

**Village of Champlain  
Village Board Meeting  
August 8, 2022**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, August 8, 2022 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 Kim Trombley, Nicci Molinski, Charles Conner & Joel Herzog and Clerk/Treasurer Munoz.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Trustee Conner and seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the minutes of the July 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Herzog, seconded by Trustee Conner to approve the minutes of the July 21<sup>st</sup> Special Board Meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

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

**REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

The Code Enforcement Officer provided the board with his July 2022 Report.

**REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor McFetridge reported the following:

We have had a lot of water main breaks this summer, which have difficult for affected residents and our DPW crew. She thanked residents for their patience. We are working on the water line replacement project which should start in the fall or early 2023.

The WWTP disinfection and upgrades will be starting in a few weeks.

Taylor Lavalley band concert had a great turnout.

Straw hatters will be playing Wednesday, Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>.

Busco Bandits will be playing Friday, Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>.

Village Fest will taking this Saturday from noon- 3 p.m. with an ice cream social, bounce house and other activities for kids.

The Town of Champlain and the Villages of Champlain and Rouses Point are starting the Poutine Challenge.

Passports can be picked up and stamped at one of the participating businesses that offer Poutine.

There has been an increased interest in developing properties and opening small businesses, which is good for all of us.

**REPORT FROM TRUSTEES**

Trustee Herzog

Trustee Herzog is working on setting up a Corn Hole Tournament. He asked the board's input on the best day to hold the event, and a Sunday in September was recommended. He would like to see one set for singles and one for group games. He would like to get a food truck or ice cream truck in as well. This could be combined with other events for the Fall Fest. Trustee Herzog will keep the board updated. It was suggested that we get a sponsor to help fund the event. Registration can be done through an app. T-shirts could be made for winners and sold as well. Discussion followed.

Trustee Herzog noted that the Comptroller posted grant money through the Downtown DRI program and was thinking of enlisting Melissa McManus to help. Mayor McFetridge said that she thinks Melissa is interested in working on the DRI grant and that it should involve the Town and both Villages for a stronger application.

Trustee Conner

Trustee Conner had nothing to report this evening.

Trustee Molinski

Trustee Molinski reported that the last two Amazing Challenge Fun Runs were cancelled due to heat. Their final Fun Run will be held on Aug.21<sup>st</sup>, but with no picnic this year.

The herbs and veggies in the Children’s Garden are doing very well. She will be doing a cooking classes using what they have grown.

Trustee Molinski thanked the following people for their help:

- Keith Bulriss for the mulch and compost for the gardens.
- Kim Seles for the stones donated for the edging on the perennial garden
- Gary & Brenda Molinski for bricks for the 2<sup>nd</sup> pollinator garden.
- Bridge Tree for donating the stumps for seating

Trustee Molinski submitted an application for the Pollinator Garden grant to purchase plants next year.

On Thursday at 1 pm, they will be creating a sign for the children’s garden area.

The library has held several workshops on technology. There will more information in September with dates and times for a 10 session course on other devices and apps.

The library will have a fish and wildlife inspector on Wed. at 1 pm. & Sand Art event on Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

Village Fest is this weekend with tables for JCEO, Head Start and the Library.

Trustee Trombley

Trustee Trombley said that the water board is working on gathering information.

Water Tank Contract # of 2022

Resolution for Approval of the Water Tank Maintenance Contract between the Village of Champlain and the Town of Champlain

Motion to approve by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Molinski.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ**

The board has been provided the Expense and Revenue Report for July 2022.

**PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT**

The warrant of \$17,993.44 with additional invoices of \$8,688.37 was presented to the board. A motion was made by Trustee Conner and seconded by Trustee Trombley to approve the warrant with additional invoices for a total of \$26,681.81.

Roll Call vote:

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

Motion carried.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Disinfection and Capital Improvements**

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Herzog to approve payment of \$33,542.15 from the WWTP Disinfection and Capital Improvements account for the following:

\$ 1,635.00 for Bond Counsel

\$ 8,620.75 to Barton & Loguidice

\$11,400.00 to Triangle Electric

\$11,886.40 to Pipeline Mechanical

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

**TRANSFER**

Motion by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Trombley to approve the transfer of \$53,845.98 in ARPA funds to the Water Project Fund. Roll Call vote:

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

Motion carried.

**REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT**

Supt Jolicoeur did not provide a report for June.

Mayor McFetridge reported that they have been busy with hydrant flushing and water main breaks.

2 breaks were on Pine, one right down from us on Main St. and one after the other downtown on Main St.

We called Rouses Point in for assistance. They came over right away and worked well with our crew.

It was a very cooperative effort and reinforced that they would help us and we help them any time.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. FOIL request from Doug Powers
2. Dangerous Dog notices from Champlain Town Court
3. Corresp from Attorney Murnane to Daniel Labarge regarding 11191 Route 9
4. Letter of Resignation from Woody Kissel
5. CHIPS funding balances
6. Corresp from NY Office of the Attorney General regarding Statement of Amount due for Petroleum cleanup.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mariellen Boyd appointed to the ZBA

Mayor McFetridge appointed Mariellen Boyd to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

2. Sale/Subdivision of land on Maiden Lane

Michael & Candy Thibodeau wrote a letter asking if they could purchase a piece of Village land so that their tenants can use it as a driveway instead of pulling out onto Main Street. A new business is in their building and the driveway may be blocked at times. The section that they are requesting is 89’x38’ out of Tax map property #18.16-2-10.1. We need to decide to sell the property and set a price TBD.

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve selling this piece of property to Mike Thibodeau. Discussion followed.

The buyer is aware that it cannot be paved, as it is FEMA buyout property. Mayor McFetridge will try to work out a price with the buyer. Then we can start the planning board process to subdivide the land.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Bill for remediation from NY Attorney General

In 2017 we were considering building renovations. There was a petroleum smell in the building and we had some exploration done. There was contamination and DEC was contacted. DEC was involved in the remediation over 3-4 years. This did take care of the odors. We were told that it would be paid for from an Oil Spill fund. We now have a bill for \$258,000 for that remediation.

We have looked into insurance coverage, but it was a different carrier at the time.

The Attorney General is working with us to find a solution. We can ignore the deadline for payment.

We were able to find an old photo that has the Texaco logo on the tanks and signs, which was sent to the Attorney General's office.

Trustee Herzog suggested that we get our attorney involved. Mayor McFetridge said that she will do that if the Attorney General doesn't work out.

4. Water & Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator advertisement

We have advertised in the Sun Community newspaper/ZipRecruiter, Press Republican/Monster, Indeed and with Clinton County Civil Service. This will be a challenge to find someone for this job.

5. Restore NY Letter of Intent

We need to send a Letter of Intent by Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> and need to show that we have control of the property to apply for the grant. Mayor McFetridge has not yet approached the owner or son about taking control of this property. If we don't get the grant, we still have the building to deal with.

Discussion followed.

The board agreed that they do not want the responsibility of the building without having the funds to take it down. Mayor McFetridge will not file a Letter of Intent at this time.

6. Masking Guidelines

We have had several cases of COVID at the Village and have been following guidelines for quarantine and masking. Mayor McFetridge asked the board for their opinion on wearing masks while riding in a Village truck, in close quarters. Discussion followed.

The board agreed that it is each employee's individual decision on whether or not they wear a mask at work.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Dog Control

Mayor McFetridge has spoken with the dog control officer. The Judge has dealt with two cases already and another case is currently being investigated. She asks that the public go through the proper channels and to report any animal issues to the State Police or the Dog Control Officer.

2. Water Tank Maintenance Contract

This was addressed earlier in the meeting.

3. Resolution # of 2022 to seek membership in the AARP Network of Age Friendly Community

A motion was made by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Conner to approve this resolution as written. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, at 7:45 pm, a motion was made by Trustee Trombley and seconded by Trustee Molinski to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

*M. Spring*

Codes Enforcement Officer Matott provided the board with a report for July 2022.

- 6 Cane Street Trial, multiple days
- Issued permit to IFC for roof repairs
- Multiple grass letters
- Multiple letters for junk in yards
- Letter to new owner of burned property on Route 9 for compliance
- Issue with Ballin retention pond. Needs to be replaced or re-engineered.
- Spoke with Tom Murnane regarding property at 11191 Rt. 9. He will notify owner that he is responsible for the property and compliance.
- Spoke with Ballin about sprinkler system. They are getting it fixed and will give update within 30 days.
- Spoke with Universal Interiors LLC about sprinkler. They will contact Jolicoeur to hook up to the Village line.
- Burning complaint on Prospect St. Spoke with owner. He will get permit. DEC will be contacted for further garbage burning complaints.
- Burn permits issued.
- Call to 18 Cedar St. for fire. Building was deemed unfit for human occupancy.
- Emergency inspection of 16 Cedar Street with electrical inspector. Building deemed unfit for human occupancy.
- Final inspection of #1650. CO issued.
- Spoke with resident of 11 Meadow Lane regarding debris in front yard. Given 2 weeks to clean up.
- Construction inspection on South Street.
- Attended zoning meeting
- Issued permit for demo on Canal Street.
- Spoke to landlord at 11218 Route 9 regarding couch in yard, since removed.
- Spoke to tenant of 11094 Route 9 regarding junk on porch. It will be cleaned. Spoke to landlord of 45 Moore Street regarding multiple grass violations. Will be cut and maintained or ticket will be issued.
- Spoke with owner of 23/25 Cedar Street regarding property maintenance issues. They will look into getting someone over there. Mainly front porch and brush/trees surrounding property.
- Final inspection of 1645, 1655, 1652, 1651, 1648. CO/CC issued.
- Complaint of travel trailer and junk at 692 Prospect Street. Letter sent to clean up and remove trailer that is being lived in.
- Neighbor dispute over fence on Meadow Lane. Fence is within regulations and there is no issue.
- Complaint of fowl on Prospect Street. Attempting to speak to tenant.
- Complaint of generator running on 18 Cedar Street. Occupant needs it during the day to power is oxygen machine. He was reminded of the noise hours and will comply.
- Issued permit for deck rebuild on Church Street.
- Spoke to landlord of 11195 Route 9 regarding trash outside. Tenants will not answer door or return calls. Landlord stated they are being evicted Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> and then the landlord will clean trash.
- Unpermitted roofing at 11111 Route 9. Given application and permit issued.