

# **Village of Champlain Village Board Meeting September 9, 2019**

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Champlain was held on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 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 Thomas Trombley, Kim Trombley, Amy Gehrig and Nicci Molinski, Supt. Jolicoeur, Clerk/Treasurer Munoz and Secretary Sousa. Codes Officer Michael Tetreault was not present.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to approve minutes of the August 5<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting. All members 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

## **REPORT FROM CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

### **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor McFetridge reported the following:

Several streets have been prepared for paving which will take place in the next week or so. Many village areas have been cleaned up.

The annual Village Fest was successful with hundreds scoops of ice cream served and children enjoying the bounce house and arts and crafts. First and foremost, a huge shout out goes to Mary Sousa and Juanita Munoz for all their assistance in getting this event organized. Also, thanks to Mike Jolicoeur and the DPW crew for their work in the Village to make the park ready and the village spiffy. Thanks to Nicci Molinski for her awesome work setting up the kids activities. In addition, I would like to thank Stewarts, Dunkin Donuts, Woodmen, Kinney Drug, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, Champlain EMS, Champlain Fire Department, and Champlain Library for their donations and participation. There were many individuals who also helped at

the 5K run including Heather Deans, Nicci Molinski, Juanita Munoz, Mary Sousa, Darleen Turner, Karen Peetes, Jonathan Larkin, Trina Chaney, and Kelly Frederick. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our local businesses and residents. Thank you to Celine Paquette for

opening the Samuel de Champlain History Center during our fest.

I was also pleased that so many people enjoyed our music in the park series this year. There were four events this summer and each one was very well attended. In particular, I would like to thank the Gehrigs and John Rowe for the use of their porches for Porch Music.

The longboat rowing program has ended for the season. The weather cooperated this year and we were able to row every week well past the bridge. Thanks to our coxswains Bill Wrye, Brett

Anderson, and Angela Bernard for guiding us. We look forward to partnering again next summer with the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum.

One of my goals is to bring some businesses to the village. Many of you have mentioned the desire for a coffee shop, bakery, a restaurant, a barbershop among other ideas. Over the past several months I have been meeting with individuals from around the county who are connected to business development including the Chamber of Commerce, the Development Corps, the IDA, with others scheduled in the upcoming weeks, to let people know that the Village of Champlain is open for business. On September 18 from 6-7:30 at the Champlain Meeting House, there will be a presentation called How to Open a Small Business.

In closing, I thank all of you who have contacted me with your ideas and concerns. Let's keep the lines of communication open. It is my pleasure to work with you to make the Village of Champlain a good place to live. Thank you.

## **REPORT FROM TRUSTEES**

### Report from Trustee Kim Trombley

Trustee Trombley has been in contact with the Dock Dr.'s regarding kayak launches and is waiting to see what they can offer that is within our budget. It needs to be a heavier duty commercial launch as it needs to be adjustable to the river height and will be used by many people.

### Trustee Nicci Molinski

The summer camp ended with a big turnout and a trip to the Samuel de Champlain History Center.

The Village Fest was a success with lots of visitors at the craft table from all over the area.

The last Fun Run was held with a picnic where t-shirts & medals were awarded.

There will be a cooking class towards the end of the month with an "apple" theme.

### Trustee Thomas Trombley

Trustee Trombley reported that we are still at a standstill with the IMA. The town accepted our changes on the draft, but still want a rate cap. The attorneys were supposed to meet after Labor Day, but we have not heard anything from them yet.

### Trustee Gehrig

Trustee Gehrig had nothing to report.

## **REPORT FROM CLERK/TREASURER MUNOZ**

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

## **PRESENTATION OF WARRANT AND PAYMENT**

There are additional invoices of \$4,566.60 to be added to the warrant for total of \$22,848.67.

A motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to approve the warrant with additional invoices for a total of \$22,848.67. Roll call vote as follows:

Trustee Kim Trombley	Aye
Trustee Molinski	Aye
Trustee Thomas Trombley	Aye

Trustee Gehrig  
Mayor McFetridge

Aye  
Aye

Motion carried.

## **REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT**

Supt Jolicoeur reported that the DPW has done the following:

- Prepped roads for paving, which should begin in a couple of weeks. The county is grinding in Altona and after paving they should be here.
- Cut shoulders, installed drainage pipe and added some DI's on Meadow Lane
- Installed drain pipe and added 3 new DI's on Pine Street.
- Cut down road near Carey's on Pine Street.
- They will be excavating the Church Street end of Pine Street to remove old asphalt. If there is clean stone there, it will be replaced with #4.
- They will do asphalt patching on Rt. 9 near St. Mary's, at both ends of Willow Street and at the intersection of Elm Street and Walnut Street. They will look at shouldering roads after paving.
- They will start on hydrant flushing when asphalt is completed
- They will be digging a ditch along the Rec. trail near Cherry Street and add stone where there is an ongoing washout problem.
- They have to get ready for the delivery of this year's sand. Supt. Jolicoeur will call for salt to mix and fill our salt shed.
- They will dig a ditch from the Ashline Drive curve to South Street to make an outlet for water.
- Jimmy hauled stone and patched washouts on the Rec Trail.
- They will be picking up flower boxes, removing flags and pulling docks.
- They will be installing a pump at the headworks and an auto dialer at the Main Street lift station.
- Fall brush and leaf pickup will be in October. Supt. Jolicoeur will have dates at next month's meeting.
- Read meters and checked on a lot of high meter readings.
- Continued with mowing, trimming and cutting brush.
- Removed old signs at playground and park and replaced with new signage.
- Serviced trucks and equipment

Supt Jolicoeur will be going through OGS for a plow truck. We give them our specs and they do the bid process for us, which could save us some money. Mayor McFetridge has submitted the USDA grant application for up to \$70,000 towards a new plow truck.

Mayor McFetridge relayed to the Board that the DPW asked if they would all be able to take Friday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> as a vacation day to extend their Christmas holiday. Union rules say that only one DPW person can be on vacation at a time.

A motion was made by Trustee Kim Trombley and seconded by Trustee Thomas Trombley to allow the DPW to use vacation time on December 27<sup>th</sup> with the stipulation that they are available in an emergency if needed. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Corresp to Doug Powers regarding mobile homes on Cane Street.
2. Corresp to Sheriff Favro regarding speed enforcement in the Village
3. JCEO monthly report
4. Resignation from Reginald Lafontaine
5. Resignation from Keith Ketterer

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 1. Michael Vendette sewer credit

Supt Jolicoeur could not find any more information on the cause of the high water usage. This situation does not meet the criteria for a sewer credit as 1) the type of leak could not be determined by the Superintendent and 2) the Superintendent could not confirm that the excessive water did not enter the wastewater system. The board denied this request for a sewer credit.

### 2. Potsdam Government Conference

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley to approve up to 10 people attending the Potsdam Government Conference on October 15<sup>th</sup>. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

### 3. Acceptance of resignations from Keith Ketterer and Reginald Lafontaine.

A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley to accept the resignations of Keith Ketterer and Reginald Lafontaine from the Zoning and Planning Boards with thanks for their service. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

### 4. Appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals

Mayor McFetridge appointed Brandon McCauslin to the Zoning Board of Appeals, replacing Keith Ketterer for the remainder of Mr. Ketterer's term expiring 04/02/2024.

### 5. Champlain Fire District Request

Mayor McFetridge relayed a request from Woodrow Kissel from the Champlain Fire district to use Village equipment (a backhoe) and personnel to dig two (2) test holes for a perc test on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> as part of the new Fire district project. It would cost them \$2,000 to hire someone to do this for them. It will take between 30-45 minutes to do perform this perc test. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Molinski to approve this request. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. NYMEP/Good Energy Program

This program was presented to the board at the August Board Meeting. Discussion followed. The board agreed to wait until we have some long term data before making a decision.

2. Curfew Law

This is still with the village attorney.

3. Contamination cleanup

Mayor McFetridge spoke with Steve Phelps from Precision Environmental Services. Two tests were performed (with a regenerative blower and with a centrifugal fan) with similar results. They will be designing and constructing the system next.

4. Fire pits/burning in the Village

Mayor McFetridge had met with John Fillion and Chris Trombley from the Fire District. They are not in favor of open burning. However they did suggest that we issue permits for fires and require that applicants go through the rules and sign that they have received the rules for burning firepits/campfires. Discussion followed.

Trustee Gehrig will work on creating a program for issuing some type of permit. The new program will begin next season.

Mayor McFetridge is looking into the digital radar signs, which can be paid for with Winter Recovery Funds. Supt. Jolicoeur suggested something that is solar powered with battery backup to avoid having to use power off poles and to make it more movable.

## ADJOURNMENT

At 7:33 pm a motion was made by Trustee Gehrig and seconded by Trustee Kim Trombley to adjourn. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

*Mary Sousa, Secretary*

### **\*On 9/13/19 Codes Enforcement Officer Tetreault provided his report from August:**

- Inspected St. Mary's addition. Framing complete, trusses installed, perimeter drainage installed.
- Willow Street dump site finally resolved, filled and seeded.
- Two mobile homes on Cane Street (#4 & #5) deemed uninhabitable and cannot be occupied until issues are dealt with.
- Issued permit to Ryan Dragoon for repairs to property at 11149 Rt. 9
- Issued permit to Fallon Borrie for reroofing at 46 Willow Street.
- Addressed complaint about truck trailer located on property off of Locust Street. Owner not responsive, lives in Florida. Subject of property after fire is unknown.
- Issued permit to Michael Nevius for reroofing at 118 South Street.
- Issued Notice of Violation for "no permit" at 92 Church Street/Donald Castine
- Answered question from Allen Como about "tarp" garage.

- Addressed complaint from Michelle Labelle concerning burning in the vicinity.
- Issued Notice of Violation to Matt Loughan regarding grass on Cedar Street.
- Addressed ongoing issue concerning fire sprinklers at Testori (Universal Interiors).
- Inspected 41 Willow Street garage. Electrical issue and contacted contractor.
- Inspected property at 38 Church Street concerning junk, grass.
- Issued Letter of Inspection for Doug Lyons.
- Met with Francis Taitt concerning condition of property owned by his brother.