

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Village of Monticello

Wednesday, May 19th, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm by Mayor George Nikolados.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Nikolados-Present

Trustee Rue-Present

Trustee Massey-Present

Trustee Sabatino-Present

Trustee Banks-Present

Also Present:

Michael Davidoff, Special Counsel

Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk via Zoom

BJ Gettel, Building Department

Rudolph Brodowsky, Water Superintendent via Zoom

Rich Manley, Building Department via Zoom

Motion to accept the agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Sabatino with a second by Trustee Rue to accept the agenda with the removal of Item #13 off the agenda and one add-on regarding the Re-Opening of Village Hall. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Appointment of Deputy Treasurer

Mayor Nikolados appointed Bonnie Carnell as the Deputy Village Treasurer with the same salary of \$15,000.00 and the same parameters as the Deputy Clerk.

Public Hearing-Continuation of Proposed Local Law #4 of 2021 entitled "Zoning Change for the area located at Fraser Avenue headed towards Rock Ridge Avenue and the Northern portion of Starr Avenue from R1 to RM"

Notice was read into the record:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that three (3) Public Hearings will be held by the Village Board of the Village of Monticello on Wednesday, May 19th, 2021 at 6:00pm via the Zoom app. The Board will continue the discussion of the following proposed Local Laws:

1. Local Law #4 of 2021, entitled, "Zoning Change for the area located at Fraser Avenue headed towards Rock Ridge Avenue and the Northern portion of Starr Avenue from R1 to RM",
2. Local Law #5 of 2021, entitled, "Vehicle and Traffic of the Village of Monticello" to amend Chapter 252
3. Local Law #7 of 2021 to amend Chapter 236, entitled, "Towing of the Village Code"

In person attendance will be permitted in accordance with the CDC & NYS DOH Practices limiting seating to a 50% capacity due to the size of the meeting room located at 2 Pleasant Street, enforcement of Social Distancing and Face Coverings. For those who would like to view the meeting by video and/or teleconference the Zoom app is available and the following information will be needed to access the Public Hearings:

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Time: May 19, 2021 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87189658798?pwd=MIh4RHVISU5CWmVaZHI5S3ZqallXZz09>

Meeting ID: 871 8965 8798

Passcode: 606448

One tap mobile

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PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the economic significance of said proposed Regulations & Local Laws will be reviewed by the Village Board of Trustees incident to and as a part of said public hearing. Copies of said proposed Regulations & Local Laws are available for review at **Monticello Village Hall, 2 Pleasant Street, Monticello, New York 12701**. Written comments for these three issues only will be accepted by the Village Clerk until 12:00 noon on Wednesday, May 19th, 2021 at the following email: clerk@villageofmonticello.com. Any comments received after that time regarding these two issues will not be acknowledged.

By order of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello, dated Friday, May 14th, 2021.

Janine Gandy-McKinney
Village Clerk, Village of Monticello

Village Special Counsel, Michael Davidoff, commented that he's not sure why this Public Hearing is still on the agenda, he was under the impression that this item was not going to be discussed again until the reports and studies were back from the Engineer's.

Mayor Nikolados stated that he wanted this item back on to give additional residents a chance to respond if they haven't already done so, but you are correct Michael, a decision will not be made until we hear from the Engineer studies, which will take some time.

Mr. Davidoff stated that he suggests that the item be removed from the agenda until further

notice. He made the Public aware that there will be another notification in the paper when the studies are complete and at that time, the Public will be welcomed to come and speak on this matter.

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino to Table this matter until further notice. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Public Hearing-Continuation Proposed Local Law #5 of 2021 to amend Chapter 252 entitled, "Vehicle and Traffic of the Village of Monticello"

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Village Clerk, Village of Monticello

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino to re-open the Public Hearing at 6:11pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Mr. Davidoff stated that the Chief cannot be present tonight due to personal matters, but he did have a chance to look at the information that was given to him by the Chief and that any decision or further discussion should not go forth without the Chief present after this meeting.

The floor was opened to the Public three (3) times and the following people spoke:

Trustee Rue-against, giving power to wrong individuals, already a process set up, just need to be followed and enforced. What is the rush, it's not winter time now

Gordon Jenkins- agrees with Trustee Rue, sounds like a Contrys thing and him trying to get all the tows again, good ole boys again, shame that Board is even considering

Mayor Nikolados-safety issue, officers are busy solving crimes or answering calls, not taking away their power, expanding and trying to take away some of their burden, Highway Supervisor will be only person making calls, we can wait

Trustee Sabatino-agreed with Mayor Nikolados, safety issue, ambulance and fire truck hazard, it can wait for a few months

Trustee Banks-safety issue, agrees with Mayor, we have to make the change now, so that it can be implemented in the winter months

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino to recess this Public Hearing until further notice. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Public Hearing -Proposed Local Law #7 of 2021 to Amend Chapter 236, entitled, "Towing of the Village Code"

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Janine Gandy-McKinney
Village Clerk, Village of Monticello

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Sabatino to re-open the Public Hearing at 6:29pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

The floor was opened to the Public three (3) times and the following people spoke:

Trustee Banks- for the amendment, especially if it will deter a lawsuit, Village needs to expand and have free enterprise

Mr. Davidoff responded to Mr. Banks comment that the law says that the tow truck must make it to the location within 15 minutes of the call, if we expand it to other localities, then the tow companies will be breaking the law

Gordon Jenkins- Shawn Brooks nonsense, he's been trying to sue the Village for years and now he's finally found a way. Radius was created when he was Mayor to give the local towers a chance and was not created to discriminate, shame on Village for letting Brooks do this to them

Mr. Davidoff responded, again, the only way we can prohibit someone is if it's a matter of safety and there is no safety hazard, so despite who it is, we have to amend the law.

A motion was made by Trustee Banks with a second by Trustee Sabatino to close the Public Hearing at 6:35pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Adoption of Local Law #7 of 2021 to amend Chapter 236, entitled, "Towing of the Village Code"

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

Approval of minutes from the May 5th, 2021 Work Session & Regular Meeting

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

Mayor/Manager Report

Mayor Nikolados re-appointed Leo Glass as the acting Village Justice for a term of one (1) year.

Discussion:

Uniforms for Blue Collar Worker's

Trustee Massey stated that it will be a huge savings to the Village if we issued uniforms to the Blue collar worker's. The uniform allowances are getting out of hand and how do we know that they are actually using the money for what they say. I've seen some of the receipts and all they have on them is an amount, no store name, nothing. I know for fact that a lot of these guys use the money for other things because some of them shop in her store. When you go into the Army or into Corrections, they give you the same uniform as everyone else and you cannot pick or choose.

Mayor Nikolados stated that it's actually something to consider and the Sanitation department guys were asking about it because they are ruining their clothes with picking up the garbage due to the bags ripping on them and spills. We wear uniforms at my business and have a company that picks them up weekly or every couple of days, it's not expensive at all.

Trustee Banks stated that we can't pick what a person puts on their feet, do to people's ailments and stuff, we have to be careful. I agree there needs to be a limit, but the workers still should be able to purchase their own items. I think we should give them a list of stores they can purchase from or do a voucher for a store, this way, we know the prices and stuff ahead of time.

Trustee Rue also commented that each employee should have ID Badges, with so many new people being hired, people are afraid to open their doors because no one knows who works for the Village and who doesn't, so we need to get something to identify our worker's.

Mayor Nikolados stated that he agrees with trustee Bank and Trustee Rue, we do have to be careful due to different ailments, but we can do a voucher or a list of stores to purchase from and this can be put in their contract instead of them turning in receipts from only God knows where. In regards to the ID's, all Village employees should wear a Village ID. This will even help with scanning in, because there are a lot of time-clock issues, so we can have it on their ID. So it's something that we need to definitely look into further.

"No Parking" sign on the Right side of Liberty Street headed towards Broadway and also "No Parking" sign on the right side of Bedford Avenue

Trustee Massey stated that these signs need to be posted. It's ridiculous and the people going into the stores on Liberty Street not only park on both sides, but also park all along the sidewalks and it's noting being enforced. Bedford Avenue is another terrible street. The street is already tight and you can barely get down it, with the basketball courts and kids playing, now cars being parked on both sides of the street, I'm afraid someone will get hit or injured.

Michael Davidoff stated that Trustee Massey is correct regarding Liberty Street. He stated that his business is located there and they park all in front of his business and in his parking lot and he has to constantly ask them to move their cars. They do move, but he shouldn't even have to ask. Stated that he feels if they started getting ticketed, that will send a message and it will stop along with the signage.

Mayor Nikolados stated that it is a constant issue on both streets and there needs to be enforcement and signage put in place. He stated that he will speak with the Highway Superintendent and the Police Chief to put these things into play as soon as possible.

Resolution authorizing the payment of the Village bills in the amount of \$73,004.68

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 the Village Manager to sign the Hope VI Main Street Grant Agreement

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 Treasurer to make payment to Police Officer, Justin Dawson, for time owed in the amount in 12(twelve) days while serving in the US Army National Guard

Removed from agenda

Resolution authorizing the Treasurer to make payment to Chief Sewer Plant Operator, Mitchell Harmin, as documented in correspondence date March 7th, 2021

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

Resolution authorizing the Village Mayor to the Extension of Water Service Agreement with Wal-Mart through July 31, 2021

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 payment to Harry F. Rotolo & Son, Inc. (Sole Source Provider) for the Emergency Repair of the Electrical Panel at the Influent Building at the Sewer Plant from app#G.8130.233(Treatment/Disposal-Equipment Purchase). Account balance before purchase is \$6,950.00

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 Re-opening of Village Hall to the Public, safety masks/face coverings are required and social distancing will still be enforced until further notice

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

Trustee Rue commented that we should still require masks/face coverings along with social distancing. Even though the Governor has decided to go with the CDC guidelines, he is still leaving it up to municipalities and local businesses to do what is best for them, so I don't think this will hurt anyone.

Mayor Nikolados stated that he agrees, we need to re-open, but still have safety measures in place for the worker's and people coming into the building.

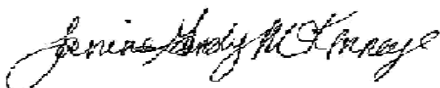
Mr. Davidoff responded that this is fine, he hasn't had a chance to read the new CDC guidelines or Governors stance on it, but he will look into it and doesn't see any harm in this. He stated that it should state until further notice and also due to HIPPA, we cannot ask anyone their health status, so this way we are covered wither way.

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

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Banks with a second by Trustee Sabatino to close the meeting at 7:03pm. Upon the call of the roll, all were in favor.

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy-McKinney, Village Clerk