

Bi-Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees Meeting was duly held on the 28th of January 2025.

Members Present: Deputy Mayor Millard “Mudd” Murphy, Trustees Ken Sherman, Mike Hart and Jim Turo. Mayor Randy House was absent.

Village Staff Attendance: Deputy Clerk Krista Ruzekowicz, DPW Superintendent George McCormick, Police Chief Ed Carroll. Absent: Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck and Code Enforcement Officer Ed Cusato.

Public Attendance: Joann Burghart and Cindy Partrick from the Central Square Library, residents Roy and Laura Maylone.

Meeting Called to Order: Deputy Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:06PM and George McCormick led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board and Staff Reports

Mayor House: in his absence, Deputy Mayor Murphy stated that Mayor House had nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor Murphy: During our last Board Meeting on January 13, 2025, we failed to note during the meeting that Central Square was 135 years old!

Mayor House and Deputy Mayor Murphy have interviewed three people for the DPW position and would like the rest of the Board to review the resumes and applications that have been received and help with the interview process of any other candidates.

Trustee Sherman: Has been notified by residents that the fire hydrants seem to be buried and if there was a way the DPW could help in uncovering them. Also notified about the sidewalks not being cleared of snow. Deputy Mayor Murphy stated that the machine is now fixed.

Trustee Sherman said that he’s urged residents to use caution at intersections because of the snow banks and drifts.

Trustee Hart: Mentioned that Chad in the DPW has been helping remove snow from around the hydrants. Trustee Hart said that this is a “regular” winter for the first time in a long while and that the DPW was doing a great job!

Trustee Turo: nothing to report.

DPW Superintendent George McCormick: would like to thank the Board and others for their thoughts and prayers during the health issue his wife was having. She’s on the road to recovery.

The DPW crew had stepped up to the plate but also had to request extra outside assistance with the additional snowfall.

The Gehl skid steer was down for over two weeks. It’s 20 years old and the DPW was at the mercy of the repair shop. It was taken to a second repair shop that completed the repairs in a few days.

George requested a quote for a new skid steer with a track (ASV) versus the current wheeled skid steer. He was quoted at \$38,326.83 and was given a trade-in value of the current skid steer of \$12,000 which would bring the total to \$26,326.83. George went on to say that he thought this would be a wise investment for the Village since this machine would come with a 2-year unlimited warranty.

A motion by Trustee Sherman to purchase the ASV skid steer for \$38,326.83 with a trade-in of \$12,000 for \$26,326.83 pending financing, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

The 1-ton truck is still in the shop and may have DEF in the fuel tank.

Code Enforcement Officer Ed Cusato: was absent but Deputy Mayor Murphy said that he spoke to Code Enforcement Officer William Hamacher about some upcoming training he is attending in Lake Placid. Hamacher is going to the Lake Placid location instead of attending the Syracuse training because of a scheduling conflict. Since William works for multiple municipalities in the same capacity, the cost for the Village would be \$182.

Motion by Trustee Hart to pay Code Enforcement Officer \$182 for the upcoming training and seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Police Chief Carroll: The breathalyzer was out for repair but is back operational. The Stop DWI program has been successful.

Chief Carroll may have a lead on a possible replacement for one of the judges and has their contact information. They may also have someone in mind to replace the current court clerk when she retires.

The Oswego County Sheriff's Office has transferred the Sex Offender Registry onto the Central Square Police Department to update and maintain.

Clerk/Treasurer Michele Cusyck: was absent and the deputy clerk had nothing to add.

Citizens' Concerns: Cindy Partrick from the Central Square Library said that she was happy to see some of the Board members at the Library's Open House last month.

The NYS Construction Grant probably won't be approved until summer. Parking remains a problem, and the expansion will ease this. A large community room is in the plans along with providing private meeting spaces. Cindy showed these plans to Mayor House when he attended the Open House.

Joann Burghart from the Central Square Library said that the current size of the library is a huge constraint, and they want to provide what the community needs. The library is an important part of community life. There is limited space for staff, patrons and volunteers.

Deputy Mayor House spoke to Rebekah from the Summer Recreation program during the Tree Lighting ceremony last month and mentioned possibly collaborating with the library.

Laura Maylone, a Village resident, would like to be able to have chickens in their yard because egg prices are so high. She brought in a document from the Great Depression captioning every person have two hens in the back yard – "will keep a family in fresh eggs". She then stated that Oswego City law allows six chickens per home and wondered if the Village would follow suit.

Deputy Mayor Murphy was concerned that if chickens were allowed, would that then open the door to other farm animals. He then asked Laura if she'd ever taken care of chickens, which she replied no, but she's willing to learn.

Laura stated that the permit in Oswego is an annual permit and inspection of the yard for \$25.

Old Business: There was no old business brought to the Board.

New Business: A resignation from Judge Michael Wildrick was received on January 13, 2025, but was not accepted during that Board meeting.

Motion to accept Judge Wildrick's resignation effective May 31, 2025, was made by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor Murphy was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

A request was made by Kruising Knights Car Club to waive the fee for use of Goettel Park.

Trustee Sherman made Motion to approve waiving the fee for the use of Goettel Park by Kruising Knights Car Club, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Trustee Sherman reviewed the Barton & Loguidice engineering Proposal for the MS4 Stormwater Program and made a Motion to approve the 2025 contract, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Murphy read through the Fund Balance Budget Modification and made a Motion to approve the Water Fund Modification to pay an unanticipated increase to the annual OCWA invoice and debit account #F8310.405 (OCW) in the amount of \$10,817.59 and credit account #F599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) in the amount of \$10,807.59, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Murphy then made a Motion to approve the Sewer Fund Budget Modification to pay an unanticipated increase to employees' retirement and debit account #G9010.800 (NYS Employees Retirement) for the amount of \$769.00 and credit account #G599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) for the amount of \$769.00, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Murphy reviewed the General Fund Budget Modification and made Motion to approve the General Fund Balance Budget Modification and debit account #A9010.800 (NYS Employees Retirement) for \$769.00, debit account #A9015.800 (NYS

Police Retirement) for \$16,996.00, debit account #A9730.600 (Debt Service Principal) for \$10,853.54 and debit account #A5750.700 (Debt Service Interest) for \$1,970.47 and credit account #A599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) in the amount of \$30,589.01 to pay the share of an unanticipated increase in the Employees Retirement, an unanticipated adjustment to Police Retirement and an unbudgeted Principal and interest payment for Police cars, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Lastly, Deputy Mayor Murphy reminded the Board that Mudd had submitted a proposal for review for Oswego County during the January 13th Board meeting asking for a school speed zone change, a Village speed zone change and several areas of concern with the Village's sidewalks and crosswalks.

Motion was made by Trustee Sherman to submit the School Speed Zone/Village Speed Zone and Sidewalk extension/repair/replace Proposal on County Route 12 to the Oswego County Highway Department, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

At 8:10PM Deputy Mayor Murphy made Motion to move to an Executive Session for personnel matters, seconded by Trustee Turo. All were in favor.

At 8:35PM Deputy Mayor Murphy made Motion to resume the Village Board of Trustees meeting, seconded by Trustee Turo. All were in favor.

No action was taken on the personnel matters.

Monthly Business: Minutes from the Board Meeting on January 13th, 2025, were reviewed.

Motion to approve previous minutes by Trustee Sherman, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes, Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Vouchers listed on Abstract #16 totaling \$122,817.30 were approved for payment as follows: General Fund: \$58,066.96, Sewer Fund: \$40,543.00, Water Fund: \$23,296.59, Capital Projects: \$846.00 and Truste & Agency: \$64.75 upon motion made by Trustee Hart, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes, Trustee Sherman- yes, Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes. Mayor House was absent. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjournment

At 8:41PM, Trustee Sherman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Turo. All were in favor with an "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Ruzekowicz
Deputy Clerk

Special Board Meeting February 3, 2025

The special meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was duly held on the 3rd day of February 2025.

Board Members Present: Mayor Randy House, Deputy Mayor Millard Murphy, Trustees Ken Sherman, Michael Hart and Jim Turo.

Meeting Called to Order: Mayor House called the meeting to order at 6:45a.m.

Discussion on a part-time court position to assist the clerk in catching up a backlog of files.

Lane Pistello – Mayor House explained the Village could hire Lane part time for \$18 per hour.

Motion made by Trustee Mike Hart to hire Lane Pistello to fill the part time position to assist the court clerk at \$18 per hour for a maximum of 20 hours per week until the end of the fiscal year May 31, 2025, with no benefits, and seconded by Trustee James Turo and voted upon: Trustee Hart- yes, Trustee Turo- yes, Trustee Sherman- yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy- yes, Mayor House- yes. The motion was carried unanimously. This salary is to be paid out of the Police Department General Budget.

At 7a.m. the meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Mayor Millard Murphy

Village Board Approved February 24, 2025