

The regular meeting of the Walton Village Board was held on Tuesday, December 1, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street, Walton.

Present: Edward H. Snow, Sr., Mayor

Reporters: Bob Cairns, The Reporter

Trustees: Teresa O'Leary
Charles Gregory
David Breese
Allan Reynolds

Attorney: David Merzig, Esq. was not required to attend

Clerk: Jody Brown

Mayor Edward H. Snow, Sr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

Rev. Lisa Mays of the United Presbyterian Church led the invocation.

PUBLIC HEARING SEQR FOR DIGESTER The Clerk read the legal notice. Trustee Gregory made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:02 p.m. to hear public input on the environmental impact of the biogas project at the WWTP. Trustee Reynold Reynolds seconded. Carried unanimously. The clerk read the legal notice and Mayor Snow asked if there was any public input.

Keath Davis, Delaware St., asked if there would be additional cost to running the WWTP and if there would be more traffic. Mayor Snow answered that the cost to run the plant would be lower and there will be a little more traffic.

Keath Davis asked about the funding for the project. Mayor Snow stated that we are seeking funding from several entities, but the Village will probably have to put up most of the up-front cost of the project. The Village will be receiving revenue from companies bring their way to be treated and the sale of the biogas. It will reduce our cost because we will be sending less waste to the landfill. Trustee Breese said that some of the revenue will be income for the general fund so Village tax would decrease. With the School being involved, they would be saving money also. This will also help with less of a school tax increase as well.

Trustee O'Leary made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Trustee Breese seconded. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Breese made a motion to declare itself Lead Agency for the WWTP Biogas Project. Trustee Gregory seconded. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Reynolds made a motion that as Lead Agency the Village Board determines that the proposed WWTP Biogas Project will not have any significant impacts on the environment. Trustee Gregory seconded. Carried unanimously.

ABSTRACTS: The audit committee reviewed the abstracts and recommended approval as follows:
The General Fund Abstract in the sum of \$176,831.74 was presented to the Board.
The Water Fund Abstract in the sum of \$66,665.38 was presented to the Board.
The Wastewater Fund Abstract in the sum of \$149,052.04 was presented to the Board.
The Wastewater Capital Upgrade fund Abstract in the sum of \$70,144.22 was presented to the Board.
The Small Cities fund Abstract in the sum of \$17,041.50 was presented to the Board.
After review, Trustee Breese made a motion to approve the abstracts as submitted. Trustee Gregory seconded. Carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

POLICE DEPT. Brian diLorenzo, Chief of Police, submitted a monthly report for November 2014. The Police Academy Graduation will be December 8th in Elmira. Chief diLorenzo invited the Board to attend.

BODY CAMERAS Chief diLorenzo is looking into the cost of body cameras for the department and seeking grants for their purchase.

BLUE TOOTH The Chief is getting pricing for blue tooth capabilities for the Village Police cars.

PUBLIC WORKS Roger Hoyt, Dept. of Public Works Superintendent, submitted the monthly report for November 2014.

VILLAGE ENGINEER Bill Brown of Delaware Engineering submitted a monthly report for November 2014. All current business was addressed with the public hearing.

WWTP – DELAWARE OPERATIONS John Moffett of Delaware Operations submitted a monthly report for November 2014. John stated that the MBT project is moving along and the will be doing a clean water start up.

BIDS–SLUDGE HAULING & CHEMICALS John Moffett stated that it is time to get bids for sludge hauling and chemicals. Trustee O’Leary made a motion to have the clerk advertise for bids for sludge hauling and chemicals with the bid opening date of December 19th at 2:00 p.m. Trustee Reynolds seconded. Carried unanimously.

CODE ENFORCEMENT Stephen Dutcher, Code Enforcement Official, submitted a monthly report for November 2014.

COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM Stephen Dutcher is working on the community rating system to help reduce the amount people have to pay for flood insurance. His goal is to get the Village to class 8 for a 10% reduction in flood insurance premiums.

STBOA ENERGY CODE UPDATE Stephen Dutcher requested permission to attend training. Trustee O’Leary made a motion to allow Steve to attend training for the energy code update in Owego on December 10th at a cost of \$30.00 to be split with the Town. Trustee Gregory seconded. Carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT Mayor Snow opened the floor to the public. He asked all who wished to speak to stand and state their name and address.

Maureen Wacha, South St., asked if the Village had a grant writer. Mayor Snow answered that our engineering firm assists with the infrastructure grants. Maureen commented on how nice the square in Hancock looks. Mayor Snow will call the Mayor of Hancock.

Keath Davis, Delaware St., submitted two petitions objecting to the fees currently being collected for fire inspections and building permits for roofs.

Robert Vitti, Dunk Hill Rd, stated that it would be too costly for him to repair the roof on 44 West St. He suggested capping the fee.

Fred Babcock, Howell St., stated that people don’t want to get involved for fear of retribution.

Trustee Gregory and Code Official Dutcher will take the comments under advisement and look at capping the fee for the building permits for roofs.

TRUSTEES REPORTS:

Trustee Reynolds commented that the storm drain on Upper Delaware and Munn St. has been replaced and a 30” storm drain installed.

Trustee Breese – The next Pride in Walton Committee meeting will be on December 18th at 6:00 p.m. at the Feather ‘n Stone Restaurant on West St. For current information on the Pride Committee see their Facebook page.

Trustee Gregory thanked Patty Wood for organizing the Christmas Parade.

Trustee Gregory submitted the bids for the Theater hand rail. After review, Trustee Gregory made a motion to purchase the hand rails for the Theater front steps from Titchener for a cost \$1,000.00 delivered and installed at no charge with Jim Rice doing the finished painting. Trustee Breese seconded. Carried unanimously.

Trustee O’Leary – everything covered by department heads.

**MAYOR'S
REPORT**

Mayor Snow stated that "Spend a Day in Walton" drew a lot of people to the Village.
Mayor Snow commented that the MBT project at the WWTP has saved the users \$45,000.00.

ADJOURN

Trustee Gregory made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Trustee O'Leary seconded. Carried unanimously.

**NEXT
MEETING**

Next regular meeting of the Village Board will be held on Monday, January 5, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street.

Jody Brown, Clerk/Treasurer