

**Village of Schuylerville
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday September 9, 2024**

Present;

Mayor Carpenter

Trustee Baker

Trustee Colvin

Trustee LeBaron

Treasurer Heyman

Attorney Klingebiel

Absent

Trustee Drew

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Schuylerville/Victory Board of Water Management meeting will be held on Monday September 16th at 6:00 pm in the Victory Meeting Hall.
- Schuylerville Village Workshop Meeting Monday September 30th, at 6:30 pm at the Schuylerville Meeting Hall.
- Schuylerville Village Meeting Monday October 7th at 6:30 pm at the Schuylerville Meeting Hall.
- The Schuylerville Planning board will meet on Monday September 16th at 6:30 pm at the Village of Schuylerville meeting hall.
- New York Forward Local Planning Group Workshop #4 Wednesday September 18th from noon to 2pm at the Town of Saratoga meeting hall.
- New York Forward Public Outreach #3 Thursday October 17th at 6pm at the Town of Saratoga meeting hall.

**All meeting dates for the NY Forward program are listed on the Village of Schuylerville website as well as on schuylervillenyf.com

BOARD COORESPONDENCE

MINUTES:

The minutes from the August workshop and regular meeting were presented for approval. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the minutes, Trustee LeBaron seconded the motion, all in favor, minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund Statement balance	\$293,664.17
Sewer Now Statement Balance	\$99,792.48
Trust and Agency	\$8,480.36
General Fund Money Market	\$1,408,667.321
Sewer Fund Money Market	\$322,995.68
Memorial Day	\$1,863.39

General Fund Money Market Interest \$5,738.31 Sewer Money Market Interest \$1,315.72

DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Supervisor Decker was not present to report on the DPW. Mayor Carpenter updated the board on the search for a truck to replace the 2005 Dodge. New trucks are not available at this time. There is a 2 year wait list. Supervisor Decker suggested looking at used trucks at this time. We will still need to put together a bid package as this is over \$20,000.

- CODE ENFORCEMENT

Attorney Klingebiel noted that there is progress at 45 Saratoga Street. We wil continue to monitor the situation.

- FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Mayor Carpenter read from the report from Chief Myers. The full report is available on the website on the Schuyler Hose page. Mayor Carpenter thanked the fire department for all the assistance with the various community events throughout the month of August. Trustee Colvin thanked the village board for allowing Schuyler Hose to move the location for the coin drop, as the bridge was closed, and the original Ferry and Broad Street location would not have been possible.

- WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

There are no issues with the sewer plant. Heyman reminded the board that we need to ask the Basin Grille to ensure that the pump on the island is turned off once the RV's have all left. Mayor Carpenter asked her to set up a calendar invite for this. Attorney Klingebiel asked if the village had received confirmation that DEC would allow an extension on the NOV. Treasurer Heyman confirmed that we received the extension.

- HISTORIAN REPORT

Mayor Carpenter read from the historian's report. Historian Saddlemire is preparing for the 250th celebration. She reported that on October 12th and 13th from 10am to 5pm there will be an

event, Saratoga Siege weekend, held at the Saratoga National State Park and Living Historians at the Schuyler House. On October 17th, 9:30 am The Sword Surrender ceremony will be held at Fort Hardy Park and at 6pm the First Annual Saratoga Surrender Celebration.

- **PLANNING BOARD**

No meeting.

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

The representative for the water board was not present. Mayor Carpenter stated that the minutes were printed out and available at this meeting and that they would be posted on the village website as well.

- **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

No meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Megan Potter requested permission to apply for a grant sponsored by Athletic Brewing Company. This grant would come with some expectation that there would be some promotion of their products should the village be awarded the funds. She presented her request for funds from Athletic Brewing Company for 3 benches and 2 dog waste stations. She asked if these stations could be added to the ones that the village is currently maintaining. She stated that volunteers would install the benches and dog waste stations. Mayor Carpenter asked Attorney Klingebiel if volunteers are covered if they do work in the park. Megna also asked if the board would be okay with a hay bale maze in the area by the gazebo, and an inflatable dog. The board had no issue with either of these requests. Mayor Carpenter congratulated Ms. Potter on her new role with the Friends of Fort Hardy Park (she is the new president) and the board thanked her for her work.

OLD BUSINESS:

Attorney Klingebiel stated that Chris Moore will have a first appearance on September 17th at 11am in Mechanicville City Court.

Code enforcement officer Adam Myers has given Gary Robinson an order to remedy on the dilapidated fence on Broad. We are still awaiting word on this order to remedy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasurer Heyman reached out to several contractors for solutions to the issue of the raised curbing on Church Street. The only solid quote came in at \$7,600 per house, of which there are eight in total to raise the level of the sidewalk at each household. This is not something that we feel is manageable financially for the village. Mayor Carpenter proposed that the DPW could pour a slab between the sidewalk and the curb that would be at a level in between the sidewalk and the curb. We will try one and make a determination as to whether we feel this will be a good solution.

A request was received from Saratoga County to hold an event in Fort Hardy Park on Columbus Day weekend to celebrate the Siege Weekend. This will include camping out of the re enactors. They have provided Certificates of Insurance for the weekend event. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the use of the park Saturday and Sunday, October 12 and 13th by Saratoga County for this event, 8 to 5 each day with an overnight from the 12th to the 13th. Trustee Colvin seconded the motion, all in favor, use of Fort Hardy Park for this event approved.

Treasurer Heyman requested approval to go out for the Sewer Engineering Grant that the village applied for last year. She stated, in conversation with her sister, that she has been advised that the village can use in kind labor as our contribution. They will open manholes, flagging, ect. The board agreed that we should try again.

Mayor Carpenter reported on the update on the Tow Path renovation. We are good to go forward on this project when we are ready.

Mayor Carpenter reported on the USDA grant progress. (water main replacements) The water board will meet to determine how much we will go out to BAN for; whether we will commit to the whole 1.5 million dollar project and borrow \$858,750 or just the original project which would only require us to go out for \$213,750.00. The USDA has earmarked the \$641,250 for us either way. Heyman stated that we will need a resolution with 4 signature lines to record the amount that the water board would go out to bond for. Treasurer Heyman stated that she would work the figures and create a spreadsheet to determine how much of an increase in the quarterly water bills would be needed for both scenarios. We will also need to determine who will be hiring the bond counsel, and if the Village of Schuylerville will be hiring, then we need to be sure that the SVBOWM will be reimbursing us for this expenditure. The bond counsel will draft the resolution, and we will present it to the board. It must then sit for 10 days which must be published. The term would be for 30 years. Attorney Klingebiel stated that any bond that is for a period of time over 5 years is subject to permissive referendum, which can only happen if a petition is signed by over 50% of the registered voters in the village and then the matter would go to the village election in March.

Scott Brooks submitted a request for funds for training. Trustee Baker asked what the policy was on this. Does the employee pay out of pocket and then apply for reimbursement upon successful completion? He expressed concern that the village might be expected to pay for courses that may not result in a successful completion of the certification. He also felt that we should then expect a three-to-five-year commitment on the part of the employee to offset this expenditure. It was decided that the employee should pay up front, and we will approve upon successful completion of the course and certification awarded.

An alternate location for the Community Center from the one that was approved of in the Fort Hardy Master Plan was discussed. Trustee Baker stated that this alternate location made sense due to the tremendous savings that would be realized by moving the location to an area that already has the needed infrastructure. There would also be no need to continue with the archeological study, as there is already considerable ground disturbance in that area. The board agreed to the proposed relocation of the community center.

The board received a request from a resident of Easton on Old Schuylerville Road to purchase a small portion of the land owned by the Village of Schuylerville that was once the reservoir for our water source for both villages. There will need to be a determination as to exactly how much land that they wish to purchase, and an evaluation of the property proposed for purchase. There will need to be a resolution by the board to state that the land that is being proposed for sale is no longer needed for its original purpose and that it would be in the best interest of the village to sell this land.

The next meeting of the Comprehensive Plan Committee will be this Thursday at four in the Schuylerville village hall. At this meeting, the committee will be making any final changes to the plan to prepare for presentation to the board at our next meeting.

The Saratoga Seniors submitted a request for funding in the amount of \$2,500.00. They have provided us with detailed information on expenditures and proof of payment in the form of cancelled checks for the 2024 fiscal year. Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the payment to the seniors, Trustee Colvin seconded the motion, all in favor, payment approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Patricia Smola of Schuyler Island Drive asked if the board had made any decisions on the alternate parking laws for Broad Street. Mayor Carpenter stated that there will be no changes to the laws governing the parking on Broad Street this year.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the need for new signage.

There was also much discussion regarding the process to create a local law to prohibit parking on Ferry Street from Broad to Green Street to allow for safe passage of emergency vehicles on Ferry Street.

Attorney Klingebiel will prepare a draft of the local law for review by the board.

Trustee LeBaron asked Attorney Klingebiel to investigate the law regarding the prohibition of short-term rentals in the Village of Schuylerville. If we are going to allow them then we must pass legislation regulating them and requiring registration with the state. Attorney Klingebiel suggested looking at what the City of Saratoga is doing as pertains to this situation. He asked if they will be subject to bed tax. Mayor Carpenter stated that this would be for the county to determine. According to the definitions laid out by the City of Saratoga, an owner has to occupy the property for six months of the year.

Pat Smola asked if there could be signage to direct visitors to the area to the municipal parking lot by the WWTP. Mayor Carpenter stated that this is in the NY Forward “wayfinding” project application.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the A fund vouchers presented in the amount of \$15747.26 Pre-Paid in the amount of \$19,610.44

G Fund vouchers presented in the amount of \$16,350.48 pre-paid in the amount of \$6,509.30, Trustee Colvin seconded the motion, all in favor, vouchers approved.

ADJOURNMENT

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