

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LAURENS
March 5, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Kelly Pinter, Trustee Jonathan Heelein, Trustee Tom Halstead, Trustee Frank Kovacs, Trustee Starr Liddle, Water Superintendent Dale Bullock, Clerk Erica LaBuz

Absent: Assistant Water Superintendent Jarrett Hotaling

Others: Monica Kovacs, Steve Pinter, Lois VanAlstine

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: Trustee Kovacs made a motion to approve the February minutes. Seconded by Trustee Heelein. Approved 5-0.

RESOLUTION:

Application for the Arts in the Community Grants Program for the 2024 Summer Concerts Series

On a motion made by Frank Kovacs, seconded by Starr Liddle, the following was adopted:

Be it hereby resolved this 5th day of March, 2024 that the Laurens Village Board does hereby resolve that the Village of Laurens will cooperate with the procurement of a musical grant and to appoint Erica LaBuz and Kelly Pinter to act as representative for the Village of Laurens to submit an application for the 2024 Arts in the Community Grants administered by Earlville Opera House. The successful award of this grant, along with a contribution of \$300.00 (three hundred dollars), by the Village of Laurens, will be used to fund the 2024 Laurens Summer Concerts in the Park Series.

Said resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Mayor Pinter Aye X Nay ___

Trustee Halstead Aye X Nay ___

Trustee Heelein Aye X Nay ___

Trustee Kovacs Aye X Nay ___

Trustee Liddle Aye X Nay ___

Financial Reports: The January financial report was reviewed. Trustee Halstead made a motion to approve the financial report. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 5-0. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve Abstract #10. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 5-0.

Proposed 2024-25 Budget

The Tax levy is calculated by the Office of the State Comptroller. Mayor Pinter reviewed the budget. It is conservative without a lot of extras. Revenues depend upon whether we receive the Arts in the Community Grant. The water budget is based upon the increase in water rates to \$4.50/1,000 gallons. There is a stipend for the EPA requirement to survey lead pipes. Trustee Kovacs made a motion to approve the 2024-25 tentative budget. Seconded by Trustee Heelein. Approved 5-0

Water Report – Dale Bullock: Water usage for the month was 476,000 gallons which is very low. Meter reads will take place on March 14th. Well #2 has been a problem. Aqualogics came on 2/19 to service the pump. The pump was working but water was not moving. New crocks were installed. The pump was taken off-line and restarted. Barney and Sons found a hole rusted in the pipe. Water was pumping back into the well. The pipe and pump must be replaced. A pitless adapter is needed which will cost \$2,000 - \$3,000. The expenses to date are \$10,000. For a

month the system has been operating on one pump. A 2-pump system is needed. We will use ARPA funds to replace the pump.

Debt Service Fee - A standard is needed to calculate the debt service fee for multi dwelling properties. Trustee Kovacs made a motion to calculate the debt service fee at the base unit plus 50% for each additional unit. Seconded by Trustee Heelein. Approved 5-0

Late Fees – A handout on late fees was distributed. It is an incentive to make customers pay on time. The discussion was tabled.

Committee Reports

Parks, Property & Sidewalks – Trustees Liddle and Halstead

Trustee Liddle reported that the Oneonta Job Corps has scheduled the village for sidewalk replacement in July or August. The cemetery is selling a Ferris lawn mower for \$2,500-3,000. It has 800 hours and does not run so it was suggested that we do not purchase it.

Community Engagement

Into the Streets will be held on May 4th. Trustee Kovacs will contact Sharon Stevens regarding the Easter Egg Hunt.

Old Business

Pool Fill Requests – A draft application was reviewed and discussed. Mayor Pinter will discuss the procedure with the Laurens Fire Department.

Public Comment

Steve Pinter said that Ferris is a top line lawn mower. Since we can't test it we don't know the hydraulics. The late fee on water billing is an incentive to customers to pay their bills on time.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Erica LaBuz
Village Clerk