DRAFT MINUTES
VILLAGE OF ENOSBURG FALLS
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
July 13, 2021

Present: Trustees -Samuel Vaillancourt, Heather Moore, Leonard Charron, Sandra Ferland, Eli Gabuzda
Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Gary Denton, Abbey Miller
Guests – Wilma Swank-Pitzer, David Haskins, Beverly Robtoy, Diane Leary, Suzanne Hull-Casavant, Lane McElree (NW Access TV)

Meeting was called to order by Samuel Vaillancourt, Chair at 6:31pm.

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

2. Public Comment
   Diane Leary was present to discuss issues with how vehicles are traveling on Church Street. Mrs. Leary spoke of a specific incident on July 2nd, 2021, where VSP was contacted, and said that there are serious safety concerns for children, pets and anyone walking along that street. Mrs. Leary asked if it would be possible to install speed bumps, or if the lighted speed sign could be moved to Church Street next. Gary Denton, Public Works Director, stated that speed bumps are very expensive, and they pose a lot of issues with plowing during the wintertime. Gary Denton stated we could add an anchor for the lighted speed sign to Church Street and could move the speed sign to Church Street next. Gary Denton also stated that he has received the data from the speed sign being on Orchard Street and plans to review the information with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. The Franklin County Sheriff's Office told Gary they issued over 76 traffic tickets during the month of June 2021 in the Village of Enosburg Falls.

3. Review/Approval of Minutes June 22, 2021
   A motion was made by Sandra Ferland to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Heather Moore. Unanimous.

4. Request for Church Street Sidewalk Repairs – Wilma Swank—Pitzer, David Haskins
   Wilma Swank-Pitzer, David Haskin, Beverly Robtoy and Diane Leary were all present to discuss concerns about the condition of the east side sidewalk on Church Street. Wilma Swank-Pitzer had submitted pictures and a letter to the board to review. Wilma Swank-Pitzer stated that she strongly feels the current condition of the sidewalk is a hazard for people trying to walk along Church Street, and that the blade from the plow is catching and making the situation worse. Wilma Swank-Pitzer expressed grave concern about people having to move out into the street because of the condition of the sidewalk and stated that she came before the Trustee's 5 years ago and is extremely frustrated because nothing has been done to improve or replace that stretch of sidewalk. Chair of the Board, Samuel Vaillancourt expressed that he understands their frustration, but that it comes down to finances. It was expressed that the Village of Enosburg Falls is trying to create a cycle for maintaining all sidewalks in the Village to try to minimize the financial burden on taxpayers. Sam Vaillancourt stated that the board could not

guarantee if the sidewalk would be repaired next year but would ensure that it would be part of budget discussions starting in January of 2022.

5. Second Access Permit Request 495 Water Tower Road
   Chair of the Board, Sam Vaillancourt recused himself from any discussion or vote on this topic and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair, Heather Moore. Public Works Director Gary Denton stated that the Lussier's are looking to add another access for a sugar pump house and/or a log landing and that he is recommending approval if all standards are followed, and he does not see the need for a "Blind Drive" sign at this location.
   A motion was made by Eli Gabuzda to approve the request if all standards are met and followed. Seconded by Sandy Ferland. Unanimous.
   The meeting was turned back over to Chair Sam Vaillancourt.

6. Friends of the Opera House Request for Opera House Grant Easement
   After technical difficulties getting Suzanne Hull-Casavant on the phone, she came to the meeting as a representative for the Opera House. Suzanne explained that the Opera House was able to obtain a $50,000.00 Grant to make necessary upgrades to the Opera House building, all while maintaining its historical integrity. To move forward with the grant, Suzanne explained that the Opera House needed to obtain a 15-year easement and that the Town of Enosburgh and Village of Enosburg Falls are both listed as owners on the deed and would need to sign off on the easement. Village Manager Jon Elwell stated that he received a draft of the easement yesterday and other than some spelling errors and a reference implying that Town Meetings are held at the Opera House, he did not see any issues with the Trustee's agreeing to the easement. After further discussion, a motion was made by Sandy Ferland to agree to the easement, pending the changes recommended, and to designate Chair Sam Vaillancourt to sign and accept the easement on the Board's behalf. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous.

7. Lincoln Park Permits Requests, Abundant Life Fellowship
   The Abundant Life Fellowship submitted a request to use Lincoln Park on August 21, 2021, to hold a Back to School give away and have food and music. A motion was made by Eli Gabuzda to approve the permit, waiving the fee but adequate insurance is to be provided. Seconded by Sandy Ferland. Unanimous

8. Contract Extension Request, Church Street/St. Albas Street Sidewalk Project
   Scott Goodhue is requesting a 2-week extension for the current sidewalk project due to the weather; the current contract end date is July 16, 2021. A motion was made by Eli Gabuzda to grant the 2-week extension. Seconded by Heather Moore. Unanimous.

9. Bank Signatories Resolution

   A motion was made by Sandy Ferland to have Samuel Vaillancourt, Jon Elwell, Andre Beaulieu and Leonard Charron to stay on all accounts with all banks the Village of Enosburg Falls presently does business with. Seconded by Heather Moore. Unanimous.

   After Abbey Miller read the Description of Power for Peoples Trust Company, a motion was made by Eli Gabuzda to accept all descriptions and to list all 5 Trustees, along with the Village Manager Jon Elwell, Director of Finance Abbey Miller and Village Clerk/Treasurer Andre Beaulieu to have the authority under each Description of Power. Seconded by Sandy Ferland. Unanimous.

10. Manager's Report

- ARPA Local Recovery Funds – Per the Board's directive at the last meeting, Jon Elwell has registered as the municipality's designated official for the ARPA Local Recovery Funds Program and certified that the Village of Enosburg Falls intends to claim their allocation under this program.
- Act 164 – After correspondences with some Trustee members over the past two weeks, Village Manager Jon Elwell contacted the Village Attorney to review whether the existing Village Ordinance prohibiting marijuana retail sales would still be in effect due to Act 164. It was determined that the present ordinance would be in effect until March 1, 2022. After March 1, 2022, for an establishment to be licensed to sell cannabis in the Village of Enosburg Falls, the voters would need to vote to "opt in" to the program. This vote must be held at an annual meeting or a special meeting. Not taking any action would be the surest way to prevent a business from operating a retail cannabis business within the Village of Enosburg Falls.
- Electric Disconnect Moratorium Extended Until July 15, 2021 - The Electric Disconnect Moratorium was extended from June 30, 2021, to July 15, 2021. The State plans to roll out another program assisting people with their utility bills in the next couple of weeks.
- NEPPA Annual Meeting and Conference – Village Manager Jon Elwell will be attending this year's conference which will be held from August 22nd – August 25th, 2021, in Maine. This will require him to miss the August 24th Trustee Meeting.
- Electric Industrial Tariff Rider – The Village filed for a Pilot Program Special Industrial Rate for up to 2 customers that meet the load requirement, and it has been approved. It is expected that Franklin Foods will be one of the customers. The program is good for 18 months at which time the Village will need to file another tariff requesting to make the rate permanent if the Board of Trustees chooses.

11. Other Business

    Sandy Ferland asked where the money goes from the traffic tickets that are written in the Village. Village Manager Jon Elwell stated that the money is turned over to the Town of Enosburgh, because the Town picks up the law enforcement contract. It was also asked what happened with the SRO that was at the Enosburg High School and typically patrols the Village of Enosburg Falls and the Town of Enosburgh during the summer months, and it was stated that the Village was not made aware of this decision to not have these services for the summer until it was too late, and the 2021 budget was set.

    Sandy Ferland also asked about the Vital Village Project now that the survey results were in. Village Manager Jon Elwell advised that the Management Team has not met yet, but will on July 20th, 2021, where they will analyze the data and recommendations to go before the Board of Trustees. There was discussion about getting a bigger venue for when this item is on the agenda as it is anticipated to have a larger public attendance. Jon stated that he would make some calls to arrange for that once he knows when Dubois & King is prepared to present the findings.

12. Adjourn

    Having no other business, Eli Gabuzda made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbey Miller
Director of Finance

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