meter. It is unclear why the MXU has suddenly started working although it is thought that a wire may have been reconnected. Estimates for the household over this time has been for 4-5 k/gals per billing cycle. After discussion, it was decided to charge 10 k/gals for this billing cycle and to monitor readings in the future.

Wise Guys meter did not read electronically for the January billing, so once again, their usage was estimated. Greg is under the impression that there is no MXU installed. Karen will ask AI for a manual read and verification if a MXU is needed.

Priscilla Audo's water shut off. JL Excavators had agreed to submit a quote for this repair prior to them finishing the Water St. waterline improvement project in the fall, however no quote has been received. When they return in the spring to make final restoration on Water St., an estimate will be requested and if possible, schedule this repair.

Paula Petroske-Morris Tract Rd- The installation of a meter and MXU has been postponed due to a waterline freeze up on the property. The curb stop is currently shut off and a decision regarding the meter & MXU installation was tabled until spring.

Mayor Rust informed the trustees of serious high alarm issues with the pump behind Chaumont Hardware. It is a duplex station and we are down to one working pump. P&T can do the repairs or replacement of the pump pending authorization. It was decided to move forward with repairs as needed.

The contractor for Dick Wallace's hookup to sewer recommends a grinder station be installed. The Village recommends an ABS grinder pump, however the cost is \$12K-\$15K. Mayor Rust commented that if another grinder pump maker is purchased, it will be necessary for Dick to sign an agreement stating he understand that any maintenance or repairs in the future is at his expense. Greg also recommended that if all three lots are developed, a duplex station should be installed as three lots will be too much for one pump to handle.

Mayor Rust stated that the Grinder Pump Maintenance Agreement should be updated, approved and added to Sewer Use Law as soon as possible.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Rust informed the trustees that the health insurance premiums has gone from \$69K to \$24K annually due to changes in personnel.

Mayor Rust commented on an email sent by Attorney Burrows to exercise caution with any inquiries regarding our municipal employees. Evidently, there have been some scammers trying to gain private information for malicious intent.

Committee Reports

Trustee Reome: The Planning Board gave final site plan approval for Jacquelyn Cox to open a yarn shop on the Corner of Washington St. and NYS Rte 12E. They also granted approval for a lot line adjustment between Patricia Reome and Frederick & Lynda Jackson.

Committee Reports (con't)

Trustee Froelich: The Planning Board has scheduled two meetings for the month of February. They intend to review the Village's zoning map for any revisions and current code and zoning fees. They also asked about the "no parking sign" for the corner of Rte 12e and Washington St. They also discussed with Kathie Carr the possibility of using the old railroad bed as a "Rails to Trails" project.

Trustee Morrow: Nothing to report.

Trustee Nichols: Nothing to report

New Business

Paul Norton contacted the Village regarding the tennis courts. He is interested in exploring options to help the Village fund repairs to make the courts safe and usable again. He questioned if fundraising efforts could be done by a community organization to spearhead a fundraising campaign. All trustees are in agreement that the tennis courts are unsafe however funding has always been the problem. A comment was made that perhaps the Town might be in a better financial position to take the courts over. Discussion was tabled until clarification if the Village government can legally be a party in a fundraising campaign.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

Correspondence

Slack Chemical: Notice of fee and delivery fee changes. Request to allow for 2 day lead time for any orders for delivery and notice that minimum orders are now required to be at least \$250.00.

Motion to Adjourn:

Upon a Motion by Trustee Morrow, Seconded by Trustee Reome, and unanimously passed, It was "**Resolved** to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees January 19, 2021 meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Fitzgerald, Village Clerk/Treas.