

**Village Of Chaumont**  
**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**September 17, 2024**

**Location of Meeting:**

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

**Present at Meeting:** Jim Morrow, Mike Nichols, Tammy McIntosh, Dori Froelich, Jose Sosa, Erin Fulton, and Ray McIntosh

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont was called to order by Mayor Morrow at 6:33 PM on September 17, 2024.

**I. Privilege of the Floor**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Department of Works laborer, Ray McIntosh, took privilege of the floor. Ray shared with the board that he had talked with Town of Lyme Highway Superintendent Pat Weston about the tennis courts by the fire department. The town crew would be willing to help with removing the fence, regrading or grinding the top of the courts, etc., to get the area usable if the Village of Chaumont covered the cost of materials. An epoxy coating would have to be contracted out, but Suit Kote could prepare a quote for the cost of all other materials needed and the town could help get it ready in the spring. Mayor Morrow said he had the fire department come and attempt to hose the courts off, but it didn't make much of a difference. He would like to talk to the Parks & Recreation committee to gauge their plans on raising money for materials. He knows the Sesquicentennial Committee had raised money, but anticipates their funds be used for a new pavilion where the gazebo currently stands at the beach, or at Bicentennial Park. Ultimately, if possible, he would like to keep the basketball courts and maybe one tennis court – and turn a section into pickle ball courts. Trustee Tammy McIntosh suggested having lights on a timer for evening court use, as well. Mayor Morrow thanked Ray and said he will talk to Superintendent Weston directly to discuss the venture.

**II. DPW Update**

Clerk Fulton gave a brief summary of the most recent Department of Works meeting. A suggestion had been presented by the DPW to change recycling pickup to be designated materials every other week to help with the onslaught of cardboard, which is quite overwhelming every week. A discussion was held regarding the confusion this would place on residents. Mayor Morrow made a motion for recycling to remain as currently implemented with Trustee Sosa seconding. All in favor.

A problem with the flooding on Washington Street was tackled during the DPW meeting, with a hypothetical French drain option installed, but was eventually determined to be unfeasible. DPW

Supervisor Greg Ingerson will be attending the October BOT meeting to further discuss this with the board.

The purchase of a new truck for the DPW was addressed. The crew would like to have it before plowing begins, and the mayor wanted to bring it before the board for discussion due to budget concerns. Ray McIntosh talked about the use of the dump truck as a second vehicle currently being uneconomical. When asked her opinion as Village Treasurer, Clerk Fulton reminded the board that there is a budget line for the purchase of a truck in the 2024-2025 budget that was adopted in May, and it's important for municipal spending to mirror the budget that was adopted. The board agreed. Supervisor Ingerson will begin to shop, under state contract pricing guidelines, next week.

Ray McIntosh will need to recertify for his sewer license through SUNY Morrisville before the village can eliminate the need for an outside contract for these services, which is currently held by P&T. There is a Basic Operations course in December, February, and June. Clerk Fulton will look into both and give the trustees a breakdown of the cost for this at October's meeting. Ray has already been registered for his water certification, scheduled September 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> in Watertown. The cost of this certification is \$1000.00.

Clerk Fulton gave a report on Zoning and Code Enforcement. The Soules property on Route 12E passed their deadline to address excessive grass length, junk around property, and other violations, so ZEO Officer Millington will be presenting them with a court order. A violation letter to Trainham went unanswered and will be followed up on. Mr. Millington also talked with Lisa Sizeland on Water Street, who is actively working on clearing her properties in violation of village zoning and codes – confirming the brush being cleared out on her property will not be included in village brush pickup, but is her responsibility to have removed.

### **III. Motion to Approve Abstract #4 of 2024/2025**

Mayor Morrow said he'd accept a motion to approve Abstract #4 of 2024/2025, with Trustee Sosa making a motion to approve and Trustee Froelich seconding the motion. All in favor.

### **IV. Motion to Approve Minutes**

Mayor Morrow said he'd accept a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2024 regular Village Board meeting. Deputy Mayor Nichols made a motion to approve and Trustee McIntosh seconded the motion. All in favor.

### **V. Water/Sewer Report**

Clerk Fulton discussed her conversations with other municipalities and quotes from various water billing software companies regarding the upcoming transition from UBMax. After her research, she recommends that the Village of Chaumont move forward with gWorks, with the conversion planned for December. The Utility Billing Hub implementation and onboarding is included with the annual subscription price of \$1,800. Trustee Sosa made a motion to approve the annual contract with gWorks, seconded by Trustee Froelich. All in favor.



A draft letter was presented to the board as a follow up to Laker’s Sweets & Treats who have yet to adhere to village policy on trash pickup for commercial properties. Mayor Morrow said the letter was unnecessary for now as he was able to talk with Mrs. Strader directly, who said she would look into other options for trash removal. We will give her a few trash cycles to get this situation rectified.

### **VIII. New Business**

Clerk Fulton addressed the solar activity and battery removal this month. CS Energy is working with Convergent (the solar company who leases the property from Dave Norbut on Co. Rte. 179) and called to notify the Village of Chaumont about scheduled work to take damaged units off-site the week of September 9, 2024. They removed the entire unit that was damaged in the fire last year, and discharged batteries from other units. Due to an expedited schedule, some of the work would be performed overnight with the use of light towers. Clerk Fulton asked if she should reach out to the Chaumont Fire Department to let them know this process would be happening, and they confirmed Convergent had already done so and it is on local emergency responders’ radar. Jim Millington verified there are no permits necessary for this removal, and no inspection needed, but he will call Anthony with CS Energy directly to talk with him about the process. Mayor Morrow questioned when the new units may be coming in, and at that time, a relook at necessary permits and inspections may be in order.

### **IX. Correspondence**

Clerk Fulton presented monthly correspondence.

- There was a rating error on the village’s renewal pricing with NYMIR, so the new quote for liability insurance will not be available until October’s meeting, per Kristen Juliana, our broker at Eastern Shore Insurance
  - The village received initial insurance binder and auto ID cards
- A State aid payment in the amount of \$302 was received as Temporary Municipal Assistance
- Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Plan Information was received for 2025
- Instructions for submitting the LSLI report to the NYSDOH, which Clerk Fulton and Supervisor Ingerson officially submitted on September 11, 2024

### **X. Resolution(s)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of Chaumont Board of Trustees declares the portable generator at the village’s cold storage unit on Circle Drive surplus property. DPW Supervisor Ingerson called various establishments and found that a fair market value price for the generator is \$2,000.00. A new grinder pump is needed, and the sale of this surplus property would offset the cost of this need.

#### **VOTING:**

**Ayes 5                      Nays 0**

The roll call vote was:	Mayor, Jim Morrow	YES
	Deputy Mayor, Mike Nichols	YES
	Trustee, Jose Sosa	YES
	Trustee, Dori-Ann Froelich	YES
	Trustee, Tammy McIntosh	YES

**RESOLUTION NO. 27 ADOPTED.**



Clerk Fulton presented JL Excavation's current pay application and final closeout paperwork for their contract with the Waterline Betterment Project, including hydrant and valve box improvement work. A motion was made by Mayor Morrow to approve payment, seconded by Trustee Sosa. All in favor.

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

Mayor Morrow said he'd accept a motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Deputy Mayor Nichols made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Sosa. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

*Erin Fulton*

Erin Fulton  
Village Clerk/Treasurer