

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, July 16, 2018

Present: Mayor Neville, Trustees Morey, Conger and Walpole, Nancy Niswender - Clerk/Treas, Chad Shurtleff - DPW Supv, Ben Nelson - Fire Chief, Mike Andersen - Code Enf, Steve Teeter- Elec Utl. Supv., Mike Neville GFD, Lt. Tim Williams, Police OIC, Judy Isengard, Patty Miller, Angela Conger, Bob Quinn, Lee Shurtleff, Admin Charles Rankin arrived 7:45pm, Trustee Holl absent.

Mayor Neville opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2018 board meeting, seconded by Trustee Walpole.

Trustee Morey made a motion to approve the claims presented for review, and to adjust the budget as follows:

General Fund

Street Maintenance Capital -5110.41 \$19,247 to State Aid – CHIPS- 3501 - \$19,247

Parks & Rec Grant add Revenue - 2070 - \$15,600 and Expend -7310.11 \$12,600 & 7310.41 \$3,000

seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried. The above adjustments and claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

Abstract 1

GENERAL	\$ 44,811.66	ELECTRIC	\$ 77,494.22
WATER	\$ 4,020.00	JOINT REC	\$ 2,990.30
SEWER	\$ 19,354.07	PARK PROJECT	\$ 2,139.97
BUILDING	\$ 1,520.00		

Monthly department reports.

Electric:

Supv Teeter reported:

Due to rain – the annual maintenance for the substation has been cancelled and will be rescheduled.

New primary and transformer set on 113 Church Street, 9 of 13 meters have been installed.

Elm Street – upgrade service to 200 amps.

There have been numerous calls due to storms. Some large branches have come down and cleaned up.

On Church Street, a tree had come down on customers property. We helped a tree outfit by getting electric and cable lines down so they could take a tree down.

Last Monday NY Power came in and calibrated meters.

Painted parking spaces on Main St. and Muni parking lot parking spaces.

Got Mike out to do some climbing for experience and driving to help get his CDL.

DPW:

Working up to June 22nd worked getting pool up and running. A few days of getting everyone properly trained on chlorine sampling. Park & Pool area are looking good.

Gerald Moses Drive, mowing and trimming being done.

Elm Street – Storm water issues getting some catch basins and repairs so the water flows better.

We have been doing some hot asphalt patching around town.

Summer crew working out well with trimming and mowing. Rebuilding the flower box sign on Pasadena.

Paving to begin down on the South End side Streets, currently working on quotes from Suit-Kote.

Mayor Neville mentioned the park looks great and the new tables and umbrellas are being used.

Groton Fire Department:

Mike Neville reported: Jr. Firefighter Summer Camp a success. There were about 75 participants each night. There was a lot of support from businesses with expenses. Building Raffle ticket sales are moving well – we are down to 100 tickets for Olde Home Days.

Chief Ben Nelson reported: About 500 calls ytd. Responded to a mutual aid call for a structural fire in Slaterville. Other Department numbers are dwindling and we are being called out further and further. Most are standby's.

Code Enforcement

Code Officer Anderson reported:

YTD - 18 window/door permits - \$90,000 est work, 16 Building permits \$474,000 est work.

Had a talk with Alvin Howell – (Wastewater Treatment Plant) - about grease at treatment plant and asked Mike to include this in his inspection. He inspected some locations. Main Street Pizza and they didn't have a grease trap – these are not grandfathered in. He informed them they need to put one in.

113 Church Street walk through – 2-3 apartments are ready. Owner inquired if he could begin renting the completed apartments. I replied -as long as sprinkler system is ready and the Fire Department agrees then he could issue a Certificate of Occupancy.

I visited the Senior Center – it is coming along well.

The Cheese factory 12,000 square foot addition is coming along good. Officer Anderson inspects the construction.

Police Report

Lt. Williams reported:

Currently 948 calls for the year, which is down from last year.

Two new hires have begun working. One of the officers has his peace officer's status and is working toward his 160 hours for his police certificate.

We have found phase II training at Cortland County to get training started for our 2nd new hire.

We have had an issue with the unmarked vehicle, but is back in service for now.

Police Commissioner Tom Milbyer has resigned as he is moving out of the Village.

Traffic Control went well for the July fireworks and the Vietnam Veterans Run this past weekend.

Groton Olde Home days should be covered with the help of the additional police officers.

Joint Recreation:

Trustee Conger reported– New Arts Director at the park is doing very well.

Letter from parent (with child with special needs) commending Justin Searles for his work with him at the pool.

Farmers Market begins tomorrow for the kids to take food home.

New Grants – from Park Foundation – Groton Harvest Planning \$14,000, Groton School based Innovations \$37,800, Village of Groton – Groton Harvest Summer Feeding Program \$8,300, Groton Summer Harvest Youth Employment \$7,300.

All camps have registrations – Fire Camp is the largest.

New pavilion rental forms on the web site with pictures of the pavilions.

Community conversation for community night out. Jennifer Dean Foote is hoping some of the Village Board will be able to participate.

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

Trustee Walpole reported:

Alvin Howell reported that things are running smooth at the plant. He has ordered a new chlorinator which should be delivered in the next couple of weeks.

New lawn tractor has arrived and is running well. With the help of the summer employee they are cleaning up and giving the area a facelift.

Park:

Trustee Walpole made a visit to park and spoke with the pool director and offered help if needed.

Public Comments:

Angela Conger reported on Community Night Out:

Girls Scouts presented on the Community Night Out and invited the board to attend and reviews the list of activities. August 7th 5:30-8:30 – Asking Community members to help out and the Board of Trustees to join the community corner.

Thank you to the Village for sponsoring so that they could get a Community Grant.

There will be a bottle and can drive this Saturday to help support the event.

Bob Quinn Q&D Management presented on behalf of the Groton Housing Authority Rehabilitation Project. Q & D is the Property Management Company for Groton Housing Authority.

They have received 2.8 million in grant funds for the project from the USDA Rural Development Agency. This is a complete rehabilitation of the whole unit. He reported that they are very close to budget. They have come across items that need to be updated that are not up to current code. The change order is \$61,000. They have covered about \$31,000 and need to make up for the other \$30,000.

He commented: "We are requesting a refund of the \$8,000 initial building permit cost due to the fact essentially the Village owns the property".

The second item has to do with the paving. They were wondering if they could get in on our current bids, or could they utilize the help of DPW with the backhoe with some test digs. If they cannot find a way to reduce costs they will not be able to complete the paving. They will be on site in September.

The project is going extremely well. It will be very beautiful when it has been completed.

Trustee Walpole – Over the past 40 years with the bathrooms being vented is there a problem of mold, mildew? They have not found any evidence.

The Board will discuss the items presented.

Trustee Conger made a motion, seconded by: Trustee Walpole to approve the Mayor to authorize the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL AND
ENDORISING OF THE 2018 NYMS GRANT PROGRAM**

Resolution by the Village Board of Trustees approving and endorsing the Village of Groton in its application to NYS Homes and Community Renewal for funding under the 2018 NYMS Grant Program.

WHEREAS, the Village of Groton desires to apply for up to \$500,000 financial assistance through the 2018 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) under the NYMS Program; and

WHEREAS, the application proposes funding to assist property owners to complete building renovations in the Main Street target area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding will contribute to ongoing community revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires that the applicant obtain the approval and endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Groton approves and endorses the 2018 NYMS application for assistance prepared and to be submitted by the Village of Groton.

Passed by the following vote of all Board Members voting in favor thereof:

Affirmative: 4

Negative: 0

Abstain: 0

The resolution was duly thereupon declared adopted.

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve the Special Events permit for Groton Olde Home Days for Thursday, August 23 thru Saturday, August 25, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion to reroute the Main Street traffic for the parade for Olde Home Days, seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried.

Trustee Walpole made a motion for the use of public lands for Olde Home Days for the parking lot between 115 and 129 Main Street and the public areas along Conger Blvd, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion for to approve the Noise Variance Request – American Legion Club for Groton Olde Home Days 8/23-8/25 seconded by Trustee Conger, carried.

Mayor Neville appointed the following positions (to begin after phase two training):
Dannylee Austin – PT Police Officer, at a rate of \$20 per hour.

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve Travel to Basic Accounting School - October 23-25 SUNY Oneonta for Kelly Bishop. Seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion for to approve ACH transactions on the First National Bank of Groton Accounts. Seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Building Project update:

Clerk Niswender reported:

Thirty interested parties showed up at the informational meeting. RFP's due next Monday and we expect to get quite a few submittals. Interviews to begin that week and hopefully have a firm selected early August.

Playground update Landscape Structures will be coming to do some free updates to the playground equipment.

Chief Nelson - GFD presented the following new volunteer fire applications that have not yet been presented to the Groton Fire Board, which was rescheduled to this Wednesday, due to Jr Fire Fighter Camp. These applicants have gone through the interview process and need to be expedited due to training dates that will start before the next Village Board Meeting.

Lane Ostrander – Conger Hose - Has the opportunity to attend fire training – and needs to be approved in order to attend.

Pamela Cronk - Pioneers- To start EMT class.

Ad'l Public Comments:

Patty Miller - Chair Person for the Groton Authority Board.

Judy will be leaving around the first of the year and is wondering who will be managing the replacement. Q&D pays the Chair Person through the Groton Housing Authority funds.

Patty would like to know how the process is handled.

Trustee Conger made a motion to go into executive session at 8:00 pm.

Trustee Conger made a motion to move out of executive session at 9:13pm.

Trustee Walpole made a motion made to adjourn at 9:14, seconded by Trustee Conger.

Nancy Niswender
Village Clerk