

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 15, 2021, in the Village Hall. Mayor Westcott opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Deputy Mayor Conley, Trustee Blumrick, Trustee McAvoy, Trustee Barr, Coordinator Bobbitt, Police Chief Swick, Code Enforcement Officer Belson, Clerk-Treasurer VanBuren, Fire Chief Czaja, Dan Seaman, attorney, and Anthony Serianni, law clerk.

Trustee McAvoy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Westcott opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee McAvoy, to approve the minutes of the, February 16, 2021, meeting. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Trustee Blumrick, to approve payment of claims submitted on Abstract No. 10-20/21 in the amount of General: \$51,595.62; Water: \$5,044.10; and Sewer: \$21,289.33; for a Total of: \$77,929.05. This figure also includes Payrolls No. 19 and 20 for weeks ending February 13, 2021, and February 27, 2021. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee Blumrick, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to authorize the following budget transfers in the General Fund:

TO	FROM	AMOUNT
A1420.4	A1210.4	\$ 344.71
A1450.4	A1210.4	202.98
A1640.4	A5110.4	607.82
	TOTAL	\$1,155.51
Carried, with all present voting aye		

The Treasurer's report and the General Fund Cash Flow Forecast was submitted and accepted for February 2021.

The Public Works report was submitted and accepted for February 2021.

The Village and Town Police reports were submitted and accepted for February 2021, with Chief Swick reading the highlights.

The fire report was submitted and accepted for the month of February 2021.

Correspondence

Clerk VanBuren read a resignation letter from Officer Curtis Waugaman who has accepted a position with the Lockport Police Department. The Board accepted with regret.

Clerk VanBuren shared with the Board about a NYCOM webinar regarding the American Rescue Plan Act with Senator Schumer. The webinar was an update about the Federal Funding the Village will be getting, and share the potential uses that will be allowed for the funds.

Clerk VanBuren read an email from Julie Webber, President, Clute-Phillips American Legion Auxiliary about a Walk-a-Thon they would like to hold in the Village on Saturday, April 24, 2021. The Auxiliary requested that Park Avenue be closed off to traffic from Main St to Vernon St for the event, and they need access to an electrical outlet for their speaker system.

The following resolution was offered by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Trustee Blumrick:

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 203 on June 12, 2020, requiring each local government with a police department to convene their police chief and stakeholders in the community to review and develop a plan to improve current police deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, practices, and

WHEREAS, The Plan must be adopted by the municipalities governing board by April 1, 2021, and

WHEREAS, The intent of this collaborative process is to address the particular needs of the communities and promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves of the Village of Middleport Police Reform Report as presented to them on behalf of the Middleport Police Reform Committee.

On a roll call vote, the following were cast: Deputy Mayor Conley - aye; Trustee Barr - aye; Trustee McAvoy - aye; Trustee Blumrick - aye; Mayor Westcott - aye. Nays: none. Abstentions: none. Absent: none. The resolution was unanimously adopted

Mayor Westcott closed the public hearing at 7:18 pm.

Deputy Mayor Conley offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law § 3-c

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Middleport as follows:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

It is the intent of this Local Law to allow the Village of Middleport to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing April 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

SECTION 2. AUTHORITY

This Local Law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law § 3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government's governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

SECTION 3. TAX LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Middleport is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing April 1, 2021 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law § 3-c.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court's order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this Local Law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon the filing with the Secretary of State.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee McAvoy and duly put to vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

AYES:	Richard J. Westcott
	Wayne B. Blumrick
	Dennis J. McAvoy
	Dorothy J. Barr
	Thomas C. Conley

NOES:	NONE
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The resolution was declared adopted.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to approve the preliminary revenues for the 2021-2022 Budget as follows: General Fund - \$541,633.95, Water Fund - \$242,595.00, and Sewer Fund - \$295,250.00. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Trustee Blumrick, to authorize the following hourly rates and salaried wages for Village employees for the 2021-2022 Budget year:

- Chief John Swick: annual salary of \$77,263.42 plus \$1,050 longevity pay
- Sgt. Jeffrey Waters: hourly wage of \$26.23 plus \$800 longevity pay
- St. Roland Johnson: hourly wage of \$26.23 plus \$550 longevity pay
- Officer P/T Joshua Mandaville: hourly wages of \$19.77
- Officer P/T Jonathan Wolcott: hourly wages of \$17.34
- Compliance Officer: annual salary of \$2,500
- Village Coordinator Bryan Bobbitt: annual salary of \$61,474.66
- MEO Douglas Eggert: hourly wage of \$24.47 plus \$1,050 longevity pay
- WWTP Operator Trainee Justin Adams: hourly wage of \$22.43 until reaches 4 years of employment in February 2022 when it increases to \$24.47

- Laborer Sarah Bottorff: hourly wage of \$19.21 until reaches 4 years of employment in November 2021 when it increases to \$20.50 per hour
- Cleaner Shelly Stoddard: hourly wage of \$13.53 per hour
- Clerk-Treasurer Lisa VanBuren: annual salary of \$46,410.00
- Deputy Clerk Sarah Quackenbush: hourly wage of \$18.73
- Building Inspector Brian Belson: annual salary of \$6,991.56
- Mayor and Board of Trustees annual salary will remain the same as 2020-2021 budget. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee Blumrick, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Conley, to approve the preliminary expenditures for the 2021-2022 Budget as follows: General Fund - \$1,220,382.43, Water Fund - \$249,023.74, and Sewer Fund - \$301,439.04. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Conley, to approve the preliminary tax levy for the 2021-2022 Budget year as \$628,058.77 with a full value tax rate of \$10.30 per thousand and an actual tax rate of \$11.70 per thousand. Carried, with all present voting aye.

Old Business

A motion was made by Trustee Blumrick, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Conley, to accept the proposal from General Code to convert the Village's Code into an electronic format so that it can be used in their eCode360 platform. There will be a link from the Village's website to our Code in eCode360. Carried, with all present voting aye.

There was discussion about what price the Board will set for an additional refuse cart and the yearly disposal service fee associated with that extra cart. The Board decided to postpone their decision until the Reorganization meeting on April 5, 2021, to set those fees.

A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Conley, to authorize Mayor Westcott to sign the Shared Service Agreement between the Village of Middleport and the Royalton Hartland Central School District. Carried, with all present voting aye.

New Business

Town of Royalton Supervisor Dan Bragg asked to be put on the agenda for April 19, 2021. He would like to discuss LOSAP (Length of Service Awards Program) proposal for volunteer firefighters. He is also bringing Mr. Floss to speak about it as well.

At this time Chief Swick presented a Civil Service application to the Board for Stephen Gross. Chief Swick would like to hire Mr. Gross as a part-time police officer. The application was passed around to the Trustees to review, and a decision will be made later in the meeting.

Village Elections will be Tuesday, March 16, 2021. Polling is noon to 9 pm at the Village Hall.

The Annual Reorganization meeting is Monday, April 5, 2021, at 7 pm.

A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to set the Public Hearing for the 2021-2022 Budget at the Annual Reorganization meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021, at 7 pm. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Trustee Blumrick, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of consultation with the Village's Attorney. Carried, with all present voting aye.

Executive Session opened at 7:35 p.m.

A motion was made at by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to return to General Session. Carried, with all present voting aye.

General Session reconvened at 8:23 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee McAvoy, and seconded by Deputy Mayor Conley, to hire Stephen Gross as a part-time police officer starting on Saturday, April 10, 2021, with compensation of \$17 per hour. Carried, with all present voting aye.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee Blumrick, to hold a public hearing at the April 19, 2021, Board meeting regarding adding a debt service charge of \$12.50 per quarter to the sewer rents. This charge would help offset the Village's loan for \$1,915,676.00 which is a result of the NYS DEC mandated upgrades at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Carried, with all present voting aye.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, April 19, 2021, at 7 pm.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Deputy Mayor Conley, and seconded by Trustee Barr, to adjourn. Carried, with all present voting aye.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. VanBuren

Clerk-Treasurer