**Minutes**

**Village of Aurora Board of Trustees**

**Regular Meeting**

**May 21, 2014**

**Held at the Aurora Firehouse Meeting Room**

**Present:** Mayor Bonnie Bennett, Trustees Grace Bates, Janet Murphy, Alan Ominsky, and Kit Van Orman

**Others Present:** Clerk Ann Balloni, Treasurer Deborah Brooks, Historian Dr. Linda Schwab, CEO Michael Piechuta, David Brooks, Alan Clugston, and Laura Holland

**Call to Order:** Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:02pm and all rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** On motion by Bates, seconded by Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the April 16, 2014 minutes.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Announcements**

**Mayor:**

* Thank you to the Inns of Aurora for a lovely reception on May 15th at Rowland House.
* Accompanied DPW Superintendent, Kurt Wilmot, to Clearcove for information on a sewer system that requires less electricity at the onset and creates usable energy via a central digester. The concept is intriguing, though not financially viable for Aurora.
* Wells College water/sewer rates are staying the same.
* Resignations were received from Stacy Hotaling (village cleaner) and board members Alan Connors (Planning Board) and Patty Mattingly (Zoning Board of Appeals).

**Clerk:**

* Clerk Balloni and DPW Superintendent Kurt Wilmot attended a Discovery Stakeholders meeting on Flood Plain Administration on May 13th which the Safety Committee will discuss on May 28th.
* The June Village Association meeting is in Fair Haven on June 17th.
* The quarterly sales tax distribution list is included in the Board packets.
* Camp Gregory is having an Open house on June 8th from 1-3pm.
* The Aurora Arts and Merchants Association is sponsoring the Aurora Fire Department Appreciation Day picnic on June 8th from 12-2pm at the Aurora Firehouse.
* The fire department siren is fixed and functioning.

**Visitors:** Mayor Bennett welcomed all visitors and there were no comments.

**Treasurer’s Report:** On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to accept the May Treasurer’s report.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Budget Modifications**

**General Fund:**

$2,800.98 From A1990.4 Contingent Account

To A1410.1 Clerk/Deputy Clerk - Personal Services

$96.39 From A1990.4 Contingent Account

To A7550.4 Celebrations – Contractual

$548.13 From A1510.4 Street maintenance – Contractual

To A5110.2 Street Maintenance - Equipment

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Van Orman, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications for the General Fund.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky and Van Orman.

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Water Fund:**

$164.03 From F1990.4 Contingent Account

To F8340.41 Transmission & Distribution - Utilities

$463.42 From F1990.4 Contingent Account

To F9060.8 Hospital and Medical Insurance

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Van Orman, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications for the Water Fund.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously

**Sewer Fund:**

$4,318.07 From G8130.44 Sewage Treatment – Equipment Repairs

To G8130.2 Sewage Treatment – Equipment

$1,483.85 From G8130.4 Sewage Treatment – Miscellaneous Contractual

To G8130.41 Sewage Treatment – Utilities

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to accept the Budget Modifications for the Sewer Fund

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Encumbrances**

Ms. Brooks noted that she was waiting for the bill for sludge removal and hoped to be able to pay for it in this year’s budget.

$2,200.00 From G8130.47 Sewage Treatment – Sludge Removal

On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the Encumbrance.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously

**Transfers**

$2,000.00 From: A1620.22 Buildings – Patrick’s Tavern To: HD Patrick Tavern Money Market Savings

$4,232.33 From: A1620.23 Buildings – Firehouse To General Fund Firehouse Repair Reserve

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board voted to approve the Reserve Proposal Transfers.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Abstract #12**

On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the General fund Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #407-411, 412-421, 423, 426-440, 442-444, 446, and 448-450.

Total $60,762.79

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the Water Fund Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #421, 424, 431, 437, 443, 445, 447, and 449.

Total $4,624.23

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Murphy, the Village Board voted to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #12 for payment.

Voucher #408-410, 412, 418, 421-423, 425, 427, 432, 441, 443, and 445.

Total $17,519.90

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee Reports**

**Code Enforcement Officer:** Officer Piechuta submitted his monthly report (attached) which included 5 permits issued and 3 inspections.

**Historian:** Dr. Schwab submitted her monthly report along with a letter to the Community Preservation Panel (both attached). Dr. Schwab requests clarification from the Village Board regarding landmark status of buildings within the Historic District. To allow the Village Board ample time to review, this issue will be discussed at a special meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2014.

**Buildings and Grounds:** Trustee Ominsky reported he continues to make progress updating the Village computers and setting up back up procedures to the Cloud.

Mayor Bennett reported that she and CEO Piechuta investigated Sheila Edmund’s house as possible village office space, but decided it should function as a residence as it is in a residential zone.

**Parks and Recreation:** Trustee Murphy consulted with Village DPW employee, Mike White, on purchasing a climber for the Memorial Playground. They recommend purchasing a permanent structure at a cost of approximately $1,400.00 plus shipping and handling.

Alan Clugston questioned if the playground is used and several in attendance remarked seeing local children, children who attend the library story hour, and Peachtown students at the playground. Treasurer Brooks recommended encumbering $2,700.00 from this year’s budget earmarked for this fiscal year for playground equipment.

as the Clerk was asked to place the order by the board.

On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board approved the $2,700.00 encumbered for playground equipment.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously

**Streets and Public Safety:** Discussion ensued regarding the necessity of the speed bumps on Court St. Mr. Clugston strongly suggested their removal but Trustee Murphy, as a resident of Court St, believes they are needed to slow down those who use Court St to bypass the village commercial district.

Trustee Van Orman questioned the possibility of making Main St a 20mph zone in front of Peachtown School. As the road is owned by the New York State Department of Transportation, Trustee Van Orman will investigate the viability.

Mayor Bennett reported the Village Parking Study is currently focused on data collection.

**Water and Sewer:** Trustee Bates reported the Village received a favorable water quality report from the Health Department. Discussion ensued whether the Village should participate in an Inter-municipal Cayuga Lake Watershed Organization. The Board asked Trustee Bates to investigate if there is a viable plan for the lake and report if there is other municipal support.

**Old Business**

**Fitness Trail:** Design Connects Plan of Action, including Right-of-Way agreements and maintenance, will be discussed at a special meeting on May 28, 2014.

**Comprehensive Plan:** Trustee Bates recommended updating the Village Comprehensive Plan and the Village Board tabled discussion until the June meeting.

**New Business**

**VB Resolution #14-29: 2013-2014 Delinquent Water and Sewer Accounts**

**RESOLVED** that there be levied and assessed against real property of the Village of Aurora, the following sums for the fiscal year 2013-2014 totaling $2,804.17.

FIRST: Trustee Ominsky

SECOND: Trustee Murphy

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Contracts Renewals**

**Village Attorney:** On motion by Trustee Van Orman, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the contract with Cheney and Blair, LLP.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Youth Program (Town of Ledyard):** On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve the Youth Program contract requesting $2,500.00 in funding from the Town of Ledyard.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Aurora Free Library:** Discussion ensued regarding donating $3000.00 to the Aurora Free Library compared with $1800.00 to the Morgan Opera House. As the library now receives funding from the Southern Cayuga School District, the Village Board decided to give an equal amount of $2400.00 to both entities that will take effect with the 2015 donation.

On motion by Trustee Bates, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to approve donating $2,400.00 to the Aurora Free Library from the 2014-2015 budget.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Morgan Opera House:** On motion by Ominsky, seconded by Van Orman, the Village Board voted to approve donating $2,400.00 to the Morgan Opera House from the 2014-2015 budget.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Aurorafest:** On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board voted to donate $2,750.00 to the Aurorafest Committee from the 2014-2015 budget.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Williamson Law Book Tax Software:** On motion by Trustee Ominsky, seconded by Trustee Van Orman, the Village Board voted to approve the Tax Software contract with Williamson Law Book from June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

**Board Appointments**

**VB RESOLUTION NO. 2014-30: TO APPOINT MARIE TAYLOR TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**WHEREAS**: Patty Mattingly has resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals creating a vacancy; and

**WHEREAS**: Marie Taylor has expressed interest in serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** on the nomination of the Mayor, the Village Board of Aurora approves the appointment of Marie Taylor to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

MOVED: Ominsky

SECONDED: Van Orman

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Carried unanimously.

Additional Board Appointments will be discussed at a special Village Board meeting on May 28, 2014.

**Lifeguards**

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Bates, the Village Board authorized Mayor Bennett to hire the summer lifeguards and Trustee Murphy will announce at the June meeting.

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Ominsky, the Village Board adjourned the May 21, 2014 meeting at 8:55pm

AYES: Bennett, Bates, Murphy, Ominsky, and Van Orman

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni

Village Clerk