

Village of Wampsville

December 10, 2024

The meeting of the Village of Wampsville Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 pm in the Village Hall, located at 118 N. Court St. Wampsville, NY.

In Attendance: Mayor: Gerald Seymour Jr.
Trustees: Marcia Rafte, Douglas Bailey, Dawn Collins
Others: Monte Collucci, Debbi Waxenfeld, Dominick Perretta, Justin Szratter

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited at 6:31 pm

Minutes: The board is presented with the last meeting minutes. Douglas Bailey makes a motion to accept minutes. Dawn Collins seconds the motion. Record to Vote: All in favor – motion carried.

Residence Comments: No comments.

Planning: Justin Szratter advised that the planning board had met recently and worked on cleaning up the fence law. They were able to remove some items to try and simplify the current laws. The biggest issues they faced were regarding corner lots, but it was decided it would be best to leave things as they were and handle requests on a case-by-case basis. They will have the lawyer review the changes made. They did want to propose changing the local law to move new fences to the boundary line. Dawn Collins made a motion to hold a public hearing January 7th at 6:30 to discuss changing the local law. Marcia Rafte seconds the motion. All in favor—motion carried. The December meeting has been cancelled due to conflicts of schedules and the next meeting will be January 21st.

There are some potential new businesses coming into the village and some new homes that could affect the tax levy. A public hearing will be needed to override the tax-cap. A motion to hold a public hearing on January 7th to override the tax-cap was made by Dawn Collins. Marcia Rafte seconds the motion. All in favor—motion carried.

Village Attorney: Joe was unavailable to attend, nothing to report.

Village Clerk/ Financials: Debbi Waxenfeld provided the board with the November bank statements, Operating Statement and the monthly bills. In review of the operating statement, it was identified that the amount of the Village Hall CE was \$564.48 over budget. In addition, we know that we will be needing an additional 13,656 for the electrical work that is scheduled. Debbi asked for a motion to appropriate 14,220.48 from Contingency to Village Hall CE. Dawn Collins made the motion and Doug Bailey seconds. All in favor – motion carried. Debbi also asked for a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$11,879.16. Marcia Rafte makes a motion to approve and pay all the bills presented tonight and Dawn Collins seconds the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Debbi also advised that the 7-month CD was maturing on 12/14, and the funds would be placed in the checking account.

Fire Department: Monte Collucci, the Fire Chief provided the Chief's report. There were 12 calls, making the year-to-date calls 123. Monte reported that the fire department placed 2nd in the Annual Parade of Lights. Monte let the board know that he has located a business that will repair old pagers rather than having to replace the ones that have broken. This will result in savings on not having to buy new ones. Some trucks did get rustproofing last month as well. January 8th National Grid will be hosting some training for the department.

Monte asked if it would be possible to sell some old generators that they are unable to use on the fire trucks. It was suggested he do a sealed bid so that it would be fair. Monte did get approved to do some state training and that will be held sometime in April.

A detailed discussion regarding purchasing a new fire truck was had. Monte reviewed some of the specs, pros and cons regarding getting a new truck. Monte, the mayor and Marcia had attended a 3-hour meeting reviewing the specs of a new truck. The board members asked multiple questions and brainstormed regarding financing the truck. Dawn suggested we look into grants. A motion was made by Marcia Rafte to move forward in purchasing a new fire truck. Dawn Collins seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

A dinner will be held to honor multiple members years of service on January 4th. It was discussed that we could proclaim that day to honor those members. We will also list the members and their years of service on our sign and Facebook.

Town of Lenox: Dominick Perretta advised that the Town of Lenox is beginning to hold court on some code violation cases. This will not change Jason from codes process. When he receives a complaint, he will visit and inspect and serve paperwork as applicable. After 3 months he will revisit. If no progress an additional letter is sent. If no action after multiple visits it will go to the board for a hearing. Dominick also let us know that the codes officer will be getting a new cloud program. In addition, he advised that the budget did pass, and it did not increase.

Infrastructure: The first plowing of the season was done by the DPW. Jerry expressed how pleased he was, and it only took about an hour to complete. It was agreed by all that the DPW did a great job with brush pickup this season as well. Jerry is still awaiting a response from Oneida for plowing Daniels Drive and will follow-up again.

Event Committee: Debbi advised that the Tree Lighting was held on December 1st. We handed out approximately 28 gifts. The event was a success and we had multiple board of trustees there to help as well as everyone from the event committee. The children and adults seemed to enjoy the caroling, tree lighting, cocoa, cookies, Santa, the elves and the gingerbread man. Note for next year is to go out on the firetruck a little earlier. A big thank you was given to Monte and the Fire Department for their participation. The next event is the New Year Bonfire in conjunction with the Fire Department. This will be held January 4th at 7pm at the Wampsville Fire Department. There has been a bit of interest on Facebook and we hope that this is a nice treat for those that attend.

Mayor's Comments: Jerry will be attending the Albany NYCOM event February 2nd – 4th.

Jerry advised that Madison County will be updating their punch card process for 2025. We have opted out of selling the cards as we cannot pre-pay to purchase cards, and we do not sell that many.

Jerry provided some information regarding the Madison County Connect, bringing another option for internet to the county. This would be free for the municipality and a fee would be charged to residents.

Jerry asked the board to consider a \$1.00 an hour raise to Debbi Waxenfeld a month ahead of her 6-month probationary period. The board agreed and a motion was made by Dawn Collins to give a \$1.00 an hour raise to Debbi Waxenfed. Marcia Rafte seconds and all were in favor – motion carried.

In regards to the NYSERDA grant, we have not been able to find something that is on their approved list so we will not be getting the grant. We are unable to use for windows, hot-water heater or a new dryer.

Trustee's

Comments: No comments.

Correspondence: Water report was received. The City of Oneida sent a notification regarding a local law that was imposed. Also received was the 2025 Madison County Punch Card info.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:02 pm is made by Marcia Rafte, Douglas Bailey seconds motion. Record to Vote: All in favor – motion carried.

Next meeting is January 7, 2025, at 6:30 pm.