

**VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
VIA WEBEX
FEBRUARY 8, 2021
7:00 PM EST**

MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING: To discuss abolishing Village Court.

Called to order: 6:45pm

Present: Mayor J. Howe; Trustees P. Minahan, M. Spock, J. Boehme, J. Russell; Attorney K. Dow; Village Clerk D. Kelleher; Fire Chief E. Barnes; Deputy Police Chief J. Alessi; Town Council V. Pitkin, Residents DL, L. Locke, S. Piazza, T. Schmidt; Newspaper Reporter E. Teasdale.

Comments: Resident L. Locke with question about why the Village Court would be closed – Is it financial?

Mayor J. Howe responded that historically over several years of looking at revenues vs expenditures, the Village Court has financially been a wash. But in the more recent past, especially with closures based on Executive Orders enacted by the Governor, the Village Court has been operating more often in the red. Trustee J. Boehme with question if Court procedures are with the Town will any of the funds come back to the Village? Mayor J. Howe responded NO, unless they are due to Village code violations, in which case those funds are minimal. Trustee P. Minahan with update that the DA can prosecute the Village code violations. Deputy Police Chief J. Alessi concurred. Newspaper Reporter E. Teasdale with question will it be only tickets that get handled by the Town, or will it be Village Codes too? Mayor J. Howe responded that it would be both tickets and Village Codes. For example, Fire and Building Code violations would go to the Town.

Public Hearing Adjournment: So moved by P. Minahan; seconded by J. Russell. Approved 7:00pm.

REGULAR SESSION CALL TO ORDER: 7:00pm

Present: : Mayor J. Howe; Trustees P. Minahan, M. Spock, J. Boehme, J. Russell; Village Attorney K. Dow; Village Clerk D. Kelleher; Fire Chief E. Barnes; Deputy Police Chief J. Alessi; DPW Foreman P. Genovese; Building Inspector E. Reis; Town Council V. Pitkin; Residents DL, L. Locke, S. Piazza, T. Schmidt; Newspaper Reporter E. Teasdale.

First Public Comment (limited to 15 minutes): Town Council V. Pitkin expressed concern regarding loss of parking places on River Street due to the Shaker Museum project.

Resident S. Piazza is looking for more definitive answer regarding ownership of clock tower ownership . Mayor J. Howe would like to meet with J. Johnson, Attorney K. Dow, and Attorney J. Kleinbaum to discuss.

Reports of Commissioners and Committees:

Police Commissioner: Pete Minahan

Fire Commissioner: Trustee Melony Spock

Wastewater/Water Commissioner: Trustee Jodie Russell

Streets & Snow Removal Commissioner: Trustee Jaimee Boehme

Building Inspector: Erin Reis

Approval of Minutes of January 11, 2021. So moved by Trustee M. Spock; seconded by Trustee J. Boehme. Approved by all.

Approval of Budget to Actuals for the Month of January, 2021. So moved by J. Russell; seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.

Unpaid Taxes: Certifications have been signed by each Trustee certifying an outstanding balance of \$12,500.02 for the Village of Chatham taxes through February 2, 2021.

Emergency Preparedness Plan: Overview of what Emergency Preparedness Plan is, given by Eric Barnes. Trustee J. Boehme asked if EPP will be posted for Public viewing. Mayor J. Howe responded that it is operational only and is not released to the Public.

New Business:

- **Resolution 1** – To Amend the Village of Chatham Water Fund Budget to Reflect Income from Water Service Charges as outlined in the attached Resolution 1 of February 8, 2021 and attached hereto. So moved by J. Russell; seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.

- **Resolution 2** – To approve the Budget Line transfers in the amount of \$3007.26 from budget line Capital Reserve SCBA (878.01), and \$6207.13 from budget line Unassigned Fund Balance (917.01), for a total of \$9214.38 to budget line Fire Equipment and capital outlay (34102.01). So moved by J. Boehme; seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 3** – To accept the membership of Barbara Fischer to the Ocean Fire Company for the Chatham Fire Department. So moved by P. Minahan; seconded by J. Russell. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 4** - To approve the reimbursement of water and sewer credit card over payments dated 1/26/2021, in the amount of \$245.51 by Maria DeAmorim, at 6 Fairview Avenue. So moved by J. Boehme; seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 5** – To approve hiring Tyler Schmidt contingent on his successful completion of Phase Two at Rockland Police Academy and his successful completion of FTO hours. So moved by P. Minahan; J. Boehme. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 6** – To approve the budget line transfer in the amount of \$1,000 from budget line Contractual (51104.01) to budget line Snow Removal Vehicle R&M (51424.01). So moved by J. Boehme; seconded by J. Russell. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 7** – To accept the lowest bid in the amount of \$4536.85 for water piping for completion of the Washington Ave Water project. So moved by M. Spock; seconded by J. Boehme. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 8** – To approve and accept the Emergency Preparedness Plan dated 02/02/2021. So moved by P. Minahan; seconded by M. Spock. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 9** – To approve the budget line transfer in the amount of \$700.00 from Budget line Police Equipment (31202.01) to Budget line Police Vehicle R&M (31204.01). So moved by M. Spock; seconded by J. Russell. Approved by all.
- **Resolution 10** – To approve “A Local Law Eliminating the Village Court and the Position of Village Justice”. Ken Dow read the Law. So moved by J. Boehme; seconded by J. Russell. Roll call as follows:
 Trustee P. Minahan – Aye
 Trustee M. Spock - Aye
 Trustee J. Boehme- Aye
 Trustee J. Russell – Aye
 Mayor J. Howe - Aye
- **Resolution 11** – To Authorize the Preparation and Filing of a New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) Engineering Planning Grant Application. So moved by J. Boehme; seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.

Items for Discussion:

- Updated Village of Chatham Policy Manual - Attorney K. Dow to review, and to continue at March Meeting.
- Engineering Planning Grant Application – submission of a grant application and commitment to provide matching funds. (scratched off as already covered above).
- AT&T Cell Tower contract Expires 03/31/2021 (Black Dot Communications) – To be continued at March Meeting.

Second Public Comment Period (limited to 15 minutes): 8:12pm. **Fire Chief E. Barnes** suggested that we reaffirm the EPP every year. Newspaper Reported asked when the Village Court would be done. K. Dow responded at the end of the term, April 5th, 2021.

Executive Session: To discuss the employment history of a particular person and collective negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law.

Into Executive Session: So moved by Trustee M. Spock; seconded by Trustee J. Russell at 8:16pm. Approved by all.

Out of Executive session: So moved by Trustee J. Russell; seconded by P. Minahan at 8:42pm. Approved by all.

Adjournment: So moved by J. Boehme; seconded by M. Spock at 8:42. Approved by all.

Next meeting: March 8, 2021 7:00pm