

**Village of Champlain
Village Board Meeting
December 14, 2020**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, December 14, 2020 at the Village Office, 11104 Route 9, Champlain, New York.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor McFetridge called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Present were Mayor McFetridge, Trustees Molinski, Thomas Trombley, Kim Trombley, Gehrig, Clerk/Treasurer Munoz, Superintendent Jolicoeur and Secretary Sousa.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the minutes of the November 9th Board Meeting. All members voted aye. Motion carried

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the minutes of the November 18th special board meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

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

There was no one here from the public to comment tonight.

REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

There was no report from the Codes Enforcement Officer.

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to our last board meeting of 2020. It has been an unusual year filled with uncertainty and adjustments. Our community has met these challenging times head-on. I have seen many acts of generosity and caring from gift baskets and food deliveries, to phone calls to check in on folks, to public gestures thanking all our health care workers and essential employees, which include the Village of Champlain employees. We are a tightly knit group who will always look out for one another.

A newly created event which was very well received was the Champlain Parade of Lights. Kudos to the Champlain Fire Department for all their work in contacting the participants and making the route safe. Everyone, young and old, thoroughly enjoyed seeing the brightly lit vehicles as they passed by honking horns and sounding sirens. In the words of one resident "It made me feel like a child again. Such joy." I can assure you that this will become an annual event.

I remind you to move your garbage cans away from the sidewalks soon after pickup days and do not park on the village streets between the hours of 2 am and 6 am. This will allow the sidewalks and streets to be plowed more efficiently.

The Village of Champlain Hometown Heroes applications with payment are due by December 31. You may drop off the form and a check in the drop box outside the office. Photos can be scanned and emailed to us. These new banners and the ones from last spring will be put up around Memorial Day 2021. It is our pleasure to recognize and honor the many veterans from Champlain who have served our country.

I extend wishes from the Village of Champlain and my family to all of you for a joyous holiday season. May you all remain healthy and happy Merry Christmas.

REPORT FROM TRUSTEES

Trustee Molinski

Trustee Molinski reported that on Thanksgiving she and Mayor McFetridge delivered dinner to a family affected by COVID, who were very appreciative of the community support.

Champlain Kids Connected has a December Countdown with many family activities on Facebook.

The Candy Cane Hunt was a success with about 30 kids there. 25 Craft Kits were also handed out.

Santa's mailbox at the Meetinghouse will be open for letters for 5 more days.

Trustee Molinski is planning a Zoom Trivia Night and Cooking Class in January.

Trustee Thomas Trombley

Trustee Trombley thanked everyone involved in the Parade of Lights last weekend, with an amazing number of people in the Village attending.

There will be a Blood Drive on December 28th at the EMS Station.

Trustee Trombley met with the Town Supervisor, Larry Barcomb, regarding the Water Project agreement. There are still some questions and Trustee Trombley advised that the Town and village boards need to meet together or separately with the Water Board to reach an agreement, otherwise we may need to go into arbitration. He is waiting to hear from the Town about a date, time and plan to meet and will be in touch with Mayor McFetridge on that schedule.

Trustee Kim Trombley

Trustee Kim Trombley said that the Personnel Committee met to look into longevity pay for salaried employees. There is nothing in the Personnel Policy regarding longevity pay. In the union contract there is longevity pay for 5,10,15,20 & 30 years' service. The amount is divided by 2080 hrs/year and added to employees pay rate. Salaried employees are not included. Trustee Thomas Trombley asked the Personnel Committee to put together a few ideas regarding longevity for salaried employees and present to the board.

Trustee Gehrig

Trustee Gehrig reported that the Garden Grant is almost complete.

The Stewarts Grant is to assist with mulching in the playground area.

The Holiday Decorating Contest judging will take place this coming weekend.

REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ

The board has been provided the Expense and Revenue Report for November 2020.

PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT

These transfers are needed to cover Workman's Comp insurance.

Transfers:	To: A9010.8	Retirement	\$1,690.00	
	From: A9040.8	Workers Comp		\$1,690.00
	To: F9010.8	Retirement	\$676.00	
	From: F9040.8	Workers Comp		\$676.00
	To: G9010.8	Retirement	\$1,014.00	
	From: G9040.8	Workers Comp		\$1,014.00

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Gehrig to approve these transfers as written. Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

There are additional invoices of \$4,369.26 to be added to the warrant for total of \$136,289.02.

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to approve the warrant with additional invoices for a total of \$136,289.02. Roll Call vote:

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

Motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT

Supt Jolicoeur reported the following for the DPW:

- Most of the street lights are fixed now. Supt. Jolicoeur is not sure when the new LED lights will be installed.
- Supt. Jolicoeur would like to see a change in the “Parking Ban” hours. The ban is currently 2 a.m. – 6 a.m. They are usually out plowing after 6 a.m. The board could change our code and we would need to get new signs. Discussion followed.
- They are putting stone down on the edges of Prospect Street.
- Supt Jolicoeur met with EJ Prescott and McDonald reps regarding the pressure valves that failed.
- Chris Goodrich from EJ Prescott will come up to do our readings for the January 1st water billing until we have the new computer.
- We have had 3 water breaks since our last meeting: Two on Main St. and one on South St.
- They have had some issues with the Trackless which has been resolved.
- Wiper blades have been installed on the plow, WWTP Generator is up and running, Christmas decorations are up, docks and gangway have been pulled out of the river & the light at the salt shed has been changed.
- They won’t get the new generator in at the Water Plant until spring.
- There are still trees to trim.
- They will be keeping up on equipment maintenance for the snow season.
- The loader has a code for wiring that needs to be looked at.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Mayor McFetridge to the Champlain Fire District regarding disabled hydrants.

2. Corresp from Donna Gera regarding sidewalk plow.
Mayor McFetridge reported that Mrs. Gero was very happy with the work done by the sidewalk plow operator recently, who plowed around her steps.
3. Corresp from Monique Lepage requesting a wastewater credit.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #10 of 2020: Village of Champlain Resolution of Cherry Street Extension

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Nicci Molinski to approve Resolution #10 of 2020 as written.

Roll Call vote as follows:

Trustee Kim Trombley	aye
Trustee Nicci Molinski	Aye
Trustee Thomas Trombley	Aye
Trustee Amy Gehrig	Aye
Mayor McFetridge	Aye

Motion carried.

Wastewater Credit: Monique Lepage

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Gehrig to approve a wastewater credit in the amount of \$201.60 for Monique Lepage at 69 Church Street. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Comprehensive Plan

Mayor McFetridge would like to work on a 5 year plan or strategy that would identify issues, establish goals & create policies. Some things to think about are downtown revitalization, water line replacement, quality of life, funding goals. She would like to have a work session with the board to brainstorm ideas. She will reach out with possible dates/times to meet.

Reserve funds

Mayor McFetridge went over the condition of the WWTP with Supt. Jolicoeur and Woody Kissel. Clarifiers need to be rebuilt, there is a crack in the wall of the aeration tank and drying beds need a more permeable flooring. We have \$200,000 in reserves now and should add more now to tackle one project in the Spring. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Molinski to transfer \$100,000 into Reserves for sewer repair (G882).

Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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