

**Village of Millport
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2023**

Mayor Damon brought the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Present: Kraus, Auld, Grow, Yontz, Damon

Pledge of Allegiance & A Moment of Silence

Communications:

- Regular magazines and advertisements
- A letter was received from Maggs Law Offices with updated hourly rates for legal services to the Village for 2023. No new agreement is necessary.

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

Superintendent of Streets: Nothing new to report.

Water Technician Report:

- Regarding the Water System Field Compliance Report received in November with issues listed that must be taken care of within 60 days, there has been no response from Dean Wenzel regarding the required purchases. Issues needing attention included replacing or repairing the chlorine booster pump, obtaining spare diffuser parts and repairing some fencing. Mr. Damon reported that the fencing has been repaired at a cost of \$1,800. He also stated that he will contact Mr. Wenzel to see why he has not responded to the Village's requests.
- Mr. Grow reported that one light has been installed at the pump house and another will be installed on the fence. New locks have been installed on the gates.
- The Clerk reported that there is still no response from Dean Wenzel on what type of meter is needed to be purchased for the pit at the Catherine Trailer Park. The park owner is still receiving an estimated billing each quarter which may be less than he would owe if the water usage was being metered.
- The Village received a letter from David Morgan, Sr. regarding the state of the water at his residence since the break in the main in November. The water is a milky color. He has stated that he should not be responsible for paying for water that he cannot use. Mr. Coats stated that there is chlorine in the water in the drainage ditch near Mr. Morgan's house and that he and Mr. Wenzel have not found any leaks in the system. He stated that he needs to be able to check in Mr. Morgan's house for leaks or to detect if there is air in his water lines that may be the cause of the problem with his water. A motion was made by Mr. Damon, seconded by Mr. Yontz that the Village does not charge Mr. Morgan for water until the problem can be eliminated and that Mr. Morgan is not responsible for any late fees that were added to his account. VOTE: *Ayes:* All ayes. Vote carried.
- The Clerk has received verification from the Town of Veteran that the land on Millport Hill Road that houses the water tank is indeed in the name of the Village of Millport.

Fire Council: Fire Chiefs Report & C.H.O reports – reports received.

- Chief Cleveland reported that the Village's FEMA grant application for a new Tanker has again been denied. Two of their trucks are over 20 years old. The Fire Company plans to begin looking into the possibility of financing the tanker replacement. Financing options would need to be

approved by the Village Board. They will also discuss whether to apply again for the FEMA grant.

- Chief Cleveland stated that their annual banquet will be held in May and board members are invited to attend.

Code Enforcement: Report received. Mr. Ripley will be in Rochester on March 17th for Code School.

- The Clerk has received information from local municipalities regarding their building permit fees. After review, a motion was made by Mr. Grow, seconded by Mr. Auld to increase the building permit fees for projects in the Village of Millport to a fee of \$25 for projects that cost up to \$15,000 and \$50 for projects that cost \$15,001 and above; said fees to be effective immediately. VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried.

Planning Board: Report received.

- The Planning Board received confirmation of receipt from the Chemung County Youth Bureau for the grant application submitted by the Village for projects at the Playground.
- It has come to the attention of the Mayor that the Planning Board members needed to be appointed with staggering terms of office – one term expires each year for 5 years. He has appointed Shirley Kwasnik to a 5 year term, Heather Cleveland - 4yr, Barb Kraus - 3yr, Diane MacDonald - 2yr, and Joyce Hexum - 1yr terms. Mr. Auld moved, seconded by Mr. Kraus to approve these term limits as made by the mayor. VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried. Every year when making the annual appointments, one position of the Planning Board will have a new 5-year term.
- Due to the size of the Village, a motion was made by Mr. Damon, seconded by Mr. Grow to recommend, rather than require that Planning Board members have 4 hours of training each year. VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried.
- The Planning Board is working on developing a Comprehensive Plan for the Village to submit to the board for their review.

Zoning Board of Appeals: The Clerk was requested to find out whether the Planning Board can act as the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Recreation & Youth Activities: The December Christmas party was a huge success.

Report on Village accident, sickness, and death: Lillian reports that she is 100% cancer free.

Old Business:

- The Clerk is continuing to work on developing a policy and a report of assets owned by the Village. A list of Fire Department Equipment worth over \$1,000 is needed.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Mr. Damon, seconded by Mr. Auld to adopt the following resolution:
WHEREAS the Village of Millport has scheduled the annual Election for the Village of Millport,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Election for the year 2023 shall be held on March 21, 2023 at the Village Hall, 4246 Main Street in Millport, New York. Said hours of election will be from 12:00 Noon until 9:00. VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried.
- The Clerk reported that Independent Nominating Petitions are now available for the March Election. Per the Chemung County Board of Elections, nineteen (19) signatures are required for the petitions to be valid. The last day to file the petition with the Clerk is February 14, 2023. There are two 2-year positions and one 1-year term available to fill at the election. The petition MUST state which position the candidate is running for. Positions up for election in 2023 include Charles Kraus, George Grow and Danny Yontz.

- The Clerk reported that effective January 1, 2023, minimum wage has increased from \$13.20 to \$14.20. She suggested an increase for all Village staff. Mr. Damon moved, seconded by Mr. Yontz to increase the hourly wage for the Water Tech/meter reader, Janitor/Maintenance and Groundskeeper to \$15.00/hour and to increase the Clerk hourly wage to \$16.50/hour effective with the next paychecks. **VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried.** Mr. Bravo who is a seasonal employee will be kept at his same rate of \$15.00 per hour.
- Mayor Damon stated that he has received information that New York State has determined that local municipalities can adopt a local law that enacts a property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. There are requirements that must be met by the applicants. He will do some more research before bringing this to the board for a decision on whether or not the Village will participate in this tax exemption.

Bills: General: \$5,301.21
Water: \$571.83
Trust & Agency: \$3,992.55

A ***motion*** was made by Mr. Kraus and seconded by Mr. Auld to adopt the following resolution; ***WHEREAS***, the Board of Trustees requests to pay the prepared list of bills totaling: \$9,865.59 ***IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the Village Board authorizes the payment in the amount of \$5,301.21 from the General Fund, \$571.83 from the Water Fund, and \$3,992.55 from the Trust & Agency Fund. **VOTE: Ayes: All ayes. Vote carried.**

Public Comments:

Mike Cleveland, 4260 Main Street stated that he has free wireless cameras that can be installed at the Fire Station and Village Hall to monitor activity at each location.

Next meeting scheduled for February 6, 2023 @ 7 pm.

Planning ahead – Joan will be on vacation from Feb 27 – March 15. She will check with Lillian about filling in.

AJOURNED: A motion was made by Grow and seconded by Auld to adjourn the meeting @ 8:20 pm.
Vote: Ayes: All Ayes. Vote carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Joan Santulli– Deputy Village Clerk/Treasurer