

VILLAGE OF WOLCOTT
VILLAGE HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 9, 2024

7:35 PM

Members Present: Mayor Chris Henner, Trustees: Dan Smith, Dave Lewis, and Andrew Marshall

Members Absent: Trustee Misty Harper

Others Present: Fran Acker, OIC Brian Ritchie, Mayor Chuck Palermo, Diana Gardner, Robert Patterelli, Eva Winter, George Buckalew, Jack Roberts, Alex Wells, Rosemary Seymour, Richard Russo, Peter Sterpe, and Crystal Dohn

The meeting was previously posted to start immediately after the Laberge Dissolution Informational meeting that was held at the Wolcott Fire Hall at 6:00pm. Mayor Henner called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Festival Committee Proposal

Crystal Dohn addressed the Village Board stating she is interested in starting a Festival Committee for Wolcott. She has been reaching out to Kara Chapin who was involved with the 2023 Heritage/Strawberry Festival. Ms. Dohn asked those present about getting interest with getting involved and stated she is reaching out to the community for involvement. Mayor Henner told Crystal Dohn to reach out to the Village Board if she needed anything from the Village of Wolcott.

Bob Crane Annual Tree Trimming

Trustee Smith made the motion to approve Bob Crane's estimate in the amount of \$1,500.00 for tree trimming on Main Street and (1) tree in front of the Village Hall. Trustee Marshall 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Monthly Court Audit

Trustee Smith made the motion to approve the November 2023 court audit with a total of \$913.00. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Village Clerk-Treasurer-Fran Acker

Trustee Smith made the motion to accept and approve the November 2023 Treasurer's report. Trustee Marshall 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

The IRS mileage for 2024 increased from .655 cents to .67 cents effective January 1, 2024. Trustee Smith made the motion to increase the Village's mile reimbursement to that of the IRS in the amount of .67 cents. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Meeting Minutes

Trustee Smith made the motion to accept and approve the minutes from the December 4, 2023 Special Meeting. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. Trustee Marshall abstained due to not being present. All others present voted in favor.

Trustee Smith made the motion to accept and approve the minutes from the December 12, 2023 Department Head Meeting. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Trustee Smith made the motion to accept and approve the minutes from the December 21, 2023 Special Meeting. Trustee Marshall 2nd the motion. Trustee Lewis abstained due to not being present. All others present voted in favor.

Trustee Smith made the motion to accept and approve the minutes from the January 2, 2024 Special Meeting. Trustee Marshall 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Abstract #008

Trustee Smith made the motion to approve Abstract #008 in the amount of \$187,984.69 with vouchers numbered 364-423 and checks numbered 32509-32568. Total claims from the General Fund are \$145,102.69. Total claims from the Water Fund are \$24,614.45. Total claims from the Sewer Fund are \$18,267.55. Trustee Marshall seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

Facilities Use Request

Trustee Smith made the motion to approve use of Northup Park for Pickin' in The Park requested by Peter Sterpe from 5:30-8:30 pm on Thursdays once a month starting May 2024 to overlap the Farmer's Market. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Trustee Smith made the motion to approve use of the Fire Hall on 2/17/2024 by Justice Mein for a 5th birthday party. Trustee Marshall 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Mayor Henner

Mayor Henner received a call from Dottie Patt with the library, proposing a copy of Village Board minutes be sent to her for viewing by the public. Trustee Smith made the motion to approve minutes to the library once they are approved by the Village Board. Trustee Marshall 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Trustee Harper-absent

Trustee Lewis

Trustee Lewis discussed the updates to the Hometown Heroes Banner Project. He mentioned these would be put up in the Village by the Village Highway Department to be displayed between Memorial Day and Veteran's Day to allow Christmas decorations to be displayed and to extend the life of the banner. Eva Winter asked if anyone could advertise the program. It was explained this is ok, however, forms need to be revised so new copies would be different than what was at the meeting.

Mayor Henner

Mayor Henner provided an update on the Fire Truck currently being built. Delivery is scheduled for April 2024.

The Mayor mentioned there is daily conversation with the LaBerge Group regarding the Dissolution Study and this will be continual.

After conversation with Ben Syden from the Laberge Group, Mayor Henner will reach out to the school Superintendent to have the next study informational meeting in the middle school auditorium. The approximate time for that meeting is 1-2 hours.

Trustee Marshall

Trustee Marshall has more lawn signs if needed. He mentioned that a couple of them have come up missing.

Trustee Smith

Trustee Smith confirmed the dates on the minutes because the agenda had different dates than referenced on the minutes. Clerk-Treasurer Acker stated the minutes were correct, the incorrect date for the January 2 Special Meeting was on the agenda incorrectly as January 8 in error.

Time for the Public

Mayor Henner asked those in attendance their opinion on the dissolution vote scheduled. Mr. Patterelli spoke that he is very set against getting rid of the Village. He and his wife has been a resident for more than 40 years. He thinks everyone in the Village does a great job and would hate to see the Village go.

Jack Roberts spoke stating he 2nd what Mr. Patterelli said.

It was asked if the minutes could start being put on the website. Trustee Smith made the motion to have the minutes submitted to the village's webmaster once approved starting with the last quarter of 2023. Trustee Lewis 2nd it. All present voted in favor. It was explained to those in attendance that a 3rd person party handles the website, so timing is not in the hands of the Village Clerk.

Executive Session

Trustee Smith made the motion to move the meeting into executive session at 7:59pm for a personnel and contractual matter. Trustee Marshall 2nd the motion. Clerk-Treasurer Acker, Eva Winter and Richard Russo were asked to stay. All present voted in favor. Eva Winter and Richard Russo left at 8:03pm. OIC Brian Ritchie was asked to join at that time. Trustee Smith made the motion to move back to regular session at 8:29pm. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Trustee Smith made the motion to change OIC Brian Ritchie from full time salary to a part-time hourly employee effective January 17, 2024 with the hourly rate of \$25.00/hour. Insurance coverage currently paid by the village would end January 31, 2024. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

Adjournment

Trustee Marshall made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57pm. Trustee Lewis 2nd the motion. All present voted in favor.

The next regularly scheduled Village Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on January 23, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Village of Wolcott Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fran Acker

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Clerk-Treasurer