

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, of the Village of Montgomery was held in the Court Room, at 133 Clinton Street, Montgomery, NY 12549, on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:30 pm.

Present: Mayor Brescia, Deputy Mayor Scheels, Trustee Andolsek, Trustee Hembury (absent), Trustee Lindner, Atty. Dowd, Village Clerk Rivera-Fernandez, DPW Supt. Nelson, Marc Devitt, Tom Steed, Don Berger, Sophia Romano, MP Chairman Conero.

Mayor Brescia opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

RE: MINUTES

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board approved the minutes of February 2, 2021. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

REQUEST TO MEET WITH BOARD

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

RE: REPORTS – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

DPW Supt. Nelson reported on plowing and moving snow and anticipates another snow storm as predicted on Wednesday into Thursday. Seventy-five percent of his overtime budget has been spent. It's very likely the remaining budgeted overtime will be exhausted with the next snow storm, if it's as heavy as predicted. We have another month of winter to go. He anticipates raising the overtime budget for the next fiscal year, of which he's kept it about even in the last few budgets. He also has experienced some problems getting salt and luckily, it came in this past Friday.

He's been working with Frank Hoeffner about obtaining property for a well site. There is no use in looking at other site, due to location of the current wells. Its best to keep all the wells in close proximity to the filtration system, besides, it's most cost effective. We are using Holt Well #4 which is already losing production. He is holding off until next month to redevelop it. He hopes to have a price for it by the next meeting. While Holt well #4 is off line, bring on Holt Well #3 back into service, which is another big producer. In addition, the Park well will have to be put back into service. As you all know the park well has its own issues of causing brown water. He anticipates receiving calls complaining about the brown water. It will take a week to redevelop Holt well #4. He uses aqua-free to treat the well. The last time Holt well #4 was treated was two and half years ago, which is too long. And with everything involving the filtration system; it wasn't advised. It normally would be done every six months. However, he may call for a water emergency, as a measure to preserve water. The last case scenario would be to truck in water. However, he'd rather wait for the weather to break, possibly mid-March. This way he would not have to worry about so many water main breaks.

RE: ADOPT A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING NAMES, ADDRESSES AND CANDIATES FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION

Michael R. Hembury, 89 Madison Avenue, Trustee, 4-years
Walter Lindner, Jr. 101 Jefferson Road, Trustee, 4-years
Donald Berger, 158 Waters Edge, Trustee, 4-years

Moved by Trustee Andolsek, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board adopted a resolution designating Names, Addresses, Offices and Candidates for the General Election on March 16, 2021, with the polling place located at the Senior Center, 36 Bridge Street, the poles shall be open from 8 am to 9 pm, to be posted and published. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: APPROVE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board approved the budget adjustments as Treasurer Griffith has outlined. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING CHANGE

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board changed the meeting of March 16, 2021 to Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:30 pm, to be held in the Village Hall, Court Room, at 133 Clinton Street, Montgomery, NY 12549. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: VILLAGE OF MONTGOMERY DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

Trustee Lindner presented a rendering of the Village of Montgomery's Downtown revitalization sketch plan, which is the recommendations of the sub-committee. Since then, the Town has proposed their Comprehensive Plan. Therefore, he recommends the committee meet to review the changes of the Town proposed Comprehensive Plan. Particularly to review the Southwest part of the towns plan, several of their changes does impact the Village; especially by the O.C. Airport. The Town has come up with some unique zoning on their side. One of them happens to be on the other side of Aden Brook Farms. It has 27 acres in the Village, and 100 acres in the Town. They are recommending the 100 acres become residential. Again, the acreage in the Village is zone I-1. We have the Chandler Lane project which also has some residential. It does not make a lot of sense to now have residential, residential and have commercial property in between; which could be several warehouses. He wants the committee to look at that. In addition, it occurred to him by the O.C. Airport, the Town is proposing a new zone called airport related zone. They are hoping to get people that are interested in flight school, or for airplane repairs. He feels it worthy for us to look at their proposal. At the next Board meeting, we shall have the official recommendations. He also recommends to have a public information meeting that the committee would run and not the Board. To explain the changes that have been recommended, with the Village residents in attendance, to listen, make suggestions. Once all the information is complied then the Village Board would have an official public hearing on any changes the Board decided to recommended. Nevertheless, the committee is going to need a little more time. Therefore, he requests the Moratorium be extended for at least 30 days or possibly 60 days, to allow for all he has mentioned to be done. It can be decided at the next meeting.

Atty. Dowd said he can prepare the introduction of the local law extending the moratorium the first meeting in March, with public hearing held the 2nd meeting in March and adopted thereafter.

Trustee Lindner said part of the Master Plan that was approved last year, there are 87 recommendations for improvements changes in the Village. Out of the 87 improvement changes, they are broken down into seven categories, which are Natural Resources, Transportation, Cultural and Historic, Community, Downtown Revitalization, Economic Development, and Land use and Zoning. We have spent most of our time working on land use and zoning. We have people working on each of those categories. However, the Downtown Revitalization Committee has come up with some real exciting changes. He mentioned, Marc Devitt, and Brian Fitzpatrick had a lot of help from Jason Anderson who gave us the design from the offices of the Grange Building. This is the layout of the entire plan for the future. Again, this is not going to happen in the next six months but more than likely, the next six years. We will go over it when we have the public information meeting. This way everyone can see what is exactly involved. We are going to concentrate on step one, which is the area near the Village Hall and the First Presbyterian Church from Wallkill Avenue and Charles Street. He provided a close-up visual aid to be seen. It would involve digging up Charles Street, of which we will get the price for it, and replace the sidewalks. In doing so we gain 35 parking spaces, with 20 parking spaces on Wallkill Avenue alongside the First Presbyterian Church. Another 15 or so on Charles Street, behind the Church and the Village Hall. We would cut into the lawn by a foot or two, which is the Village's right of way in that area. Therefore, the Church would be giving up a couple feet of the lawn at the most. It does include replacing the sidewalk that is there now. We are hoping for Medline to possibly fund this project, they have been communicating with Randi Picarello and Marc Devitt, it looks very promising, however, we have to get an estimated cost for the project first. Again, tonight all we are looking for approval from the Village Board to move forward and pursue this concept plan.

Mayor Brescia asked for clarification to pursue the Wallkill Avenue and Charles Street parking.

Trustee Lindner asked the audience to look at the rendering of what Wallkill Avenue and Charles Street would like. The one thing that you do not see here is the telephone pole on the corner of Wallkill Avenue and Clinton Street. Part of this whole idea for the long term, is a project that we want to combine the cost and hopefully next year we can submit to the State for CFA funding. Several years ago, Brian Fitzpatrick and I put together a CFA project for the Bandstand, asking for \$85,000.00. Unfortunately, we gathered together with individuals for the State and it was mentioned that our request was not granted. We were then informed that the amount was too low to be considered. This project is approximately going to be around five-to-ten-million-dollar range to complete it. It would include items such as the Parkland foot bridge connecting the two parks together. Part of the project also includes a walkway along the Wallkill River leading up to the winery. There are of lot things involving this project. The one thing we will definitely need is community involvement, one example would be Medline funding the phase one. The CFA funded five million dollars of the Winery renovations project. Marc Devitt has brought schools to the Village. Again, it's community involvement brings this to the next level. The Hillmans are doing things in the downtown district. Rowley plans to build a new building by the old bank, as well as the re-development on Railroad Avenue. These are all improvements and money being spent to update the downtown revitalization. Nevertheless, he feels this a step in the right direction, taking this to the next level.

MP Chairman Conero said the committee has done a great job with the revitalization part of the Village of Montgomery. Laying out a lot of the visionary type of plan, speaking from the ZBA stand point parking is a big issue. Our municipal parking lot is very small; its used for overnight parking. It becomes a problem for those applying for subdivisions and we have to waive the parking requirements for the overflow to the use of the municipal parking lot. So, finding additional on Wallkill Avenue and Charles Street and cutting into the Village right of way of these properties

does not include the engineering aspect of the project. This is solely an architect's view. He is proud to see this happen and hopes its funding does not come out of the taxpayer's pockets; it's even better.

Trustee Lindner said the overall we have been told that in this plan, if everything goes through, we pick up a net of 232 parking spaces in the Village. Again, if this all comes to fruition. This does not include the 23 spaces that Rivenburgh is talking about with parking on Railroad Avenue. In total its 250 additional parking spaces in the Village.

Mayor Brescia said this impressive and a lot of work involved.

Marc Devitt said with the CFA funding will be looking at public and private investments, which they will look at the last ten years. Therefore, looking at the public investments, it would include the curbing, sidewalks, new windows, bandstand, new roof on the museum; it starts to add up over the course of ten years. It shows the Village has spent it own money on improvements. On the other hand, looking at the private investments that have been done in the course of the last few years, adding that all together, you put that in your plan that is concrete and solid, for the future of the Village of Montgomery. That is what they will be looking at and where we will be the funding. This architectural plan was done for free, and he guesses the cost for something like this is about thirty thousand dollars' worth of work. It is best to include this in the projection as well. He suggests meeting quarterly to review the adopted plan. So, every year we're submitting applications for funding.

MP Chairman Conero also suggests adding in the for new sidewalks on Union Street as well.

RE: CREATING AN AMBULANCE DISTRICT INFORMATION

Deputy Mayor Scheels reports on the meeting she attended regarding the creation of an Ambulance District for all of the residents of the Montgomery, including the Town and the three Villages. Their plan is to move forward with creating a district, to improve our services, our medical response time, ambulances, staffing. This would be a 24/7 service. It would comprise of some volunteers and some full-time staffing. It's feasible.

RE: PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Don Berger is the founder of the RPM and looks on the suggestions for the Downtown revitalization favorably. This is what the RPM members are looking for.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board adjourned the meeting of February 1, 2021. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Monserrate Rivera-Fernandez, Village Clerk