

Regular Monthly Meeting

October 15, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was duly held on the 15th day of October 2024

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

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

Public Attendance: Heidi Tompkins, Tug Hill Commission; Justin Grasso, Applicant for Village Police Department

Meeting Called to Order: Mayor House called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board and Staff Reports

Mayor House reported that the Village, CHA Solutions, and the Law firm of Costello, Cooney & Fearon are ready to move forward with submitting a permit modification request to NYSDEC. The modified permit will allow Beavers Deceivers to perform the work needed to control the water elevations in the state regulated wetland.

Trustee Murphy reported on the following:

- John & Doris Hasto Playground Dedication at Goettel Park – The public dedication was held on October 5th and was a success. Thanks to DPW Superintendent McCormick for setting up the new speaker system.
- Hurricane Helene Relief Items – Steve and Mari Curry are accepting donations until Wednesday, October 16th at their Big Dawg's Hauling

and Transport Company property on County Route 12. Steve and Mari have relatives in the area of the hurricane and felt the need to help. They have been overwhelmed with the generosity of the village community and businesses in Central NY. Donations have included food, clothing, and generators. Steve and Mari will drive down to Lake Lure with the donations on October 18th. The Curry property was once the home of Murphy's parents.

- Oswego County Conference of Mayors Dinner Meeting – the dinner meeting will be held in Cleveland at the American Legion on October 17th. Speakers will be Austin Wheelock, Executive Director of Operation Oswego County and Tricia Peter Clark, President and CEO of ConnexCare.

Trustee Sherman commended DPW Superintendent McCormick for a job well done with limited staff.

Trustee Hart asked about the schedule for leaf pickup. DPW Superintendent McCormick said he tries to do leaves on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and brush on Tuesday and Thursday, which both are subject to change because of other work demands.

Trustee Turo reported citizen concerns over streetlights not working with Halloween approaching and was told the Village recently turned in 17 nonworking streetlights to National Grid.

DPW Superintendent McCormick reported on the following activity for the month of September:

- **Pump Stations** – Ongoing preventative maintenance.
- **Safety** – Practice makes perfect.
- **WWTP** – Maintenance all up to date.
- **Projects** – Leaf and brush season is underway. Two catch basins were installed on Hickory. Drainage on Collins Terrace is set up for Monday, 10/21. Started looking at drainage by National Grid behind houses on Northridge.
- **Cemetery** – Getting ready for winter.

- **Personnel** – No new candidates.

Police Chief Carroll recommended Justin Grasso as a part-time Police Officer contingent upon a positive background check which was approved upon motion duly made by Deputy Mayor 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. Justin comes with experience from the Oswego Police Department and was interviewed by Chief Carroll and Mayor House.

Chief Carroll also recommended the school zone speed limit be reduced from 30 mph to 25 mph from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. when school is in session which was approved upon motion duly made by Deputy Mayor 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. Clerk/Treasurer Cusyck was authorized to contact Village Attorney Frateschi to draft a local law for the change. A public hearing will be scheduled once the proposed local law is presented to the Village Board.

Village Clerk/Treasurer Cusyck requested to schedule a sewer structure workshop which was agreed for Thursday, October 24th at 4 p.m.

Citizens' Concerns

No citizens' concerns

Old Business

Heidi Tompkins, NYS Tug Hill Commission

Heidi summed up Paul Baxter's October Report noting that the next meeting of the North Shore Council of Governments (NorCOG) is Wednesday, October 30th at 7 p.m. at the West Monroe Town Hall. Heidi has been chosen to replace Tug Hill Circuit Rider Baxter upon his retirement in the new year and will start her service with Tug Hill Commission on November 7th.

Heidi then shared the following meetings and events:

- The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) recently announced a fourth round of the state's Regenerate NY grant program. \$500,000 is available for eligible private forest landowners to plant trees, to mitigate climate change provide wildlife habitat, protect air and water quality, and supply a critical renewable resource.
- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has proposed a new Emergency Response Standard for firefighters, EMS providers, and technical search and rescuers. The proposed Standard would replace the Fire Brigade Standard and if implemented as presented would issue hundreds of new requirements that may be burdensome and impossible for volunteer fire departments. Tug Hill has drafted a letter for making comments with NY legislative representatives, the comment period has been extended until October 18, 2024. The NYS Association of Towns, Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) and the Association of Counties (NYSAC) have issued a joint letter expressing their concerns about the issue.
- The New York Planning Federation (NYPF) will be hosting another Learn at Lunch session on Tuesday, October 29th from noon to 1 p.m. The subject of the webinar will be bridges, culverts and dams.
- NYCOM Public Works Training School will be October 21-23 at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs.
- NYS Archives training webinar is scheduled for October 17th from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. for "Managing Oversized Maps, Plans and Drawings.
- The Tug Hill Commission's next meeting is Monday, October 21st at 10 a.m. at the Town of Martinsburg Municipal Building.

New Business

Resolution No. 10 of the Year 2024 – Pro-Housing Communities Pledge

The following resolution was offered by Deputy Mayor Murphy, who moved its adoption, and was second by Trustee Turo to wit:

Whereas, the Village of Central Square (hereinafter “local government”) believes that the lack of housing for New York residents of all ages and income levels negatively impacts the future of New York State’s economic growth and community well-being;

Whereas, the housing crisis has negative effects at regional and local levels, we believe that every community must do their part to contribute to housing growth and benefit from the positive impacts a healthy housing market brings to communities;

WHEREAS, we believe that supporting housing production of all kinds in our community will bring multiple benefits, including increasing housing access and choices for current and future residents, providing integrated accessible housing options that meet the needs of people with sensory and mobility disabilities, bringing economic opportunities and vitality to our communities, and allowing workers at all levels to improve their quality of life through living closer to their employment opportunities;

Whereas, we believe that evidence showing that infill development that reduces sprawl and supports walkable communities has significant environmental and public health benefits; and

Whereas, we believe that affirmatively furthering fair housing and reducing segregation is not only required by law, but is essential for keeping our community strong and vibrant;

Now, Therefore, it is Hereby Resolved that Village of Central Square, in order to take positive steps to alleviate the housing crisis, adopts the Pro- Housing Communities pledge, which will have us endeavor to take the following important steps:

1. Streamlining permitting for multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.
2. Adopting policies that affirmatively further fair housing.
3. Incorporating regional housing needs into planning decisions.
4. Increasing development capacity for residential uses.
5. Enacting policies that encourage a broad range of housing development, including multifamily housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, accessory dwelling units, and supportive housing.

Mayor House	Yes
Deputy Mayor Murphy	Yes
Trustee Ken Sherman	Yes
Trustee Mike Hart	Yes

Resolution No. 11 of the Year 2024 – Hasto Family Donation

The following resolution was offered by Deputy Mayor Murphy, who moved its adoption, and was second by Trustee Turo to wit:

Whereas, the Village of Central Square wishes to make improvements to the playground at Goettel Park,

Whereas, the total project cost is \$59,294.00 of which \$50,000.00 will come from the Dormitory Authority of New York State (DASNY) as a result of Assemblyman Barclay,

Whereas, \$5,000.00 will come from a grant secured by the Village from the Shineman Foundation; and the balance of \$4,294.00 will come from the \$15,000.00 donation to the Village of Central Square's Goettel Park made by the Hasto Family.

Now therefore be it Resolved, that the balance of the Hasto Family donation will be used at Goettel Park for future improvements to expand recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

Mayor House	Yes
Deputy Mayor Murphy	Yes
Trustee Ken Sherman	Yes
Trustee Mike Hart	Yes
Trustee Jim Turo	Yes

Perpetual Care Funds For Cemetery Wall Repair

The Board approved the use of Perpetual Care funds to repair the cemetery wall upon motion duly made by Deputy Mayor 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. The estimated cost is \$30,000 between materials and labor.

Regular Business

Previous Minutes -The minutes of the regular meeting on September 23, 2024 were approved 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.

Monthly Vouchers - Vouchers listed on Abstract #9 in the amount of \$30,847.44 were approved for payment from the following funds upon motion duly made by Trustee Hart, 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	\$7,750.34
Sewer Fund	\$23,045.29
Trust & Agency	\$51.80

Adjournment

At 8:17 p.m. Mayor House moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Turo.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele A. Cusyck
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Village Board Approved October 28. 2024