

**Village of Champlain  
Village Board Meeting  
August 14, 2023**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, August 14, 2023 at the Village Office, 11104 Route 9, Champlain, New York.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Mayor McFetridge called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Mayor McFetridge, Trustees Molinski, Conner & Herzog and Clerk/Treasurer Munoz. Also in attendance was Kevin Sterling, Water/Wastewater Plant Operator.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the minutes of the July 10th Board Meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Connor to approve the minutes of the July 31<sup>st</sup> Special Board Meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the minutes of the Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

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

No one was present from the community this evening.

**PRESENTATION FROM WATER/WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR**

Kevin Sterling has been working for 4 months with software for the WWTP and WTP. It is made to modernize the day-to-day operations of the plants which saves time and creates organization that has not been there. Other benefits include digitalization of daily rounds, alarms, reports of usage hours, maintenance schedules, asset inventory, GPS located lift stations, media library for download of manuals. More tags can be added to the system as needed. Operators can be notified by email or text, and soon by phone as well for any issues. The cost is \$360/month for both plants and the company that offers this program is working to get the initial connection set up at no cost to us. We can schedule a demonstration of the program and Kevin Sterling is also presenting this information to the Town. The cost for this will be part of Operations and Maintenance costs.

**REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Code Enforcement Officer Matott provided the board with a report for July 2023.

**REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor McFetridge reported:

We have had 3 concerts this summer. Straw Hatters had to cancel, but would like to come back next year. Thank you to Trustee Molinski for arranging the food trucks.

There will be no Village Fest this month. We will be celebrating our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9-5. It will include business expo, history presentation, kid's activities, food, a corn hole tournament, ice cream social and music.

The Water Line replacement project went out to bid a second time. It will be awarded in September with a start date in the spring.

The Town of Champlain & Two Villages has a new website looking to promote our region..

The Poutine Challenge information is available at the Town website. Have your passport stamped and returned to the Town with a prize for the first 20 people completing the challenge.

Thompson Rd. Tuesdays concert was held last night with over 200 people in attendance. The group would not accept payment for their performance but asked that we donate those funds to a food shelf or other local aid. Thank you to Ron Gregoire, Lori Mercaldi, Frank Mercaldi, Donald "Soupy" Surprenant, Rick Laventure and David Wetig for their generosity and their great performance.

**REPORT FROM TRUSTEES**

Trustee Molinski

Trustee Molinski reported that there were only a few kids in the 2 Fun Runs in July. The last Fun Run will be this coming Sunday to celebrate 4 runners who participated in most of the events.

The Sensory Garden has been put on hold because of bad weather and no volunteers.

The Library will be holding a Carnival on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 p.m. with games to play.

Story Hours will start up in October on Saturdays.

Senior Planet will be holding new classes for seniors, possibly at Northern Tier Sr. Housing.

Trustee Conner

Trustee Conner asked that local businesses and organizations respond to the Village’s request to set up tables or tents for the 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. We want the community involved and to have a good turnout.

Trustee Herzog

Trustee Herzog reported on the corn hole tournament. He has ideas for prizes and participation awards. He will be putting informational posters/flyers on the Village of Champlain Facebook page.

**REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ**

The board has been provided the Expense and Revenue Report for July 2023.

**PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT**

The warrant of \$64,191.12 was presented with additional invoices of \$4,351.74 for a total of \$68,542.86.

Motion by Trustee Herzog, seconded by Trustee Conner to approve the warrant with additional invoices for a total of \$68,542.86. Roll Call vote:

Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Conner	Aye
Trustee Herzog	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

Water Line Replacement Project

BARTON & LOGUIDICE	\$11,448.58
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Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve payment. Roll call vote:

Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Conner	Aye
Trustee Herzog	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Disinfection & Upgrades Project

BARTON & LOGUIDICE	\$67,247.50
PERRAS	\$555,190.07

Motion by Trustee Herzog, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve these payments. Roll call vote:

Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Conner	Aye
Trustee Herzog	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

**REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT**

Supt Jolicoeur provided the board with a report for July 2023.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1. CHIPS funding information from NYS DOT
- 2. Salt Reduction Grant award of \$1,500 from Clinton County Soil & Water
- 3. Clinton County Treasurer 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter sales tax
- 4. Charter Communications franchise fees.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Change of Date for October Meeting  
This matter was tabled until next month.
  
- 2. Kevin Sterling presentation  
This was completed earlier in the meeting
  
- 3. Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement #3: Water main Replacement  
There is an increase in costs as we have to go out to bid a second time, and there are adjustments to the ROW due to DOT requests for changes.  
Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Herzog to accept this amendment. Roll call vote:
 

Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Conner	Aye
Trustee Herzog	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Dog Law  
This matter was tabled until we receive a response from our attorney.
  
- 2. 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration  
Discussion followed on things that still need to be done.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, at 7:44 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Conner to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

*Mary E. Spring, Secretary*

### ***CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: JULY 2023***

- Issued permit for sign at Champlain Playground
- Spoke to owner of old Elementary School. Grass will be cleaned up in the next day or two.
- Sent letter to Tim Lacount regarding piled junk on 158 South St. where trailer was removed. Given 15 days to remove after calls have gone unanswered.
- Received receipts from Curtis Labarge showing he had someone living at 11138 Rt. 9 from Aug. 2022-Sept. 2022. Attempting to reach tenant to confirm receipts.
- Sent letter to owner of 11289 Rt. 9 to get building permit for unpermitted roofing.
- Emails with Tesla regarding installation of 12 EV chargers in the Price Chopper plaza. Will require approval by the ZBA as the site plan for the site that was already approved will be changing.
- Spoke to Curtis Labarge who is refusing to comply with zoning and is moving someone into his residence on Rt. 9. Advised that he will be issued tickets.
- Letter to 102 Church Street regarding grass.
- Attempted to speak with owner of lot near Central Nutrition to have grass cut.
- Complaint of cars parking on the sidewalk of Moore St. Nothing found when I arrived. Caller did not give an address of the issue and did not call back when I left a voicemail requesting an address.
- Issued permit for roofing at 59 Church St.
- Issued permit for roofing on 11289 Rt. 9
- Court appearance for Sandra Barber. She did not show up. Adjourned to later date.
- Complaint of long grass and shopping cart at 8 Spruce St. Letter sent to owner who is out of state.
- Tri-Annual Fire Safety and Property Maintenance Inspections for 1 Northern Tier Way #1-6. Reports generated for entire complex as well as letters for each apartment. 5 Notices of Violation issued. 30 days given to rectify and then will re-inspect.
- Issued permit for bathroom addition at 9 Cane St.
- Issued permit for antenna replacement on Main Street.

### ***SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: JULY 2023***

This was an extremely busy and wet month

#### **Water:**

- We paused hydrant flushing but are starting back up today; it takes about 3 weeks to complete
- Two PRV's were repaired and one water meter reinstalled in the Town
- Two water main breaks on July 31<sup>st</sup> on Rt. 9 were excavated and repaired.
- The water plant duplex lift station has both pumps back in and operating.

#### **Sewer:**

- Sludge was hauled from the drying beds. Contractors can start demo and rebuilding them.
- Vac truck came in and emptied one digester and corner of aeration tanks. Contractors added three concrete pilers for wall repair. The fine bubble diffuser piping is split in many places and will need to be replaced. Engineers are looking into the lead time for replacement parts and we will have to empty all of the tanks when parts arrive.
- We will need to install a new lift station control panel on Main Street. Waiting on quotes.
- New belt press was delivered and needs to be installed after drying bed rebuild is complete.

#### **Equipment:**

- Trackless was repaired
- 1-ton service completed
- Backhoe hose failed and a temporary hose installed. Repair parts ordered and will be installed.

#### **Streets:**

- Newly paved roads were shouldered.
- Line striping completed on some of our roads.
- Trimmed brush on roadways.
- Cleaned up debris from storm drains and added stone to washed out areas.

## MISC

- Mowing & trimming difficult with rainy weather and heavy workload.
- Filled washouts on the bike path (Rec. Trail)
- Excavated and added sand & mulch under playground equipment.
- Rail bed was brush hogged from Paquette lift station to behind Goss Chevrolet so that the town can excavate to locate their sewer line for Larson Design Group to tie into the new border patrol station.

## WORK TO BE DONE

- Continue hydrant flushing and repair any issues we find.
- PRV vault maintenance and valve exercising.
- Continue with culvert installation and replacement.
- Bike path ditching (Rec Trail)
- Continue with sign replacement
- Lift station control replacement.