

**Village Of Chaumont**  
**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**November 15, 2022**

**Location of Meeting:**

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

**Present at Meeting:** Valerie Rust, James Morrow, Jose Sosa, Michael Nichols, Dori-Ann Froelich, Karen Fitzgerald, and Erin Fulton.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont was called to order at 6:32 PM on November 15, 2022 at the Village Office by Mayor Valerie Rust.

**I. Privilege of the Floor**

Mayor Rust began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There was no Privilege of the Floor.

**II. DPW Update**

Clerk Fulton presented quotes to the Board of Trustees for a new Open Channel Flow Meter at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. With the Village's current model rendered obsolete, purchasing applicable paper and ink ribbon is proving to be very difficult. The Board decided to table their decision on this purchase until further discussion with DPW Supervisor Greg Ingerson.

Mayor Rust shared a report from BCA Architects & Engineers, who performed an inspection of the sand filters at the Wastewater Treatment Facility in September at the request of the Village of Chaumont. It was determined that the sand filters are not nearing a state of failure, and with routine maintenance they will continue to provide adequate seasonal, tertiary treatment per their design parameters for the foreseeable future. It is recommended that Greg Ingerson reach out to recommended contacts for specific filter sand after reading current DEC regulations provided with BCA's report.

**III. Motion to Approve Abstract #6 of 2022/2023**

Mayor Rust made a motion to approve Abstract #6 of 2022/2023 and Trustee Froelich seconded the motion.

**IV. Motion to Approve Minutes of the October 18, 2022 Board Meeting**

Mayor Rust questioned the tree removal from the Chaumont Fire Department found in last month's minutes. Trustee Sosa made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2022 Board Meeting and Trustee Nichols seconded.

**V. Water/Sewer Report**

Clerk Fulton presented an issue to the Board on behalf of Mark Morina, Chaumont Bay Marina. During the last water billing cycle, a water leak was brought to Mr. Morina's attention, resulting in a usage rate of 99,000 gallons over a 2-month period and a bill of \$1,384.68. It was determined that the leak went into the ground from a broken pipe that leads out to the marina's campground. Because Mr. Morina requested financial leniency, the Board agreed to waive the sewer usage fee for 75,000 gallons of this leak, as the water did not go through the septic system. This will credit \$450.00 back to the account, and the balance can be paid off in





Rust questioned our use of a local attorney for River Crossing. If we use a Bond Counsel for EFC matters, is Mr. Burrows' services necessary for this project, or can he focus purely on local village matters?

**IX. Correspondence**

Clerk Fulton presented monthly correspondence.

- Softline Data, Inc. (UBMax) was acquired by gWorks on October 18, 2022
- Riverside Solar, LLC will be holding a Public Comment Hearing on Thursday November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at the Brownville Fire Department
- Excellus sent a Notice of Renewal for January 1, 2023, new premium rates, and benefits changes to cover eligible vaccines and insulin
- Official notification from Burden, Hafner, and Hansen, LLC to confirm their retainer by Glatfelter Claims Management to represent the Village of Chaumont with respect to an accident involving Susan Roof on August 20, 2002
- Vehicle maintenance quote from Justin Ernst of C&J's Repair Shop
- BCA Architects & Engineers has moved to the Woolworth Building at 15 Public Square, Watertown
- A welcome letter to Eastern Shore Associates for liability insurance with NYMIR
- An informational letter from Kristopher Reff, the DOT's Acting Director of Planning and Program Management, regarding the Governor's 5-year Capital Bridge NY Program

**X. Motion to Accept Matthew Wells of Bond, Schoeneck, and King as Bond Counsel**

Mayor Rust forwarded the following resolution, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Morrow.

**RESOLUTION NO. 43**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees will accept a quote from Matthew Wells of the law firm Bond, Schoeneck, and King to engage as bond counsel for all future bonding needs in regards to the Village's River Crossing and Water System Improvement Project. Based upon the terms, structure, size and schedule of the financing and the duties they will undertake pursuant to the project, Bond, Schoeneck, & King, PLLC estimated that their fee as bond counsel will not exceed \$7,500.

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

The roll call vote was:	Valerie Rust, Mayor	YES
	James Morrow, Deputy Mayor	YES
	Michael Nichols, Trustee	YES
	Dori-Ann Froelich, Trustee	YES
	Jose Sosa, Trustee	YES

**RESOLUTION NO. 43 ADOPTED.**

## **XI. Mayor's Report/Committee Reports**

Trustee Nichols once again visited the Village Beach and brought the sign to the attention of the Board. He would like to see picnic tables removed as they are still present at Bicentennial Park. The fencing around the perimeter also needs maintenance. Mayor Rust asked him to acquire quotes for the items he wishes to see addressed. She also asked Clerk Fulton to forward on his photos from the last meeting.

Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald brought up the tennis courts/pickleball courts project from the summer. Although the quotes were too high for the village's budget, she knows some residents who would be willing to donate and implement fundraisers to see this project executed.

Deputy Mayor Morrow reported that the Youth Commission is currently in their basketball season.

Trustee Froelich had no report; Village Planning Board meeting canceled this month.

Mayor Rust brought the Board up to speed on the current status of a project she is working on involving an updated Water Supply Agreement for outside water users, specifically on Hart Road. A 1962 agreement exists which provides a parcel of property and an easement to construct a water plant and install an 8" waterline on Hart Road. At the expense of the Village, laterals and meters were installed to 5 residences on this road, with water being sold to these property owners. The road was also maintained and plowed during the operation of the water pump station. Schedule A stated that it was the intent of the deed to revert the parcels back to Robert Hart which were conveyed for a public water supply system until such time as the Village shall cease to use this for a public water supply system. The Village stopped using the public water supply system in 1996, the pump station was dismantled, and the property and all easements reverted back to the Hart property and was recorded as such. While Hart Road has the same status as that of the other 3 areas of outside water users, the exception is the size of the line – 8" vs 2". The Board discussed a more equitable outside agreement where the village water district bear a percentage of repair costs to that main line on Hart Road. They also discussed the possibility of an annexation. The former Mayor warned against the formation of more Outside Water Districts, and recommended annexations only. Mayor Rust will be getting the village attorney involved.

The Board discussed comp time for salaried, timekeeping employees who are not eligible for overtime pay, and agreed that the Village Office would monitor and accept this practice. Deputy Clerk Fitzgerald, who is part time, now officially works one day a week and covers sick and vacation time, as needed. Mayor Rust will be sending flowers on behalf of the Village of Chaumont to the family of Cathy Munger, our late part-time clerk.

## **XII. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

At 8:43 PM, the Board of Trustees went into Executive Session. Mayor Rust said she'd accept a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 PM. Deputy Mayor Morrow made a motion, which was seconded by Trustee Sosa.

Respectfully Submitted

*Erin Fulton*

Erin Fulton  
Village Clerk/Treasurer