

Village of Schuylerville
Village Workshop Minutes
May 6, 2024

Present;

Deputy Mayor Baker

Trustee Colvin

Trustee Drew

Trustee LeBaron

Village Clerk Patterson

Absent;

Mayor Carpenter

Deputy Mayor Baker opened the public hearing with the pledge of allegiance.

The first item presented for public hearing was Local Law #1 of 2024 to allow attendance by trustees via videoconferencing when needed. There were no questions from any of the board members. Only one member of the public was present, Bruce Ricketson of 226 Broad Street in Schuylerville. He had no comment on Local Law #1 of 2024.

The second item presented for public hearing were the forms proposed by the planning board for change of use and for signs. The only person present for the public hearing, Bruce Ricketson, was fully in support of the new forms. He felt that they were clear and to the point. He appreciated that the forms referred to the appropriate portions of the code. There were no concerns expressed by the board. These items will be presented for approval at the regular meeting on May 13th.

Trustee LeBaron made the motion to close the public hearing, Trustee Drew seconded the motion, all in favor hearing closed.

Supervisor Decker was not present at the workshop. Deputy Mayor Baker mentioned that there have been several water leaks and that the DPW has begun mowing. There was a quote for the tools needed to replace those that Aaron Brody had been providing for use for mechanical repairs. There are funds available (the quote is for \$3,000) in the Central Garage Equipment line. Trustee LeBaron mentioned that Grainger has a guarantee on their tools. Deputy mayor Bakeer stated that he understood this, however he understands that Supervisor Decker has a lot on his plate and there is an immediate need for these tools. The quote will be presented at the next regular meeting.

The board reviewed the reorganizational resolutions as follows;

- Advance approval of claims, proposal to add property taxes, as there is often not enough time to get these to the meeting before the first penalty.

- Monthly board of trustee's meetings; review time of regular village meetings, proposal to change to 6:30 pm.
- The reorganizational resolution for appointments to office was reviewed. There was a request to add Treasurer Heyman as deputy registrar of vital stats in the event that Village Clerk Patterson was not present to address vital stats requests, in particular death certificates which are time sensitive. Baker also pointed out that his appointment as Deputy Mayor should be added to the resolution as well.
- The resolution establishing salaries and hourly rates was presented for approval. The only question was whether Supervisor Decker was also to receive the \$1.50 an hour raise for having a CDL. It was determined that this increase was for any employee who has a CDL. Trustee Baker noted that the increase to board members salaries was not reflected in the resolution.

A resolution to amend the budget line for water and sewer services was presented for review. There were no questions.

A resolution to transfer funds for health insurance was presented for review. There were no questions.

Conover sidewalk reimbursement request was presented. The standard maximum of \$1,500 would apply in this case. There is \$2,613.79 available in that line.

The joint water meeting was discussed. Deputy Mayor Baker stated that Mayor Carpenter had reported that the meeting with the USDA regarding the water infrastructure grant went well. Funding at a very favorable rate will be offered by the USDA as well as assistance throughout the project.

Deputy Mayor Baker expressed his disapproval of the rate of \$145 being passed for this year's water budget. Trustee LeBaron expressed his disappointment that the budget that was presented to the village board was not the one that the water board passed. Trustee Drew stated that this was a choice made by Mayor Dewey and that he felt that if he protested the water rate that there would be push back from Mayor Dewey on the Phase one of the master plan to replace the mains on Ferry and Broad. Deputy Mayor Baker stated that he felt that the water board was not managing the budget appropriately. Trustee Drew stated that the challenge was that it is a four-person board and that there is often a stalemate.

There will be a meeting at 6:30 on May 9th at the legion hall for public outreach on the updating of the comprehensive plan. This meeting was announced via postcard, Facebook and the village website. There is also a link to a survey on the postcard to allow residents to submit suggestions via the survey if they are unable to attend the meeting.

The board discussed some issues with the parking situation on Ferry Street. The first part of the street west of Broad Street is very narrow. The owner of the restaurant has no issues with making that section no parking at any time. If cars are parked on both sides, even a passenger vehicle has trouble getting through. An emergency vehicle would not be able to pass through this portion of Ferry Street. Trustee LeBaron pointed out that the issue is in enforcement. Trustee Drew

suggested that we could hire a parking attendant. Deputy Baker stated that the issue then is that we do not have a village court and would be at the mercy of the town judge, whom Baker stated has already said he will not enforce this. Village Clerk Patterson cautioned that we need to be sure that there is adequate signage. The consensus was that there should be no parking at a minimum from Church Street to Broad.

There was a discussion regarding the Turning Point Parade as pertains to the upcoming 250th celebration that will be hosted by the county in 2025 to bring back the marching bands that we used to have at the parade pre Covid. These marching bands are costly but add a tremendous appeal to the parades. This needs to be planned in advance to book these bands. All were in agreement that this would be a great addition to the parade.

WWTP Operator Sherman arrived at the meeting at approximately 6:45. He stated that the plant was running well in spite of the heavy rains. He mentioned an annual flow report that needs to be submitted to DEC. There are restrictions for how much of the year a plant can be in excess of the maximum flow that the plant is rated for. If we do not meet the criteria, we must submit an engineer's report or a commitment to hire one to investigate the source of the excessive I and I. WWTP Operator Sherman stated that there was a very large root that made its way into the plant through the line. He felt that this must have been from a location somewhat close to the plant. He feels that this might be from the line that leaves Byron's. He feels that this might have been a major contributor to the issue at the Broad Street manhole that overflowed and caused the NOV from DEC. He also mentioned that the water that runs off of Byron's Supermarkets roof is being fed directly into the sewer system and should be directed to the storm drain.

A resolution to approve the tax warrant and sewer rate for 2024-2025 fiscal year was presented for review. There were no issues with this resolution.

Trustee LeBaron asked if he could be included in all correspondence regarding water issues. None of the Schuylerville village trustees were aware of the major main failures that occurred on Ranger Road the previous weekend. None of the trustees knew that there was a problem.

Trustee Drew complained that he has not been getting communication from Supervisor Decker. Village Clerk Patterson suggested a group text be started when there is an issue to include all. Trustee LeBaron stated that there is a definite need to establish a protocol for who needs to be contacted in the event of a major water problem, particularly when it is on a state highway. Village Clerk Patterson suggested that all of the parties get together in person to discuss the issue and come up with a plan.

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

