

Village of Champlain Village Board Meeting July 12, 2021

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, July 12, 2021 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, Molinski, Thomas Trombley and Conner. Clerk/Treasurer Munoz was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Conner and seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve the minutes of the June 14th Board Meeting. Trustees Thomas and Kim Trombley abstained. All other members present voted aye. Motion carried.

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

No one from the community was present this evening.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:35 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to close the regular board meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Conner to open the Public Hearing. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Tonight's public hearing was for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Village of Champlain's community development needs and to discuss the possible submission of one or more Community Development Block Grant applications for the 2021 program year.

No one was present from the public to comment on the CDBG application.

AT 6:37 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to close the public hearing. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Conner to re-open the regular board meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Codes Enforcement Officer Matott provided the board with a report for June 2021.

He met with the engineer at the Main Street burned property who will proceed with an in-depth report.

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- Grass rechecks
- Spoke with Sean Monahan about trash in yard, possibly reopening of court case.
- Monthly census survey
- Letter to Tim Lacount regarding 158 South St.
- Issued building permit to Elaine Gaudette for re-roofing
- Spoke with Steve Trombley about permission to enter burned property
- Spoke with Doug Powers about residence on Cane Street.
- Issued CC for 33 Ashline Drive from 2018 building permit
- Corresp. with Doug Ferris for new inspection.
- Letters about grass to 54 Church St., 185 Elm St. (cut 6/8/2021)
- Inspections and issuance of burn permits
- Trash complaint 1137 Main Street. Spoke with homeowner.
- Zoning questions for 29 Church St. (out of town buyer).
- 2020 permit status checks.
- Issued CC for #1622, #1609, #1614, #1619.
- Renewal of permit #1591

- Spoke with Sue Elmore about property on Main Street regarding squatter, trash, lawn (fixed)
- Neighbor complaint 8 Spruce Street regarding lawn (spoke with Neil and Mary will cut it)
- Check on broken windows at old school. Windows boarded or only first pane broken.
- Spoke with Doug Powers about issues at property on Cane Street: researching.
- Inspection of Main Street property with Doug Ferris
- Issued building permit to M. Tillard for roofing
- Notice of violation for trash at 11137 Route. 9.
- Pool construction without permit on Moore Street. Spoke with owners and dropped off application.
- Issued building permit for AG pool at 21 Moore St.
- Burn permit checks and issuance.
- Second email in regards to grass at 139 Elm Street (owner lives in Canada).

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

Here are some ideas of what you can do in and around the Village of Champlain. Every Saturday from 9 until noon, there is a farmer’s market in Paquette Park and some of those days there will be kid’s activities going on. We will have two concerts in Bill Earl Park – one on July 31 and one on August 26. We have a disc golf course located along the banks of the river and horse show pits in the park on River Street. The 6th annual Amazing Champlain Challenge kids’ fun run series will be held on July 25 and August 8 and 22 at 5:30 pm. The boat launch is a perfect spot to begin a kayak or canoe float on the Great Chazy River. Plus, there is a kayak storage rack there where you can lock your boat to be able to access it more easily. Forms for this are available at the Village office. We have an active book club in the village, a wonderful public library, and several little libraries along the streets. The community garden is in full swing. You can’t help yourself to the vegetables there, but I am sure that those gardeners will be sharing their surplus with their neighbors. The playground will soon have a new basketball hoop up and two new pieces of equipment will be installed later this summer. For those who enjoy walking or cycling, the Northern Tier Rec Trail is a beautiful path which stretches for several miles. These are just a few of the many activities that one can enjoy in the Village of Champlain.

REPORT FROM TRUSTEES

Trustee Thomas Trombley:

Trustee Trombley reported that the Water Board is closing out their yearly report.

Trustee Conner

Trustee Conner reported that the Main Street sidewalk is a hazard and something that we should look at for the future. The community garden is doing well.

Trustee Nicci Molinski

Trustee Molinski reported that there are 23 pumpkins growing in the community garden.

The Fun Run on Sunday had 24 participants.

Geocaching will take place on Friday at 1:00 p.m. at the Library.

The Kids Days at the Farmers Market will be on July 24th and August 14th.

There will be a volunteer day to paint the basketball court.

Trustee Kim Trombley

Trustee Trombley had nothing to report this evening.

REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ

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

July 1st Water Billing

Water: \$60,344.75 Sewer: \$65,828.74

Water Class

The Northern NY Water Works Conference is being held on August 13th in Alexandria Bay at a cost of \$60 per person. Robert, Woody and Jimmy will all need credits for their water licenses. This will require travel time away from work. Woody said that there are some online classes for those credits too.

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Conner to approve up to \$180 for up to three employees to this class on August 13th. Roll Call vote as follows:

Trustee Kim Trombley Aye

Trustee Molinski Aye
Trustee Conner Aye
Trustee Thomas Trombley Aye
Mayor McFetridge Aye

Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT

There are additional invoices of \$358.16 to be added to the warrant for a total warrant of \$19,218.40.

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Conner to approve the warrant with additional invoices for a total of \$19,218.40. Roll Call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT

STREETS

- We will continue to get streets ready for paving (cutting shoulders, drainage work). We will also have to get some milling done. Sewer risers are on order.
- The updated paving schedule from Karl Weiss at the County shows us at the end of August/Beginning of September. He will update us as it gets closer.

WATER

- We had to repair two water main leaks on Elm Street.
- We did water readings for the July 1st billing.

SEWER

- Supt Jolicoeur called the contractor again for a quote on the tank wall repair. The contractor is sorry but is finishing ½ this year then shutting his business down. Supt. Jolicoeur has a call in to another local contractor and is waiting for a quote.

EQUIPMENT

- Supt Jolicoeur has tried to get an update on the new plow truck as it has not been delivered yet. Messages were left at the shop working on the truck. He spoke with Glen from Tenco, who has left messages with the shop with no response either. There may be personal issues and Glen is 4 hours away, so he will make some calls to get us an update.
- The bucket truck is apart and we are looking for parts to fix it.
- The enclosed trailer was dropped off for repairs. The entire roof had to be removed to repair it. The updated cost will be \$2,500. We have a check from the insurance company and will have to pay any difference.

MISC

- We put 2 stone-lined ditches on both sides of the bike bath east of the gully bridge off of Paquette Blvd. This area was top soiled and hydro seeded. We will continue to water to establish the grass and can then put posts back on the path near Paquette Blvd.
- We installed the concrete base for the basketball hoop and will be installing that this week.
- The loader screen was repaired and reinforced.
- Topsoil and millings were screened.

PURCHASE REQUISITION

We will need to order a smaller tank for chlorine at the water plant. We will use up the chlorine in the existing tank and change over to a drum. We will have to cut up the old tank to remove it. Possibly removing the cement containment also. This is going to be labor-intensive task because the tank was put in before the building was built and is too big to remove in one piece. Once removed, we can pipe in the new tank so it can be used.

Mayor McFetridge added that if the storage tank for chemicals at the water plant is under 185 gallons, we don't have to have DEC oversight, which requires a Spill Prevention Report. The tank we have now is bigger than we need.

A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley to approve the purchase of a 175 gallon tank from Grainger for \$402.42 plus shipping costs up to a total of \$600.00.

Roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Corresp. from NYMIR to John Triller
2. Notice of Violation for 11137 Route 9
3. Corresp. from Senator Stec regarding American Rescue Plan Act funds
4. Corresp. from Donna Gero requesting a wastewater credit
5. Corresp from Codes Officer Matott to Courtney Monahan at 188 South St.
6. Corresp from Codes Officer Matott to Mitchell Guay at 14 Spruce St.
7. Corresp from Codes Office Matott to Matt Loughan regarding 16 Cedar St.
8. Letter from Doug Powers to Codes Officer Matott regarding 6 Cane St.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Marijuana Legalization: Local Opt-out of Retail Sales
The board was provided with information on NY's Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act. Discussion followed.
The board is not opposed to retail sales in the Village and we will not Opt Out of retail sales. Mayor McFetridge will check with other local municipalities on their decision.
2. Sidewalks
The board agreed that we need to redo sidewalks on Main Street in the downtown area between Cedar Street and Church Street. This will need to go out to bid and we can request separate quotes for those two sections.
3. Water Class
This was addressed earlier in the meeting
4. Wastewater Credit: Donna Gero
Donna Gero requested a wastewater credit for 93 Church Street due to a leaking hot water tank. Supt. Jolicoeur confirmed that the water leaking into the basement was pumped out and did not enter the wastewater system. A motion was made by Trustee Thomas Trombley and seconded by Trustee Molinski to give a wastewater credit in the amount of \$168.00 to Donna Gero at 93 Church St. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.
5. Shared Services: County-Wide EMS System
The Town of Plattsburgh has proposed a study of the EMS system in the county. This would require a \$2,500 contribution from the Village of Champlain. Discussion followed.
The board is happy with our Champlain/Mooers EMS system and does not feel that we should join in this project.
6. Playground
Trustee Conner stated that the playground area does not have a name and proposed that we name it in honor of Clarke Herdic. Discussion followed. The board agreed that we should write and approve a resolution to rename the playground "Clarke Herdic Recreation Park".

Trustee Thomas Trombley asked about the \$107,000 Rescue Recovery Funds that we will be receiving. Mayor McFetridge said that there are some guidelines for its use, including infrastructure. Our water line replacement project would fit into that description.

OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, at 7:40 pm, a motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Conner to adjourn. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

M. Spring, Secretary

**STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF CLINTON**

CERTIFICATION:

I, Juanita Munoz, the duly qualified Clerk of the Village of Champlain, New York, do hereby certify that the minutes from the Village of Champlain Special Board Meeting held on July 12, 2021, are true and accurate and are the original minutes of said meeting, and that said minutes have not been altered, amended or revoked.

Juanita Munoz
Clerk

DATED: July 21, 2021

SEAL