

Regular Monthly Meeting June 24, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Central Square held their monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. respectively on the 24th day of June 2024 at the Village Municipal Building, 3125 East Avenue.

Board Members Present: Mayor Randy House, Deputy Mayor Millard Murphy, Trustees Ken Sherman, Mike Hart, & Jim Turo

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

Others in Attendance: Village resident Marlena Lerch

Mayor House called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Trustee Hart lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board and Staff Reports

Mayor House had nothing to report.

Deputy Mayor Murphy reported on the following matters:

- Hillside Cemetery – He would like to purchase a laptop for Cemetery worker Gordon Longley to be able to learn and use the CemSites software the Village purchased last year. CemSites is a records management software for cemeteries that simplifies, automates and streamlines workflow.
- Village Website - He has arranged a July 20th meeting with drone pilot Eric Davis and web designer Heather McCoy to pick out new

aerial photos for the website. Mr. Davis charges \$100 for the first hour and \$50 each hour thereafter.

- Oswego County Mayors Conference – Has been scheduled for August 15th at the Lock Restaurant in Fulton. Guest speakers will be retired state auditor Laird Petrie and Assemblyman Will Barclay.
- Employee Handbook – Comments from Village Attorney Joe Frateschi have been received for review by the Board. An index has been suggested and there should be a focus on health insurance. Before adopting the Handbook with changes, a meeting with the employees should be held.

Trustee Sherman announced the high school graduation is June 28th and gave praise to the Education Scholarship Award Event sponsored by the Greater Oneida Lake Chamber of Commerce held at the Central Square American on June 23rd.

Sherman also suggested holding board meetings in different locations throughout the village and that the Board consider not hiring new employees until the Employee Handbook currently under review is approved.

Trustee Hart had no business to bring before the Board.

Trustee Turo had no business to bring before the Board.

DPW Superintendent George McCormick – provided the Board with a written report of his activities for the month of June as follows:

- Pump Stations – the control panel at Mallory will be changed out on June 27h.
- Safety – the weed whacker damaged in an accident at the cemetery could not be repaired. A new one was purchased at \$479.

- Spring Projects - couldn't get started on plow damage and ditching as planned due to the wall collapse at the cemetery. Will provide recommendation for repair and estimated cost at next meeting.
- Personnel – new DPW employee Chad Maher will not be training in the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) as planned. This is a temporary job for Chad until he is old enough to start the process to become a police officer.
- Sweeper – needs a new transmission estimated at \$5,000 and can be included in the expenses of the UV Project according to Village Engineer Paul Sheneman.

Police Chief Carroll reported the School Resource Officers (SRO's) will be done on Wednesday, but all will be back in September, and all will participate in firearms training in August with Officer Michael McCarthy.

Codes Enforcement Officer Cusato – submitted a report to the Board listing building permits issued and current violations for 5/1/2024-6/24/2024 and highlighted the following:

- Byrne Dairy is scheduled to open Wednesday, 6/26/24, and will be issued a Certificate of Occupancy on 6/25/24.
- Walmart Project Managers scheduled to meet with Cusato onsite 6/27/2024.
- Physical Therapy building slow on progress. Permit renewal will be needed.
- Trucks R Us applied for a fence permit. Tow Truck Company to utilize existing office space in the building and will store the tow truck within the fenced area. Cusato advised the Planning Board that their approval will be needed for any other activity.
- Fee schedule will be reviewed. There is currently no fee for propane exchange stations.
- Rewriting operating permit requirements, including within parks.

Clerk Treasurer Cusyck had no business to bring before the Board.

Citizens' Concerns

Marlena Lerch attended the meeting to again voice her concern about flooding and drainage issues at her property at 119 Aqua Way. The Board was made aware of the problem when Marlena and her husband attended the May 13th meeting. DPW Superintendent McCormick believes the only way to correct the problem is for Mr. & Mrs. Lerch to build up their driveway as the drain is higher, but he will look at the situation again and make recommendation. The Board also agreed to look at the property on Friday at 7 a.m.

Marlena also wondered if a stop sign could be put before Mallory and County Route 12 on East Avenue, also known as State Route 49, to eliminate blocking of the road. Unfortunately, neither are village roads and she would have to contact the County and/or State.

Old Business

- Summer Recreation Staff – as recommended by Director Rebecca McGraw the Board approved a change to the staff approved at the June 10th meeting due to one individual being unable to return as planned.
- FOIL Appeal Letter – the Board, as the FOIL Appeals Body, resolved to send a letter as drafted by Village Attorney Joe Frateschi in response to Auditing Erie County's Modified FOIL Request.
- Proposed Local Law Amending Zoning Code for Accessory Dwelling Units – was tabled by Mayor House for at least 30 days to give the Board time to review the information. The Board agreed to meet on Wednesday, July 3rd at 6 a.m. at which time the proposed law could be discussed with other village matters.

New Business

- Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) – the Board approved to move forward and have KL Consulting Services complete the application due by July 31, 2024 upon motion duly made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Turo yes. The motion carried unanimously. Some of the ideas for this grant application are park interconnection improvements, sidewalks to school, and solar power traffic signs.
- Pro-Housing Community Program – the Board authorized KL Consulting Services to apply for Pro-Housing Certification required for certain CFA and other grant programs upon motion duly made by Trustee Sherman, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Turo yes. The motion carried unanimously. The program rewards municipalities that are working hard to address New York’s housing crisis. Certification must be achieved to apply for key funding programs such as the NY Main Street Program and Downtown Revitalization Initiative.

Regular Monthly Business

Previous Minutes – Minutes from June 10, 2024, as written and submitted by Deputy Clerk Krista Ruzekowicz, were approved upon motion duly made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Turo yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Monthly Vouchers –2023-2024 vouchers listed on Abstract #40 totaling \$9,447.58 were approved for payment upon motion duly made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Turo yes. The motion carried unanimously.

- General Fund \$2,745.00

- Capital Projects \$6,702.58

2024-2025 vouchers listed on Abstract #2 totaling \$53,440.92 were approved for payment as corrected upon motion duly made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Turo and voted upon: Mayor House-yes, Deputy Mayor Murphy-yes, Trustee Hart-yes, Trustee Sherman-yes, Trustee Turo yes. The motion carried unanimously.

- General Fund \$40,274.04
- Sewer Fund \$13,166.88

Next Scheduled Meeting & Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 8th at 7:00 p.m.

At 8:35 p.m. Trustee Sherman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Turo.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele A. Cusyck
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by the Village Board as written July 8, 2024