

Village of Champlain Village Board Meeting November 4, 2019

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, November 4, 2019 at the Village Office, 11104 Route 9, Champlain, New York.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor McFetridge called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Present were Mayor McFetridge, Trustees Thomas Trombley, Kim Trombley, Nicci Molinski and Amy Gehrig, Supt. Jolicoeur, Codes Officer Michael Tetreault, Clerk/Treasurer Munoz and Secretary Sousa.

Present from the public was Heather Deans, Aaron Deans, Tyler Yelle, Monique Lepage and David Lepage.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley to approve minutes of the October 7th Board Meeting. Trustees Molinski and Gehrig abstained. All other members present voted aye. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL QUESTION PERIOD FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Tyler Yelle and Aaron Deans were here as liaisons for youth in the village. David Lepage was here for a Boy Scout activity requirement.

David Lepage said that he has heard multiple requests to have the basketball hoop put back up in the playground. Mayor McFetridge said that the basketball hoop was destroyed this past year and was not put up again. We can try putting it up again this coming spring. We also have paint for ½ court lines to be done. Eventually the basketball court will be moved to the back side of Maiden lane, across from the community garden.

Trustee Gehrig said that if they have any specific requests, to let her know as she may be able to find grants.

Public Hearing: Local Law#1 2019: Curfew in the Village of Champlain

At 6:40 a motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Gehrig to close the regular meeting. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Molinski to open the Public Hearing for proposed Local Law #1: Curfews in the Village of Champlain

Monique Lepage commented that she thinks it's a good idea.

Heather Deans asked if we have enough patrols checking this?

Mayor McFetridge said that we hope so. We have had an increased presence of Sheriff and State Police and this new law would give them more to do.

Monique Lepage asked if Border Patrol and Homeland Security can enforce this.

Mayor McFetridge said that she believes so. Trustee Thomas Trombley said that they work closely with the Sheriff's Dept. They can stop and question people if we have this new law.

At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Molinski to close the Public Hearing. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley to reopen the regular meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Codes Enforcement Officer Tetreault provided the following report:

- Notice of Violation for no permit for reroofing: 53 Locust St. (J. Nephew)
- No permit for reroofing, junk in back yard @ 13 Cherry St. (McNerland)
Spoke with owner and issued permit.
- No permit for reroofing @ 118 South St. (Nevius)
- Sent letter regarding junk at 34 Maiden Lane: (SNJ)
- Spoke with Nadia Chiden regarding locating a mobile home within village
- Report of junk, debris at 11069 Route 9 (Labelle)
- ZBA meeting for area variance: Gladd
- Planning Board meeting for subdivision: Gladd
- Reviewed application for ZBA “Use Variance” for apartment on first floor
- Attended training at Potsdam
- Issued permit for reroofing at 43 Church St.: (Ken Castine)
- Issued permit for reroofing at 16 Cedar Street: (Matt Loughan)
- Reviewed village sewer law
- Spoke to owner of property with sewer issue at 11062 Rt. 9: (McCasland)
- Notice of Violation letter for village sewer law
- Attended meeting concerning ongoing sewer issue

Codes Officer Tetreault excused himself as he had another meeting to attend.

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

As winter approaches, our focus has been on wrapping up projects around the village that can be done before the area is covered by snow. Hydrants are being flushed in a systematic fashion. Despite careful planning, there have been some water main breaks. I thank the DPW crew for all their dedication during long hours of work spent repairing those lines. Also, thank you to the local citizens who stopped to drop off coffee and food which was so appreciated by everyone.

I would be remiss if I didn't give a shout out to the Champlain Fire Department. They are always willing to lend us a hand when possible. One long night, they brought the heavy rescue truck with the bright lights and stayed for hours as the waterline was being repaired. Last weekend, they quickly agreed to open the station for our annual trunk or treat event when torrential rain threatened to cancel it. Thanks to Natasha Nevius and Lori Brink for setting this up so easily.

I remind everyone that the burning ban is now in effect in the Village. There is to be no burning of any kind in the village including campfires and fire pits. Also, the parking ban on Village streets began on November 1. From 2 am until 6 am, there is no parking on village streets.

I invite all of you to our annual Tree lighting Celebration on December 14 at 6 pm in Paquette Park. Santa will be arriving with gifts for the children and hot chocolate will be available. Earlier in the day, we will have crafts and our popular candy cane hunt.

On behalf of the Village Board of Trustees and the entire Village staff, I wish you a happy Thanksgiving. May your table be filled good food, may you be surrounded by those dear to you, and may you reach out to include those who might be less fortunate.

REPORT FROM TRUSTEES

Report from Trustee Kim Trombley

Trustee Trombley reported that Trustee Thomas Trombley has reached out to several local vendors for decking and ramp ideas for the kayak launch.

We received an extension from AARP which gives us until April-May 2020 to complete the kayak launch project. We had the AARP Community Challenge sign for the kayak launch made.

Trustee Nicci Molinski

Trustee Molinski reported that there were about 15 kids at the September cooking class.

She thanked the Champlain Fire District for letting us use their building for the Truck or Treat and Natasha Nevius and Lori Brink for coordinating this move. There were over 125 kids present.

“Letters to Santa” will be held at the Champlain Meeting House on November 16th at 1 pm .

They will be collecting toiletries, hats, coats & mittens to be donated to JCEO at the same time.

We will hold the annual Cookie Decorating and Candy Cane Hunt on December 14th from 1-2:30.

Trustee Thomas Trombley

The IMA was received from Thomas Murnane’s office as finalized and then sent to the Town Attorney. We haven’t heard anything back yet.

Trustee Gehrig

Trustee Gehrig is working on permits for fire pits.

She is also looking into the NYS Urban and Community and Forestry Project. It is a very in-depth application with many requirements and is due in about a month. Discussion followed.

The board agreed that we would start working on parts of this grant to be ready for next year.

REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ

The board has been provided the Expense and Revenue Report for September.

The billing totals for Oct. 1: Water: \$66,140.85 and Sewer: \$72,060.62.

PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT

There are additional invoices of \$5,824.90 for a total warrant of \$44,153.30.

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to approve the warrant with additional invoices for a total of \$107,702.25.

Roll call vote as follows:

Trustee Kim Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Thomas Trombley	Aye
Trustee Gehrig	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT

Supt Jolicoeur reported that the DPW has done the following:

- Hydrant flushing is still in progress and we are about half done.
- We still need to do our flow test when flushing is complete. To get a true test, the valves should be in their regular state and they are not that way during flushing.
- The sand is delivered and salt is on order. We will be mixing and filling our shed for winter.
- We have had 5 water breaks this past month.
 - a) 2 near 11220 Rt. 9. We had to cut out and change a section of pipe.
 - b) 2 near 45 Moore Street on old galvanized line fed under 87 for Iron Bridge Distr.
 - c) 1 near 11138 Rt. 9. We need to excavate and install a new service line as the copper line was hooked and pulled from under the road. There is a temporary pex line now.
- We started putting stone on some of the shoulders of roads that were paved.
- We started on some of the drains that needed raising.
- We have patch work to be done before the asphalt plant closes.
- We have some cement sidewalks to form and pour before winter.
- We have some curb stops to dig where the rods are broken and leaks need repair.
- We have started servicing equipment.
- Yard debris pickup is complete.
- We have an ongoing issued with a sewer line that started around Sept. 9th. The homeowner had several people working on it and our sewer main was broken on Sept. 24th. On Oct. 24th a notice of violation was drafted and sent. We are still waiting for compliance with the notice so that this issue can be resolved.
- Supt. Jolicoeur requested quotes from 3 different contractors for the cost of a water line installation near 11 Cedar Street.
- The Peterbilt was sent out and needs a new hydraulic cylinder. Supt. Jolicoeur is trying to get quotes for parts so we can get this fixed. This needs to get repaired and put back into service so that we can install the sander & plow for winter.
- Supt. Jolicoeur is working on the quote for the new plow truck and hopefully will have this back soon.

The board would like some numbers before they approve the repair of the hydraulic cylinder on the Peterbilt. A special meeting can be called when the quotes are in. The board can also decide on bids for the water line replacement on Cedar Street at the same time.

Supt Jolicoeur asked the board their preference on dealing with those people parking on the sidewalk during the winter. The board agreed that they will be issued one warning on Village letterhead. After that, they will be towed.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Corresp. From Champlain Fire District
2. Corresp from NCC Systems
3. Notice of Violation to Amanda McCasland
4. JCEO Monthly report for October.

NEW BUSINESS

NCC Camera System

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to approve the upgrade of the camera system for a cost of \$4,325.00.

Trustee Gehrig asked what the benefit of the camera’s upgrade will be. Mayor McFetridge gave the example of being able to identify vehicles at the Elm Street dump site. Supt. Jolicoeur gave the example of seeing activities in the playground area. We brought charges against those destroying picnic tables and were able to identify people at the boat launch when signs were broken and thrown into the water. The stolen kayak was also recovered with the help of cameras. We were able to see kids in the park playing with the flags at night. Supt. Jolicoeur said that the cameras at the dump yard are much better. Mayor McFetridge stressed that upgrades are very important and we don’t want to lose use of the cameras because we didn’t upgrade. Discussion followed.

Roll Call vote as follows:

Trustee Kim Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Thomas Trombley	Aye
Trustee Gehrig	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

Resolution of Offices to be Filled

**2020 ELECTIONS
VILLAGE OF CHAMPLAIN**

WHEREAS, the next Village Election for offices of the Village of Champlain, New York, will be held on March 18, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain must designate by resolution and publish offices which are to be filled at such election and the terms thereof, be it therefore;

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain has determined the following offices to be filled and to be voted thereupon, with the terms of such offices respectively noted as follows:

TRUSTEE	TERM: TWO YEARS
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as required by Village Election Law #15-104 (3)(a), notice of Village Election be given at least four (4) months prior to Election date, and that the office to be voted upon be included in the notice.

THIS RESOLUTION shall take effect immediately.

Motion to approve by Trustee Thomas Trombley
Seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley

Roll call vote as follows:

Trustee Kim Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Thomas Trombley	Aye
Trustee Gehrig	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Dated: November 4, 2019

Unpaid Taxes

Mayor McFetridge asked that board review the unpaid taxes to be relieved and to sign, date and return them to Mary Sousa.

Champlain Fire District: Plowing and Sewer Installation

The Champlain Fire District is requesting that the Village develop an inter-municipal agreement to do their plowing for them. They are also asking for some help with a sewer installation.

Mayor McFetridge mentioned that the Fire District has been helpful in responding when we have needed help. The Village has plowed for the Fire District in the past. This request would include both the fire station and the office next door. The emergency vehicles are needed in our community and serve our residents. Discussion followed.

Mayor McFetridge and Trustee Thomas Trombley will create a written agreement for this shared service.

The Champlain Fire District is also asking that the Village provide manpower and equipment to install the sewer pipes as part of the new Fire District building project. The Town of Champlain has agreed to dig the trench for the sewer line.

Supt. Jolicoeur is willing the help with this but would like more details.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator training

Mayor McFetridge reported that we had an employee doing the home course for this position, but he was dropped in August as he had not completed tests in a timely manner. There is a question of whether or not the tests were included with the books we received.

Morrisville offers this program in December but it is currently full. We have placed the employee on a waiting list and booked a room for him for the two week time period that this course covers, in case there is an opening and he gets in.

Mayor McFetridge will contact DEC and let them know our progress in getting a second wastewater treatment plant operator in place.

OLD BUSINESS

Local Law #1 2019: Curfew in the Village of Champlain

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the Local Law #1 of 2019. Discussion followed.

Roll Call vote as follows:

Trustee Kim Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye

Trustee Thomas Trombley	Aye
Trustee Gehrig	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

Contamination Cleanup

Mayor McFetridge reported that bids have been received for the next stage. They should start between Nov. 4th to 22nd to complete additions construction with piping manifold and prep the pad for placing the system. This should be completed by mid-December.

Land Bank

Janet is on the bylaw committee for the land bank. The final version was just completed and she will forward the final copy to the board. It will be presented to CC Legislature at end of November. We need to provide a list of “Zombie” properties in the village that are dangerous, dilapidated, abandoned, and a financial burden if we need to remove it, but not necessarily a foreclosure property.

Village Sign

Trustee Thomas Trombley reported that the Village sign should be done by the end of this month. Scott has formally closed his business and is finishing up old projects.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 pm a motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley to adjourn. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

At 8:05 a motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Molinski to reconvene and go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

At 8:20 pm a motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to come out of Executive Session and return to regular meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried. No motions or votes were made during the Executive Session.

At 8:22 pm a motion was made Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to close regular meeting and return to Executive Session to discuss a matter concerning possible litigation. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

At 8:45 pm a motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Molinski to come out of Executive session and adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried. No motions or votes were taken during Executive Session.

Mary Sousa, Secretary
11/08/2019