

**Budget Work Session/**  
**Regular Meeting of the Chaumont Board of Trustees**  
**Village of Chaumont/Town of Lyme Municipal Office**  
**Located at 12175 NYS Route 12E**  
**Chaumont, New York 13622**

**Held on the 17th Day of March, 2020**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Also Present:**

Village Clerk: Karen Fitzgerald  
John Duvall, DPW Superintendent

**Budget Work Session**

Deputy Mayor Nichols opened the 2020-2021 Budget work session at 6 pm and asked that the minutes reflect that Mayor Rust is attending the meeting via telephone.

Mayor Rust reviewed the preliminary budget for general fund, water fund & sewer fund.

Anticipated increased expenses to the General Fund include:

- Retirement: \$41K to offset deficient payment in anticipation of possible dissolution
- Recycling dumpster: \$2,400.00 for anticipated pickups at \$50.00 x 4 per month
- Liab/property Insurance: \$25K increased cost of over \$15k due to insurance cancellation
- Anticipated Dissolution Costs:\$40K
- Recycling Dumpster pickup charges: \$2,400.00

Within the Water & Sewer funds Mayor Rust proposed a reduction to 1 EDU fee for marinas during the off season. If adopted, the anticipated loss of revenue would be \$2,160.00. Marinas are currently charged for 4 EDUs for all billing cycles. The Crescent Yacht Club, currently at 6 EDUs, will be reduced to 2 EDUs during off season.

Mayor Rust anticipates the only changes to water & sewer rates will be in the case of outside water users. Reductions to the DCC & O&M fees is being considered. The proposal for outside water user fees for DCC & O&M will reduce from \$25.00 to \$20.00.

The anticipated tax rate is \$4.44 per \$1,000.00 in assessment. The proposed tax levy is \$166,500.00. This proposed budget is below the 1.78% tax cap.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Nichols, second by Trustee Froelich, and unanimously passed, it was decided to hold the budget public hearing at 6 pm on April 21, 2020 prior to the regular board meeting.

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

Deputy Mayor Nichols opened the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees March 17, 2020 Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Deputy Mayor Nichols requested that the minutes reflect that Mayor Rust is attending the meeting via telephone conference.

**Privilege of the Floor**

No one was present for privilege of the floor.

## **DPW Updates**

Spring Cleanup was discussed. John advised that tipping fees are now being charged by Jeff. County Recycling for mattresses and box springs based on weight. This cost is new this year and will add to the cleanup costs. Concerns of some residences who abuse the service were also discussed. The loss of an employee with Greg leaving also puts additional stress on the DPW crew. After much discussion, the decision to hold Village cleanup in May was tabled until the April BOT meeting.

Brush pickup will continue this year starting on the last Thursday in April through October.

Repairs at the WWTP were essentially completed on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The new chain guard was mounted. One patch where the influent comes in needs to be fixed but as far as John is concerned, the repairs are essentially completed. An invoice from Koester will be requested so that the insurance claim can be closed.

John has been searching for replacement sand for the WWTP. He found sand at a cost of \$35.00 per ton including delivery costs. DEC will have to approve the grain. Total estimated cost is \$3,500.00-4,000.00 for 100 to 125 ton of sand.

Parking at the beach by ice fisherman continues to be a problem. The lawn is being torn up by their vehicles and snowmobiles. Mayor Rust is researching plastic barriers that could be purchased to deter parking on the lawn. The cost for six barriers would be \$1,800.00. The plastic barriers measure 6 ½' feet long and if placed four feet apart, could protect 60 feet of frontage. John will verify the distance from the fence to the ditch, but he's confident we would need more to protect all the lawn.

The Town has agreed to haul sand for the beach. John reported that the erosion is significant again this year. Mayor Rust advised not to place sand too early as water levels are expected to be even higher than last year.

John reported that gravel is needed for the beach parking lot. Mayor Rust requested that John get an estimate of the cost for the loose gravel. Also, the DPW intends to work on the fences at the beach to straighten them up this spring.

John reported that the DPW placed gravel in the potholes at the end of Park Dr which is outside of the Village limits. He said the pot holes in the road was tearing up the trucks. Mayor Rust assured John that it is a legitimate repair since we are using the turnaround on Mike Schell's property. She said it is only fair that we help maintain the road to the point of turnaround.

The RBC weight is up. John said we may need to have Slack Chemical come to treat the RBC. We generally treat the RBC once per year.

John is hopeful that the VFDs can be installed in the pump stations in the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

John asked if he could request a quote from Bach & Co. to repair the curb stop at Charlie Richardson's residence. Due to the trees, his house and other obstacles near the curb stop, John is afraid the Village may create a bigger problem on the property. Bach & Co. would have the proper equipment to make the repair. The BOT gave their approval for John to request a quote from Bach.

Mayor Rust asked that the DPW make a list of problem curb stops so that they can be tracked and repaired as time allows.

## **Water Street Construction Bid**

Karen reported that the bid for the construction of water system upgrades on Water Street will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Bernier Carr representatives will handle the bid opening at that time.

**Standardized Equipment Resolution-Resolution 26 (2019-2020)**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont held at the Village Offices, 12175 NYS Route 12E, Chaumont, New York 13622, on March 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. there were:

Present:

- Michael Nichols, Deputy Mayor
- James Morrow, Trustee
- Patricia Reome, Trustee
- Dori-ann Froelich, Trustee
- Valerie Rust, Mayor (via telephone)

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Chaumont has undertaken an improvements project for the existing water distribution system including replacement of water mains in select areas, installation of gate valve in select areas, and installation of a meter pit at the Village limits; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the project, the Village proposes to install approximately eight (8) new fire hydrants on the new water mains and one water meter in the meter pit at the Village limits; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village presently utilizes Kennedy fire hydrants and Sensus iPERL water meters throughout the existing water system; and

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable to obtain the same fire hydrants and water meter to maintain continuity in the system for operation and spare parts inventory.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont as follows:

1. The foregoing recitations are incorporated herein and made a part hereof as if fully set forth hereafter.
2. The Village of Chaumont hereby determines that for reasons of economy and efficiency it is appropriate to standardize the fire hydrants and water meter manufacturers as Kennedy and Sensus iPERL, respectively.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote as follows:

Mayor Valerie Rust	yes	<u>  x  </u>	no	_____
Trustee Michael Nichols	yes	<u>  x  </u>	no	_____
Trustee Dori-ann Froelich	yes	<u>  x  </u>	no	_____
Trustee James Morrow	yes	<u>  x  </u>	no	_____
Trustee Patricia Reome	yes	<u>  x  </u>	no	_____

**Village Planning Board**

Chairperson Schweitzer requested that the BOT consider amendment to the Land Use Law granting final approval of site plans to the Planning Board. A discussion ensued and the consensus of the trustees was that it makes sense that the planning board have the final approval of site plans since they have the training and expertise in that area of the law. The following resolution was adopted:

At their regular monthly meeting of *March 17, 2020*, the following members of the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees were present:

- Mayor Valerie Rust (*via telephone*)
- Deputy Mayor Michael Nichols
- Trustee Patricia Reome
- Trustee Dori-Ann Froelich
- Trustee James Morrow

At said meeting, Mayor Rust forwarded the following resolution, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Nichols:

**RESOLUTION NO. 27 (2019-2020)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees shall amend the Land Use Law of the Village of Chaumont to reflect the change of authority for site plan approval from the Village Board of Trustees to the Village Planning Board. The amendment is to Section 420 Line 8 of the Land Use Law and shall be filed with the Office of the State Comptroller.

**VOTING:**            **Ayes: 5**  
                          **Nays: 0**

The roll call vote was:	Valerie Rust, Mayor	no__yes__X_____
	Michael Nichols, Deputy Mayor	no__yes__X_____
	Patricia Reome, Trustee	no__yes__X_____
	Dori-Ann Froelich, Trustee	no__yes__X_____
	James Morrow, Trustee	no__yes__X_____

**RESOLUTION NO. 27 ADOPTED.**

**Bond Counsel Contract Amendment-River Crossing Project**

In 2015, the Village entered into an agreement with Attorney Mark Gebo, to represent the Village of Chaumont as bond counsel for their River Crossing Project for a maximum fee of \$5,000.00. Mr. Gebo has since retired. Joseph Russell, of Barclay Damon, has agreed to represent the Village as Bond Counsel. The Barclay Damon contract indicates a maximum fee of \$24,900.00. Mayor Rust commented that finding a local Bond Counsel is difficult and although we are disappointed in the increase in fees, the Village is compelled to accept his offer. The BOT directed Deputy Mayor Nichols to sign the agreement in the absence of Mayor Rust.

**Legal Counsel for Easements-River Crossing**

Jim Burrows is our legal counsel for the easements for the Water Street system improvements project. His maximum contract is for \$8,000.00. Karen explained to the trustees that the most recent bill is \$854.50 which will place him over the maximum limit. Karen has reached out to Mr. Burrows to inform him of the overage and that an amendment to his legal agreement may need to be re-negotiated. The trustees instructed Karen to issue his payment as an April pre-pay after speaking with him.

**February 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:	\$	73.59
Franchise Fees:	A1170:	\$	-0-
Clerk Fees: -	A1255:	\$	10.00
Registrar Fees:	A1603:	\$	-0-
Building Permits:	A2555:	\$	-0-
Unclassified	A2770:	\$	9,557.25
Beach fees:	A7140:	\$	-0-
Chips	A3501	\$	-0-
State Aid: Aid & Incentives	A3001	\$	-0-
Total:		\$	31,131.31

**Water Fund**

Metered Water Sales	F2140-1:	\$	8,335.24
O&M/DCC FEES:	F2140-2:	\$	7,339.16
Unmetered Water:	F2142:	\$	0.00
Interest & Penalty Fee:	F2148:	\$	84.43
Water Meter Fees	F2144:	\$	0.00
Relevied water bills:	F2145:	\$	0.00
Total:		\$	15,833.82

**Sewer Fund**

Debt Service:	G2122:	\$	4,001.80
Usage Fee Sewer Rent:	G2120:	\$	6,371.12
Interest & Penalty Fees:	G2128:	\$	84.42
O&M Fees:	G2770:	\$	2,295.57
Relevied Sewer bills:			-0-
		\$	12,752.91

**Motion to Approve Minutes of the February 18, 2020 board meeting:**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Froelich, Seconded by Trustee Reome, and unanimously passed, it was **“Resolved** to Approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2020 Village of Chaumont Regular Board Meeting.

**Motion to Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting for Site Plan Approvals:  
Tender Touch Massage, Wide Guys Restaurant and Norbut Solar Farms**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Morrow, Seconded by Trustee Reome, and unanimously passed, it was **“Resolved”** to Approve the Minutes of the special meeting for site plan approvals held on March 10, 2020.

**Motion to Approve Payment of Abstract #10 of the March 17, 2020 Board Meeting:**

Upon a Motion by Trustee Reome, Seconded by Trustee Froelich, and unanimously passed, It was “**Resolved**” to Approve Payment for Abstract #10 of the March 17, 2020 Regular Board Meeting in the amounts of \$9,329.96 General Fund Vouchers 1206-1222, \$623.76 Water Fund, Vouchers 352-354, \$5,481.13 Waste Water Fund, Vouchers 564-575 Trust & Agency: \$4,381.07 Voucher #63, River Crossing Project \$97.28, voucher 12.

**Water/ Sewer Report**

Karen reported that it is time to send in water & sewer delinquent balances to Jefferson County Real Property to be re-levied on the June Village tax bills. Notifications of re-levies was printed to the water bills mailed on March 10<sup>th</sup> indicating that delinquent balances must be paid by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Karen will try to contact residents with delinquencies to encourage payment prior to that date.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Rust read an email from Gov. Cuomo regarding essential workers and reduction of staff for the next two weeks during the current coronavirus pandemic, The Town has closed the Town office to the public. Mayor Rust reported that Karen will be working primarily from home and the DPW will be performing only essential duties regarding water, sewer and recycling.

Mayor Rust also informed the trustees that the Dissolution meeting scheduled on March 25<sup>th</sup> will be held electronically via Zoom meeting.

**Committee Reports**

- Trustee Nichols:** Nothing to report.
- Trustee Reome:** Nothing to report
- Trustee Froelich:** Nothing to report
- Trustee Morrow:** Nothing to report.

**New Business**

No new business was discussed.

**Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

**Correspondence:**

No correspondence was presented.

**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 March 17, 2020 meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Fitzgerald, Village Clerk/Treas