

Village of Wampsville

July 12, 2022

The meeting of the Village of Wampsville Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:36 pm in the Village Hall, located at 118 N. Court St. Wampsville, NY.

In Attendance:

Mayor: Gerald Seymour Jr.

Trustees: Douglas Bailey, Dawn Collins

Clerk/ Treasurer: Maddison Jaquin

Others: Marcia Rafte, Justin Szratter, Dominick Perretta, Wayne Anderson, Maryanne Anderson, Carrie Colvin, Bill Colvin, Steve Rosati.

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited at 6:37pm

Public Hearing:

The public hearing for a moratorium on Solar Farm permits was opened at 6:39pm.

Motion to approve a moratorium for 12 months on Commercial Solar Permits was made by Dawn Collins, seconded by Douglas Bailey.

Discussion: Jerry Seymour, the Mayor, explains to the public and Board that the Town of Lenox is upgrading their Solar law, and this is a request to put a temporary halt on any solar farm permits. Wampsville currently has not received any permits of that nature but would like to put a moratorium in place until we have the best information as possible.

Public Comment: Marcia Rafte asked Dominick Perretta representing the Town of Lenox what the Town of Lenox discovered needs updating from the current laws. He explained that the technology keeps changing and there is a need to protect the land they go on and protect removal costs in the event the owners do not remove the equipment. Mr. Perretta goes in detail about the other issues consisting inadequate boarders, ruined views from residents and potential dangers of certain equipment some solar farms use. Marcia also asked if any law changes will affect residential permits. Dominick explained they shouldn't affect most residential uses but pointed out the change for residences with flat roofs needing a special permit for horizontally angled rooftop units. Trustee, Dawn Collins states special use permits are already needed for any solar installation within the Village of Wampsville and all permits still go through to the Planning Board and for public hearings before they can be accepted even prior to this moratorium. Jerry Seymour ensures that the Village of Wampsville wants to be consistent with the Town of Lenox on these laws as they have had more experience, more resources to study and we share the same Codes Enforcer.

Record to Vote: All in favor, Dawn Collins – Yay, Douglas Bailey – Yay, Jerry Seymour - Yay – motion carried.

Motion to close the public hearing was made by Douglas Bailey, seconded by Dawn Collins.

Discussion: None.

Record to Vote: All in favor – motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion to approve last month minutes is made by Dawn Collins, seconded by Douglas Bailey.

Discussion: None.

Record to Vote: All in favor – motion carried.

Resident Comments:

Mrs. Anderson asked if there were speed signs going to be placed on South Court Street and when they are expected to be put in place. The mayor informed the residents that the Village has bought 4 signs in total. The first two are still several weeks out. He stated that at least one sign will be placed on South Court Street and the other on Route 5. At this time the exact placement of the signs is not set in stone. Mrs. Anderson and her counterparts stated there is a need for a sign to be placed on South Court leaving Wampsville as she is witness to the dangerous traffic. Mrs. Anderson shares that a fellow resident with a handicap child who gets on and off a bus daily, just over the hill, fears of the dangers, given it takes a decent amount of time loading and unloading the individual from the bus and the speeders pose a serious threat.

Planning:

The Planning Board is losing a member, Marcia Rafte as she will be replacing Jacob Hatch on the Board of Trustees after the next Planning Board meeting.

Financials/ Clerk's**Comments:**

Maddison Jaquin, Clerk, provides revenues and expenses for last month to the Board. She also went over the appropriations. The building repairs budget has already been blown due to repairs to the garage doors. Maddison met with Matthew Shaler from Madison County Records department. He gave her great insight on record retention, and she plans to fully organize all records after tax season. Maddison also asked the Board if it was alright to file an extension on the AUD because she needs time to compile data for the energy report, she was not aware of.

Infrastructure:

The sidewalk project is currently on hold as Madison County has a sewer project in the works that will dig up exactly where the sidewalk is going to go. When the county drew up plans for the sewer project the total was 17 million dollars and they factored 12 million being the Village of Wampsville portion. This is an unrealistic and unattainable amount for our small village to absorb. Jerry Seymour explains that the pricing of street repairs has increased. Last year Wampsville was quotes \$37000.00 for the paving and it is now \$48000.00. Jerry shares he believes we should still move forward as there is no indication pricing is going down. There is \$35000.00 in CHIPS, another \$1500.00 for the new Pave our Potholes Program the Governor passed.

Mayor Comments:

Jerry Seymour explains April Hall will paint the garage doors this week. He presents to the Board Jacob Hatch's resignation where he exclaimed that with his growing responsibilities at work, he cannot in good faith remain on the Board without being able to give the Village the time and attention he believes it deserves

Motion to accept Jacob Hatch's resignation was made by Dawn Collins. Seconded by Douglas Bailey.

Discussion: Every member unanimously commended Jacob Hatch for his time of the Board and understand his decision.

Record to Vote: All in favor – motion carried.

Jerry Seymour shares that he has reached out to the Code's Enforcer over several complaints including an unpermitted sign on Route 5, unpermitted shed obtained by the church as well as the failure to demo and old, second, shed that was voted on from ZBA last year.

The mayor admits that due to the busy summer, amidst their great plans have fallen short for community events. Jerry ensures there will be a community picnic on September 17th and is planning an open house for the residents to see the face lift Village Hall has recently received.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:15 pm is made by Dawn Collins. Seconded by Douglas Bailey.

Discussion: None.

Record to Vote: All in favor – motion carried.