

The regular meeting of the Walton Village Board was held on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street, Walton.

Present: Mayor Edward Snow, Sr. Attorney: David Merzig  
Trustees: Eric Ball Clerk: Jody L. Brown  
Stephen Condon  
Nathan Jamieson  
Steven Sehen

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

Mr. William Seneschal from the First United Methodist Church led the invocation.

**SILVER AWARD** Girl Scout Troop 60304 submitted a project proposal to the Board for three members to achieve their Silver Awards. After discussion, Trustee Ball made a motion to approve the project of placing two benches and two dog training/exercising apparatuses with mulch underneath in Lower Bassett Park. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC INPUT** Linda Belmont mentioned that the Military Banners will be going back up on May 18, 2024.

**ABSTRACTS:** The audit committee reviewed the abstracts and recommended approval as follows:  
The General Fund Abstract in the sum of \$51,533.15 was presented to the Board.  
The Water Fund Abstract in the sum of \$5,519.90 was presented to the Board.  
The Sewer Fund Abstract in the sum of \$211,408.43 was presented to the Board.  
The Water Improvements Fund Abstract in the sum of \$5,871.32 was presented to the Board.  
The Well Project Fund Abstract in the sum of \$703.00 was presented to the Board.  
After review, Trustee Sehen made a motion to approve the abstracts as submitted. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

**DELAWARE ENGINEERING** Bill Brown, Delaware Engineering, submitted a report to the Board for April 2024.

**WATER PROJECT INVOICE** Bill Brown requested paying the Contractor for the work completed. Trustee Sehen made a motion to authorize the payment of \$234,178.94 to Rutledge Excavating Inc. for Invoice #1. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

**LEAD SERVICE INVENTORY** The Village received a Grant Award Letter from NYS EFC in the amount of \$640,552 to conduct an inventory of all water services to determine any that may be lead per mandate from NYS DOH. Trustee Sehen made a to authorize Mayor to sign the intent to proceed with the grant. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Sehen made a motion to authorize the Clerk to advertise for a request for qualifications for engineering services for the lead service line inventory. Trustee Ball seconded. Carried unanimously.

**CEDARWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL** Shane Boice, Cedarwood Environmental, submitted a report to the Board for April 2024.

**NYS EFC ENGINEERING PLANNING GRANT** The Village has been awarded a \$24,000 Planning Grant for WWTP Evaluation. As part of that grant process a resolution is required to set a 20% matching funds and to designate someone to sign all documents for this grant. Trustee Ball made a motion to appropriate \$4,800 for the local match for the Engineering Planning grant for the WWTP. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Condon made a motion to authorize Mayor Snow as the designated signer for the Engineering Planning grant for the WWTP. Trustee Sehen seconded. Carried unanimously.

**DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS** Butch Smith, Superintendent Dept. of Public Works submitted a report to the Board for April 2024.

**WATER COURSE** Butch Smith requested training for continuing education course for their water licenses. Trustee Ball made a motion to authorize Butch Smith, Matthew Myer and Jon Hoffman to attend water continuing education course in Sidney on June 13, 2024 at a cost of \$40 each. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT** Joseph D’Addezio, Chief of Police, submitted a written report to the Board for April 2024.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS** Trustee Ball – NYSERTA has a grant of \$10,000 the Village might be eligible for LED lighting, security for the Court, or an elevator.

**SEASONAL HIRES** Trustee Jamieson submitted a listing of summer hires. After review, Trustee Jamieson made a motion to hire the following and Trustee Ball seconded. Carried unanimously.

- Arts & Crafts – Jacqueline Armstrong \$15.00 per hour effective July 1, 2024
- Mowers – Kurt Ellerson \$15.00 per hour effective May 13, 2021 and Ella Rhinehart \$15.00 per hour effective June 14, 2024
- Weekend Pool Supervisors – Linda Belmont and Mary Phraner \$15.25 per hour effective July 1, 2024
- Lead Lifeguard – Kyndra Church \$16.00 per hour effective June 1, 2024
- Lifeguards – Colby Phraner, Anthony Soto, Reese Underwood, London Gardner, Caragh O’Connor, Camron Clark, and Brody Moore effective July 1, 2024. Lifeguard rate is \$15.25 per hour and WSI is \$15.50 per hour.

**PROBATION COMMUNITY SERVICE** Delaware County Probation Department has an individual who need to do community service and they have approached Brian Sprague to see if there is work that can be done in the parks. The work would be done after hours or on the weekend and would not be supervised. Trustee Jamieson made a motion to approve the community service work in the park. Trustee Sehen seconded. Trustee Jamieson, Trustee Sehen and Mayor Snow voting yes. Trustee Condon voting no and Trustee Ball abstaining. Motion carried.

**MAYOR’S REPORT** Village Board is seeking grants to assist with maintenance of the building.

**WATER RATE INCREASE** A proposal for raising the water rates from \$6.20 per thousand gallons of water to \$6.50 per thousand was submitted to the Board. An example of the impact of the increase for a residence using 10,000 would be \$5.62 in the quarterly bill. Trustee Jamieson made a motion to set June 3, 2024 at 6:00 for the public hearing for the proposed water rate increase. Trustee Ball seconded. Carried unanimously.

- CHALK ART DAY** A letter was received from Principal Melanie Hector from the Townsend Elementary School. After review, Trustee Ball made a motion to close North St. from Mead St. to Platt St. on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> (rain date Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>) for the annual Chalk Art Day. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.
- SPECIAL MEETING** The Clerk requested setting a date for a special meeting for the last abstract of 2023-2024. Trustee Jamieson made a motion to hold a special meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Ball seconded. Carried unanimously.
- SHORT TERM RENTALS** A sample local law regarding short term rentals was submitted to the Board. The Board would like to look into this, but feels in would need input from a Code Enforcement Official.
- COALITION OF WATERSHED TOWNS** The ballot was received from the CWT for the election of the Executive Committee members for Delaware County. After discussion, Trustee Jamieson made a motion to vote for Eric Ball, Wayland Gladstone, and Edward Snow, Sr. for regular members of the Coalition of Watershed Towns and Eric Ball, Jeff Gerhart, and Will Outsen for Alternates. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.
- GARDINER PL. PARKING** A letter was received from Joseph Augustine regarding the parking on Gardiner Pl. After discussion, Trustee Ball made a motion to table the issue until more information can be gathered and reviewed at a later date. Trustee Sehen seconded. Carried unanimously.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION** Trustee Jamieson made a motion to open Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. to discuss DPW and Police Personnel and possible litigation. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.
- Trustee Condon made a motion to close Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. Trustee Ball seconded. Carried unanimously.
- PROMOTION TO H.E.O.** Trustee Ball made a motion to promote Austin Williams to Heavy Equipment Operator on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the contract rate of \$22.72 per hour. Trustee Jamieson seconded. Carried unanimously.
- ADVERTISE FOR M.E.O.** Trustee Jamieson made a motion to authorize the Clerk to advertise for a Motor Equipment Operator. Trustee Sehen seconded. Carried unanimously.
- ADJOURN** Mayor Snow adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.
- NEXT MEETING** The next regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street.

Jody L. Brown, Clerk-Treasurer