

MINUTES OF A BOARD MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF WELLSVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2020, AT 6:00 PM IN THE TRUSTEES' BOARD ROOM, 23 NORTH
MAIN STREET, ALLEGANY COUNTY, WELLSVILLE, NEW YORK.

PRESENT: Mayor: Randy Shayler
Deputy Mayor: Jeff Monroe
Trustees: Jeremy Cole, Ed Fahs, Mike Roeske
Dir. DPW: Bill Whitfield
Police Chief: Tim O'Grady
Fire Chief: Barney Dillie
Treasurer: Melissa Mullen (via teleconference)

ABSENT: Attorney: Rich Buck

VISITORS: Patty Graves, Town of Wellsville; Chris Potter, The Spectator

The meeting opened at 6:00 pm with the pledge to the flag led by Trustee Cole.

Trustee Monroe requested acceptance of the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on September 14, 2020; Trustee Roeske seconded the motion. Carried.

Mayor Shayler welcomed the visitors to the meeting. He asked if anyone wanted to speak, with no response.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS:

1. Mayor Shayler noted that last Wednesday, September 23, 2020, was an Arbor Day celebration in the Village presented by the Village of Wellsville Tree Board. The Village was recognized as a Tree City USA member for 29 consecutive years. The celebration was held at the pocket park in front of Brand Name Appliance and a plaque was dedicated in memory of Robert Chaffee in honor of his many years of dedicated service to the Tree Board. Members of Bob's family was in attendance as Susan Duke gave a speech and Trustee Roeske read the following proclamation on behalf of the Mayor:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

WHEREAS, trees in our cities increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of the business areas, and beautify our community, and

WHEREAS, Wellsville, New York has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting ways,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Randy M. Shayler, Mayor of the Village of Wellsville, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2020 as Arbor Day in the Village of Wellsville, and I urge all citizens to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands and to support our Village's Community Forestry Program, and

FURTHER, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

Given under my hand and seal this 23rd day of September 2020.

Randy M. Shayler
Mayor, Village of Wellsville

2. Mayor Shayler stated that the Village of Wellsville will have trick-or-treating on Halloween, scheduled for the same time as in previous years, 6 to 8 pm on Saturday, October 31, 2020. Mayor Shayler continued that the Village will not mandate either way, to trick-or-treat or not – that it's up to families to make their own decision to participate – due in part to the CDC's warnings about COVID-19 concerns. Mayor Shayler does note to be sure to follow protocol, that if a porch light is turned off, to respect that as a "do not stop" house and move on. For organizations desiring to have special events for Halloween, they will need to obtain an approval from the County Department of Health before the Village will even look at requests.
3. Mayor Shayler requests executive session for a contractual matter.

TRUSTEES' BUSINESS:

COLE:

1. Trustee Cole made a motion to accept and approve the vouchers as listed in the Abstract of Vouchers dated September 28, 2020. Trustee Fahs seconded the motion. Carried.
2. Trustee Cole noted great appreciation and thanks to all the volunteers on the emergency response teams of the Ambulance Corp and Fire Department, as well as the Police and local citizens, who were at the scene of an accident last Saturday on the Bolivar Road between a vehicle and a motorcyclist. He was very impressed by how well the scene was managed, as well as the actions of those helping out. The Mayor and Trustees wish the victim well in his recovery.

MONROE:

1. Trustee Monroe had nothing to discuss.

ROESKE:

1. Trustee Roeske had nothing to discuss.

FAHS:

1. Trustee Fahs made a motion to accept and approve hiring Dalton Grimes to the position of Line Worker at Grade 9, Level 1, at \$18.40 per hour. This position appointment will carry a probationary period of 120 calendar days in accordance with Article 4, Section 4.01 of the AFSCME Local 2574 A & B Agreement. If approved, he will begin working on Monday, October 5, 2020. The position is open due to another employee being promoted to a management position. Trustee Roeske seconded the motion. Carried.

POLICE DEPT:

1. Chief O'Grady discussed the request of a Trapping Brook resident concerning horse manure on the roadway. Of similar interest are chickens in the Village. Although the majority of Trapping Brook is not in the Village, these topics continue to be ones being looked at by the Board.

FIRE DEPT:

1. Chief Dillie was not present.

DPW:

1. Director Whitfield had nothing to discuss.

ATTORNEY:

1. Attorney Buck was not present.

TREASURER:

1. Treasurer Mullen had nothing to discuss.

On a motion made by Trustee Monroe and seconded by Trustee Fahs, the Board moved out of regular session and into executive session at 6:17 pm. Carried.

On a motion made by Trustee Monroe and seconded by Trustee Fahs, the Board moved out of executive session and into regular session at 7:05 pm. Carried.

Mayor Shayler noted that we are seeing more sidewalk trip-and-fall cases due to maintenance needed on sidewalks in the Village, particularly in the business district. DPW Director Whitfield stated that as soon as we are made aware of bad sidewalks, in writing, we become a party to it – we're named as the defendant. He further noted the process followed, as per Local Law, is for the Department of Public Works to investigate the sidewalk in question; send a letter to the business owner, allowing so many days to make repairs. Mayor Shayler asked Code Enforcement Officer Wenslow to look into this further to spot problems before they occur.

On a motion made by Trustee Cole and seconded by Trustee Monroe, the meeting adjourned at 7:20. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Seely
Village Clerk

Per NYS Amendment to the State's Open Meeting Law, public records already available under FOIL, in addition to any resolution, law, rule, regulation, policy or any amendment, that is scheduled to be the topic of discussion at an open meeting, are available upon request to the extent practicable as determined by the Village of Wellsville. The Village of Wellsville will post board meeting agenda and minutes on its website at www.wellsvillenyny.com.