

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, Village of Chatham
September 11, 2023; 7pm - MINUTES

Present: Mayor J. Howe; Trustees P. Minahan, K. Schassler; Attorney K. Dow; Treasurer P. Delong; Clerk D. Kelleher; Deputy Clerk S. Davis, Jr.; A. Police Chief J. Alessi; DPW Foreman P. Genovese; Code Enforcement Officer E. Reis; T. Chatham Liaison V. Pitkin; CABA President Cathy Bruneau; CABA VP L. Locke; Residents K. Briggs, M. Millet, M. Valenty (Drowne).

Call to Order (Regular Meeting): 7:00pm by Mayor J. Howe, with the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silence for those affected by the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

First Public Comment (limited to 15 minutes):

1. CABA President C. Bruneau expressed frustration and concern regarding the recent construction site at 34 Main Street. Dust, and debris of unknown material has not been contained adequately. The cover that was eventually placed over the dumpster was not large enough. Dust came under the door of a nearby business and forced the employees to relocate their work stations to the back of the building. She requested that the Village do something about the work site. She recognizes that there is not anything in particular in Village code now, except for the general mention of health, welfare, and safety of the Village. Mayor Howe remarked that the Village CEO did speak with the contractor about covering the dumpster. When the cover did not completely mitigate the problem the Mayor spoke with the contractor who offered to remove the remainder of the dust type debris with 5-gallon buckets. The Mayor and the CABA President had a meeting set for Friday, 9/8, but due to the storm that went through the Village on Thursday evening, the meeting has been rescheduled to this Friday, 9/15 at 9am.
2. CABA VP L. Locke agrees with C. Bruneau and added that the construction debris chute was parked on Main Street for months without any work being done, and taking up several prime parking places.
3. Resident Marietta Millet reported that there is much data available showing that 5G technology is harmful to our health. The municipalities of Pittsfield, Woodstock, Sheffield, Great Barrington have already voted against allowing 5G in their areas. For Board information, M. Millet (and K. Briggs) gave the Board a packet of information regarding the harmful effects of 5G.
4. Resident Mary Valenty (Drowne) would like to have her water turned on at 2607 State Route 66. She spoke with the Clerk in the morning and the Clerk forwarded the request to the DPW. DPW Foreman P. Genovese advised that he will have the water on 9/12/23.

DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES REPORTS:

- >**Building Department:** Building Inspector, Erin Reis. *Report presented by E. Reis.*
- >**Police Department:** Acting Chief J. Alessi; Police Commissioner Pete Minahan. *Report presented by J. Alessi.*
- >**Fire Department:** Chief P. Rideout; Fire Commissioner Melony Spock. *Report read by D. Kelleher.*
- >**DPW:** Foreman P. Genovese; Wastewater/Water Commissioner Ralph O’Mara-Garcia; Streets & Snow Removal Commissioner Karyn Schassler. *Report presented by P. Genovese.*

Approve Minutes of August 14, 2023. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Approve the August 14, 2023 Budget to Actuals. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 107 of 2023 – To approve and accept a quote from **A. Colarusso & Son, Inc.** dated August 23, 2023 (State bid OGS# 69976), in the lump sum amount of \$20,500 to **pave First Street.** (CHIPS). *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 108 of 2023 – *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

174th Payne African Methodist Episcopal Church Anniversary...

WHEREAS, the Payne African Methodist Episcopal Church is celebrating its 174th year of existence in the Village of Chatham, and

WHEREAS, Payne African Methodist Episcopal Church has served the community for those many years, and

WHEREAS, Payne African Methodist Episcopal Church continues to serve the residents of the Village of Chatham and neighboring communities;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees and Mayor of the Village of Chatham congratulates Reverend Dr. Gloria E. Jimpson, Pastor, and members of the Payne African Methodist Episcopal Church on its noted anniversary and sincerely thank them for their efforts on behalf of our residents.

Resolution 110 of 2023 – To approve the **use of funds** in the amount of **\$7735**, received from the recent sale of DPW surplus equipment and applied to **Revenue line 2665.01 (Sale of Equipment)**, for the purpose of the purchase of a **2024 Rock Solid 7x16 Tandem Axle Enclosed Cargo Trailer – 3500lb** (stock # ROC054826). *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 111 of 2023 – To authorize the DPW to purchase **2024 Rock Solid 7x16 Tandem Axle Enclosed Cargo Trailer – 3500lb** (stock # ROC054826) from **Hudson River Truck and Trailer** for **\$7735**, per quote dated 9/6/23. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 112 of 2023 – To transfer funds in the amount of **\$2100** from Budget Line 80201 (**Planning Board PS**) to Budget Line 80204 (**Planning Board CE**) for contractual use. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 113 of 2023 – To authorize the Village Treasurer to issue a one-time **water/sewer reimbursement in the amount of \$799.34** to **Aaron Gaylord** due to an over billing/new meter entry error on account #23-0, 144 Hudson Ave. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 114 of 2023 - To approve the request and authorize CABA to hold the annual **Octoberfeast** celebration on **Saturday, September 30, 2023, from 11am-4pm**. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 115 of 2023 – To approve the CABA request to **close Main Street** (traffic circle to clocktower) and **Park Row** (Herrington’s entrance to Kinderhook St) to **parking and thru-traffic on Saturday, September 30, 2023 from 8am-5:00pm**, for **Octoberfeast** activities. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 116 of 2023 – To approve the **suspension of all parking on Hudson Avenue** from the Railroad tracks to **Lea’s Clothing Store (33 Hudson Avenue)**, for **Octoberfeast on Saturday, September 30, 2023, from 8:00am to 5:00pm**. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 117 of 2023 – To approve the **use of the Main Street Municipal Lot and Depot Square** for **CABA Octoberfeast on Saturday, September 30, 2023 8am-7pm**. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 118 of 2023 - To approve temporary suspension of the **local open container law** for **Octoberfest on Saturday, September 30, 2023**, in the **Municipal Lot (11:00am-9pm)**, on **Main Street** from the traffic circle to the clock tower (11:00am-5:00pm), and on **Hudson Avenue** from the Railroad Tracks to Lea's Clothing Store/33 Hudson Avenue (11:00-5:00pm). *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

Resolution 119 of 2023 – To approve the **CPD Patrolman's Union Contract** to cover 3 years, **June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2026**. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by K. Schassler. Approved by all.*

Resolution 120 of 2023 - To approve the **CPD Supervisor's Union Contract** to cover 4 years, **June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2027**. *So moved by P. Minahan, seconded by K. Schassler. Approved by all.*

Resolution 121 of 2023 – To grant a one-time **sewer relief** for **Debra Meyers**, account #447, **63 Spring Street**, in the amount of **\$134.62** due to use of water for re-seeding after blacktop work was completed. *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all.*

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Request to hold Block Sale Late September or October (**close Library Place and Academy Place**). *CFD and CPD are okay with the event as long as emergency vehicles can get through, and the event planner needs to contact the school to see if it will affect the school. Will need a specific date and it will need to be approved by the Board by resolution.*
- B. Reminder about **open burning** in the Village. *The Village follows NYS DEC guidelines for open burning.*
- C. Update re: **battery disconnect switches and NYMIR**. *Mayor Howe met with NYMIR Risk Control representative, Conner Flood, and the Mayor has tasked the rep with obtaining verification, in writing, which Village vehicles need to have battery disconnect switches installed.*
- D. Letter from resident **Neal Warshaw** re: possibility of being overbilled for water/sewer usage at 10 Woodbridge Ave – ERT #39811191. *D. Kelleher has been in contact with Mr. Warshaw, and has provided historical water usage information and other similar accounts historical water usage for comparison. **The volume Mr. Warshaw used and was billed for is not outside of average.***
- E. **Jones Ave application to Planning Board** - Mayor Howe: *The Village is assembling additional information at the request of the Planning Board for their review of application #2023-077.*

Second Public Comment Period (limited to 15 minutes):

---L. Locke: The past several days has been a reminder of how wonderful it is to live in this area. The storm that came through on Thursday night was horrible, but it was so great to see the community pull together and help one another. Stewarts was open and we could go and get coffee and charge our phones, the fire department was open and allowed people to charge phones, get water and dry ice. The DPW was remarkable. The police department was there to help. It ended up being an opportunity to meet some other residents.

---J. Howe: We had around 150 power and tree crews staged at the fairgrounds. They came to work and help get things back in order. We had crews from Binghamton, Rochester, Plattsburgh, NJ, and CT. They are allowed to work 17 hours straight under certain circumstances, and they are safe. They have to eat, and they have to sleep. We had no electricity and we do not have lodging for 150 crews, so they have to go to East Greenbush and Albany to eat and sleep. It's quite an undertaking and I think most people appreciate that they are out there. They started Friday evening working on Kinderhook St and after only about an hour they had to stop working because it was lightening. They cannot work in lightening. So they had to just sit for 3 hours and then go right back to work. We were fortunate that no one was hurt. Very fortunate. We are grateful for all of the crews and all of the efforts put forth by everyone all around.

Executive Session: For discussion of collective negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law.
For discussion of proposed, pending, or current litigation.

Motion to enter Executive session by P. Minahan, seconded by K. Schassler. Approved by all at 8:02pm.

Motion to leave Executive session by P. Minahan, seconded by K. Schassler. Approved by all at 8:26pm.

Upcoming Meetings: *October 9, 2023; 7:00pm.*

Meeting Location: Tracy Memorial Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Chatham, NY 12037

Adjournment: *So moved by K. Schassler, seconded by P. Minahan. Approved by all at 8:26pm.*
(rev. 9/22/23)