

Meeting Minutes

November 09, 2020

Regular meeting

Village of Mohawk Board of Trustees

Meeting called to order by Mayor Baron at 6pm, opened with the pledge.

Attending on roll call: Mayor Baron, Trustees: Cryer, Tubia, & Eisenhut, & Watkins, Attorney Manne, Clerk-Treasurer Joni LaBarge, MPD Chief Malone, WLC Board; Joan McCumber, Laurie Landry, Gino Geruntino, & Brandon Lane. Mary & Chuck Haeefe for the Mohawk History Center.

Weller Library Commission:

President Joan McCumber reported that there is very few people coming into the library at this time and very few children. They have spoken to Barb Korce and Judy Glogowski and they may consider a change in hours or even close an extra day or two for “winter hours”. The library does need to be open a minimum of 25 hours a week. Joan stated they would really like to do something for Christmas at the library for the children, Christmas caroling, Santa in the gazebo, hay wagon ride around the park? Not sure about a tree lighting event either. Limited on what can be done due to Covid-19. Upset that nothing was really done this year. Mayor agreed this is all good discussion. The Board has been informed that we have a Santa available and they will reach out.

Mary Haeefe:

Reported on behalf of the Mohawk History Center and Friends of the Library. She met with WLC and advised them of what she has planned. They do have an estimate to remodel the library garage into a history center from 3 years ago that was for \$30k; however they will probably need a new estimate. She is getting constant donations and would like to know what the next step is. They are waiting on an amount of money that is being left to them in a will as well, however will not know how much until estate is settled. Mayor Baron questioned who the money was being left to, per will documents it is going to the Weller Library Museum – this does not exist. Therefore any money that is left from this will, will need to come to the Village. Attorney Manne noted that he has already been in contact with the lawyer handling the will and estate.

It was noted by the Mayor and the Board that the Library or the Village is not prepared to cover any cost related to this project. It all needs to be done by fundraising & donations via the Friends of the Library/Mohawk History Center and they really need to obtain 501C3 and have a bank account opened for the funds to be deposited. Mary advised that the Mohawk Community Club is holding money for them and she is sure she can get people to donate all the needed funds. Mrs. McCumber also noted that they really need to have their own security system installed as well, cannot be added onto the current system the library already has. Mary & Chuck advised that a security system was included in the estimate they received. Board also advised Mary & Chuck that a waiver will be required for all volunteers to sign that will be working on this project. This is something that Attorney Manne will draw up.

Mary noted that she has moved a lot of her history items into a bedroom in the apartment upstairs of the library but would really like to have a pad lock installed on the door to keep everything safe. A lot of the stuff is not itemized and it all needs to be cataloged, accessioned, and sent to the Library of Congress. She stated that she will be working on an itemized inventory. Joan McCumber made note that the Library Auxiliary has removed all of their stuff from the garage as they were asked; everything that is left belongs to the Mohawk Rec Commission. Mary has her own key and security code to get in and work as needed. Mayor Baron advised that once they have a sum of money enough to start part of the project to come back and let the board know. They need to look into

getting a 501C3 and then getting the funds to complete the project. Until there is money for them to get work going they need to get funds and 501C3 in place. The board is ok if the work is pieced and done as money comes in.

Attorney Manne:

Nothing to report

Chief Malone:

Presented to the board his monthly report: Working with NYSDOT regarding parking on Columbia after they complete the pavement project of Columbia/Route 28 next year.

New TV was purchased on the Walmart card, but reimbursed by the PBA.

Complimentary letter received on Ptlm Jarret Brown.

Mistake was made on payroll – MMC was given the hourly rate for the 06/01/2021 fiscal year and not the 06/01/2020 fiscal year. This pay rate error was not found until 10/15/2020. BOT discussed the options – decision reached at leaving as is and not requiring the Officers to pay back any overpayment. Motion: Tubia, Second: Watkins, all in favor none opposed. Change will be made to correct rate of pay, but not require the payback of overpayment.

Other business discussed by Mayor and Board:

Motion to grant permission for delinquent taxes to be turned over to Herkimer County – Resolution passed by Trustee Watkins, resolution seconded by Trustee Cryer. All in favor none opposed.

9 Devendorf Street demolition starts tomorrow 11/10/2020.

BST/SEFA Audit to begin on Monday, November 16, 2020.

Still waiting for work to start on Center Street.

BANS up for bid this week: Motion to renew another year Watkins, Second: Cryer.

Mayor and Board thanked the MPD for their hard work on during trick or treating on Halloween.

A group of employees at Fisher School would like to put a sign down at the corner of Johnson and Columbia in memory of Aggie Crim who passed away recently who was a crossing guard for years. Board was in agreement with this and will allow.

Trustee Tubia reported that Ed View has volunteered to be Santa for whenever the Village needs. He will be riding around in the Fire Truck on Thanksgiving Day, but will not be stopping back at the station this year. MFD has been given a new gas detector from National Grid – will need to have this added to the inventory. Also noted that Cassandra Lake has resigned from the Fire Department – advised Trustee Tubia that no resignation letter has been received by the clerk or Board to date.

Certification as to Title Project Site needed to be signed to continue with sewer project – Karl to handle as not all things in place.

Made note to BOT and Mayor we received a \$2614.24 unemployment bill for Bre' Baylor, advised the board that I have sent a request to protest as she resigned in November of 2019 & that we have already paid them \$710.12. Mayor Baron asked to get info so that he could look into as well.

Financials:

P&L reviewed and signed

Approval & signed of General Fund Abstract dated November 09, 2020

Motion: Trustee Eisenhut - Second: Trustee Tubia

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm, Motion: Trustee Watkins; Second: Trustee Tubia

JML