

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 15, 2024

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, August 15, 2024, in the Village Hall. Mayor Dodge opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Also present were Trustee LePard, Trustee Barr, Trustee Holly-Eberhard, Deputy Mayor Blumrick, Coordinator Bobbitt, Police Chief Johnson, Fire Chief Ruppel, Clerk-Treasurer VanBuren, and Tom Seaman, attorney.

Trustee Holly-Eberhard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were several residents in attendance, as well.

Kim Danna and Sasha Lukovenko from Solar Simplified discussed the Community Solar Municipality Program and how it could be implemented in the Village of Middleport at no cost to the Village or its residents. They also answered questions about the program.

Sally Merritt-Braciak and Jamie Gebhard from Cat by Cat Inc. spoke to the board about the organization and how they could assist with the community cat problem within the village. It starts with educating everyone from the caregivers to the ones whose property has been harmed by them. They also assist communities through the TNVR (Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate, and Return) method. They will set the traps and transport the cats and/or kittens to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and eartipped to identify that they have been treated. Kittens can be put up for adoption, but adult cats are different. They will need to determine if they have been socialized or are part of the free roaming community of cats. If they show signs of socialization, they will be put up for adoption, and if they do not, they will be returned to the community in the same location they were trapped. The Village would be responsible for the \$25.00 cost of spaying and neutering the cats and/or kittens through Operation Cats located in Blasdell.

Scott Wymyczak, Commander of the Gasport American Legion Post 1253 told the Board that there will be a groundbreaking ceremony on Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m. for the Veterans Memorial that is being constructed at the Town of Hartland Town Park.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2024, Board meeting with an adjustment made to the Sewer Fund amount. It was increased to \$9,563.69 because of National Grid bills that came in after the meeting date. The new Abstract 2-24/25 total is \$155,897.67. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Holly-Eberhard, to authorize two budget transfers in the general fund. The first one is from A1990.4 to A1440.4 for \$500.00 and the second one is from A1990.4 to A3120.11 for \$39.71 for a total of \$539.71. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee Holly-Eberhard, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, to authorize a budget amendment in the General Fund to increase the appropriations budgeted for Account Code A3120.4 by \$7,154.38 for the repair bill from Klino's Collision for the damage sustained to the 2020 Ford Explorer with the deer accident. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee LePard, to authorize a budget amendment in the General Fund to increase the revenues budgeted for Account Code A2680 by \$7,154.38, which is the amount the Village received from New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR) to cover the cost of the damages after the \$200 deductible. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee Holly-Eberhard, and seconded by Trustee LePard, to authorize two budget amendments in the General Fund to increase the revenues budgeted for Account Code A3389 and appropriations budgeted for Account Code A3120.2 by \$74,600.00 for the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services grant they received through the State's Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) Program. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to authorize payment of claims submitted on Abstract No. 3-24/25 in the amount of:

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General: \$160,398.63; Water: \$2,696.95; and Sewer: \$11,867.17; for a Total of: \$174,962.75. This figure includes Payroll Nos. 4, 5, and 6. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee LePard, and seconded by Trustee Holly-Eberhard, to approve Payroll Nos. 4, 5, and 6 for periods ending July 13, 2024, and July 27, 2024, and August 10, 2024, respectively. Carried, with all present voting aye.

The Treasurer’s report was submitted and accepted for July 2024.

- The July revenue and expenditure reports were distributed to the Board.

The Public Works report was submitted and accepted for July 2024.

The Village and Town Police reports were submitted and accepted for July 2024.

The fire report was submitted and accepted for July 2024.

Water and Sewer Billing for the quarter billed on August 1, 2024:

Water:	\$ 58,932.99
Meter Rental Charge:	\$ 2,236.50
Sewer:	\$ 60,095.05
Sewer Debt Service Charge:	<u>\$ 8,150.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$129,414.54</b>

This cycle billing is for 8,761,000 gallons.

***PUBLIC COMMENT***

Gary Brennan, who resides at 37 State Street, and Mark DiNieri, who resides at 33 State Street, questioned the Board as to the effectiveness of the Village’s Code Enforcement Officer. They feel that a neighbor is in violation of several of the Village Codes and have pleaded for years for something to be done about it to no avail.

***CORRESPONDENCE***

A review from the Waterway Guide was read about the Village’s docking area where we were given 4 out of 5 stars. This is the second review we have received this year.

***OLD BUSINESS***

Clerk VanBuren informed the Board that the 2024 Annual Financial Report for the Village has been filed with the NYS Comptroller’s Office and that a copy is available for inspection in the Village Clerk’s office.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Holly-Eberhard, to authorize Mayor Dodge to enter into an agreement with the Royalton Hartland Central School District for providing two police officers to act as School Resource Officers (SRO) for the 2024-2025 school year. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to authorize the Village to enter into an intermunicipal agreement for the administrative sharing and cost sharing of the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) between the Village, the Town of Royalton, and the Gasport Fire District, and to authorize Mayor Dodge to execute said agreement, which has been previously reviewed and approved by Attorney Seaman. Carried, with all present voting aye.

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A motion was made by Trustee LePard, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, to authorize to amend the Village's Fee Schedule for the following water service fees effective immediately:

- Water Restoration Fee: \$100
- Water Termination Fee: \$100
- Backflow Device Inspection Fee: \$25

Carried, with all present voting aye.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Trustee Barr, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, to authorize Chief Johnson to purchase four Latitude 5430 Rugged Laptops and four Havis Docking Stations from Dell Technologies through the Dell NYS Office of General Services Umbrella per Quote No. 3000179294153.4. Attorney Seaman reviewed the quote prior to the meeting and approved the purchase. The Middleport Police Department received a grant from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services under the State's Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) Program. Carried, with all present voting aye.

Clerk VanBuren requested that the Village Hall be closed to the public for the installation of carpet tiles on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in the Village Clerk's office.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Lepard, to authorize the closing of the Village Clerk's office to the public on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to allow for renovations to the Village Clerk's office at the discretion of the Village Clerk. Carried, with all present voting aye.

The date for the Christmas Tree Lighting was set for Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Clerk VanBuren will be attending NYCOM's Fall Training in Saratoga Springs, New York, from Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, thru Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee LePard, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of consultation and to discuss ongoing personnel matters with the Village's Attorney. Carried, with all present voting aye.

Executive Session opened at 8:43 p.m.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to return to General Session. Carried, with all present voting aye.

General Session reconvened at 9:43 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on **Monday, September 23, 2024**, at 7:00 p.m.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Trustee Barr, and seconded by Trustee LePard, to adjourn. Carried, with all present voting aye.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Lisa M. VanBuren*  
*Clerk-Treasurer*