

Regular Meeting of the Chaumont Board of Trustees
Incorporated Village of Chaumont: April 23, 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 23rd Day of April, 2019

Board Members Present:

Mayor: Valerie Rust
Deputy Mayor: Michael Nichols
Trustee: James Morrow
Trustee: Patricia Reome
Trustee: Dori-ann Froelich (arrived at 6:55 pm)

Also Present:

Village Clerk: Karen Fitzgerald
DPW Superintendent: Greg Ingerson
Planning Board Chair: Hartley Bonisteel-Schweitzer
Planning Board Member: Robin Grovesteen

Others Present:

David Norbut, President Norbut Solar
Ashley Champion, Atty representing David Norbut (Nixon Peabody)
Jared Perran, Norbut Solar

Public Hearing –2019-2020 Budget Hearing---6:00 P.M

Mayor Rust opened the Public Hearing for the proposed 2019/2020 Annual Budget at 6:00 pm.. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive comments on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2019/2020.

Mayor Rust informed the Trustees that the final taxable value total is \$37,425,339.00 which will result in a \$4.38 per thousand assessment. This is an increase of \$.05 over the 2018/2019 budget assessment. The amount to be raised by taxes is \$163,935.00 for the 2019/2020 budget.

Mayor Rust closed the Public Hearing for the proposed 2019/2020 Annual Budget at 6:30 p.m. The Village Board of Trustees received no comments on the proposed budget.

Regular Board meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees

Mayor Rust opened the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees April 23, 2019 Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Rust requested that the minutes reflect that Trustee Froelich will arrive late for the meeting tonight.

Privilege of the Floor

No one was present for privilege of the floor.

Planning Board / Solar Moratorium

Planning Board Chair, Hartley Bonisteel-Schweitzer took to the floor to explain why the Village Planning Board recommends consideration of a solar moratorium. She stated that current land use codes do not specifically address solar generation facilities and the proposed project is completely different from anything ever presented to the Planning Board. Hartley stated that she has reached out to Jefferson County Planning, NYCOM and the Village’s attorney for their recommendations. All of the above recommended a moratorium to allow time to explore all facets of energy generation and to determine if regulations should be considered.

Mr. Norbut also addressed the Board stating that he feels that a moratorium could jeopardize his project or even future energy generation projects since projects in surrounding towns could bring the lines to their capacity. He noted that due to a project in the Town of Clayton, his proposed project within the Village of Chaumont has already been reduced to a 11 MW project from the original proposed 25 MW project. Mr. Norbut stressed that he is more than willing to work with the Village to insure that all concerns are addressed and conditions met. He asked the Trustees to consider the Village’s site plan review process as a sufficient vehicle to insure that all obligations are met.

Mayor Rust asked several questions of Mr. Norbut and the Planning Board. After all questions were answered, Mayor Rust forwarded the following resolution which was seconded by Trustee Morrow:

RESOLUTION #1 2019-2020

Whereas, the Village Board for the Village of Chaumont, has not yet devoted considerable time and attention to green energy issues including solar energy systems and wishes to do so. A three month moratorium on energy generation facilities with allow time to research if a solar law is warranted.

Roll call vote:	Mayor Rust	Aye
	Deputy Mayor Nichols:	Nay
	Trustee Morrow	Aye
	Trustee Reome	Abstain
	Trustee Froelich	Aye

RESOLUTION #1 2019-2020 ADOPTED

Planning Board---Fee Schedule

The Planning Board suggested that the trustees review the current fee schedule and amend as needed. One consideration is to impose a penalty for building without a permit. Also discussed were fees regarding special meetings. The trustees decided to table any amendments until next meeting.

Mayor Rust requested advice from Attorney Burrows regarding the dirt pile at the Wise Guys construction site. Attorney Burrows replied that unless conditions were made during site plan review, the site would be considered an active construction site and would be exempt from removing the dirt pile.

DPW Updates

Spring cleanup will be held during the week of May 6th. The DPW will distribute flyers while recycling to remind residents of the cleanup date and the list of restricted items. Also noted on the flyers is that there will be no brush pickup during spring cleanup.

Greg informed the Board that the new Crescent Yacht Club Jr. Div. building sewer hookup has been connected to the Village's grinder. Although this was not according to the original plan, he gave his approval since their discharge pipe was found to be lower than the lake level. A grinder pump agreement will need to be signed between the Village and the CYC stating that the grinder is the CYC's responsibility and owned by the organization.

It appears that the most viable option for the River Crossing will be to connect to the proposed new Chaumont Bridge when it is replaced in 2022. The Dept of Health has not yet agreed to that option. Gregor Smith will write a letter to Claude Curley seeking his approval for the design change. A special meeting with Village and Bernier Carr & Assoc is scheduled on May 1st to discuss this option.

The Nichols cottage on Hart Rd has been renovated to become a year round residence. Greg informed the contractor that due to the shallow waterline placement, there is a possibility that they will need to run their water during winter to prevent freezing.

The Sexual Harassment training is necessary for all employees and board members. The training is to be completed prior to October 2019. Karen will review the training video and make arrangements to complete the training perhaps in June.

The April Regional Water Line meeting is scheduled for Apr. 24th. Greg will be attending as Mayor Rust is unavailable. Mayor Rust commented that she read in March's RWL minutes that the RWL has agreed to pay the cost of the main water valve to be placed on the bridge. Expected cost is \$30,000.00.

Greg has been requested to serve on the Town of Cape Vincent's water board. Mayor Rust gave her approval and stated it would not be considered a conflict of interest.

The Park Drive culvert appears to be crushed on one end causing debris and water build up. It may be able to be jacked open later this spring. The more critical problem is that the culvert is set very shallow in the ground so the water pipe sits too high to allow the flow of water. It may be necessary to relocate a culvert where there is more soil depth. Mayor Rust asked if the flooding may be caused due to the construction of the school's ballfield. Greg answered that he did not know, however the fields slope in that direction and may add to the flooding conditions.

Greg asked if National Grid has inspected the leaning poles on Circle Dr. Karen commented that she has not received any response to date. She will contact National Grid for their determination.

Greg asked if the road into the WWTP could be paved under CHIPS funds. It is believed that the roadway may not qualify since it is not listed as a street in our inventory.

Joan O'Brien's request to only plow to the end of Mill Street was discussed. The DPW is plowing a bigger area to allow for turnaround of the trash and recycling trucks. We may need to contact Jeff. Co. Real Property to verify exactly where the end of the street and right of ways are.

The winter clothing allowance maximum was set for \$260.00 every two years.

Dollar General Purchasing & Tax Exempt Card

The Village has been approved for tax exempt status through Dollar General. They also approved a purchasing credit card for the Village. As discussed in a previous meeting, the Key Bank credit card has been closed. A motion was made by Trustee Reome, and seconded by Trustee Nichols and unanimously passed to accept the tax exempt and credit card. Mayor Rust stated that in order to avoid interest, these bills can be considered a pre-pay.

Budget Approval for fiscal year 2019-2020

Upon a motion by Trustee Nichols, Seconded by Trustee Morrow and unanimously passed, it was Resolved to approve the proposed budget for 2019-2020. The amount to be raised by taxes is \$163,935.00.

March 2019 Accounts Receivable: General/Water/Sewer Fund Updates:

Real Property Tax	A1001:	\$	0.00
Lieu of Taxes	A1081:	\$	0.00
Jeff. County Sales Tax	A1120:	\$	0.00
Penalty/Interest:	A1090:	\$	0.00
Gross Utility Tax:	A1130:	\$	62.01
Franchise Fees:	A1170:	\$	2702.95
Clerk Fees: -	A1255:	\$	0.00
Registrar Fees:	A1603:	\$	0.00
Building Permits:	A2555:	\$	0.00
Unclassified	A2770:	\$	257.08
Beach fees:	A7140:	\$	0.00
Chips	A3501	\$	46,162.05
State Aid: Aid & Incentives	A3001	\$	0.00

Total: \$ 49,184.09

Water Fund

Metered Water Sales	F2140-1:	\$	6,318.73
O&M/DCC FEES:	F2140-2:	\$	2,891.89
Unmetered Water:	F2142:	\$	-0-
Interest & Penalty Fee:	F2148:	\$	133.16
Water Meter Fees	F2144:	\$	25.00
Service Connection:	F2145:	\$	25.00
Total:		\$	9,368.78

Sewer Fund

Debt Service:	G2122:	\$	2,802.51
Usage Fee Sewer Rent:	G2120:	\$	5,727.38
Interest & Penalty Fees:	G2128:	\$	133.16
O&M Fees:	G2770:	\$	1,236.23
Total:		\$	9,899.28

GIS Hosting Agreement

The 5 year renewal contract for GIS Hosting was reviewed. This agreement is for the time period of May 31, 2019 to May 31, 2024. Annual costs are \$775.00 for 2019 to 2020 with an increase to \$825.00 for 2021 to 2023 and \$875.00 to 2024. Any additions or corrections to the GIS will be made at no additional charge.

Resolution #2 (2019-2020)

RESOLUTION NO. 2 2019

DEMONSTRATING SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE NORTH COUNTRY AND PARTNERS' GRANT APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Whereas, THE Development Authority of the North Country (Authority) and its partners have completed a feasibility study and identified opportunities to consolidate and share Geographic Information (GIS) within the region, and

Whereas, the Authority and its partners have identified the Local Government Efficiency Program (LGEP) as a source of funding to subsidize the cost of implementing the recommendations of the feasibility study, and

Whereas, the Village of Chaumont will directly benefit from the results of the project by having access to a public map viewer, self-service map viewer, and Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data. The Village of Chaumont is in agreement of this support providing there are no additional costs associated to the Village.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Village of Chaumont does hereby authorize its chief elected official to sign a letter of support of the Authority and its partners' application to the LGEP.

Roll call vote:

Mayor Rust :	Aye
Deputy Mayor: Nichols	Aye
Trustee Morrow:	Aye
Trustee Reome	Aye
Trustee Froelich	Aye

RESOLUTION #2 (2019-2020) ADOPTED

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the March 19, 2019 Board Meeting:

Upon a Motion by Trustee Reome, Seconded by Trustee Froelich, and unanimously passed, it was “**Resolved**” to Approve the Minutes of the April 23, 2019 Village of Chaumont Regular Board Meeting with a correction that Trustee Froelich did not make a report on the Planning Board meeting as she was not able to attend.

Motion to Approve for Payment Abstract #10 of the April 23, 2019 Board Meeting:

Upon a Motion by Trustee Nichols, Seconded by Trustee Morrow, and unanimously passed, It was “**Resolved**” to Approve Payment for Abstract #11 of the April 23, 2019 Regular Board Meeting in the amounts of \$3,819.29 General Fund Vouchers 1025-1035, \$19,108.94 Water Fund, Vouchers 302-306 , \$4,086.28 Waste Water Fund, Vouchers 460-468, Trust & Agency: \$5,684.40 Voucher #4.

Water/Sewer Report

Karen supplied a list of delinquent water & sewer balances that have been relieved. There was discussion regarding the timing for shut offs. The bi-monthly billing and option for monthly payments lends to some confusion as to when shut offs should occur. Our current water use law only addresses shut offs on a bi-monthly schedule. There was discussion that perhaps an amendment to our water use laws will be necessary to address timing for shuts when monthly payments are made.

Mayor’s Report

Dissolution Study: Mayor Rust selected the following persons to serve on the dissolution committee: Mayor Rust, Trustee Morrow, Scott Radley, Robin Grovesteen and Shirley Williams.

Committee Reports

- Trustee Morrow: Nothing to report
- Trustee Nichols: Trustee Morrow stated that he will be out of town for the board meetings in June, July and possibly August as he will be out of town acting as a caregiver for a friend.
- Trustee Froelich: Nothing to report
- Trustee Reome: Nothing to report.

New Business

The Regional Water Line 2018 Annual Water Quality report has been received and will be made available on the Village’s website. A notice to the residents will be placed on the May water billing.

Old Business

No old business was discussed.

Correspondance:

Jefferson County /recycling: Notice of increased tipping fees to from \$65.00 to \$70.00 per ton.

BOCES: Announcement of On-line Suspicious Training notice and notice of fee increase as of July 1, 2019.

United States Bankruptcy Court: Notice regarding proceedings against Ditech Holding Corporation. Karen has contacted the customer service number to discuss how this affects the Village. The representative could not specifically explain how this would involve the Village, however it is thought that there may be a property that is owned by Ditech. No action by the Village is necessary at this time.

Eastern Lake Ontario Invasive Species Symposium: Invitation to attend an informational meeting regarding invasive water species in Eastern Lake Ontario scheduled for June 20th at Altmar, NY

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 April 23, 2019 meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Fitzgerald
Village Clerk/Treasurer