

**Solar Moratorium Public Hearing and**  
**Regular Meeting of the Chaumont Board of Trustees**  
**Incorporated Village of Chaumont: June 18, 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 18th Day of June, 2019**

**Board Members Present:**

Mayor: Valerie Rust  
Trustee: James Morrow  
Trustee: Patricia Reome  
Trustee: Dori-Ann Froelich (left the meeting at 6:45)

**Also Present:**

Village Clerk: Karen Fitzgerald  
DPW Superintendent: Greg Ingerson

**Public Hearing –Solar Moratorium--6:00 P.M**

Mayor Rust opened the Public Hearing concerning a proposed three month solar moratorium to be placed on any solar projects in the Village of Chaumont.

Trustee Reome reported that the Planning Board has been hard at work researching and working on a solar law. Mike Bourcy from County Planning attended their meeting to help guide and make recommendations regarding solar laws. The Planning Board hopes to have a proposed law for the Village Board to review at their next meeting in July.

Mayor Rust closed the Public Hearing for the proposed solar moratorium at 6:30 p.m. The Village Board of Trustees received no comments on the proposed moratorium.

**Regular Board meeting of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees**

Mayor Rust opened the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees June 18, 2019 Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Rust requested that the minutes reflect that Trustee Nichols is absent this evening.

**Privilege of the Floor**

No one was present for privilege of the floor.

**DPW Updates**

Greg reported that top soil has been delivered to O'Brien's property. Charlie O'Brien will spread the top soil as he sees fit. Also, Joan has requested help in finding the survey stakes of her property. She claims that they were removed when the sewer was installed. Greg said he will try to find the stakes using a metal detector.

## **DPW Report –con’t**

Greg reported that Wise Guy’s sewer has been installed. The waterline will be completed as originally requested by the Village. The Village is responsible for the cost of the saddle and other connection requirements. The cost of a 2” meter for the line will be Wise Guys responsibility.

Mayor Rust requested that the shut off valve at Charlie Richardson’s become a priority.

The DPW will be working at the beach soon. Greg has ordered two “beach closed” signs. We need a new tether ball and a swing with chains.

Austin Barney, will start on July 1<sup>st</sup> as DPW summer youth help.

Greg stated that both the east & west sides of Water St. are in terrible condition. He will request advice from Trevor from NYS DOT to make it last for one more year until the water project begins.

## **Chaumont Vol. Fire Dept**

Karen supplied the trustees with a NYCOM power point presentation to assist the Board in determining their responsibilities in the administrative control of the fire department. If there are no fire commissioners, a fire council is formed. A fire council consists of chief, assistant chief and wardens. It was decided that no fire commissioner will be appointed at this time.

Chief Jackson was unable to attend the meeting tonight, but asked Karen to relay that on advice of the fire department’s attorney, the fire department would be holding a second election of officers. He stated the reason for a special election is due to the realization that unauthorized members had voted in the annual election held in April. Chief Jackson also stated that the fire department will be submitting minutes and/or sending a liaison to future Village Board meetings when necessary. Trustee Morrow has been appointed liaison to attend future Chaumont fire department meetings.

Amended By-laws dated Sept. 20, 2010 were received on June 14, 2019 to update the Village files as the previous by-laws on file were dated in 2003.

## **Solar Moratorium**

Receiving no comments regarding a solar moratorium, Mayor Rust forwarded the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION ENACT A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM FOR SOLAR ENERGY WHEREAS, the Village Board for the Village of Chaumont, New York has not yet devoted considerable time and attention to Green Energy issues including Solar Energy Systems, and wishes to do so; and WHEREAS, the Village Board has determined that the orderly growth of Solar Energy Systems will promote the health, safety and welfare of the community, and will do so in an environmentally friendly fashion; and WHEREAS, pursuant to the New York Environmental Quality Review Act, this Board, has made a determination that the adoption of the Local Law in the Village of Chaumont is classified as a Type II action for purposes of SEQR at Section 617.5(c)(36) and is not subject for further review. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village Board of the Village of Chaumont, New York as follows: 1. The forgoing recitations are incorporated herein and made a part hereof as if set forth hereafter. 2. The**

Village Board hereby enacts the Local Law titled “Moratorium for Solar Energy Law” as being in the best interests of the Village of Chaumont. 3. The Mayor for the Village of Chaumont and the Village Clerk for the Village of Chaumont, their respective agents and employees are authorized to sign all documents and take all steps necessary to enact this legislation. 4. This Legislation shall be filed with the New York State Department of State; and with the Village Clerk of the Village of Chaumont. 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Village Beach**

Ryan Palmer, NYS Dept of Health, inspected the beach in anticipation of a July 1<sup>st</sup> opening. He suggested more sand to be filled into the existing crevices created by the natural run off, but stated the beach looked to be in good condition. One condition of receiving our DOH permit was an addition to the Village’s beach safety plan addressing high water conditions and Hazardous Algae Blooms. A water depth indicator needs to be installed to verify that the swim area is no more than 5 feet deep. Mayor Rust and Karen will prepare the safety plan addendum as soon as possible.

**River Crossing Report**

Mayor Rust and Karen met with Gregor Smith of BC&A to discuss design changes to the River Crossing project. The placement of the waterline on the Chaumont bridge will reduce the proposed costs substantially. He stated that solicitation of bids for the project will start this summer. It is expected that the Water Street portion and valve installation will start in spring of 2020. Gregor presented project plans for Greg to review.

**May 2019 Accounts Receivable: General/Water/Sewer Fund Updates:**

Real Property Tax (2018)	A1001:	\$ 8,654.61
Lieu of Taxes	A1081:	\$ 0.00
Jeff. County Sales Tax	A1120:	\$ 0.00
Penalty/Interest:	A1090:	\$ 0.00
Gross Utility Tax:	A1130:	\$ 45.21
Franchise Fees:	A1170:	\$ 0.00
Clerk Fees: -	A1255:	\$ 0.00
Registrar Fees:	A1603:	\$ 0.00
Building Permits:	A2555:	\$ 37.00
Unclassified	A2770:	\$ 86.74
Beach fees:	A7140:	\$ 25.00
Chips	A3501	\$ 0.00
State Aid: Aid & Incentives	A3001	\$ 1,547.14
Total:		\$ 10,395.70

**Water Fund**

Metered Water Sales	F2140-1:	\$ 5,121.36
O&M/DCC FEES:	F2140-2:	\$ 2,766.94
Unmetered Water:	F2142:	\$ -0-
Interest & Penalty Fee:	F2148:	\$ 89.16
Water Meter Fees	F2144:	\$ 141.97
Service Connection:	F2145:	\$ 0.00
Total:		\$ 10,545.36

**Sewer Fund**

Debt Service:	G2122:	\$ 1,802.39
Usage Fee Sewer Rent:	G2120:	\$ 4,520.49
Interest & Penalty Fees:	G2128:	\$ 89.16
O&M Fees:	G2770:	\$ 996.20
Total:		\$ 9,752.69

**Compensated Absences**

The beginning of each fiscal year, June 1<sup>st</sup> constitutes the time when employees are granted their new vacation, personal & sick time. The personnel policy states that the maximum vacation carry over hours is 160 hours. The WWTP Operator, John Duvall has 220 hours of vacation earned for 2018-2019 as of June 1, 2019. The trustees determined that John will need to forfeit the overage of 60 hours vacation time for 2018-2019 fiscal year as prescribed by the Personnel Policy. They stressed that he should remain vigilant in the future so that he can enjoy all the compensated time he is entitled to.

**Fence Law**

Robin Grovesteen raised a concern to the trustees regarding a fence that was erected within the Village. Her concerns is that a permit was issued without regard to the Village fence law already in place. The permit was issued by the CEO, however Robin feels it should have been a matter that was taken to the ZBA for their interpretation of the law. The trustees decided that since the permit was issued and the fence has already been erected, they would not pursue a ZBA hearing regarding it.

**Motion to Approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2019 Board Meeting:**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Morrow, Seconded by Trustee Reome, and unanimously passed, it was **“Resolved** to Approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2019 Village of Chaumont Regular Board Meeting.

**Motion to Approve Payment of Abstract #1 of the June 18, 2019 Board Meeting:**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Reome, Seconded by Trustee Morrow, and unanimously passed, It was **“Resolved”** to Approve Payment for Abstract #1 of the June 18, 2019 Regular Board Meeting in the amounts of \$7,993.81 General Fund Vouchers 1053-1067, \$1,266.88 Water Fund, Vouchers 310-312 , \$1,854.31 Waste Water Fund, Vouchers 478-483, Trust & Agency: \$5,684.40 Voucher #51, River Crossing Project \$764.50, Voucher #7.

**Water/Sewer Report**

**Wise Guys Application:** The trustees agreed that since the Wise Guys property originally has utilities, no application fees for water or sewer should be charged. Upon a motion by Trustee Morrow, seconded by Trustee Reome, and unanimously passed, it was resolved to waive application fees for installation of water & sewer the property.

**Chris Scott:** Requested a 3000 gallon sewer credit on his water bill due to filling his pool.

## **Mayor's Report**

### **Waiver - Wise Guys Restaurant**

Wise Guys Restaurant has requested a waiver of the 30 day waiting period associated with the application for a liquor license. They are required to file for a new license due to the change of the restaurant's location and addition of liquor sales. This waiver is at the discretion of the Board. All trustees were in favor of granting a waiver as Wise Guys are an established business and of good character.

**Dissolution Study:** Dissolution committee meetings have been scheduled for the four Wednesday of each month. The meeting location will be at the Town of Lyme/Village of Chaumont municipal office.

## **Committee Reports**

Trustee Morrow: Nothing to report

Trustee Reome: The Planning Board intends to rewrite section 330 (Unclassified Uses) of the Land Use Law.

## **New Business**

No new business was discussed.

## **Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

## **Correspondance:**

**Lyme Improvement League:** Request for assistance of treatment of the ash trees located at the tennis courts and Chaumont Fire Hall. The letter requests assistance with the treatment of three ash trees at a cost of \$168.00 each, totaling \$504.00. Since treatment will not take place until next spring, the trustees agreed to a payment of \$250.00 in the 2019-2020 fiscal year and \$254.00 in the next fiscal year.

**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 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Fitzgerald  
Village Clerk/Treasurer