DRAFT MINUTES
VILLAGE OF ENOSBURG FALLS
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
June 22, 2021

Present: Trustees -Samuel Vaillancourt, Heather Moore, Leonard Charron, Sandra Ferland, Eli Gabuzda
Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Gary Denton, Abbey Miller
Guests – Anthony Lussier, Dan Lussier, Jim Cameron, Lane McElree (NW Access TV)

Meeting was called to order by Samuel Vaillancourt, Chair at 6:30pm.

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda
   There were no modifications to the agenda.

2. Public Comment
   There was no public comment.

3. Review/Approval of Minutes June 8, 2021
   A motion was made by Leonard Charron to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Sandra Ferland. Unanimous.

4. Lincoln Park Permit Request, Enosburgh Town Band
   The Enosburg Town Band submitted a request to hold band concerts this summer with a tentative first concert date being Tuesday June 29, 2021 and running through the Middle of August 2021. Sam verified that there were not scheduling conflicts with the proposed dates, and Jon advised that there were not, and staff recommends approval of this request.
   A motion was made by Sandra Ferland to approve the permit request with no fee. Seconded by Eli Gabuzda. Unanimous.

5. Access Permit, 495 Water Tower Road
   Sam recused himself from any discussion or vote on this topic and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair, Heather Moore. Gary Denton, Public Works Director, stated that he supported this permit request if all state standards are met, and recommends the installation of a "Blind Drive" sign due to the location of the proposed driveway. After further discussion regarding the "Blind Drive", a motion was made by Eli Gabuzda to approve the access permit for 495 Water Tower Road with the condition that all state standards are met, and a "Blind Drive" sign is installed. Seconded by Sandra Ferland. Unanimous.
   Heather turned the meeting back over to Sam.

6. Electric Department, 42 Village Drive Window Replacement Bids
   Gary Denton advised the Trustee's that only one bid was received by Wendall Bashaw and that it came in under the $9,000.00 budget at $8,592.00. Sam asked if anyone had researched Efficiency Vermont to see if there were any rebates, Gary stated he would review to see what options were available, if any.
   A motion was made by Eli Gabuzda to waive the 3-bid requirement and to accept the bid by Wendall Bashaw. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

7. Street Paving Project Bids

Gary Denton advised the Trustee's that he had requested bids from three different contractors, but only one came to the pre-bid meeting, making them the only one eligible to bid. The contractor was Engineer's Construction, Inc. (ECI) and their bid came in at $198,990.00, $83,010.00 lower than budgeted.

A motion was made by Heather Moore to waive the 3-bid requirement and to accept the bid by Engineer's Construction, Inc. Seconded by Sandra Ferland. Unanimous.

Gary Denton advised the Trustee's that the sidewalk project was in progress and that the contractors were starting on Church Street. Gary had also been contacted by our contractor for painting the crosswalks and they have received enough paint to do the crosswalks on Main Street, but the contractor does not expect to get the rest of his order until August to complete the full project. The lights for Echo Park came in and our staff was able to replace those.

8. Village Diversity Training

In previous meetings regarding the Village Manager's 2021 priority list, it was requested that diversity training be included. Jon Elwell advised the board that he had reached out to CQ Strategies at the recommendation of Heather Moore. Jon stated that he spoke to a Kathy Johnson with CQ Strategies, who advised they are not scheduling any new assignments or classes until October 2021. He advised the Trustees that he did not believe we would be able to enroll in their intensive series this year. Kathy Johnson requested Jon to find out exactly what the board was looking to accomplish by answering 2 questions – 1. What does the Board of Trustees expect to get from this training? What is your purpose for requesting this training? 2. What type of training are you looking for? Racial, cultural, gender, religious, other?

Heather Moore advised that there have been instances where other municipalities have made comments showing biases and other situations where communities wanted to have certain events and there has been challenges connecting the municipality and community members thus creating an issue. Heather wants to ensure that we have the correct language to be inclusive and receptive of these types of conversations. She stated that the Supervisory Union has been doing several trainings on this topic and she wants to ensure we are understanding all community issues and are being receptive.

Jim Cameron suggested the board contact the school system and see what types of trainings and approaches they are taking already within the community.

Heather stated that she did not feel like there was a specific focus now but wanted to open the door to this conversation. The Board expressed they would like to try to reach out to local resources first and table anything further with CQ Strategies until we had had a better action plan. Heather stated she would reach out to the school contact and see if they had availability this summer to attend a meeting and discuss further with the Board of Trustees.

9. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update

Jon Elwell advised that there has been quite a bit of activity last week from the State detailing the ARPA program. Jon expressed to the Board that the ARPA program was like an umbrella, and that there would be different pots of money that will become available over the coming months under this umbrella. Last week we learned specifically about the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that will be available to the Village of Enosburg Falls. Each town's appropriation is based upon 2019 population numbers and the Village of Enosburg Falls is expected to receive $134,314.00 under the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and the funds can be spent over the next 3-5 years. After discussion regarding ARPA funds, Trustee members requested that staff forward them more information regarding this topic. Jon advised that to move forward the Board would need to assign an authorized representative to sign up for the funds on behalf of the Village of Enosburg Falls. Sandra Ferland made a motion to accept the funds available and to make Jon Elwell the authorized representative for the Village. Seconded by Eli Gabuzda. Unanimous.

10. Enosburg Initiative Report

Jim Cameron reported to the Board on several items the E.I. Group is involved with.

Dough Boy Statue Renovation – The statue is returning tomorrow! The restorations have been completed and it will be reset in Lincoln Park. Last year over $24,000 was raised from different donations to restore the fence around the Dough Boy Statue, and that has been paid off entirely. The remaining funds have been used towards getting the Dough Boy Statue, along with a grant that the American Legion received. The discussion is started on what to do with the remaining funds that has been donated and how to apply it towards Lincoln Park projects.

Bike Stands – A new bike stand will be going in on Friday in Lincoln Park opposite of the Masonic temple. This stand will be mobile if there is ever a need to move it to a different location.

Rail Trail Signage - Two years ago there was a study done and 60% of the funds went to the study itself and the other 40% of the funds went to the purchase of actual signs to post along the Rail Trail outlining places to stop along the way in each town, the signs are in and are going to be going up.

Welcome Center – The Masonic Temple is going to be the location for a pop-up welcome center that is going to be attempted again. There will be a request coming for sandwich board signs to be placed in various areas of the Rail Trail and within the Village in attempt to get more people into the Village.

Perley Block Redevelopment - There have been discussions taking place since December with the current owners and with the Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation (FCIDC) to redevelop the Perley Block. As of right now, FCIDC is set to buy the Perley Block, there is a signed option; Phase 1 that is complete, and Phase 2 is starting next week on this project. Grants have been applied for to use towards each Phase and Federal tax credits have also been

applied for on this project. The Village of Enosburg Falls is jointly applying for a $500,000.00 grant that will go towards the purchase of the building and renovations of the Perley Block. This grant application is due in September. Once the Perley Block is purchased there is a plan to renovate the entire building to add more apartments as well as retail space and office space, which already has a long-term tenant in the works.

Jim Cameron asked for an update on the Vital Village Project and Jon advised that the management team had a meeting last month and had decided there was a need for more public outreach. Posters have been created and placed in the windows of the Perley Block building and Sandra Ferland has gone door to door to 41 businesses in town. Information regarding the survey that is due back July 8, 2021 has been placed on the posters and on the Village website and Facebook page. In addition, the alternatives plans have been given to the Enosburg Business Association which will talk with business owners, and a flyer has been placed in the Village Office vestibule for distribution.

11. Manager's Report

Village Manager, Jonathan Elwell provided the following updates:

- Utility Assistance Program – Several utility customer assistance programs are becoming available through the State because of Federal funding due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Village has taken the steps to create an account with the State allowing our Electric Department to receive payments directly from the State. The customer must apply for the assistance, electric utilities are not allowed to apply on behalf of the customer. We have posted links on the Village website and Facebook page providing information on the program.
- "No Loitering" Sign Request – Jon advised he received a call from Jim Cota with Vtrans regarding the letter the Board sent to him requesting "No Loitering" signage being added to the Park and Ride Property. He informed Jon that he does not have the authority to make that decision, but that he will pass it to his superiors and get back to the Village as soon as he has a response.
- Sidewalk Project Update – Work on the St. Albans and Church Street Sidewalk Project began last week and per the contract should be wrapped up by July 16, 2021.
- Diesel #1 Building Lighting – The exterior lights have been replaced.

12. Other Business

Sandra Ferland asked if we had the results from the electronic speed signs on Orchard Street yet. Jon advised that it stores the data for 90 days and once it reaches the maximum storage time, we will be accessing it and sharing the information with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. It was also asked what the plans were for moving the sign and it was discussed that the plan has always been to either turn the sign around or to relocate it after the 90 days. Heather Moore asked if the Public Works had done a survey of missing speed signs and Jon advised that they had, and signs had been ordered.

13. Adjourn

Having no other business, Sandra Ferland made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Heather Moore. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbey Miller
Director of Finance

These minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Trustees at a Regular Board Meeting.