

Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes Addendum

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, October 21st, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor George Nikolados.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Nikolados-Present
Trustee Sabatino-Present

Trustee Rue-Present
Trustee Banks-Present

Trustee Massey-Present

Also Present:

Michael Davidoff, Special Counsel
Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk
Gary Lasher, Village Treasurer
Chuck Brodowsky, Water Department Supervisor
BJ Gettel, Building Department
Rich Manley, Building Department

Executive Order Compliance:

Mayor Nikolados acknowledged that we are compliant with all Covid-19 Health Pandemic regulations and Executive orders issued by the Governor of NYS in respect to conducting this Village Board Meeting via Video Conferencing with the Zoom App.

Motion to accept the agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Banks with a second by Trustee Rue to accept the agenda with the following add-ons:

1. Resolution authorizing the Village to enter into a modification agreement regarding an IMA for Tax Foreclosure Proceedings with the County of Sullivan
2. Resolution authorizing the placement of a "STOP" Sign at the Intersection of Patricia Place and Lloyd Lane
3. Resolution agreeing and authorizing a refund to Town & Country Resort in the amount of \$28,720.15 for the assessment reduction for SBL#114.-11-4 from \$280,000.00 to \$247,000.00 and SBL#114.-11-5 from \$964,400.00 to \$716,900.00 for the additional tax years of 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2020 from app#A.0250

Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Approval of minutes from the October 7th, 2020 Re-Org Meeting and October 9th, 2020

Emergency Meeting

October 7th Re-Org Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

October 9th Emergency Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Trustee Banks with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Mayor Nikolados-yea

Trustee Rue-nay

Trustee Sabatino-yea

Trustee Massey-nay

Trustee Banks-yea

Mayor/Manager Report

Mayor Nikolados stated that he been organizing the office and working on the CDBG Water Grant Exit Interview.

In regards to appointments, he stated that the Planning Board members are all still hold-overs and he is looking for someone to fill the space of Trustee Banks. Scott Cooper and Angela Rein were appointed to fill the spaces of former Members Ken Carpenter and Steven B. Kaufman, both appointments will have terms for five (5) years.

Discussion:

400 Broadway Liquor License Application:

The Village Clerk explained that this application is before the Board because the applicant had applied for a Liquor License with the Village Prior and was approved by me which I have the authority to do and given the waiver. The applicant amended their application and added live music, dancing, DJ and a Juke Box. The issue is that because the application has been amended, I do not have the authority to approve it, it now has to come before the Board for approval and that is the only reason why it's in front of you all.

A motion was made by Trustee Banks with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Peddler's Permit for Water Testing Kits-Craig Ford

There was a discussion of the board in regards to what the purpose of this is and if will have any adverse effects on the Village and the importance of protecting the Village residents. Mayor Nikolados made the Board aware that he will look more into it and report back to the Board.

Shredding for Basement

Mayor Nikolados stated that as we are all aware, there is a major storage problem in the Village basement that can be and is hazardous. He stated that the Village needs to maybe communicate with the Town and do a shared Shred Truck or something to mitigate this issue.

Trustee Rue made the Board aware that there are grants available for this and the Village applied for one previously and got it and there was some steps made, but not enough to see a significant change.

The Village Clerk responded that Trustee Rue is correct and that these grants normally start coming out in April and that is definitely a possibility for the Village to look into. She also stated that there is an MOU Schedule which has been distributed prior to the departments so that they can start getting rid of expired paperwork, but it's up to each department to separate their items. The Deputy and I have gone down there several times and gotten everything situated and then there was nothing done after the fact, so that is not a task we want to embark on again and shouldn't have to.

Mayor Nikolados stated that he agrees and that other avenues need to be explored and the possibility of a grant would be great, we just have to make sure that we meet the criteria and actually use the grant for its purpose.

Real Property Appraisals

Mayor Nikolados stated that he got a list from the Clerk for all of the Village owned property and that we need to get rid of as much of this property that we can. It doesn't make sense that we keep paying taxes to the school and wherever else. That money that we are paying out, can be in our budget for our use. I don't know if we need to hire an outside company to list and sell the properties for us and they get a commission or fee or if we can keep doing it ourselves, but we need to get these properties sold. He stated that something has to be done because we cannot afford to keep these properties.

Trustee Rue commented that it is good that 504 Broadway is on the agenda and hopefully being sold, we need to get the rest of these properties sold. Even though the school bill was less, we wouldn't be paying anything if we didn't own them. Also any of the properties that have a structure on them, we are responsible if something goes wrong like when 504 Broadway's pipes broke because the heat was turned down and the Village was responsible for getting that fixed, we can't afford to keep doing that, so we need to get these properties off the Village hands.

Trustee Banks stated that the Mayor and Trustee Rue are correct, owning these properties are a liability to the Village and we have to sell them, we need as much money as we can get right now.

Sanitation Truck

Mayor Nikolados thanked Mechanic Forman Fred Ramsey for building the Village a new bucket truck for a third of the price of purchasing a used or new one.

Mr. Lasher stated that he just wanted the Board to know that the Village is looking to purchase a new sanitation truck, the money that we keep putting into the truck that keeps needing repairs is a waste and we can own a brand new truck for a few more dollars without the headaches. All of the information will be available to you for the next Board meeting.

Resolution authorizing the payment of bills in the amount of \$447,138.36

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the Mayor/Manager to sign the Shared Services Agreement with the NYS DOT for two (2) years

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the extension of the current 2019/2020 Activated Sludge Cake & Grit Bid with Luzon Environmental Services at the awarded bid rate of \$120.70/ton until July 31st, 2021

A motion was made by Trustee Sabatino with a second by Trustee Rue. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing all payments made to Badger Meter (sole source provider) as Pre-Pay for the Orion Cellular LTE Service Unit ONLY not to exceed \$1,500.00 for the Water Department from app#F.8320.459

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Banks. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution declaring the following vehicles as listed in the attached Schedule "A" as Surplus for the Highway Department

A motion was made by Trustee Massey with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution setting a curfew for Halloween for all unescorted individuals under the age of eighteen (18) beginning Thursday, October 29th, 2020 through Sunday, November 1st, 2020, from 9:00pm to 5:00am

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a question and a second by Trustee Sabatino.

Trustee Rue asked was the Village doing anything for Halloween and that she doesn't feel that we should just due to what is going on with COVID-19, it's too risky.

Mayor Nikolados stated that he is not aware of the Village doing anything and it's probably too late for us to attempt to do something and due to COVID-19, we have to be careful and it would have to be done outdoors only with proper social distancing. He stated that the MBA

(Monticello Business Association) is doing a Truck or Treat and small parade on Friday behind the TSC in the parking lot, everyone must wear a mask and social distancing will be enforced, he stated that he was going to attend and be a part of that on behalf of the Village.

Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution approving the conveyance of Real Property at 504 Broadway (SBL#111.-3-18.1) in the Village of Monticello

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the Village to enter into a modification agreement regarding an IMA for Tax Foreclosure Proceedings with the County of Sullivan

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution authorizing the placement of a "STOP" Sign at the Intersection of Patricia Place and Lloyd Lane

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino.

Trustee Massey asked why is a stop sign needed at this intersection.

Mayor Nikolados stated that he was told by Mr. Sherb, the Highway Superintendent that since the road has been paved, drivers are flying through it and it is causing a hazardous situation with the school buses and students that walk to school. Before the road was full of holes that forced people to stop and drive cautiously, now that the road has been repaired, people are driving crazy and there are still a few, not many, but a few students that walk to school, who need to be protected.

Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Resolution agreeing and authorizing a refund to Town & Country Resort in the amount of \$28,720.15 for the assessment reduction for SBL#114.-11-4 from \$280,000.00 to \$247,000.00 and SBL#114.-11-5 from \$964,400.00 to \$716,900.00 for the additional tax years of 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2020 from app#A.0250

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Statement from Trustee Massey:

On October 9th, George, Charlie and Michael attended an Emergency Meeting at 3pm and there were two gentlemen here and the meeting was not open to the Public as specified in the notification due to Covid-19. In that meeting Gerald Dietz and another gentlemen who were both investigators from the DA's officer were present and I wondered why? Why were they allowed to sit in the meeting, when the notice states that the meetings are not open to the public, are they privileged? What is the biggest crockpot, Sullivan County, possibly the biggest crockpot in America, let me remind you Gerald Dietz of the things you have done to Black and Spanish people, mostly black Americans in the Village of Monticello. Talk about Black Lives

Matter, George and Michael, well guess what, and let me tell you about Officer Gerald Dietz who was a cop and who is now an “investigator”. You arrest black men, beat them down, bully them and then take whatever personal possessions. I can’t even begin to count the number of illegal searches and arrest that have taken place, how many times you have shown up illegally to women’s houses and forced your way in, making up lies on people, damaging their reputations and names to make it hard for them. I remember about 10 years ago or maybe longer, you showed up to someone’s home and illegally let yourself in, you remember when you almost got your behind kicked by those black males, remember that Gerald Dietz? You beat the crap out of James Tomlinson aka “Bugg” from the community over a bike and he still suffers from the beating. Another gentleman was killed because you chased him out of the Village of Monticello after the chase was called off and the most vulnerable is the women you coheres into having sex with you to avoid being arrested. I pray for the day that these women would come forward and speak on all of these things that you have done to them. Mr. Farrell who was the DA at the time and the Assistant DA Meghan Galligan at the County, knew all of the above before they took Gerald Dietz as an investigator, if they claim that they didn’t know, then shame on them. This is nothing but white privilege. DA/Prosecutors are supposed to maintain the reputation of fairness and honesty, as well as be credible and trustworthy, but not here is Sullivan County. In due time, whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap, just as Michael McGuire did, even though he got a hook-up with the County, he is still no longer a judge. Think of all the lives he’s messed up, just like all of the other law enforcement officers who follow the same pattern of enforcing mass incarceration, locking up black and poor people who are committing crimes compared to white color people committing the same crimes that are running rampant in Sullivan County. I pray the Attorney General would take the time to read my letter about the corruption in Sullivan County. Remember what you told me, don’t take it personal, it’s just politics.

Executive Session (if necessary)

A motion was made by Trustee Sabatino with a second by Trustee Banks to go into Executive Session at 6:56pm for Litigation. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

A motion was made by Trustee Banks with a second by Trustee Banks to come out of Executive Session at 7:12pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Litigation Resolution

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Sabatino with a second by Trustee Rue to close the meeting at 7:13pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janine Gandy-McKinney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk