

**Village of Schuylerville  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday February 8, 2023**

**Present:**

Mayor Carpenter  
Trustee Baker  
Trustee Colvin  
Village Clerk Patterson  
Attorney Klingebiel  
WWTP Operator Sherman  
Historian Saddle mire

**Absent:**

DPW supervisor Decker  
Trustee LeBaron  
Trustee Drew  
Treasurer Heyman

Mayor Carpenter announced that the Village of Schuylerville would be honoring former Mayor John Sherman, who held the office of mayor for 27 years in total. Mayor Carpenter read a memorial that was drafted by Carrie Woerner, who worked closely with former Mayor Sherman many times during his tenure. This eulogy was drafted with the help of Village Clerk Patterson, former Clerk/Treasurer Anna Welfley and former Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Rose Decker. Mayor Carpenter invited family members of the late John Sherman to come forward.

Mayor Carpenter thanked the Sherman family for their part in supporting former Mayor Sherman in serving the community, noting that the families mayors also make sacrifices for the village. Joseph Sherman, John Sherman's son, thanked the board for the recognition of the work of his late father.

Mayor Carpenter thanked Village Clerk Patterson for her work in gathering the information for the eulogy for John Sherman.

**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Schuylerville Village Board Workshop Meeting Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Schuylerville Meeting Hall
- Schuylerville Village Board Meeting on Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Schuylerville Meeting Hall.
- The Schuylerville/Victory Board of Water Management will meet on Monday February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.
- The Village of Schuylerville Planning Board will meet on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Schuylerville Meeting Hall.

\*\*\*The 2023 to 2024 budget meeting dates will be held at the Schuylerville meeting Hall and are scheduled as follows.

- Budget meeting two February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30

- Filing of tentative budget with clerk/treasurer followed by monthly workshop meeting February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm
- Clerk/treasurer presents tentative budget to board followed by regular meeting March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm
- Tentative budget public hearing followed by workshop April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm
- Adoption of the 2024 budget followed by the regular meeting April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm
- Village election will be March 21<sup>st</sup> noon to nine pm in the Schuyler Hose Fire House. The trustees that are running are Trustee Baker and Trustee LeBaron.

BOARD COORESPONDENCE:

MINUTES: Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the minutes from the workshop meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup> with the amendment to the unfinished sentence regarding the trees on Ms. Cheney’s property to read “exposed and will be removed” Mayor Carpenter seconded the workshop minutes, all in favor workshop minutes approved. The approval of the minutes for the regular meeting were tabled as not enough members who attended that meeting were present at this meeting to vote on this.

MID-YEAR’S TREASURER’S REPORT:

General Fund Statement balance	\$161,621.90
Sewer Now Statement Balance	\$254,307.13
Trust and Agency	\$16,499.76
General Fund Money Market	\$1,212,233.14
Sewer Fund Money Market	\$306,883.74
Memorial Day	\$2,363.39

DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Carpenter announced that as Supervisor Decker was not present, he would summarize the DPW report. Over the previous weekend there was a major fire on Spring Street. Immediately following this fire was another fire call in Cambridge. There was also at this time a water leak reported by National Grid on North Broad. As the DPW was on the fire call in Cambridge, a contractor was called in to address what turned out to be three leaks on North Broad. On Monday there was a water leak on Spring Street which has since been resolved.

- CODE ENFORCEMENT

No report.

- FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Carpenter read from the report from Chief Myers regarding fire calls and training over the past month. This report is available on the website on the Schuyler Hose page. Robin Decker was recognized for 20 years of service and Trustee Colvin was recognized for 45 years of service. Mayor Carpenter congratulated Trustee Colvin on his length of service.

- **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Wastewater treatment plant operator Sherman has submitted some quotes for a new pickup. The board stated that they have recently received some quotes from Upstate Auto Sales that are much more competitive than the ones that they were reviewing. Trustee Colvin offered to go on site to look at the trucks at that location as it was near his workplace.

Sherman reported on some issues with wires that were frayed inside some conduit due to water getting into the lines and freezing. Gary Wilder (electrician) has been on site. Everything is working at this point. Trustee Baker suggested that a new line of conduit should be run as opposed to attempting to feed new lines through the old conduit as this could cause the other wires that are inside the conduit to break.

There was some discussion regarding some erosion on Brookfield Power's property from storm water runoff. Brookfield has confirmed that the overflow from the manhole on Broad Street did not go all the way to the river. Mayor Carpenter will be meeting with a representative from Brookfield to discuss solutions to flooding from major rain events. Wastewater treatment plant operator Sherman stated that he will coordinate a tech to come in with a camera that can run through the lines to study the flow from the problem area discussed at the earlier meetings to the sewage plant to determine how this situation can be remedied.

- **HISTORIAN/VISITORS CENTER**

Historian Saddle mire was present to give her report. A person from New Hampshire suggested that we create a historical marker for a Native American/African American person who fought in the revolutionary war. A grant cycle will start in August for this. She has received a donation from a person consisting of revolutionary war artifacts that she will be receiving soon. Saddle mire stated that she has been working on getting some of the historical materials out of her home and has been working with Village Clerk Patterson to find space for them at the village hall archive room.

- **PLANNING BOARD**

No meeting.

- **SCHUYLERVILLE/VICTORY BOARD OF WATER MANAGEMENT**

Trustee Baker reported on the joint water meeting. Representatives from both villages and the water board were present to discuss the funding for the 9 million dollars that is needed to complete the infrastructure upgrades that are identified in the Water Master Plan that was completed by CT Male. These include booster pumps for low pressure areas, upgrades to the plants and main water line replacements. CT Male will be presenting a quote for grant writing services as well as project management. Mayor Carpenter stated that the attorney for The Village of Victory feels that it will be possible to draft a bond resolution that has built in contingencies that will ensure that we are only committed to taking out the full nine million in debt contingent upon receipt of the grants we will need to offset the cost of the project. Trustee Baker also stated

that the water board is in the process of setting up budget meetings to move forward with the 2023 to 2024 fiscal year budget process.

- **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Zoning chair Leona Colvin stated that the zoning board of appeals held an informational meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> at the village hall to discuss the changes that are currently taking place with the planning board. She stated that she and the two other zoning board members attended the Saratoga land and zone conference last week. She felt that the course offerings were quite excellent this year. This qualifies as the required training for the zoning board of appeals members for the year. She has reached out to the county and other places for templates for forms that will need to be created now that we have zoning. With assistance from other local municipalities, she was able to customize these to create forms that will be needed such as a special use permit. She has sent this on to Attorney Klingebiel for review. She will be submitting other forms to the attorney as she completes them. Zoning Chair Leona Colvin would like to get together with Saratoga County village board members, planning board zoning board of appeals and village staff to be sure that we are all on the same page as far as procedures and law for planning and zoning. Attorney Klingebiel cautioned that no village board or staff should dispense any advice to potential applicants and that it is incumbent upon the individual to know the law. If they have questions about the zoning or planning laws they should retain their own council.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Carpenter stated that the proposed contract with the Town of Easton for fire services has been reviewed and approved by both Attorney Klingebiel and Fire Chief Myers. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the contract for fire services for the Town of Easton Fire District in the amount of \$4,344.00 per year with a 1% increase over the next three years and a 2% increase in the fourth year. Trustee Colvin seconded the motion all in favor, contract approved.

The Town of Saratoga Fire Contract was presented for approval. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the contract for fire services by the Village of Schuylerville Fire Department for the Town of Saratoga Fire District in the amount of \$39,982.00 for fiscal year ending 2024. Trustee Colvin seconded the motion all in favor, contract approved.

A resolution to transfer funds in the general fund was presented for approval. Mayor Carpenter read from the following resolution; WHEREAS, a budget adjustment is needed for the 2023 fiscal year sewer fund budget; Decrease A.1620.400 Buildings Contractual by \$7,000 and increase A.1640.400 Central Garage Contractual by \$7,000.00. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of The Village of Schuylerville does hereby approve this resolution

and authorizes the Treasurer to amend the budget as stated and as outlined. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the transfer, Trustee Colvin seconded the motion, all in favor, transfer approved.

A resolution to transfer funds in the sewer fund was presented for approval. Mayor Carpenter read from the following resolution; WHEREAS, a budget amendment is needed for the 2023 fiscal year sewer fund budget; Decrease G.0909.004 Fund Balance Unreserved by \$20,000 and increase G.8130.400 Wastewater Treatment Plant Contractual by \$20,000. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the transfer, Trustee Colvin seconded the motion, all in favor, transfer approved.

The review of quotes for a sewer truck was tabled as Wastewater treatment plant operator would be researching another vendor with better pricing recommended to the board by Attorney Klingebiel.

Quotes for custom blinds for the meeting hall and the office were presented at the previous workshop and had been discussed at length. (all windows involved were custom sizes) The quotes were for cordless insulated pleated blinds. Trustee Colvin asked that the window on the end of the building be added to the quote. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve up to \$7200 dollars for the double cell cordless blinds for 6 windows upstairs and 3 downstairs from Home Depot. Trustee Colvin seconded the motion all in favor, purchase approved.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Trustee Colvin asked if the village could investigate the village tax exemption for volunteer fire fighters and EMS personnel for 10% off their village taxes. Attorney Klingebiel stated that there will need to be a local law drafted and passed in order for the village to be able to grant this exemption. There is also a standard tax credit that they can receive of \$200. It is being considered that they may increase this to \$500 for a couple. Attorney Klingebiel stated that there should not be very much of an impact on the village residents as a 10% discount on property taxes would not be a large amount to spread out over all of the residents and that there are a lot of firefighters who are younger and do not own their own home. Things that will need to be considered are how many years should the firefighter be in service before he receives this discount, should there be a lifetime exemption after a certain number of years of service and should a spouse receive the benefit should the firefighter become deceased if the firefighter dies in the line of duty. Attorney Klingebiel also advised that the village will need to provide criteria such as will this cover administrative positions in the fire department.

Leona Colvin asked if there was a structure of fees for permits and applications and if so, if she could have this information. Attorney Klingebiel suggested that the board review at the next workshop the structure of fees, as he feels that these most likely need to be updated to reflect current times.

Mayor Carpenter stated that he had received two applications for persons who would like to be on the planning board. This would give us a full planning board.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Colvin made the motion to approve the A fund voucher total in the amount of \$71,038.03, and the G fund voucher total in the amount of \$15,285.15. Trustee Baker seconded the motion, all in favor, vouchers approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Baker made the motion to adjourn, Trustee Colvin seconded the motion, all in favor, meeting adjourned.