

The regular meeting of the Walton Village Board was held on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street, Walton.

Present: Mayor Stephen Condon
Trustees: Eric Ball
Richard Doig
Nathan Jamieson
Steven Sehen

Attorney: David Merzig, not required to attend
Clerk: Jody L. Brown

Mayor Condon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rev. Kent Terchurian of the United Methodist Church led the invocation.

**PUBLIC HEARING
CBDG GRANT** Trustee Ball made a motion to open a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing public comments on the community development needs and to discuss the possible submission of one or more Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) applications for the 2020 Program Year. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.

Bill Brown from Delaware Engineering read the legal notice. The CBDG grant is administered by the NYS Office of Community Renewal. The principal purpose is to benefit low/moderate income persons through housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure, and planning activities. There is no Village match for funds if the application does not exceed \$1 million. The recommendation is to replace original equipment at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, namely the clarifiers and thickeners. Any written questions can be submitted until February 11th to the Village Clerk. Applications are due by March 5th.

Trustee Ball made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Trustee Sehen seconded. Carried unanimously.

DELAWARE ENGINEERING Bill Brown spoke to the Board regarding the \$100,000 grant application to E.F.C. for a study to identify infiltration and inflow into the sewer system. The Village share of this project would be \$20,000.00. Trustee Sehen made motion to pass a resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute the Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporations and to appropriate the 20% local match. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously. Copy attached.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTER A letter from Julia Steitz was submitted to the Board proposing a Community Center. Ms. Stietz works for BlackRock, a global wealth management company, as a financial analyst. Her intent is to raise funds to rehabilitate a building so everyone would be welcome to play games, use WiFi, read books, do homework, etc. at no cost and would be open 7 days a week. Her organization would help to fund the project to get it up and running. The estimated annual cost to be about \$10,000. Ms. Steitz was asked about longevity and sustainability. Her answer was that the Village would have to pay as BlackRock would just help with the initial funding.

WALTON VOLUNTEER E.M.S. David Simmons and Pat diNardo with the Walton E.M.S. stated that the Village of Walton still holds the Certificate of Need for the ambulance service. As a Fire District, the ambulance service must be voluntary. They are not eligible to bill for services. They asked if the Village would be interested in running a paid ambulance service as the Village would be able to bill for services. Trustee Doig made a motion that the Village of Walton is not interested in running an ambulance service for the Walton Fire District. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.

ABSTRACTS:	<p>The audit committee reviewed the abstracts and recommended approval as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The General Fund Abstract in the sum of \$32,570.10 was presented to the Board. The Water Fund Abstract in the sum of \$11,489.45 was presented to the Board. The Sewer Fund Abstract in the sum of \$143,867.95 was presented to the Board. The Capital Fund Abstract in the sum of \$2,650.00 was presented to the Board. The Trust & Agency Abstract in the sum of \$5,757.15 was presented to the Board. <p>After review, Trustee Jamieson made a motion to approve the abstracts as submitted. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.</p>
POLICE DEPARTMENT	Joseph D'Addezio, Chief of Police, submitted a monthly report for January 2021.
NEW CAR OUTFITTING	Chief D'Addezio asked the Board to approve the cost of outfitting the new police vehicle. The majority the cost of the outfitting was budgeted and we are waiting for a check from Delaware County D.A. office for recoveries to cover the remainder of the cost. Trustee Sehen made a motion to approve the outfitting of the new Ford Explorer at a cost of \$16, 370, Bush Electronics \$12,350 for lights, sirens, cage, graphics and Telrepc for \$4,020 for a new computer system. Trustee Ball seconded. Carried unanimously.
OFFICER FINCH	Officer Finch was hired provisionally. He has passed the Civil Service Test and is now on the Eligibles List. Trustee Jamieson made a motion to hire Zach Finch as a permanent full-time patrolman and continue at his current rate of pay. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.
TRUSTEE REPORTS	<p>Trustee Doig reminded everyone to hand in the Police Reform survey that was sent with the water bills. Blank surveys are available at the Clerk's office and on the Village website. All surveys must be returned by February 15th. A committee will be formed.</p> <p>Trustee Sehen mentioned that a meeting with the new owners of Kraft should happen very soon so the Village can prepare for any changes in flow to the WWTP.</p> <p>Trustee Jamieson says that R.S.S. plan for reopening the Theater is in progress. The skating rink is up and running at Austin-Lincoln Park. Both the trails are being groomed to be used for skiing and snow shoeing.</p> <p>Trustee Ball has been working with Butch, Dept. of Public Works on the 2021-2022 budget.</p>
MAYOR'S REPORT	Mayor Condon reminded everyone that sidewalks need to be clear of ice and snow by 9:00 a.m. daily. If the Village has to hire a contract to clear them, the property owners will be charged. The snowmobile trail is open and marked from Austin-Lincoln Park to Speedway. Please adhere to the marked trail.
ELECTION INSPECTORS	Per NYS Election Law the Board must appoint Election Inspectors by February 4, 2021. Trustee Doig made a motion to appoint Maxine Locherer as head inspector, \$12.60/hr. and Joann Pomeroy and Marge Rutherford, \$12.50/hr. as election inspectors for the March 16 th Village Election. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.
OVERRIDE TAX CAP	The allowable Levy Growth Factor for the Village for 2021 is 1.0131. The Village assessment has dropped \$1,343,081. Trustee Doig made a motion to hold a Public Hearing on March 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to Override the Tax Cap. Trustee Sehen seconded. Carried unanimously.
BUDGET AMENDMENT	The Clerk submitted a budget amendment to the Board. Trustee Sehen made a motion to approve amending the 2020-2021 Budget adding \$4,000.00 to G8110.300 and reducing G1990.400 by \$4,000. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.

- CWC MOA** A letter was received from the Catskill Watershed Corporation regarding the 1997 Watershed Memorandum of Agreement that allows for municipalities to limit the City's ability to purchase land and conservation easements within our boundaries. After review, the Board decided to leave the previous resolution in place with no changes.
- NYS QUARANTINE LEAVE POLICY** A sample quarantine leave request form was sent from Delaware County. After review, Trustee Ball made a motion to follow the NYS guidelines and have employees submit a NYS Quarantine Leave form. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.
- LITTLE LEAGUE** A letter was received from the Walton Little League. After review, Trustee Sehen made a motion to allow the Walton Little League to use the fields at Austin-Lincoln for baseball this spring provided that all COVID protocols are followed as they are proposing. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION** Trustee Doig made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Negotiations at 8:06 p.m. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.
- Trustee Jamieson made a motion to close Executive Session at 8:31 p.m. Trustee Ball seconded. Carried unanimously.
- O'CONNOR FOUNDATION GRANTS** Chief D'Addezio requested permission to apply for grant funding. Trustee Doig made a motion to authorize Chief D'Addezio to apply for grants through the O'Conner Foundation to obtain a Police Vehicle. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.
- L.E.T.E.R.S.** Trustee Ball made a motion to authorize the Clerk to write a check for \$1,000 for L.E.T.E.R.S. Trustee Doig seconded. Carried unanimously.
- ADJOURN** Mayor Condon adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.
- NEXT MEETING** The next regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street.

Jody L. Brown, Clerk-Treasurer

Authorization and Appropriation of Local match (20% local match)

WHEREAS, The Village of Walton owns and operates the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) located at 54 South Street, Walton, Delaware County, NY; and

WHEREAS, the plant operates under the terms and conditions outlined in the State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit # NY 0027154; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the SPDES permit, the Village “shall identify all inflow to the tributary system and remove excessive infiltration/inflow (I&I) to an extent that is economically feasible”; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2016, a significant increase in unaccounted-for flows (suspected I&I) to the WWTP was recorded in the daily monitoring reports; and

WHEREAS, the Village has completed several minor system repairs that proved effective in reducing flows, it has been determined that in order to significantly reduce unaccounted-for flows and to ensure the sustainability and long-term viability of the Wastewater Collection and Treatment System, a comprehensive I&I study of the sewer collection system is necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Mayor Stephen Condon is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and any and all other contracts, documents and instruments necessary to bring about the Project and to fulfill the Village of Walton’s obligations under the Engineering Planning Grant Agreement.
2. The Village of Walton authorizes and appropriates a minimum of 20% local match as required by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation’s Engineering Planning Grant program for the Village of Walton’s Sewer Collection System Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Study project. Under the Engineering Planning Grant Program, this local match must be at least 20% of the grant award of \$100,000. The total estimated maximum project cost is \$120,000. The Mayor may increase this local match through the use of in-kind services without further approval from the Village of Walton; and

This resolution will take effect pending project funding award notification by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation
