Present: Trustees – Samuel Vaillancourt, Heather Moore, Sandra Ferland, Leonard Charron, Eli Gabuzda

 Staff – Jonathan Elwell, Ken Laplant, Brian Ovitt, Laurie Stanley, Gary Denton

 Guests – Gerald Varsey (NWTV), Cindy Weed

Meeting was called to order by Samuel Vaillancourt, Chair at 6:32pm

1. Modifications/Changes to Agenda

There were no modifications to the agenda.

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

1. 2022 Draft Budget

**Public Works/General Fund** – Village Manger Jon Elwell reviewed the additions to the budget per the request of the Trustees from the previous meeting. Wastewater Chief Operator Brian Ovitt was present to discuss a concern with the paving project proposal for Maple Park. Part of the CSO long-term control plan is to camera Maple Park this year to see if any upgrades to the sewer lines need to be made. Due to this it was suggested to wait until 2023 to proceed with the Maple Park Paving project. The Trustees decided to postpone the Maple Park Paving Project until 2023 to allow for the camera work to be completed in 2022. The Trustees also requested that Public Works Director Gary Denton investigate the status of the water lines through Maple Park and pull together figures if they will also need to be upgraded in future years.

Highway Department Crew Leader Ken Laplant further discussed the need for an additional Operator/Laborer position, stating that they will really need someone who either has a CDL or is willing to get their CDL. The Trustees requested that $4,000 be added to the budget in the event the person hired will need to go through training for their CDL. Discussion continued around the purchase of a new dump truck for the Highway Department. The Trustees agreed that a full-size truck was necessary and requested quotes for the next meeting.

**Water Fund** – There were no changes to the Water Fund Budget from the previous meeting.

**Wastewater Fund** – Finance Director Abbey Miller stated the only addition to the Wastewater budget was the addition of funds for replacement of the front gate.

**Electric Fund** – Discussion centered around the Department’s need for a new digger truck. The Trustees requested to see quotes for new digger trucks at the next meeting. Village Manager Jon Elwell stated that with the current budget as is, there would need to be a review for a rate case.

1. Other Business

Village Manager Jon Elwell brought up the Annual Meeting and stated that he has reserved the EMS Building with the Town of Enosburgh for March 8th, 2022. The Trustees also agreed to an informational meeting date and time of March 7th at 6:30pm.

Finance Director Abbey Miller stated that the Village had received notice of a public hearing and site visit regarding the Franklin Food Digester project for Monday January 24th and that she would be attending along with Chief Operator Brian Ovitt and Head Line Technician David Westcom.

1. Executive Session: Personnel

Sandra Ferland made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel item. Seconded by Eli Gabuzda. Unanimous. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:33pm. Heather Moore made a motion to re-enter the Board’s Regular Meeting. Seconded by Sandra Ferland. Unanimous. The Board re-entered its Regular Meeting at 9:13pm. As a result of Executive Session, a motion was made by Eli Gabuzda to form a hiring committee for the Village Manager position consisting of Sam Vaillancourt, Heather Moore, Finance Director Abbey Miller, and Staff Accountant Laurie Stanley and one member of the public to be determined. Seconded by Sandra Ferland. Unanimous.

1. Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Board at this time, Eli Gabuzda made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Leonard Charron. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:16pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbey Miller

Finance Director

***These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at a Regular Board Meeting on January 25, 2022.***