

Village Of Chaumont
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees
March 19, 2024

Location of Meeting:

Village Office
12175 State Route 12E
Chaumont, New York 13622

Present at Meeting: Jim Morrow, Jose Sosa, Mike Nichols, Tammy McIntosh, Dori Froelich, Erin Fulton, Rose Soules, and Will Lipczynski

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont was called to order by Mayor Morrow at 6:36 PM on March 19, 2024.

I. Privilege of the Floor

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chief Will Lipczynski exercised floor privilege to give the Board of Trustees a brief update on the Chaumont Volunteer Fire Department. The department has gained two (2) new members and have been busy training with the new fire truck. Chief Lipczynski brought up his concerns with the Fire Department being responsible to pay for water usage for emergencies and training. He cited the former mayor, Valerie Rust, as agreeing with a total usage waiver. This billing cycle alone (since the beginning of March), they have used approximately 2,000 gallons in fighting fires and 6,000 gallons for training. With a usage rate of \$5.00 k/Gal after the first 3k, this is a cost to the department of about \$25.00. Sewer fees and charges are already removed for any usage through the large meter. Clerk Fulton explained the bimonthly billing process for the Fire Department. Mayor Morrow questioned how we can waive a water usage fee when the Village of Chaumont pays the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) for every k/Gal we use. He asked if it would be possible to train with water from the fire hydrants. Ultimately, it was decided that he and the other board members will put some thought into it for discussion at the next meeting.

II. DPW Update

Clerk Fulton and Mayor Morrow gave a brief summary of the most recent Department of Works meeting, which takes place at the Village of Chaumont offices biweekly on Monday mornings. Of note, a letter was received from Patricia Gibbons, the Superintendent of Lyme Central School District announcing the receipt of a \$1,500.00 grant from the Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF) to help purchase the necessary items as well as training materials for the community volunteers who will be monitoring the crosswalk on NYS Route 12E on Fridays when the Village DPW staff is off-duty.

Clerk Fulton presented an update on current Zoning and Code violations in the village. The Board of Trustees reiterated how strongly they feel about Mr. Millington attending monthly BOT meetings to give report and answer their questions in person. It was asked if it was necessary for the DPW Supervisor, Greg Ingerson, to attend meetings as well. The mayor said Supervisor

Ingerson’s attendance is not necessary, as he joins the biweekly DPW meetings, giving his report and answering questions during that time.

Mr. Millington will be moving forward with a court order as the Tefft property did not meet their February deadline for completion. After he determined the ongoing complaints regarding the Paladino residence substantiated a dog control issue, rather than a zoning violation, Trustee McIntosh followed up with Dog Control Warden, Betsy Ring. Ms. Ring confirmed that the dogs at the residence have yet to be licensed. Clerk Fulton will follow up with the Town of Lyme to corroborate this and Mayor Morrow will follow up with dog control to determine how Ms. Ring can move forward.

III. Motion to Approve Abstract #10 of 2023/2024

Mayor Morrow said he’d accept a motion to approve Abstract #10, with Deputy Mayor Nichols making a motion to approve and Trustee Froelich seconding the motion.

IV. Motion(s) to Approve Minutes

Mayor Morrow said he’d accept a motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024 regular Village Board meeting. Trustee Sosa made a motion to approve the minutes and Trustee Froelich seconded the motion.

Trustee Sosa also said he’d make a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2024 budget work session, with Mayor Morrow seconding the motion.

V. Water/Sewer Report

Clerk Fulton and Deputy Clerk Soules are in the process of reaching out to residents with delinquent water and sewer payments to help them avoid having the balances releived onto their next property tax bill. These outstanding amounts are due to Jefferson County Real Property Tax Services in the first week of April.

VI. Treasurer’s Report

VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT										
FEBRUARY RECEIPTS										
YR ENDING <i>May 31, 2024</i>										
REAL PROP TAXES	LIEU OF TAXES	PEN/INTEREST	SALES TAX CO.	GROSS UTILITY TAX	FRANCHISE FEE	CLERK FEES	REGISTRAR FEES	BLDG/PERMIT	UNCLASSIFIED	TOTAL
A1001	A1081	A1090	A1120	A1130	A1170	A1255	A1603	A2555	A2770	
			38085.36	0.01					436.74	38522.11
				19.36						19.36
				28.95						28.95
				5.72						5.72
										0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	38085.36	54.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	436.74	38576.14
				Google Voice					Karen Health (to TA)	
				Time Warner						
				Township						
				Verde						

METERED WATER	O&M AND DCC	INT AND PEN	METER FEES	SERV CONNECTION	RET CK	TOTAL	USAGE FEE SEWER RENT	DEBT SER	INT AND PENALTY	O&M AND CONNECTION	TOTAL
F2140	F2142	F2148	F2144	F2145	FEES	WATER	G2120	G2122	G2128	G2770	WASTE
1,873.32	809.97	25.00		37.50		2745.79	1,026.01	2,043.30	25.00	2,020.17	5114.48
850.00	415.00	10.00				1275.00	348.00	887.04	10.00	792.19	2037.23
613.84	210.98					824.82	243.33	610.05		550.00	1403.38
1,532.42	510.22	10.00		25.00		2077.64	816.00	1,316.96	10.00	1,015.39	3158.35
1,703.79	660.00	10.00				2373.79	993.81	1,745.78	10.00	1,420.00	4169.59
1,825.83	544.66	5.00				2375.49	996.59	1,522.86	5.00	1,239.99	3764.44
706.59	343.76	5.00		49.99		1105.34	491.19	960.95	5.00	799.98	2257.12
514.92	160.00					674.92	95.63	381.59		300.00	777.22
1,599.00	310.00	7.50		25.00		1941.50	882.00	1,539.18	7.50	663.66	3092.34
562.19	179.61	5.00				746.80	194.67	729.24	5.00	448.00	1376.91
255.00	70.00					325.00	150.00	436.36		200.00	786.36
344.46	120.65	5.00				470.11	88.34	335.48	5.00	200.00	628.82
390.68	121.01	3.33				515.02	203.99	434.02	3.34	336.34	977.69
117.00	20.00	5.00				142.00	36.00	119.67	5.00	40.00	200.67
						0.00					0.00
12889.04	4475.86	90.83	0.00	137.49	0.00	17593.22	6565.56	13062.48	90.84	10025.72	29744.60
WEBPAY	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p>New GS&L System. Each one of these deposits showed up on 03/01/2024 Statement</p> </div>										

VII. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

VIII. New Business

While there was no official new business on the agenda, the trustees discussed assorted village activity. Trustee Nichols shared the news of the passing of his neighbor. Trustee Froelich informed the board that an abandoned house on Water Street was being cleared out. She also questioned the responsibility of who should write a ZOOM policy conforming to Open Meetings Law (OML), and Mayor Morrow confirmed it would be the Village Planning Board as they are the only members who have resolved to use teleconferencing, when necessary. Trustee Nichols noted that residents' brush is already starting to make its way to the curb since the last wind storm, and he's noticed the DPW has started early with picking it up. Trustee McIntosh asked about the official procedures involving Land Development and Zoning and/or Code violations throughout the village. Mayor Morrow shared his philosophy on following up on resident complaints, but not necessarily policing or harassing property owners unless compulsory.

IX. Correspondence

Clerk Fulton presented monthly correspondence.

- Amelia Erdem from Jefferson County sent a Request for Positions (RFP) form for the 2024 Summer Youth and Young Adult Employment Program
- The Department of Labor sent a letter announcing their brand new Unemployment Insurance (UI) system, rolling out later this year

- Additional bankruptcy paperwork from opioid manufacturer ENDO International plc, et al., debtors vs. NYS, where the NYS Attorney General will continue efforts on behalf of municipalities who have borne considerable expenses associated with fighting the opioid epidemic
- Assemblyman Scott Gray sent an email conveying a conversation between the NYS Parks acting commissioner, his chief of staff, and himself canceling the current vessel contract which eliminated MetalCraft Marine as an eligible bidder in the federal GSA 1122 process. The new procedure will begin in April, concluding with an award in late summer or early fall, and will be improved with new specs moving forward
- Clerk Fulton sent the 2023 Assessor's Exemption Report to Jefferson County Real Property for the 2024 Village of Chaumont tax collection process
- The Village of Chaumont office sent notification to residents on Crescent Drive reminding them of the proper trash and recycling regulations for our village and outside trash collecting vendor, after complaints were received from the vendor and neighboring properties
- Heather Lipczynski reached out to the Village of Chaumont regarding a Public Access PAD permit for AED. The Town of Lyme is looking to acquire AED for their Summer Recreation Program
- Eddy Andrews of 11899 County Route 125 called to request "No Wake" signs in Sawmill Bay, as the destruction of the shoreline (specifically during the Chaumont Masters in the winter ice fishing season) has been increasing over the last two (2) years
- A resident complaint was brought to the Village Office regarding unauthorized parking on Water Street by who is believed to be bridge contractors. The vehicles have been blocking private driveways. Clerk Fulton reached out to Todd Townsend (DOT) for further information

X. Mayor's Report/Committee Reports

Mayor Morrow had no report.

Deputy Mayor Nichols had no report.

Trustee Sosa had no report.

Trustee Froelich had no report.

Trustee McIntosh reported that the next Sesquicentennial Committee meeting will be this Thursday, March 21st, at 6:30 PM. The "Taste of Chaumont" on May 11th has been rebranded as the "Golden Crescent Sip and Sample," with over seventy (70) vendors invited and a lot of local commitment. The first fundraising bake sale brought in approximately \$500.00 and the second sale raised almost \$300.00. The last 50/50 raffle paid out \$233.00 and the next drawing will be on April 8th. She discussed the current order of events, plans for a parade, and additional bake sale at a "Pre-Eclipse Party" at the Chaumont Fire Department. The idea for a carnival has been

tabled, and most likely canned, as it has been determined to be too expensive and availability nonexistent. The official ceremony for the Sesquicentennial has been scheduled for 5:00 PM at Veterans Park.

XI. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

A motion to adjourn was offered by Deputy Mayor Nichols at 7:59 PM, and seconded by Trustee Sosa. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Erin Fulton

Erin Fulton

Village Clerk/Treasurer