

**Village of Millport
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2024**

Meeting brought to order @ 7:00 pm. by Mayor Damon

Pledge of Allegiance & A Moment of Silence

Present: Mayor Damon, Trustees Auld, Trimber, Grow, Kraus

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Session One)

Priscilla McGrain, 1996 Maple Street requested that the trees along the Mill Street bridge be trimmed back. Mayor Damon stated he will ask the Village Groundskeeper to take care of it. She also asked what was being done about the house at 2005 Crescent Street. The Mayor stated that the Code Enforcement Officer is taking care of this issue.

Communications:

- Normal magazines and flyers
- A letter was received from the County Attorney informing the Village Board that the sales tax allocation rate will remain the same for calendar years 2025 and 2026.

Minutes & Bank Statements: Trustee Auld moved, seconded by Trustee Grow to dispense with reading & accept both as submitted in writing. VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried.

Superintendent of Streets:

- Mayor Damon requested that the Clerk's office do a follow-up contact with the State DOT regarding the sluiceways by Benway's and Sieberkrob's. This job was supposed to be taken care of before winter.

Water Technician Report:

- The Mayor read a letter that was sent by Certified Mail to the owner of the Catherine Trailer Park informing him that all future billing will be billed for what the meter reading shows – all former agreements have been terminated.
- The Village has received the first engineering invoice for the WIIA grant project in the amount of \$72,128.40. The Clerk is working with the financial advisors (BPD) for a drawdown from the grant prior to payment of the invoice.
- Mike Coats reported that the property located at 4143 Watkins Road (that has been empty since 2009) has requested to have the water turned back on. It will need a new meter and meter box. The board's consensus was to move ahead with this request but to inform the Code Officer so that he can monitor whether or not someone is living in the trailer.
- Mayor Damon stated that the Village has received the Millport Tank Water Report prepared by Atlantic Underwater Services, Inc. As expected, there are several areas that do not meet current regulations. One item (the painting of the inside and outside of the tank) will require that there be no water in the tank for 30 days. This project will need to be planned in advance to ensure residents are not without water for that period of time.

Fire Council: Chief's report and CHO report received.

- Chief May reported that the Fire Department has received a grant from the Gary Sinise Foundation for \$35,145 for Battery operated rescue tools and a grant from Harbor Freight for \$200 for the purchase of tools. He has applied for a \$10,000 grant through CHEMTREX.

- The Department has had a tough couple of weeks with two extremely bad MVA's. They held a mental health training after the accidents. He stated that he is proud of all the members of the Department.
- The Department has approved two members to new positions. A motion was made by Trustee Grow, seconded by Trustee Auld to approve Gary Davis, moving from Second Assistant Chief to First Assistant Chief and James Knuppenburg from Third Assistant Chief to Second Assistant Chief and leaving the Third Assistant Chief position vacant until the 2025 election. VOTE: All affirmative. Carried.

Code Enforcement: Report received.

- A violation notice has been sent to the property at 2005 Crescent Street.
- Questions were raised about the house on stilts now owned by Chemung County. Last month it was reported that the County would begin mowing the high weeds on the property and to date it has not been done. The Mayor will ask the Code Enforcement Officer to contact the County regarding this.

Planning Board:

- Mary Hartsock, the Chair of the Planning Board stated that the owner of Brookhaven Trailer Park has been in contact and has new plans for the park to include temporary parking of campers by tourist who wish to visit the area. More will be forthcoming.

Recreation & Youth Activities:

- Trustee Auld reported that the Village's Harvest Party is being held October 12. It will include a hay ride and free pumpkin. The families wishing to participate will need to supply transportation and supervision. It is open to people who live outside the Village limits.

Old Business:

- All the Board Members have received an updated copy of the Code of Ethics which addresses the Board members and Code of Conduct. Trustees Auld & Trimmer have worked on defining the portions of each Code which refer to "media". The board reviewed the changes and Mayor Damon moved, seconded by Trustee Grow to approve the changes and to put them into effect immediately. VOTE: 4 Affirmative. Carried. Updated copies will be distributed to all officials and employees of the Village. Mayor Damon thanked Amy and Aaron for their work on updating these Codes. Since they are supposed to be updated annually, this item will be placed on the Agenda for the first board meeting of each year.

- Budget Amendment needed for paying Fire Dept for 1/2 of truck loan as approved at the August meeting. It is an expense not included in the original budget.

Resolved by Trustee Trimmer, seconded by Mayor Damon to make the following budget amendment to the 2024/25 Village budget: Increase the Fire Department Expense line for equipment A3410.2 by \$7,708.00 (new budget amount to be \$39,290) and increase the General Fund "Fund Balance" amount by \$7,708 (new amount of Fund Balance \$52,708) with the funding for the Fund Balance increase to come from the Capital Reserve – Fire bank account. VOTE: 4 Affirmative. Carried.

Future loan payments will be included in the budgets for those fiscal years.

New Business:

- Mayor Damon will check with the Town Highway Supervisor about clearing the trees and brush around the Mill Street bridge.
- Mayor Damon also stated that he has inspected the fencing at the basketball court that is in need of repair. He will ask the Town Highway Supervisor if they are willing to clean up the trees in the area. He requested that the Planning Board begin looking into grant opportunities to update the Village's playground area.

Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Auld and seconded by Trustee Grow to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees requests to pay the prepared list of bills totaling \$19,950.61.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes the payment in the amount of \$9,162.19 from the General Fund
\$7,010.17 from the Water Fund
\$3,778.25 from the Trust & Agency Fund.

Vote Ayes: Auld, Damon, Trimber, Grow. Vote carried.

Public Comments:

Randy Gordon, 3915 Watkins Road, Millport, NY was present to request a raise in his position of Groundskeeper for the Village of Millport. He stated he will look at the Mill Street bridge to determine if he can remove any of the growth overflowing into the roadway.

Next meeting scheduled for October 7, 2024 @ 7 pm.

AJOURNED: A motion was made by Trustee Auld and seconded by Mayor Damon to adjourn the meeting @ 8:00 p.m. **Vote:** Ayes: All Ayes. Vote carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Joan Santulli – Deputy Village Clerk/Treasurer