

**Village of Millport
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
October 7, 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) None

Communications:

- Normal magazines and flyers
- A letter was received from the NY State Comptroller informing the Village that an annual State Aid payment in the amount of \$5,325 has been processed.
- A letter from the State DOT with instructions for applying for CHIPS funding for street repairs. The amount the Village now has in available State funding is over \$57,000. Mayor Damon stated that there are no plans for street repairs this year. The funding will roll over into next year.
- A letter from the State DOT that there are changes to the guidelines allowing the use of preventative maintenance on Village streets. Preventative measures can take place now after 5 years instead of the former 10-year allowance. This will enhance the flexibility and effectiveness of maintaining our Village streets when using State funding. The Mayor stated that he believes this applies to streets that have oil & stone and not blacktop.

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:

- The Clerk contacted the local State DOT representative regarding the sluiceways by Benway's and Sieberkrob's. He stated that DOT has cleared the brush and the remaining sediment will flow out naturally.

Water Technician Report:

- The Mayor gave an update on the recent water main break. Our water technicians and representatives from Hunt Engineering and the NY Rural Water Association spent 4 days before locating and repairing the line. He stated that the only way he knows to contact the most Village residents of any issues is to use Facebook.
- The Village has received a second engineering invoice for the WIIA grant project which shows they are 60% done with the project. The new invoice is in the amount of \$36,064.20. The Clerk is continuing to work with the financial advisors (BPD) for a drawdown from the grant prior to payment of these invoices.
- Dean Wenzel, our Water Technician reported that he has been monitoring the meter reading at the Catherine Trailer Park on Johnson Hollow Road. They have been using approximately 21,000 gallons of water each day for the last 12 days. The amounts to 40% of the water being pumped by the Village.
- Trustee Trimber raised the issue to discuss the need to raise the cost of water being paid by residents on the system and also to consider reducing the number of days given to pay the bill prior to receiving late fees. Mayor Damon stated that he will research what other local municipalities are charging for their resident's water use.

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

- Chief May reported the Department answered 19 alarms in September. OSHA training will take place either this month or in November. They collected approximately \$14,000 with their "Hit the Helmet" fund raiser. An application for a grant of \$10,000 was given to the National Volunteer Fire Council.

Code Enforcement: Report received.

- Ken Ripley reported that he has been working with two residents on cleaning up their properties on Maple Street. He had to issue new violation notices with a deadline of October 21st to complete the clean-up.
- He has spoken to the owner of the property on the corner of Church and Main Streets regarding the bushes blocking the view to pull out on the highway. She stated that she will trim and cut back what is needed.
- The owner of Brookhaven Trailer park has met with Mr. Ripley regarding his new plans for the property. The project is moving to the design and engineering phase. The owner, Mr. Jaynes, is now working with the County Health Department to get the septic approved. He plans to bring the project to the Planning Board in the spring for approval. Mr. Ripley stated that the Village will be pleased with the plans for the property.

Planning Board:

- Mayor Damon is appointing Janice Murray, 5529 State Street, to the remainder of the one-year vacant term on the Planning Board. Trustee Auld moved, seconded by Trustee Trimber to approve this appointment to the Planning Board. VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried. The Mayor asked Mary Hartsock, the Chair of the Planning Board, to contact Janice about meeting dates and times.
- Ms. Hartsock stated that the Planning Board has contacted Chemung County in reference to any grants that may be available for playground equipment. Their representative is busy right now but when things slow down is willing to assist the Planning Board in searching for grants.
- Ms. Hartsock stated that the Planning Board is working on their own comprehensive plan for the Village. There are grants and programs available to assist them and possible help pay to develop this plan.
- A question was raised about residents owning roosters in the Village since the Village Code states there is to be no "fowl" housed inside Village limits. The Code Enforcement Officer will look into this matter.

Recreation & Youth Activities:

- Trustee Auld reported that the Village's Harvest Party is being held this Saturday. There are ten Village kids signed up. The Clerk stated that Meygan Auld has received an advance check to pay for any registration fees or supplies needed for the party.

Old Business:

- The revised Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct has been handed out to elected officials, fire personnel and Village employees.
- It is expected that the concrete floor at Whitney's garage will be finished this month.

New Business:

- The Clerk's office has submitted the Village books for the fiscal year 2023-2024 to the board for review. Copies of the pages from the Village Quickbooks program and from the Annual Report that was submitted to the State Comptroller were reviewed by board members to be sure numbers matched.

Village Accident, Sickness, Death It was reported that John Hopper passed away this month.

Bills:

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

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees requests to pay the prepared list of bills totaling \$16023.60.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes the payment in the amount of \$11,767.01 from the General Fund
\$755.58 from the Water Fund
\$3,501.01 from the Trust & Agency Fund.

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

Public Comments:

- Dean Wenzel, of Quest Northeast submitted an invoice for a chlorine pump that was sent to him instead of the Village. He requested that the Clerk research to see if it has been paid. He stated that in his position of Water Technician a report on Lead Service Lines is due by October 14th. He requested that the Clerk's office provide him with a list of all service addresses that receive water from the Village. Also, an annual sampling of the water system is needed this month. Wadsworth provides this as a free sampling of the water. Microbac will perform the testing.

It was stated that Fire Prevention for the Millport Fire Department is Saturday, October 12, 2024.

Next meeting scheduled for November 4, 2024 @ 7 pm.

AJOURNED: A motion was made by Mayor Damon and seconded by Trustee Auld to adjourn the meeting @ 8:20 p.m. **Vote:** Ayes: All Ayes. Vote carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Joan Santulli – Deputy Village Clerk/Treasurer