

February 16, 2016

Body:

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, in the Village Hall. Mayor Westcott opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Deputy Mayor Conley, Trustee Blumrick, Trustee Hinkson, Trustee McAvoy, Coordinator Bobbitt, Police Chief Swick, Clerk-Treasurer Schweigert, and Brian Seaman, attorney. Trustee Blumrick led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a resident in attendance, as well. A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee Hinkson, to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2016, meeting. Carried, with all present voting aye. A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Trustee Hinkson, to approve payment of claims on bills submitted on Abstract No. 9-15/16 in the amount of General: \$22,889.55; Water: \$6,415.86; and Sewer: \$18,876.04; for a Total of: \$48,181.45. Carried, with all present voting aye. A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee McAvoy, to approve payrolls 18 and 19 for weeks ending January 23 and February 6, 2016. Carried, with all present voting aye. The Treasurer's report was submitted and accepted for January 2016. The Public Works report was submitted and accepted for January 2016. Discussed tree trimming that is being done on behalf of National Grid. Many unhappy residents. Mr. Bobbitt noted that this saves the Village money, because those are trees that we do not have to trim or take down. The Village and Town Police reports were submitted and accepted for January 2016, with Chief Swick reading the highlights. Discussed parking fines. It is not clear if we are receiving fines for the parking tickets that have been written since the updated law went into effect and cases are now before Royalton Court. Mr. Seaman will look into this. The Building Inspector's report was submitted and accepted for January 2016. The Scout House was inspected and passed. Water and Sewer billing for the quarter ending February 1, 2016: Water: \$50,362.29; Sewer: 49,566.69; for a total of: \$99,928.98 The following resolution was offered by Trustee Hinkson, who moved its adoption, and was seconded by Trustee McAvoy RESOLVED, that the forthcoming General Village Election will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2016, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 9:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, Middleport, New York. The following candidates were nominated for the office and term set forth before each name: POSITIVE ACTION PARTY Trustee: Two-year term Dennis J. McAvoy 10 Church Street Middleport, NY 14105 PEOPLE'S CHOICE PARTY Trustee: Two-year term Thomas C. Conley 61 State Street Middleport, NY 14105 RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be published in the official newspaper of the Village of Middleport as soon as possible, but no later than March 5, 2016. The vote on the above resolution was: Ayes: Deputy Mayor Conley, Trustee Hinkson, Trustee McAvoy, Trustee Blumrick, and Mayor Westcott. Nays: none. Abstentions: none. The resolution was duly adopted. Mayor Westcott advised the Board that he has a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 23 at 1 pm with Rick Watts and Dave Schiavano from the NYS DEC regarding the upcoming remediation. Discussed that these DEC reps are not happy with the bond requirement in the Village's infrastructure protection code. The DEC is willing to offer a guarantee against any damages in future remediation efforts. The required bond cost nearly \$10,000. This issue will be addressed in the future. Trustee McAvoy expressed his concerns regarding the DEC doing what they say they'll do given their past record. Trustee Hinkson asked about the status of the trailer park. FMC has full ownership and they will not be required to remediate it. Clerk Schweigert noted that this is costing the village in water/sewer revenues and when the assessment is lowered since all of the

trailers are now gone, we will also lose tax revenue. FMC hasn't revealed its final plans for the property. Discussed the possibility that FMC could sell the property to a developer and what would ensue to develop the property. Mayor and Village Coordinator are scheduled to meet with a rep from Niagara County Economic Development to review vacant commercial property in the Village. They will promote these properties on their website. Clerk Schweigert updated the Board on the Health Care Consortium. Overall general results were given at a meeting on February 8, 2016. The village will probably save about 14 percent on costs if we join. Discussed that at present there are no costs to continue with this, and Clerk Schweigert urged the Board to continue on the exploratory path. A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Trustee Blumrick, to have the Village of Middleport join in the creation of the Greater Niagara Orleans Municipal Health Care Consortium so long as there is no cost to the Village of Middleport and no binding commitment. Carried with all present voting aye. Trustee McAvoy advised that Board that he, Mayor Westcott, and Village Coordinator Bobbitt met with reps from Wendel Engineering regarding the report that Wendel prepared for upgrades at the Stream Pollution Control Facility. One of the issues was icing of the trickler filter. We are going to try to install a wall to cut the wind chill and prevent this issue in the future. This issue put us in violation of our SPDES license last year. We are asking the NYSDEC to change some of the required test results for future SPDES licenses. Trustee Hinkson asked about borrowing money for the needed upgrades at the plant. Mr. Bobbitt advised we are still working on this. Chief Swick asked that Brent Russell be hired tonight. He will graduate from the academy in May. According to Civil Service, we still have two unfilled part-time police officer positions on our roster. The Town of Royalton is pursuing a contract with the Middleport Police Department and there is a very real possibility that at least one of our current officers will resign before summer is over as he is pursuing other employment. A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee Hinkson, to hire Brent Russell as a police officer part-time effective March 1, 2016, at a rate of \$14 per hour. Carried, with all present voting aye. The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Monday, March 21, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. There being no other business, a motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Conley, to adjourn. Carried, with all present voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Rebecca A. Schweigert Clerk-Treasurer