

**Village of Champlain
Village Board Meeting
June 10, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, June 10, 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 & Supt Jolicoeur. Also present were Jennifer Jewett and Debbie Hicks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve minutes of the May 13th board meeting. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Molinski, seconded by Trustee Herzog to approve minutes of the May 23rd Special board meeting. Trustee Trombley abstained. All other members present voted aye. Motion carried.

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

Jennifer Jewett thanked the Village on behalf of the Clinton County Tethering Law campaign for drafting a Village Tether Law. She also thanked those who voted to put the law in place. She hopes that more towns and villages will follow suit. No animal deserves to spend its life on a chain and only a small number of dog owners (2-3%) have created the need for this law.

They are working at the county level with resistance from 3 legislatures who do not want this law to pass.

The Tether Law drafts will be going to the legislature floor for a majority vote in July.

She thanked the board again.

Mayor McFetridge stated that our tether law is a draft only and will be discussed later in the meeting.

REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Codes Enforcement Officer Matott provided the board with a Report from the new Codes Enforcement software program. It includes building permits issued and violation cases. Trustee Conner asked if we could have the report broken down into Town and Village cases. Right now they are grouped together. Mayor McFetridge will look into that.

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor McFetridge reported that the water line replacement project is progressing well. Elm St. is complete except for restoration. On South St. almost all of the pipe is in the ground. It will take a few weeks to hook up the connections. Main St. (Route 9) will be next and will be challenge with traffic. She thanked residents for their patience and cooperation during this time.

On June 15th, the downtown businesses and the History Center will be open for Museum weekend.

On June 12th Village Listens to Vinyl at the CMH at 6:00 p.m.

On June 20th there will be a presentation on Insects at the CMH.

The DPW is working at the playground, putting in wood chips and the basketball court will be repaved.

The Farmers Market will start up mid-July.

On July 10th at 6 p.m. the Strawhatters will be at Bill Earl Park

One July 21st at 6 p.m. Taylor Lavalley will be at Bill Earl Park.

We have two additional concerts scheduled in August.

REPORT FROM TRUSTEES

Trustee Trombley

Trustee Trombley reported that she, the Mayor and the Supt. met with John Trombley from Modern Mechanical about working on the kayak launch. He will try to create a way to keep the kayak rack there all year and we won't have to take it out for the winter.

She is also researching a portable basketball hoop that can be removed at the end of the season.

Trustee Molinski

Trustee Molinski reported that she has food trucks lined up for 3 of the 4 concerts in the park.

Nothing is currently scheduled, but she will be meeting with the library board about the summer reading program.

Trustee Conner

Trustee Conner reported that all of the 6 raised beds are in use. If there is a need, we could add a few more next year. They are in a good spot and close to the water tank.

Trustee Herzog

Trustee Herzog had nothing to report.

REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ

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

PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT

The warrant was presented with additional invoices of \$8,864.47 for a total of \$21,925.47. Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski 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

Barton & Loguidice	\$ 17,414.63
TJ Fiacco	<u>\$256,642.50</u>
	\$274,057.13

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve these payments for a total of \$274,057.13.

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 May 2024.

WATER

They should be done with the water line replacement on South St. within a few weeks. They need to pressure test, chlorinate and tie on to service lines including the shopping plaza and Sr. housing. Restoration work will be done after that. Once we have DOT permits signed, they can begin on Main St. (Route 9).

The main water plant lost power supply and the chlorine monitor went. He has ordered a part for that.

A trailer on Church St. will be removed soon and water lines removed.

SEWER

The grit pump was broken and will be replaced at the contractors expense. The new one will be moved inside of the building as it should be. Restoration should take place after that.

6 tanks at the WWTP have bad piping. It was ordered last December and will be shipped this coming August. We will have to empty tanks and change pipes at that time.

Supt. Jolicoeur is getting quotes for the Main St. lift station panel.

STREETS

Brush pickup is complete, banners and flags were put up and the mirror on Maple St. replaced.

Solar lights are up at the Elm St rec trail entrance.

2 trailhead lights need to be installed there & the bike repair station needs to be installed.

The dome at the playground is done and more wood chips have been ordered.

Sidewalk replacement will need to be done and 2 new pieces of playground equipment installed.

He doesn't think he will have anything ready for paving this year, but would like a small part of Elm St. done where water runs down Prospect to the houses at the bottom of the hill.

Mayor McFetridge asked when the sidewalk work would start.

Supt. Jolicoeur said after they are done on South St.

He was unsure of hydrant flushing as he doesn't want to disrupt the system until the new water lines are in.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Charter Franchise fee payment
2. Corresp to Matthew Bennett regarding request for water and sewer services
3. Vacant building registration from Vance Mossey for 29 Pine St.
4. Vacant building registration from Becky Harvey for 55 Church St.
5. Vacant building registration from Robert Macrae for 11255-11257 Rt. 9
6. Vacant building registration from Richard Lipari for 39 Elm St.

NEW BUSINESS

Recreation

Trustee Trombley is looking into a portable basketball hoop instead of putting in a permanent one.

The court was measured for a pickle ball court; it would fit but would be very tight. Discussion followed.

The court will be repaved and then relined this year.

As reported previous, the kayak rack is being worked on.

We have a volleyball net to go in at River St. Park.

In regards to the pocket park at Cedar St./Church St., Dean Lashway has located a survey and map and said it should not be hard to determine boundaries there. We need to level the dirt, land scape, put in a concrete pad and bench. Discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS

Dog Tether Law

The board was provided a copy of the Tether Law that Mayor McFetridge and Trustee Herzog drafted.

Trustee Trombley said that the Legislature is drafting a tethering law to be presented at the end of the month. If passed, it will be county-wide. She wondered why we would need a separate law making the dog control officer have to deal with different laws.

Mayor McFetridge felt that this law is specific to the village, which is a small, tight municipality. She is not sure that they will address villages and towns differently, because she sees them as different. Rural areas in the county are completely different from a village that has sidewalks, kids on bikes and houses close to the street.

Trustee Trombley asked if this draft would be shared with the Town and Village of Rouses Point.

Mayor McFetridge said that she would share it.

Trustee Trombley felt that it would be hard for the dog control officer to manage different tethering laws.

Mayor McFetridge said that it would be no different than Codes Enforcement managing different codes.

She doesn't feel that it would be drastically different and may be close to what the legislature does. Trustee Trombley feels that it would be beneficial for us to see what the county does vs. all the other municipalities' laws.

Trustee Conner said that we could wait, but that could take months, if it was even passed.

He doesn't feel that we should wait to see what everyone else is doing.

Mayor McFetridge said that she is approaching this from a public safety point of view. Tethered dogs can be frustrated, angry and aggressive. If they break their lead, she is worried about our citizens.

Trustee Trombley asked about the process of enforcing the law.

Mayor McFetridge said that there would have to be a complaint with our Dog control officer. It would go through the regular process. There are violations and there are fines. It would be handled like any other law.

Trustee Herzog said that the law is straightforward in what it's looking for and reasonable to enforce. He feels that the Village is unique in that it is walkable and where dogs are in proximity to walkers. He agreed that it is a public safety issue and felt that the fines were reasonable. The idea is to protect dogs and educate owners.

He would like to see what the county does, if they move forward. Theirs may be stricter than ours, but ours is reasonable and makes sense for dogs and residents.

Trustee Conner is in favor of the law and something has to be done. We can't wait for every other community to decide what they want to do.

Motion by Trustee Herzog, seconded by Trustee Conner to adopt the drafted Tether Law of the Village of Champlain as written.

Roll Call vote:

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

Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Herzog to set the Public Hearing for this Law for July 8, 2024 at 6:45 p.m. at the Village Office. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Executive Session

At 7:16 p.m., motion by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Herzog to close the Regular Meeting

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Conner to go into Executive Session.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

At 7:34 p.m. Motion by Trustee Conner, seconded by Trustee Molinski, to close Executive Session.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Molinski to return to the Regular Meeting.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

No decisions were made during executive session

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, at 7:34 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Trombley, seconded by Trustee Herzog to adjourn. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Mary Spring, Secretary