

**Village of Schuylerville
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday August 14, 2023**

Present;

Mayor Carpenter

Trustee Baker

Trustee LeBaron

Attorney Klingebiel

Treasurer Heyman

Village Clerk Patterson

Supervisor Decker

WWTP Operator Sherman

Absent;

Trustee Drew

Trustee Colvin

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Schuylerville Village Board Workshop Meeting Wednesday September 6, 2023 at 6:30
- Schuylerville Village Board Meeting on Monday September 11, at 7:00 pm at the Schuylerville Meeting Hall.
- The Schuylerville/Victory Board of Water Management will meet on Monday August 21, at 6 pm at the Village of Victory Meeting Hall
- The Village of Schuylerville Planning Board will be holding a public hearing on Monday August 21, concerning the application by Justin Liptak, 13 Ferry Street for new construction at 6:30 pm at the Schuylerville Meeting Hall.

BOARD COORESPONDENCE

MINUTES:

Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the June minutes, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion all in favor minutes approved. The July minutes were tabled as there were not enough members present who had attended that meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund Statement balance \$102,823.18

Sewer Now Statement Balance \$193,464.77

Trust and Agency	\$12,827.75
General Fund Money Market	\$1,337,097.14
Sewer Fund Money Market	\$312,777.00
Memorial Day	\$2,363.39

***General Fund Money Market earned \$4,959.34 this month and Sewer Money Market earned \$1,313.18

DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Supervisor Decker was present to give his report. Decker brought up the subject of the curb stop work situation at 74 Broad Street. The water board has been communicating with the resident and then not passing the message on to Decker. Decker stated that he had to block calls from the owner of the property Katherine Burkley, as she was leaving nasty messages on his cell phone. She is now calling the office and being abusive to them. Decker asked the board for permission to walk away from the project and let the water department handle it with a contractor. Last Tuesday the Schuylerville DPW hand dug down to about three feet and hit what appeared to be an oil tank. Decker stated that he knows that at one point there were gas stations down there (south Broadway) years ago, this brought the hand digging to a stop. Decker showed this to the owner of the property and informed her that this development means that we will need to call in dig safely to determine the course of action going forward. Decker told her at this point that the crew would be back today, Monday August 14th. Friday Burkley began harassing Decker and the office staff. Decker stated that his crew has been stopped on the side of the street and cursed out by this woman. Decker asked for support from the board in handing this back to the water board. Mayor Carpenter stated that he would handle it and that any further communication with this person would be through him. Mayor Carpenter stated that he would inform the water board that any communication with Rob would be through him.

Supervisor Decker informed the board that he negotiated the truck bed from Curtis Lumber that was discussed at the workshop down to \$2,100 from the \$2,500 asking price.

- CODE ENFORCEMENT

Adam Myers, building inspector, was present to give his report. He delivered the open permits report to the board as requested at the prior meeting. He listed the inspections completed this month. A new business may come in at 140 Broad, possibly a 3-D printed prosthetics business, and the owner of the building requested a fire safety inspection prior to application. No serious issues were found. Only exit signs were needed for compliance. Myers has been trying to coordinate with the owner of the Yacht Basin to inspect the grease traps, he will continue to try to schedule this with the owner.

- FIRE DEPARTMENT

No report.

- **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

There is a quote from Barton & Loguidice for the engineering for the relocation of the line that is associated with the manhole overflow. This will be presented later in the meeting. Sherman mentioned that Treasurer Heyman had come up with the requested schedule for sewer line maintenance after meeting with Sherman and Chet from Roto Rooter. Trustee Baker asked if we could find out if the hours listed were appropriate for the schedule we were proposing. Sherman mentioned at this point that the line coming from the Yacht Basin gets a lot of grease. The Basin is the only one on this line. Sherman and Decker both confirmed that earlier this year the manhole outside of the Basin Grille was completely plugged with grease. The entire property was backed up including the campers. Mayor Carpenter will reach out to the owner to address how we can prevent this from happening in the future.

- **HISTORIAN/VISITORS CENTER**

Historian Saddleire was present to give her report. She listed the inquiries that she had addressed during the month and mentioned that there were going to be some heritage tourism grants being released soon to coincide with the 250th celebration and that she would be looking into these grants. Mayor Carpenter stated that this would work with the parks and trail grant that we will be applying for as well as the grant for the archaeological study that we have applied for. Trustee Baker mentioned that at the Bicentennial, Jackie Schillinger from the Canal Corporation expressed that she would like to assist with our efforts to win grants.

- **PLANNING BOARD**

Village Clerk Patterson was present to give her report. There are no minutes, as the former secretary has not yet submitted them, and there has been no meeting since Patterson was appointed secretary. She announced that there will be a public hearing at the next meeting on September 21. In reviewing the previous meeting, Patterson stated that the minutes read that the board only needed updated plans and then the development of the property could move forward. However, upon further investigation, Patterson has discovered that this application must be reviewed by the county before we can approve it. Patterson reached out to the county planning board and has received step by step instructions on how we need to proceed in this matter. We will need a county referral. She was provided, by a very helpful person at the county, with a referral application. DOT will also need to weigh in on this as this is a state road. Patterson informed the person from the county that there is a public hearing scheduled on this matter. The county representative stated that it was a little bit of, “the cart before the horse” but that it would be okay as long as the other steps were followed. The board thanked Patterson.

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

Mayor Carpenter stated that the minutes from the Schuylerville/Victory board of water management were available for review and would be posted on the website. He noted that the special meeting minutes were mostly about the 74 Broad Street project that Supervisor Decker referred to in his report.

- **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Linda Lloyd expressed her disappointment that neither the zoning code nor the village code seemed to include anything on how to proceed if buildings were, “falling down dumps.” Mayor Carpenter asked Ms. Lloyd to file a formal complaint, and then at this point the matter could be addressed with the building inspector. Mayor Carpenter stated that the board was already moving forward with one of the buildings that she was referring to, 44 Saratoga Street, and that it is on the agenda for tonight’s meeting under new business. Ms. Lloyd also expressed concern regarding 91 Broad, which she stated has a second story, “door to nowhere” that she feels is unsafe. Inspector Myers stated that he initially issued an order to remedy for the unsafe condition of the porch which was collapsing. The property owner started to remove the porch but never completed the job. Myers has since issued several more orders to remedy for the construction debris and rubbish on the property and the unsafe condition of the lawn. Attorney Klingebiel stated that Inspector Myers can move forward by issuing a citation for this and that he will email the citation form to him.

Carol Cheney inquired as to whether there was any word on the two issues she was experiencing. Supervisor Decker stated that at the water line repair the previous weekend, he was informed that the rep from Rural Water who had scheduled an appointment with us to come out and run a camera through the line is no longer working for Rural Water. We may need to use a private contractor, as scheduling with Rural Water requires a long lead time.

She raised the issue of the creek bed at her home. Attorney Klingebiel stated that the village could not move forward on initiating any work on private land until it has been confirmed that this is a village caused problem.

OLD BUSINESS:

We have still not heard from First Light Fiber as pertains to the installation of a fence around the propane tanks in Fort Hardy Park.

The Schuylerville/Victory board of water management has asked that the attorneys for both villages work together to create a bond resolution to apply for matching funds for grants to support the implementation of the water master plan that will allow us the ability to opt out should we not be awarded the matching funds through these grants. Attorney Klingebiel stated that this is a common thing that is done in the bond resolutions.

Cheney also complained that her neighbor has installed a fence on her property that prevents her from parking in front of the neighbors house. Cheney stated that she feels the fence is too close to the road, as a passenger in her car cannot get out when she is parked in front of the neighbor’s house. Mayor Carpenter stated that he is familiar with the issue at hand, as the neighbor had brought the issue up at a meeting earlier this year in the spring. He visited the site and saw that there were tire marks that had destroyed the grass where a car had parked partially on her property. It was suggested by the board that Cheney should park in front of her own house. Cheney stated she did not want to park in front of her house as the neighbor in question has a tree that Cheney is concerned might fall on her car. It was determined that there was no law against the fence preventing parking on the neighbor’s lawn.

NEW BUSINESS

The board reviewed the quotes for the changeover of the old dump body to the new dump truck at the previous workshop. The best bid was from T & T in the amount of \$30,932.00. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the amount for the changeover of the dump bodies, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor, expenditure approved.

The board reviewed the quotes for the paving of the alleys designated for this fiscal year at the previous workshop. The best low bidder was Evolution at \$37,285.00. Supervisor Decker pointed out that the cost of the blacktop could vary. Attorney Klingebiel stated that the board must approve the bid as is and if the cost increases due to the price of blacktop, there would need to be a change order Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the quote, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion. This project will move forward as soon as the sewer line connection for 42 Burgoyne is completed. Supervisor Decker stated that the road has already been cut (a town road not ours) in spite of the fact that the line connection has not been approved.

A quote from Action Septic for the annual maintenance for 40 man ours at \$220 an hour for a total of \$8,800 annually for clearing the pump stations and jetting out specific priority lines throughout the village over the course of the year was presented to the board. The board had reviewed this contract with WWTP Operator Sherman at the previous workshop and felt it to be fair. Trustee Baker made the motion to accept the contract, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor, contract accepted.

Barton and Loguidice submitted a contract with a bid for engineering services for the relocation of the line associated with the manhole that overflowed resulting in the NOV from DEC. The contract is for \$52,700 and will include assistance with the SEQRA for the project, working with all state agencies, drafting of resolutions for lead agency status for the village, retaining the services for surveys and mapping services costs, assisting in obtaining property easements, complete technical specs and design and obtaining bids from contractors. Bidding will be coordinated through the village. The funds for this project must be drawn from reserves. Trustee Baker made the motion to accept the proposal for \$52,700.00 Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor, proposal accepted.

The sidewalk project completion summary was read by Mayor Carpenter as follows;

The Village of Schuylerville replaced 9,675 square feet of 5-foot sidewalks for a total of \$104,489.00. The contractor services portion, which comes to \$87,558.75, will be reimbursed through the SAM grant. We have already received our first reimbursement from the state in the amount of \$21,571.00 and have submitted the application for funds for the remaining portion of the contractual expenses. Our village DPW was slightly over \$10,000 and the excavator rental came to \$6,500.00. These will be counted as our required matching funds. The total project cost to the village comes to under \$17,000 for new sidewalks for the entire eastern side of the village. This SAM grant was made possible through Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner. Mayor Carpenter thanked Supervisor Decker for their work in making this happen. He also thanked Rob and the crew for the amazing job in restoration after the completion of the pouring.

A request has been made to the board for a sewer line connection by the owner of 42 Burgoyne, which is not within the village limits. The board is hesitant to allow yet another outside user to connect, as collection can become a costly issue as these properties cannot be relieved on our village taxes. We are currently in the process of suing a resident of the Town of Saratoga for non-payment of sewer charges. Attorney Klingebiel stated that we have not received any plans from the applicant. He questions whether there is adequate back flow prevention. He has been in communication with the owner of the property, but they have not yet completed the contract. It was decided that before the outside user could connect, we will need a plan and a signed contract.

The Village of Schuylerville will be applying again for the NY Forward grant using the same properties as last year. Last year we were runner up for the award and feel that we should try again. In communication with the state, it has been recommended that we apply jointly with Victory for the DRI (this would include the Victory Mill Project in addition to the projects we applied for last year) as together we would qualify for the larger grant. Treasurer Heyman suggested earlier that we will need assistance with the DRI, as this is much more extensive than the NY Forward and without assistance, Heyman will not be able to compile all of the information and reports necessary for this grant in time for the deadline of September 29th.

A resolution to amend the 2024 budget is needed for the following accounts; A.4090.000 in the amount of \$43,170.50 and A.3040.400 in the amount of \$43,170.50 for the completion of the building repair. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the amendment, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor, amendment approved. Additionally, the board moved to increase line G.8120.400 Sanitary Sewers Contractual in the amount of \$52,700.00 and Unreserved Fund Balance G.0909.004 in the amount of \$52,700.00. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the budget amendment and Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, amendment approved.

The invoice from Hoosick Valley Contractors was presented for approval in the amount of \$43,170.50. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the invoice, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor invoice approved.

Village Clerk Patterson stated that the quote we asked for from Hoosick Valley for stormwater management on the eastern side of the building next to the office is pending advice from the board as to whether the village would like them to supply a quote using asphalt or concrete. It was determined that concrete would look better but that asphalt might be considerably less expensive. The board asked for quotes for both options.

Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the purchase of the 2023 truck bed from Curtis Lumber for \$2,100, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor, purchase approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the General Fund Vouchers in the amount of \$18,177.04 and the sewer vouchers in the amount of \$3,338.99. Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor, vouchers approved.

ADJOURNMENT

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