

**Village of Champlain  
Village Board Meeting  
January 13, 2025 6:30 p.m.**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, Jan. 13, 2025 at the Village Office, 11104 Route 9, Champlain, New York.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**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 and Herzog, Supt. Jolicoeur and Clerk/Treasurer Munoz. Trustee Trombley was excused this evening. Also present was John Higgins from the town of Chazy.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve minutes of the Dec. 9, 2024 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.

Purchase Requisition

John Higgins, who is in charge of water/wastewater in the Town of Chazy, was invited to our meeting tonight. Supt. Jolicoeur would like to upgrade his underground locator as it is only 1 frequency. He has had to call Mr. Higgins in the past when he has needed help with that locator.

Mr. Higgins said that he has worked for Chazy for 9 years. He said that the 1 frequency unit works most of the time, but many times underground utilities will disappear and it is much easier to find them using multiple frequencies. We have had the current locator for 8 years and technology has changed much since then.

Mr. Higgins said that the newer locator operates the same, but can do a lot more.

Supt. Jolicoeur said that it comes with a feature that uses Bluetooth to upload GPS points directly to Diamond Maps. The additional cost is \$474.00.

Mr. Higgins currently has the updated locator and could help if Supt. Jolicoeur has any problems or questions. The cost of the locator could be divided between water, sewer and general accounts.

A motion was made by Trustee Conner, and seconded by Trustee Herzog to approve up to \$13,000 for the purchase of the Radio detection 8200 Locator Kit, accessories and shipping. Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

**REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT**

**WATER:**

- Water main break on Meadow Lane was excavated and repaired
- PRV vaults serviced. Two need parts for repair.
- Water meters read an extra time this month due to warmup. There were several places with running water.

**STREETS**

- Sidewalks were replaced by contractors between north end of Willow St. to PRV vault at 11222 Rt. 9.

They will be looked at in the spring to see if any need replacement.

- The DPW crew is busy maintaining roads and sidewalks with snow and cold temps. Salt and sand have been mixed twice.
- Christmas tree pickup was done. If you have a tree to be picked up, please put it curbside.

## **SEWER**

- 2 residents had sewer issues; one had their line plugged and the other was broken and had a new sewer lateral installed.
- We are having an issue with a relay at the WWTP which trips out the Huber screen every 5 days. This is costing the Village 2 hours overtime each time it happens. They are waiting on a part for repair.
- WWTP upgrades still need to be finished.

## **MISC**

- The boiler at the water filtration plant broke. A new boiler was installed so that the filtration building would not freeze up.
- Some curb stops were lowered along Main St.
- Brush has been trimmed where needed.
- Reminder: Please do not park on the streets or sidewalks as this is an issue for plowing.
- Please do not leave trash cans curbside. Bring them back to your house after pickup.

## **REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

- OC Inspection @ 127 Elm St.
- Report of trash being dumped behind house at 17 River St.
- Final Inspection at 11178 Rt. 9

## **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor McFetridge wish a Happy New Years to all.

Thank you to the DPW crew for their hard work on the sidewalks and roads.

Thank you to those who helped at the Tree Lighting including Dunkin for the hot cocoa and treats, to Santa for arriving at the tree lighting, to the Fire Department for delivering him and to the Roberts for their Christmas truck.

The Town and Village are working on a Comprehensive Plan to give direction on what to work on for the next decade. Updates on the project are available at the Town of Champlain website.

We are scheduling concerts for the summer. Please reach out if you have requests.

Spring events will include the Slow Art Day and Arbor Day in April.

Mayor McFetridge updated villagers on the status of the German Shepard that has been loose for over a year.

The dog was trapped safely and humanely by a specialist in trapping and was taken to a location that specializes in working with German Shepard's.

She also reported that Mahoney's Hideaway, a new restaurant in the village, is now open. The food is delicious and thank you to Joey Mahoney for setting up business in the village.

She reported that both old and young people alike suffer from the long-term effects of loneliness and isolation, and asked that we reach out to our neighbors.

## **REPORT FROM TRUSTEES**

### Trustee Herzog

Trustee Herzog had nothing to report this evening.

### Trustee Conner

Trustee Conner had nothing to report this evening.

Trustee Molinski

Trustee Molinski thanked those who participated in the Christmas Crafts and Candy Cane Hunt.

She does not yet have a date for the cooking class in February.

The library recently had their fundraising Christmas sale with donations from the community. They are collecting donations for next year. The library is also looking for board members.

Mayor McFetridge added that the Play Date group is meeting at the Meeting House on Fridays at 10 a.m.

Check Facebook for any changes in days/times.

Trustee Trombley

Trustee Trombley was not present but provided the board with her report:

Jeff Morelock, Head Bus Driver and Lorna Tetreault, Head of Transportation, would like to personally recognize Mike Jolicoeur for his professionalism and communication with the NCCS Transportation Dept. regarding road closures and assistance with making sure the drivers are aware of issues. Thank you very much, Mike.

Trustee Trombley also reported “I would like to personally thank Mike Jolicoeur for stopping one day when I was at a drop off to be sure I was not in trouble or broke down. I really appreciated that, given the fact that temperatures were frigid. Thank you, Mike.”

**REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ**

The Board was provided the Expense & Revenue report for December 2024.

Transfers:

To:	A8020.4	Planning/Contractual		\$50.00
From:	A8010.4	Zoning/contractual	\$50.00	
To:	F8310.2	WaterAdmin/Equip		\$10,000.00
From:	F8389.4	Other Water Exp.	\$10,000.00	
To:	F8320.4	Source of Supply: Elect/Gas		\$5,000.00
From:	F8340.2	Transm. & Distrib: Equip.	\$5,000.00	

**GENERAL JOURNAL ENTRIES NECESSARY TO FUND ACCOUNT IN NEED**

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the transfers as written.

Roll Call vote:

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

Motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT**

The warrant was presented with additional invoices of \$18,268.08 for a total of \$105,438.59.

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the warrant with additional invoices.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

Main Water Line Replacement Project

01/01/2025	New England of NY	\$301.68
12/10/2024	Barton & Loguidice	24,963.90
12/31/24	Fiscal Advisors	913.50
12/23/24	TJ Fiacco Construction	110,892.31
01/13/25	Barton & Loguidice	<u>29,291.10</u>

TOTAL **\$166,362.49**

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve payment of \$166,362.49 for the Main Water Line Replacement Project.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Disinfection & Improvements

01/13/25	Barton & Loguidice	<b>\$1,408.75</b>
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Motion by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Conner to approve payment of \$1,408.75 for Wastewater Treatment Plant Disinfection & Improvements.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Correspondence from Chad Duprey regarding water/sewer service fees.

Chad Duprey owns the house at 11138 Rt. 9 and wants to demolish the house and put a garage on the property. He may want water in his garage but does not want to pay the extra service fee. When the new water main went by his property, he did not want to tap into it as he was going to demolish the building there. So, there is no connection to the main, however he still has to pay service fees because it is a developed property, meaning there is a building on the property. He does not feel that he should pay the service fee since he has no access to water.

Discussion followed. The board will look into this situation for the next meeting.

2. Corresp from NYS DOT regarding shared services agreement
3. Letter of support for Lake Champlain Basin program

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Resolution of Polling Place & Time

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the Resolution of Polling Place and Time for the 2025 Village of Champlain Elections. Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

2. Decorating Contest winners

- Trevor Gamache 39 Moore St.
- Hannah Gooley 42 Church St.
- Arthur & Nanette Hebert 33 Spruce St.

3. Shared Services Agreement for Code Enforcement

The codes officer's salary has increased as have the fees for the GovWell software. Our portion will be \$14,572.48 annually or \$3,643.12 quarterly. The codes officer works 8 hours/week for the village.

Motion was made by Trustee Herzog, seconded by Trustee Conner to approve the Shared Services Agreement for Code Enforcement. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Purchase of Fire Station

Mayor McFetridge and Supt. Jolicoeur will be meeting with Stan on Friday to see how vehicles and equipment will fit into the building. Supt. Jolicoeur sent all of the vehicle dimensions to him.

Trustee Conner said that he will be at that meeting as well. We know that the building will be useful, but we need to see if it will be adequate.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, at 7:21 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to adjourn. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

*Mary Spring, Secretary*