

Minutes
VILLAGE OF ENOSBURG FALLS
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
September 8, 2020

Present: Trustees – Sam Vaillancourt, Leonard Charron, Heather Moore, Cindi Miner, Jason Larose
Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Matthew Miner
Guests – Ivonne Kio

This meeting was held electronically via Zoom Meeting

Meeting called to order by Sam Vaillancourt at 6:39 pm and Mr Vaillancourt took roll call and Matthew Miner read the Electronic Meeting Disclosure.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

There were no changes.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. Review/Approval of Minutes Meeting August 25, 2020

Cindi Miner made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 25 Meeting of the Board of Trustees as written. Seconded by Heather Moore. Unanimously approved.

4. Town of Enosburgh Park Update

Ivonne Kio updated the Board on the ongoing project to revitalize the Recreation Fields into a community park. Fund raising efforts have begun for this multi-year, multi-phase project. Initial goals within the next several months are the installation of a gaga pit, tree planting along Rte 105 and development of a community garden area. A website has been created

(<https://sites.google.com/view/recfieldsproject/home>) to share information about the project and provide a method for making donations and is accessible from the Town's website.

5. Drop Box Discussion

Matt Miner presented a range of options for installation of a drop box at the Village's main office. Staff's recommendation is the installation of a through the door secure drop box with an estimated cost of \$300. Board consensus was to proceed with installing the drop box in conjunction with the installation of the new door.

6. Elm Street, Main Street Scoping Study WW Dept Revolving Loan Fund Agreement

Jason Larose made the motion to adopt the Resolution and Certificate authorizing the \$15,000 loan from the State Revolving Loan Fund for the engineering study of wastewater line upgrades in Main St and Elm St. Seconded by Cindi Miner. Unanimously approved.

7. Vital Village Scoping Study Approval of VTrans Grant Municipal Project Manager

Leonard Charron made the motion to appoint Matthew Miner as the Municipal Project Manager for the Vital Village Streetscape Scoping Study grant project. Seconded by Heather Moore. Unanimously approved.

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8. Transco Equity Offer

Jason Larose made the motion to exercise the 2020 equity offer from VT Transco and finance the purchase through Vermont Public Power Supply Authority. Seconded by Cindi Miner. Unanimously approved.

9. IBEW Contract, HSA Clause

Board consensus is for the new clause in the union contracts allowing employees to make pre-tax contributions to their HSA accounts be extended to all union and non-union employees.

10. Set 2020 Tax Rate

Staff presented to the Board a report on 2020 property tax requirements. The originally proposed tax rate for 2020 was .5615 in the approved 2020 budget. However, as a result of a reduction in estimated expenditures of approximately \$18k and an estimated increase in Grand List value of \$10k, staff is recommending a tax rate of .5425 for 2020, consistent with the 2019 tax rate. This is .0190 less than originally estimated in the 2020 approved budget.

Jason Larose made the motion to set the 2020 Property Tax Rate at .5425 with a tax due date of October 15, 2020. Seconded by Cindi Miner. Unanimously approved.

11. Manager's Report

Mr. Elwell reported to the Board on three items.

- Wastewater construction on Orchard St is completed and work along Water Tower Rd has begun. Paving work on Orchard St is scheduled to be completed by October 16, 2020.
- The replacement pedestrian bridge at Hydro Plant #1 has been installed.
- Franklin Grand Isle Tobacco Prevention Coalition recently completed its summer "butt litter clean-up" event during which volunteers collected approximately 2,000 cigarette butts from the downtown area.

Other Business

Heather Moore asked if the other members of the Board were interested in more information about the recently created Northwest Communication Union District. Mr Elwell recommended this topic be discussed in Executive Session

Matthew Miner reported that Sean Kio, Director of Economic Development recently submitted a LGER Grant application on behalf of the Village. If approved, this grant would help to reimburse for costs associated with COVID-19 and there are no match requirements.

Heather Moore asked for an update on the Utility Arrearage Assistance program. Mr Miner reported that the Department of Public Service reports having received approximately 1,900 applications to date and the Utilities will be receiving access to the system in the next few days at which point we will learn how many Enosburg Falls customers have applied for the program.

Sam Vaillancourt asked the Board to consider appointing Matthew Miner to the open seat on the Economic Development Steering Committee.

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Cindi Miner made the motion to appoint Matthew Miner to the Economic Development Steering Committee. Seconded by Heather Moore. Unanimously approved.

12. Executive Session: For the Purpose of Discussing a personnel issue.

Heather Moore made the motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue and negotiations in which premature public knowledge may compromise the position of the municipality at 7:47 pm. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimously approved.

Matthew Miner left executive session at approximately 8:25pm. Minutes taken up by Sam Vaillancourt.

Jonathan Elwell left executive session at approximately 8:40pm.

Cindi Miner left executive session at approximately 9:45pm.

Heather Moore made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimously approved. The Board re-entered their Regular Meeting at 9:55 pm.

Matthew Miner returned to the meeting at approximately 9:55pm. Minutes taken up by Matthew Miner.

No action was taken as a result of executive session.

13. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, Cindi Miner made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Matthew Miner, Director of Finance

These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at a Regular Board Meeting on September 22, 2020.