

The regular meeting of the Walton Village Board was held on Monday, November 4, 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
Eric Northrup
Beth O'Brien

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

PUBLIC INPUT Cindy Ray, UHS Delaware Valley Hospital, gave a presentation on the proposed expansion of the hospital. The proposal would provide the area with additional services, better medical care, and support more people. Trustee Condon made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the expansion project. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Carried unanimously.

Nick Carbone updated the Board on the negotiations with NYC DEP. He stated that there will be no new land acquisitions in areas 3 and 4 and submitted maps showing the progress of the DEP acquisition progression since 2003. Mr. Carbone is pleased with the progress of negotiations and thanked Mayor Snow for his assistance at the CWT.

Richard Doig, 7 Cherry St., was wondering about the stormwater issue on Cherry St.

Jennifer Davis, 29 St. John St., asked if there was an update on the bowling alley.

ABSTRACTS: The audit committee reviewed the abstracts and recommended approval as follows:
The General Fund Abstract in the sum of \$19,983.34 was presented to the Board.
The Water Fund Abstract in the sum of \$8,181.22 was presented to the Board.
The Sewer Fund Abstract in the sum of \$238,516.29 was presented to the Board.
The Water Project Fund Abstract in the sum of \$42,449.45 was presented to the Board.
The Well Capital Project Fund Abstract in the sum of \$0.00 was presented to the Board.
After review, Trustee Condon made a motion to approve the abstracts as submitted. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

CODE ENFORCEMENT Zach Haverly, Code Enforcement Official, submitted a report to the Board for October 2024.

PROPOSED EXCESSIVE NOISE CODE Zach Haverly submitted a proposed local law regarding noise. Trustee O'Brien made a motion to hold a public hearing on Local Law 2024-5 regarding noise on December 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS Butch Smith, Superintendent Dept. of Public Works submitted a report to the Board for October 2024. Layne has completed the well rehab on Austin-Lincoln Well #2.

POLICE DEPARTMENT Tahir Haqq, Chief of Police, submitted a written report to the Board for October 2024.

TRAINING Chief Haqq recommended training for Sergeant Dunphy. Trustee O’Brien made a motion to authorize Devin Dunphy to attend the Broome County Law Enforcement Academy CIPS Course January 6 – January 24 at a cost of \$100.00 and the clerk to pay Broome County Sheriff. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

TASER PURCHASE Chief Haqq submitted a quote to the Board. After review, Trustee Condon made a motion to authorize the purchase of two tasers from Axon in the amount for \$13,939 which includes training and five-year maintenance. Trustee O’Brien seconded. Carried unanimously.

DELAWARE ENGINEERING Bill Brown, Delaware Engineering, submitted a report to the Board for October 2024. Bill updated the Board on all the on-going projects.

STORMWATER PROJECT Bill Brown informed the Board that he has received the quote for the stormwater project in the Maple St. area from Cobleskill Stone for \$310,000.00. There was a question about funding the project and how it could be completed while school is in session.

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

EQ TANK PUMP Shane Boice requested replacing the VFD on the EQ tank pump. After review, Trustee Northrup made a motion to authorize Taggart Electric to replace the VFD on the EQ pump #2 at a cost of \$4,700 from budget line G8130.415/515 80% Village 20% NYC DEP. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

CLARIFIER PROJECT The Clerk asked for permission to open bank accounts for the Clarifier Capital Project. Trustee Condon made a motion to authorize the Clerk to open separate accounts for the Clarifier Capital Project. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

SEQR Brian Suozzo submitted a letter to the Board regarding the environmental review for the Clarifier project. The project is classified as a Type II because it is a replacement of an existing structure and it has no significant adverse environmental impact. Trustee Condon made a motion to declare the Clarifier project a type II action under SEQR. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

2025 ELECTION Trustee Condon made a motion to authorize the clerk to post the election notice in the Reporter for the March 18, 2025 Village election designating which offices will be vacant at the end of the current official year: Mayor – two-year term, Trustee – two-year term, Trustee – two-year term, Trustee – one year term, Justice – four-year term. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Trustee Condon made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:53 p.m. to discuss Police and DPW Personnel. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Northrup made a motion to close Executive Session at 7:18 p.m. Trustee O’Brien seconded. Carried unanimously.

HIRING INCENTIVE Chief Haqq recommended a hiring incentive for police officers. Trustee O’Brien made a motion to authorize a hiring bonus of up to \$10,000 for a full-time police officer with contingencies and to stay for five years. Trustee Condon seconded. Carried unanimously.

- CROSSING GUARD Chief Haqq recommended hiring an additional crossing guard. Trustee Condon made a motion to hire Richard Gransbury as a part-time crossing guard at a rate of \$15 per hour effective November 5, 2024. Trustee Northrup seconded. Carried unanimously.
- PART-TIME MEO's Butch Smith recommended hiring part-time MEO's while we are looking for a full-time employee. Trustee Condon made a motion to hire Keegan Higley, Dalton Walley, and Ron Wood as part-time Motor Equipment Operators at a rate of \$24.45 effective November 5, 2024 on a per diam basis. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Carried unanimously.
- ADJOURN Mayor Snow adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.
- NEXT MEETING The next regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, December 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 21 North Street.

Jody L. Brown, Clerk-Treasurer

This is a true and correct copy of the Village of Walton Board of Trustee minutes for the regular meeting held on November 4, 2024.