

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018
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The first monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 2 at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom of the Village Hall, 7 Stage Road Monroe, New York. Mayor James Purcell called the meeting to order and led in the pledge to the flag. Emergency exits were announced.

Present: Mayor Purcell; Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan

Also present: Attorney Bonacic, Chief Conklin, Village Clerk Baxter, and Deputy Clerk Zahra

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR AMBUSH ON COLORADO POLICE OFFICERS:

Mayor Purcell called for a moment of silence for the Colorado Police Officers who were ambushed on Sunday, December 31, 2017 by a lone gunman. 2 civilians along with 4 officers were injured, as well as the death of Officer Zack Parrish, 29, who left behind his wife and two children.

MINUTE APPROVAL: MEETINGS OF DECEMBER 5th AND DECEMBER 19th 2017:

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Chan, the Minutes of the December 5th Meeting were approved. Discussion followed.

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Conklin and Chan

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Dwyer (personal)

Trustee Dwyer stated he was not in attendance at the December 5th meeting and he had a few questions. He inquired as to the resolution regarding some Highway items being put to bid out on Auctions International, specifically the 2012 John Deere tractor. He stated that he requested from the Department Head to provide the Board with the original purchase price of that item as well as the fair market value of said item before going out to auction. Trustee Dwyer also stated that he believed that a reserve was going to be set for this item, and thought that this information would be provided before the items were listed. Mayor Purcell stated that a reserve was set and shopped the item out but couldn't get the book price that we were looking for. Mayor Purcell continued that there was also an agreement with the School District that they then backed out of, the District never provided a commitment letter, which resulted in it being listed on the Auctions International site with a reserve set. Mayor Purcell stated that he was not sure where the current status of the item was, but requested that the department liaison, Trustee Behringer, obtain the information and report back.

Trustee Dwyer also requested some clarification on the parking ban that was passed at the last meeting regarding Chief Conklin visiting the home that had the issue with the double parking. Trustee Dwyer commented that he did not believe that the Chief personally went to the home, so he asked the Chief to confirm this. Chief Conklin stated that he had not done the home visit, but he had sent one of his Sergeants to speak with the homeowners and explain the double parking and the Police Department has not seen an issue since. Trustee Dwyer stated that he wanted it to be clear that the Chief was not out there soliciting information.

Trustee Dwyer commented that the third thing was the Board took an action on the Monroe Joint Park Commission water fees. Mayor Purcell interjected and stated that there was a mistake and that the Board would discuss it in Executive Session and adjust the resolution at that time.

Trustee Dwyer asked for clarification regarding the reason behind a monetary transfer from safety inspection fees which was transferred to engineering contractual. Mayor Purcell stated that the safety inspection fees could be the site fees for whatever project that Village Engineer, Lanc & Tully is handling. Mayor Purcell asked Trustee Dwyer what meeting night this transfer appeared on and Trustee Dwyer confirmed it was the meeting of December 19, 2017.

Ayes: Trustees Behringer, Conklin and Chan

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Dwyer (personal)

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Chan, the Minutes of the December 19th Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Dwyer, Conklin, Behringer, and Chan
Nays: None

AGREEMENT: O. C. TOWN & VILLAGES DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING 2018 – PARTNERS IN SAFETY:

On a motion by Trustee Behringer seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the Drug & Alcohol renewal agreement for 2018, Town and Villages of Orange County whereby Partner's in Safety under the terms and conditions of the agreement shall provide to the Village of Monroe with drug testing that meets the compliance of the US Department of Transportation, requiring alcohol and drug testing of safety sensitive employees. Complete DOT random testing program is \$48/test. Pre-employment, post-accident, reasonable cause or follow-up testing performed during business hours at the rates quoted in the agreement. It is further:

RESOLVED, the Board authorized Mayor Purcell to sign the agreement with Partner's in Safety.

Ayes: Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan
Nays: None

APPOINTMENT – F/T ASSISTANT BUILDING INSPECTOR / DEBORAH PROULX:

On a motion by Trustee Conklin, seconded by Trustee Chan, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Deborah Proulx, to the position of Fulltime Assistant Building Inspector III, from the Orange County Certification of Eligibles Resident List, effective January 3, 2018 at a salary of \$28.53/hour. All requirements have been fulfilled for the Orange County Department of Human Resources Certification of Eligibles for Exam #761385, Assistant Building Inspector. Discussion followed.

Trustee Dwyer commented that he believed there was more to this conversation that the Board needed to address and also have an additional conversation regarding personnel. Trustee Conklin withdrew her motion for further discussion in Executive Session.

Ayes: Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan
Nays: None

RESIGNATION: P/T PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – KRISTOPHER ANTONACCI:

On a motion by Trustee Dwyer, seconded by Trustee Chan, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees accepted with regret the resignation of Kristopher Antonacci, Parking Enforcement Officer, effective January 12, 2018. Mr. Antonacci has been accepted to the New York State Department of Corrections Academy and will undergo 12 weeks of training to become a New York State Corrections Officer. The Board thanked him for his service to the community and wished him well in his future endeavors with the Corrections Department. Discussion followed.

Trustee Conklin stated that Mr. Antonacci has far exceeded the Village's expectation, and the best person the Village has ever had in that position. She continued that Chief Conklin also started out in Correction's and she sees the same drive and motivation in him that the Chief had, and believes that he will have an amazing future. Mayor Purcell again commended Mr. Antonacci on a job well done. Trustee Dwyer commented that Mr. Antonacci has shown to be a complete asset to the Village and as a representative of the Board felt very good about his hire and is very sad about his leaving. Trustee Dwyer continued that he believed that Mr. Antonacci will go on to do great things with his future and thanked him for his service to the Village. Chief Conklin presented Mr. Antonacci with a plaque in recognition of his commitment and dedication to the Village of Monroe and wished him well in his future.

Ayes: Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan
Nays: None

DONATION OF SEIZED PROPERTY TO POLICE DEPARTMENT:

On a motion by Trustee Dwyer, seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved of the recommendation of Chief Conklin and authorized Treasurer Murray to deposit seized property (cash) in the amount of \$350.00 to budget line A3120.250, Other Equipment. On October 10, 2010 the Monroe Police Department seized this cash during an incident that occurred in the Village, and when making arrangements with the owner to return his property, he elected to make a donation to the Department to be used to purchase Police Equipment.

Ayes: Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan

Nays: None

REQUEST FOR PAYMENT ASSISTANCE / WATER ACCOUNT# 5498 - CONTINUED:

(See Minutes 12/19/17)

At the December 19, 2017 Board of Trustees Meeting, both Trustee's Conklin and Dwyer had questions pertaining to this particular request, and due to these questions, Trustee Conklin requested that the matter be tabled till the January 2, 2018 Board Meeting. Discussion followed.

Trustee Conklin stated that the bill had been paid so it was no longer a matter to be discussed.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULING – PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW 3-C:

On a motion by Trustee Conklin, seconded by Trustee Behringer, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees do hereby authorize a Public Hearing to be scheduled on Tuesday, January 16th, 2018 at 6:30 PM, on a proposed Local Law entitled "A Local Law Authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established by General Municipal Law Section 3-c". the purpose of this proposed Local Law is to allow the Village to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Village of Monroe pursuant to General Municipal Law S. 3-c, and to allow the Village of Monroe to adopt a village budget for (a) village purposes and (b) any other special or improvement district governed by the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year 2018 (6/1/18 – 5/31/19) that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law S. 3-c. This Local Law, if adopted, will relieve the Village of the prohibition against increasing a tax levy by more than 2% as imposed by Municipal Law S. 3-c. As the Village of Monroe relies upon the assessments of the Town of Monroe and therefore cannot anticipate the impact of resolutions of tax certiorari matters or other unanticipated expenses, the restrictions of General Municipal Law would potentially impose a great hardship upon the Village or require borrowing otherwise deemed unnecessary.

Ayes: Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan

Nays: None

BOND – NORTHEAST COMMUNITY BANK (TM # 214-1-53 & 54):

On a motion by Trustee Conklin, seconded by Trustee Chan, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of the Planning Board's engineer, John O'Rourke, P.E., Lanc & Tully Engineering, and approved the accepted bond estimate for the proposed construction cost estimates for the Northeast Community Bank project in the amount of \$202,089.80. This project is a proposed 5,930 square foot, 2 story bank building located on an existing lot located at the corner of Freeland Street and Rt. 17M. Discussion followed.

Trustee Dwyer commented that at a prior meeting it was mentioned that a traffic study was being completed at this location and down on Mapes Place and inquired if it had been completed. Mayor Purcell stated that it had been completed and that copies of the study were provided to each member of the Board in their mailboxes and in an email. Mayor Purcell continued that the traffic study showed that there would be no impact at either location and that was in the study packet as well. He advised Trustee Dwyer that if he would like a copy of that he could request another copy from Creighton Manning Engineering who performed the study. Trustee Conklin

interjected and stated that she would like to see the study also because for them to say that there is no impact is crazy.

Ayes: Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan

Nays: None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Purcell wished everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

Trustee Chan stated that he had requested that the Village cameras be placed on the agenda for discussion. Trustee Chan continued that he is for the cameras, but he had asked for written quotes and based on the procurement policy, we needed three written quotes, and asked if we have received them. Chief Conklin stated that they had received the quotes. Chief Conklin continued that the last time he went before the Board in Executive session in October 2017 he spoke to the Board about the \$5,000.00 he would need to move forward. Chief Conklin stated that he sent a follow up email to the Board and he received a response back from every Board member except one, who all stated to proceed. Trustee Chan stated that he was the one that did not respond and Chan continued that the Board cannot respond to anything in an email because it is a violation of the Sunshine Law. Trustee Chan continued that decisions are not to be made in an email but at a public meeting so it is on the record. Trustee Chan stated that as long as the Chief had gotten the quotes, he did not have a problem.

Trustee Dwyer stated that in the procurement policy there are items where for the purposes of life and safety within the municipality that will trump that policy of three bids based on dollar threshold. Trustee Chan asked if in an instance like that we did not need to get bids, and Trustee Dwyer clarified that the municipality does still need to obtain the bids. Trustee Dwyer stated that the Village had the opportunity to do certain things and that the life and safety of these cameras he believed trumped the need for the Chief to go out and get three bids. Trustee Chan asked how many years the cameras have been down, and Chief Conklin stated on and off for three years. Trustee Chan stated that he doesn't see the importance lies there, and addressing Trustee Dwyer, said that the importance lies more with the application of it than the reality of it. The application is to help enhance what the Police Department does 24 hours a day and that is important to recognize. Trustee Chan stated that he was the one to push for the cameras originally over by McDonald's. Trustee Conklin stated that it is also based on what the Chief sees as a priority. Chief Conklin also stated that he put in an RFQ and only 1 company came up here. When the company did come up to look at it, they said they weren't touching it because they didn't own it. Trustee Chan commented again that he isn't against the cameras, but wants to make sure that the Village is following policy.

Chief Conklin also stated that in the past the company that was hired was not very good, when the equipment went down, their service was terrible and we had no service agreement because it was very expensive. Chief Conklin continued that the company they have in there now are real straight shooters, they tell us what the problem is and they fix the problem. Chief Conklin also commented that Cablevision is installing three modems at all three camera sites because the problem ended up being at the tower and the modems will shoot back to the Police Department and the camera company will be back to finish the job.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

PRESENT 5

TIME: 7:23 PM

Resident John Karl asked if the Village had received a grant for one of those cameras and Chief Conklin confirmed that the grant paid for one camera and that was installed at the Still Rd. intersection by McDonald's.

Mr. Karl also commented on the shocking recent rate increase with Cablevision and inquired as to when the contract was up with them. Mayor Purcell stated the contract was up in another 4 or 5 years. Mr. Karl stated with contracts and franchises does not allow for competition in the area. Mayor Purcell commented that the Village has had someone come forward from Frontier and open up a system. They are working on getting a public hearing set up and have been in contact with the Village Attorney. Mayor Purcell stated that the Village was shocked to hear from Frontier. He continued that the Village has reached out to other companies like FIOS and they don't have the infrastructure in place and that is why they don't come in, it would cost them a fortune to build the infrastructure, whereas Frontier has their infrastructure in place and are now dabbling in the cable business.

Property owner Tim Mitts complimented the Village on how nice it looked during Christmas. Mr. Mitts continued and asked what was going on with the water issue, all the water main breaks and the main line breaking etc. Mayor Purcell responded that the Board has to make a decision on how to proceed with repairing the main line once they get the reports and the costs back, but that is something that has been languishing for a while. Trustee Conklin clarified that it has been going on for much longer. She continued that there are 2 main lines that come in from the reservoir and one was brought offline due to a large leak. That leaves the Village with one pipe that is extremely old and it is believed that that one too has a leak. Trustee Conklin stated that the plan is to put a camera through it, find out where it is leaking, then sleeve it, which is the cheapest way to do it. Trustee Conklin continued that this fix should last a long time. Mr. Mitts questioned why it wasn't do years ago. Mayor Purcell stated he couldn't answer that but they are fixing it now. Mayor Purcell continued that the whole infrastructure has been neglected for quite some time and they have been rebuilding it but the dollars only go so far. The Village does have a 20 year plan in place but the Village has maxed out the monies. The Village is now looking into different options because a lot of the infrastructure still needs to be rebuilt, the system in the Village of Monroe is quite old and a lot of the mains have to be replaced. Mayor Purcell added that when you have 11 degree weather for two weeks straight, things break.

Mr. Karl stated that when he was on the Board, he fought two Trustees and the Mayor over the Water Department. Mr. Karl continued that during his administration the Village instituted a service charge on the meters, Village accounts were charged \$10.10 a quarter, and Town accounts were charged \$35.00 per quarter, and this was done to help build back up the water fund, which at that time, owed the general fund \$750,000.00. Mr. Karl stated that this service fee was not only to pay the fund back, but for the Village to be able to put monies away so that everyone on the water system was paying fairly towards debt service. He continued that had that service fee stayed in place, everyone would be paying fairly towards the capital costs of the water system. Mr. Karl stated that instead the service fee went away and the rates went up, and it may be something to look at again. It doesn't seem fair that someone who uses very little water, isn't paying their fair share towards the capital improvements to the system.

Mr. Mitts questioned Chief Conklin as to why the police force hasn't grown in recent years while so much seems to be going on. Trustee Conklin stated that the Police Department tries every year to add manpower, and Mr. Mitts stated that he feels that they should receive it.

Mr. Mitts asked the Board for an update on the Roscoe Smith house, and stated that he heard it would take in excess of three million dollars to restore. Mayor Purcell stated that the Board has to review the proposal that was given to them and discuss it. Trustee Conklin questioned where Mr. Mitts was getting his numbers from. Mr. Mitts stated that people talk and he decided to come and get it from the horse's mouth. Mayor Purcell responded that the restoration would be well over a million dollars. Mayor Purcell continued that a study was done back in 2010 and projected a cost of 1.5 million to 3 million dollars to bring it back to its original state. Mayor Purcell continued that it would probably be more now since there is more damage to it from when the study was done. Mr. Mitts asked if the Board has made a decision yet and Mayor Purcell stated that they have not because there is a lot to it. Mr. Mitts commented that the public would like to see it saved, it's part of Monroe's history with links to other buildings in the area, and he offered to help if the Board was unable to do it. Mayor Purcell stated that as soon as they had made a decision, the public would be notified.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Trustee Chan, seconded by Trustee Conklin, with all in favor, the meeting was closed at 7:35 PM. Following a 5-minute recess, the Board convened in Executive Session for discussion of Attorney Client.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann-Margret Baxter
Village Clerk

Executive Session Minutes compiled by Mayor Purcell.

OPEN SESSION: on a motion by Trustee Dwyer seconded by Trustee Chan and carried, the Open Meeting resumed at 8:50 PM.

APPOINTMENT – F/T ASSISTANT BUILDING INSPECTOR / DEBORAH PROULX:

On a motion by Trustee Dwyer, seconded by Trustee Chan, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Deborah Proulx, to the position of Fulltime Assistant Building Inspector III, from the Orange County Certification of Eligibles Resident List, effective January 3, 2018 at a salary of \$28.53/hour. All requirements have been fulfilled for the Orange County Department of Human Resources Certification of Eligibles for Exam #761385, Assistant Building Inspector.

Ayes: Trustees Conklin, Behringer, Dwyer and Chan

Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Trustee Dwyer, seconded by Trustee Chan and carried, no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Ayes: Trustees Dwyer, Behringer, Chan and Conklin

Nays: None