

**Village of Champlain  
Village Board Meeting  
July 8, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, July 8, 2024 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 Trombley, Molinski, Herzog and Conner, Clerk/Treasurer Munoz. Also present were Tanya Girardi, Lisa Roketenetz, Jennifer Jewett and Thomas Trombley.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Herzog to approve minutes of the June 10<sup>th</sup> board meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Herzog, seconded by Trustee Trombley to approve minutes of the June 17<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**

**REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

There was no report from the Codes Enforcement Officer this evening.

**REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor McFetridge reported that the water line replacement work on South St. continues and should be complete in another week. The staging area for this project is on Prospect St., and there will continue to be heavy equipment going up and down that street for materials. She thanked residents for their patience & understanding. Wed., July 10<sup>th</sup> Straw hatters at Bill Earl Park at 6 p.m.

Sun. July 21<sup>st</sup> Taylor Lavalley at Bill Earl park at 6:00 p.m. There will be food trucks for both events.

Saturdays beginning July 13<sup>th</sup> Champlain Farmer's Market at Paquette Park from 9 a.m. – noon.

We have a disc golf course, access to the Northern Tier Rec Trail, boat launch on the Great Chazy River, and a kayak rack to store you kayak.

Mayor McFetridge thanked the Village employees who work hard to make this village a healthy and attractive place to live. She asked residents to please slow down on the roads and don't throw litter on the ground.

Mayor McFetridge made a clarification regarding an article that appeared in the Press Republican at the end of May: It was reporting on a panel discussion entitled "Women in Politics".

In it, she was quoted as saying, when she goes to some meetings either in the county, Town of Champlain, other towns in the county or the Village of Rouses Point, there is still sometimes a subtle difference in treatment due to gender. This comment was in no way pointed to anyone in particular. She has had the good fortune to work with many class act men in the local area. Anyone who is claiming that she was making a specific comment about the Village of Rouses Point Mayor or Town of Champlain Supervisor is mistaken.

**REPORT FROM TRUSTEES**

Trustee Trombley

Trustee Trombley reported that the EDU assessment report is complete and has been emailed to the board.

The Village's EDU's have decreased from 625 to 617. There have been some changes in usage for businesses. She will be working with the tax assessor next year to make an easier way to access the tax roll information. She asked that if the board has any question about the EDU's, to contact her directly.

Trustee Trombley thanked Robert Pulsifer for taking the Water Board on a tour of the water plant. It was a very thorough tour that showed his in-depth knowledge of his job.

#### Trustee Molinski

Trustee Molinski reported that she is starting up a volleyball club for girls ages 5-12. They will meet at the Bob Venne Park across from the NCCS High School, Wednesdays July 10-Aug 14<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 p.m.

The library is in need of volunteers to do yard work. They are also looking for people with a trade or hobby that can work with children.

Walk to Connect- Sunday at 9 a.m. at the High School softball field. All ages are invited.

#### Trustee Conner

Trustee Conner reported that the community garden is doing well. We may want to add a few more raised beds next year. He is following the South St. water project and feels that they are doing a good job.

#### Trustee Herzog

Trustee Herzog had nothing to report.

Trustee Trombley also thanked Mary Spring and Juanita Munoz for their work on the water board project. She also noted that the contractors on the South St. project are doing an excellent job of getting school buses through while they are working there.

### **PUBLIC HEARING: DOG CONTROL LAW**

At 6:45 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to close the regular meeting.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Trombley to open the Public Hearing.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor McFetridge read Rules of Conduct for Public Hearing

Jennifer Jewett spoke in favor of the tethering law, giving examples of how being tethered affects a dog's health and public safety. She thanked the Board of Trustees for drafting this dog law.

Thomas Trombley stated that the Town Board is interested in developing a tethering law or following the county law. He suggested that under "extreme weather conditions" we add temperatures as a guideline in enforcement. He is glad that we are adopting this law, which can serve as a trial run for other municipalities.

Tonya Girardi said that you can judge a person on how they treat animals and no dog should be tied outside 24/7.

She thanked the board for considering the tethering law.

Trustee Kim Trombley wanted to clarify why she voted as she did when the law was first drafted and when we talked about it again later. She had voted No, not because she was against tethering, but because she felt that we were rushing and she wanted to see what the county did first. It might be more cohesive if we have one law.

AT 6:54 a motion was made by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Conner to close the Public Hearing.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Molinski to go back to regular meeting.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

#### Local Law #3 Dog Control Law

A motion was made by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Trombley to adopt Local Law #3 Dog Control.

Mayor McFetridge said that the Town is updating their Dog Control Law and we tried to following theirs.

Trustee Conner is in favor of the law and feels that, not knowing what the county is doing, we should continue with our own law.

Trustee Herzog agreed with Thomas Trombley regarding adding specific temperatures.  
 Mayor McFetridge said that we can make amendments to our law if needed. We don't have specific temperatures in our law right now. She felt that would fall under Weather Alerts.  
 Trustee Conner said that temps may differ in different areas and hard to prove.  
 Trustee Trombley was in favor of adding temperatures.  
 Trustee Molinski felt that Extreme Weather defines those conditions.  
 Trustee Herzog felt that it should be on an individual basis and if taken to court, a judge should decide based on our guidelines and intent of the law.  
 Trustee Conner thought that extreme temperatures for one dog is different for another dog.  
 Mayor McFetridge said that she wouldn't mind adding temperatures, but different breeds have different tolerances. Discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote taken:

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

Motion carried.

Jennifer Jewett, Tanya Girardi, Lisa Roketenetz and Thomas Trombley left the meeting.

**REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ**

The Board was provided the Expense & Revenue report for June 2024.  
 We had a water billing last month with totals of \$70,984.25 for water and \$67,193.55 for sewer.

**PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT**

The warrant was presented with additional invoices of \$14,093.97 for a total of \$27,313.36. Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Trombley to approve the warrant with additional invoices.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

Water Line Replacement Project

Fiscal Advisors	\$ 167.00
Barton & Loguidice	1,755.19
Barton & Loguidice	6,827.05
TJ Fiacco	<u>\$129,889.41</u>
	\$138,638.65

Motion by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Herzog to approve these payments for a total of \$138,638.65.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

WWTP Project  
Perras Excavating

\$36,902.76

Motion by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Trombley to approve payment of \$36,902.76 to Perras Excavating. 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 reported the following for June 2024

### **WATER**

- The South St. water line replacement is almost complete. The service lines for the Rt. 11 plaza and Sr. housing were hooked up today and the old main was shut down and taken out of service. This week the tie in at Rt. 9/South St. intersection will be completed. Also a cut and cap near Ashline Dr. Two old hydrants will be removed. Once this is completed, the final restoration with topsoil, seed and asphalt will be completed.
- The next section of water main replacement will be on Rt. 9 from South St. continuing north to Cedar St. Please expect delays and avoid the area if possible. There will be single lane road closures and sidewalks will be closed in work areas during this process. There will also be boil water orders issued in affected areas as lines get shut down.
- The copper and lead sampling is being done as well as other routine monitoring samples.
- The water plant chlorine monitoring system was repaired.

### **SEWER**

- Contractors were back working on punch list items and then will be finishing groundwork and paving.
- We are still waiting on the piping for the 8 tanks. The material is supposed to start being shipped the week of August 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **MISC.**

- We installed the forms for the solar trailhead lights and bike repair station along the bike path on Elm St. Once we get the cement poured, they will be installed.
- We completed installing timbers and wood chips around 2 pieces of existing playground equipment.
- The brush pickup is complete
- Mowing and trimming are being done.
- Service on the pickup truck was completed.

### **WORK TO BE COMPLETED**

- Replace sidewalk from Church St. to Cedar St.
- Paint crosswalks and install ADA plates with sign.
- Paint crosswalk from Church St. to Dollar General on edge of roadway.
- Paint arrows on roadways.
- Install another dog waste station and trash cans.
- Install new playground equipment with timber and wood chip base.
- Modify gangway and dock for the kayak launch installation, being done by Modern Mechanical.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Removable Speed bumps on Prospect St.**

Mayor McFetridge said that she would like to see speed bumps on Prospect St. to slow drivers down. Supt. Jolicoeur has agreed that he can do this. They would be removable so that they can be taken up during the winter so that the snow plows can go through.

Trustee Trombley agreed that it would be good to have anything that would reduce speeding on Prospect St.

Trustee Conner said that there have been a lot of complaints there.

The cost is about \$1,500/speed bump and we would get 2 of them.

Mayor McFetridge will have Supt. Jolicoeur do some more research on them.

### **2. Village Fest.**

We would like to have our Ice Cream social on Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Conner suggested that we try to coordinate with the Town. Mayor McFetridge will contact Champlain Tech. Group to see when they are doing their events and will let the board know.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **TextMyGov**

Mary Spring reported that she had spoken with several other municipalities that used TextMyGov for their thoughts on this program. They all agreed that it was a very good way to get emergency information out to people quickly.

The customer service from TextMyGov was very good, and they were very quick to respond to any questions.

All 3 municipalities were about the same size as our village, with a larger elderly population. They do not always use cell phones and are not as computer savvy as younger people. These municipalities had concerns that they did not have as many people signed up as they would like. Discussion followed. The board elected not to use this service at this time.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, at 7:55 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Herzog to adjourn. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

*Mary Spring, Secretary*