

**Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
Of the Village of Bergen at
6:30pm on January 13th, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Barclay at 6:30pm with the following present:

Trustee Joseph Chimino
Trustee Kevin Donovan
Trustee Paul Robinson
Trustee Emily VanEenwyk

Also present: Village Administrator Cortney Gale

Approval of Bills

A motion to approve the bills was made by Trustee Robinson and seconded by Trustee VanEenwyk. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of December 9th, 2020 was made by Trustee Chimino and seconded by Trustee Robinson. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mayor

Grants

- **Main Street** – The Streetscape portion of the grant has been completed aside from the façade lighting installation on three buildings. Work at 23-25 N Lake Ave has begun. Labella worked with NYS to secure an extension through April 2021 for work completion on this project. There will be a grant round in the spring for an anchor building project I am working on with a possible buyer.
- **FEMA** – FEMA has made a determination on the reimbursement application for expenditures during the COVID-19 meal delivery program. We will be notified when the funds will be disbursed.
- The updated zoning law, if approved, will require village parking lot compliance. I have been working with a Clark Paterson Lee architect on proposals for updates on the municipal lot behind the Tulley Building and am pursuing a grant for the updates.

Committees/Boards

- **Planning Board** –At the January 6th meeting, the zoning law update committee focused on application procedures and administration, the next meeting will take place January 14th.

Traffic/Safety

- As per our agreement for increased support, the County Sheriff's Department has been enforcing the village parking laws, and several tickets have been written. The Bergen Town Court has been notified and we sent copies of our parking law as reference.

COVID-19

- Governor Cuomo has extended the State of Emergency until January 29, 2021, Genesee County remains under a State of Emergency. All county meetings are remote.

- “Partnership Calls” on 1/9 - with county officials, town supervisors, and village mayors, Congressman Chris Jacobs joined the call. County (Finger Lakes Region) are working through 3 phases of Covid-19 management: contact tracing, testing, and vaccinations. Volunteers are needed for testing and vaccination sites. As the vaccine (Moderna) becomes available, registrations for eligible recipient appointments will be taken.
- A village employee contracted Covid-19; I called the Genesee County Health Department and was told to close the office immediately and that everyone was on quarantine for 14 days. The office reopened on December 28th. All services to the community were maintained during that time.
- “Control Room” requesting no in person meetings.

Sage Pavilion

- Requests are coming in to reserve the pavilion; the building will need to be cleaned and sanitized for use, folks will need to follow protocols (\$15000 fine if reported for not complying), a cleaning schedule will need to be set up, looking at only one event per weekend.
- The ceiling in the NE corner on the main room needs repair; estimates are being collected.

GAM

- Highlights from the Dec. 17th meeting I attended; Christian Yunker is legislative liaison to GAM, county jail project is on hold, the spring opening of Darien Lake is on hold, progress on water districts throughout the county, Fire Service Work Group received quotes from firms to work on proposal for dept consolidation proposals, COVID updates.

Meetings, ETC

- Due to the office shutdown, the meeting with the Bonduelle manager has been rescheduled to Jan 27th.
- Cortney Gale is finishing up the NYS Public Employer Health Emergency Planning document. (state required document to be completed by municipalities in preparation for another pandemic type emergency).
- I received a call concerning a drainage issue on Hunter Street; I asked Eric Wies (village engineer) to check the area which he did during a rain. The property owner was advised as to a solution.
- Weekly staff meetings are going well; equipment replacements, road repair plans, snow prep, storage area and worktable being constructed in Quonset, electric shop improvements, Ward park clean up, Christmas Tree collection, holiday lights removed, back entrance to Hickory Park re-done, WWTP running well, and pump repairs have been completed.
- Jan 5 Cortney Gale and I were on a call with NYMPA concerning NYPA’s supplemental peaking power offer. NYMPA is not accepting the offer due to costs being” twice the current market price and well above the price NYMPA will pay for the supplemental power it has already secured for the next two years.”

Administrator

Sewer

- The \$300,000 Bond Anticipation Note sale was December 30th. Greene County Bank was the lowest bidder with a rate of .67%. The other bidders were Roosevelt & Cross at 1.25% and bank of Castile at 2.15%. I accepted the lowest bidder, but the Board should officially accept the bid. The closing is tomorrow at 11:00am.
- Two sump pumps at the sewer plant had issues. Sewer Plant Operator Chris Fay repaired one and Liberty Pumps fixed the other at no cost.

- Chris has been running the screw press but has issues with the polymer working. He has been trying different methods including decanting in the Waste Activated Sludge pit.
- A resident of the town called about possibly tying into our sewer system. They are in a location where that is possible. They requested that they be able to keep their existing tank. Is that something the Board would consider? If so, I will have Chris Fay inspect the tank.

DPW

- DPW Employees have taken down the Christmas decorations. They advise the artificial trees used in Ward Park have rusted and are no longer usable.
- They have been building shelves and a work bench to better organize the Quonset Hut so all the equipment will fit inside.
- We, as well as the Town, are having issues with our gasoline and diesel provider. The Town has already switched to another company for diesel and I would like to do the same for both gas and diesel.

Electric

- The Governor has extended the State of Emergency through January 29th. We are still not able to shut power off to customers due to nonpayment for another month.
- I spoke with the new manager at Bonduelle to reschedule our appointment. The Mayor and I are meeting with him on Wednesday, January 27th at 9:00am at the Village Office.
- I was contacted by the New York Power Authority about purchasing Peak Power from them. MEUA held a conference call to discuss the matter, after receiving more information and the cost of the power, it would be more expensive than buying it on the open market.

Office

- I am ready to present the 2021-2022 budget. The only question is equipment. When would the Board like to have a budget meeting?
- The new phones are installed and fully operational.
- Deputy Clerk Barb Zinter has completed payrolls, payables and reporting for both the Town and Village as well as reconciled the bank statements. She is preparing W-2s and 1099s but is having issues getting the forms from Staples. Barb has updated the sewer tank pumping log and reports that 168 tanks were completed in 2020.
- Deputy Treasurer Rene' Vurraro continues to work hard on the Zoning Law update. She is working on two difficult sections that were written poorly. She has rewritten much of the sections but is not happy with much of the document. The timeline for presenting a draft to the Board is now uncertain. The next zoning law update meeting is tomorrow at 6:30pm.
- The furnace in the Board Room has been repaired. There were many things wrong with the system. It will be necessary for them to come back in the summer to test the heat pumps and clean the system.

Privilege of the Floor

None

Trustee Concerns

Trustee Donovan asked if Village employees are considered essential employees.

Trustee Chimino stated that Buffalo Street still has loose gravel and debris where the road was dug up for a new water service. He visited the DPW building and reports that it is well organized and that he would like to see the salt removed from the plow truck when there is not snow in the forecast.

Mayor Barclay added that the Jenny Kuzma Memorial 5K will be held on August 14th.

New Business

Code Enforcement & Zoning Officer Appointment

Mayor Barclay appointed Gary Cecere as Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer. A motion was made by Trustee Robinson and seconded by Trustee Donovan to approve the appointment. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Planning Board Appointment

Mayor Barclay appointed Caroline Walker as a permanent member of the Planning Board. A motion was made by Trustee Chimino and seconded by Trustee Robinson to approve the appointment. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Budget Discussion – Equipment Replacement

Mr. Gale discussed the equipment replacement schedule with the Board as well as the information on the 2021-2022 Budgets.

Bond Anticipation Note

Mr. Gale informed the Board on the bids received for the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Greene County Bank bid .67%, Roosevelt & Cross bid 1.25%, and Bank of Castile bid 2.15%. A motion was made by Trustee Robinson and seconded by Trustee VanEenwyk to award the BAN to Greene County Bank. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Old Business

Electric Department Digger Derrick

After discussing the purchase of a new Digger Derrick truck for the Electric Department the Board decided to not purchase the vehicle at this time.

Chickens in the Village – Public Hearing on February 10th.

The Board discussed the proposed local law in preparation for the February 10th informational meeting. They decided to send a survey to residents to better understand the community's thoughts on the subject.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee VanEenwyk and seconded by Trustee Robinson to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale
Village Administrator