

Village of Rhinebeck

Minutes 4/26/2017

Attendance: Mayor Gary Bassett, Trustees: Ric Lewit, Scott Cruikshank, and Howie Traudt. Also present: Carl- Panda, Treasurer Karen McLaughlin, and Tom Johnson.

Call to order and pledge

DC Community Action- Village Mayor asked the board if they want to support Dutchess Community Action at a cost of \$1,926 annually. The village has a fuel depot and cost go to helping low income. The board discussed keeping the support local and do not want to contribute at this time.

The mayor announced the changes to the proposed budget as follows:

Mayor Bassett identified that health insurance would increase 7% and 5% was estimated during Budget preparation, however effective June 1st employee contribution rate will increase from 10% to 15% and this difference should cover the 7% percent increase.

The mayor also announced that the proposal to make the Police Clerk full-time will not be in this budget. There is an increase in the Police Clerk line item from \$13,333 to \$16,000 for the part-time Police Clerk.

The mayor made a motion to adopt the 17-18 Budget, Water and Sewer Budgets as follows:

FUND	APPROPRIATIONS	REVENUE	TAX LEVY
A- General	2,353,097	742,052	1,611,045
F- Water	961,636	961,636	
G- Sewer	809,923	809,923	
Total	4,124,656	2,513,611	1,611,045
Tax Rate-	\$ 4.17		
Village Assessment		385,902,607	

This was seconded by Trustee Traudt all were in favor to adopt the 2017-18 village budget and the water and sewer budgets, as presented. Motion passed.

Tree Committee- The mayor discussed the Village board appointing Thomas Johnson to the Tree Committee. Trustee Traudt discussed a legality that needs to be checked into with the village attorney, regarding him being an employee. Tom Johnson stated that if any time there is a

conflict of interest with his position on the Highway Department, he will abstain from voting. Trustee Cruikshank suggested approval contingent on legal counsel. Motion made by Trustee Cruikshank to appoint Thomas Johnson contingent on legal review of him being an employee, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Tree Commission Chair Meg Crawford announced the tree planting this weekend and invited the public to join in and help.

The mayor discussed ordering a floral arrangement for the park for Memorial Day. The only issue is that it is a cross. He asked if the village still wants to do that at the park. Trustee Traudt made a motion to carry on the tradition of the floral cross at the park, seconded by Trustee Cruikshank and all were in favor.

The Rotary is recognizing Homer Nicks Staley, Jr. with a citizen of the year award. The mayor asked the board if they like to recognize Homer Nicks Staley, Jr. as well. They did. The mayor read a certificate of appreciation and recognition for presentation.

The mayor discussed also presenting an award to the Rhinebeck Garden Club for their 90th anniversary, recognizing all that they do.

Motion for both certificates to be awarded made by Trustee Lewit, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor. Trustee Cruikshank recommended the Garden Club be invited to the next meeting for the award presentation.

Tables at Farmers Market- The board discussed a request for the use of tables outside the Farmers Market for the Rhinebeck Democratic Party. Proposed is a table located on the west side to be manned 10-2 pm each Sunday. Trustee Cruikshank asked if the board wants the farmers market to turn into a political arena. Tree Commission Chair Crawford announced that they do not allow political groups within the farmers market and this is outside the farmers market. Trustee Cruikshank stated that they should think about it and that the farmers market should be a farmers market. If allowed, limits should be set. They should be local, no one entity should be there all season.

Motion made by Trustee Cruikshank to make a policy that allows use of the tables outside of the Farmers Market with the following parameters: Each local organization (local is Town and Village of Rhinebeck and not-for-profit) is limited to two tables at any time, two times a month and the request for use has to be made monthly, seconded by Mayor Bassett and all were in favor. The liaison to the Farmers Market can approve and does not have to wait for a board meeting.

Trustee Lewit announced that his wife is now on the board for the farmers market. They are concerned that there is not enough parking in the municipal parking. Can the vendors park in the Village parking lot during Farmers Market hour? The answer is yes as it also is a municipal parking lot.

Professional Services Policy- The mayor suggested the board form a policy to set limits for the Trustees to use the attorney or engineer and professional services. This would allow the board to make initial contact and get things moving prior to the next board meeting. It provides flexibility for the board; however he did recommend using NYCOM as consulting first. Trustee Cruikshank

asked, How do you monitor the limit? The mayor stated to get a quick estimate of the time the conversation will take. Trustee Cruikshank stated that we are all entrusted to be efficient with the use of village funds to include professional services. Trustee Traudt stated he has not called the attorney directly in 3 years. It was determined that it's not broken and we continue as it is.

Notice of Violation and Order to remedy on 19 South Street- The owner stated that he was going to repair the sidewalk and has not. Will the board consider authorizing the Highway Dept. to repair it and bill the home owner? Motion made by Trustee Lewit to have John Fenton direct the Highway Dept. to repair the sidewalk at 19 South Street and bill the owner, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor.

Approve minutes- The mayor made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/4, 4/10 and 4/11 with the corrections sent by the mayor and Trustee Traudt, all were in favor.

Funding and Bond issuance- Village Treasurer McLaughlin discussed the potential savings of combining a bond issue for multiple purchases, such as the new Fire truck, Police vehicle and Highway department equipment. As we are already on schedule for the Fire Truck, we would need to hurry to add other equipment to that issue. Trustee Lewit discussed the need for highway dept totaling around \$300,000. He stated that it is a discussion that has to be had soon. As the board has not discussed capital equipment; this will be tabled for now. They directed the Treasurer to get more information on timing, amounts and rates from the bond council and financial advisors.

Executive Session-

A motion was made by Mayor Bassett to enter executive session at 8:15 pm to discuss current legal actions and review of grievance submitted. Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Cruikshank and all were in favor to re-enter the meeting. Motion passed, re-entered meeting at 8:55 pm.

Motion made by Mayor Bassett- effective immediately if an employee wishes to issue a complaint, the complaint must be in a sealed envelope with the name of the recipient on the outside, seconded by Trustee Cruikshank and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Cruikshank and all were in favor to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen P. McLaughlin

Village Treasurer