

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LAURENS
April 4, 2023
ORGANIZATIONAL and REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Mayor Kelly Pinter, Trustee Tom Halstead, Trustee Starr Liddle, Trustee Frank Kovacs, Water Superintendent Dale Bullock, Assistant Water Superintendent Jarrett Hotaling, Clerk Erica LaBuz,
Absent: Trustee Jonathan Heelein
Others: Sandra Bollinger Marie Iannotti, Monica Kovacs, Steve Pinter

Pledge of Allegiance

Oath of Office: Sandra Bollinger administered the oath of office to: Mayor Kelly Pinter, Trustees Frank Kovacs and Starr Liddle

Organizational Meeting: Mayor Pinter opened the organizational meeting at 7:03 pm

The Organizational Chart (Attachment 1) was reviewed and discussed. Mayor Pinter asked for a volunteer for the position of deputy mayor. Trustee Frank Kovacs volunteered. The board committees were consolidated into two committees: Community Engagement and Parks, Property and Sidewalks. Trustee Halstead and Trustee Liddle will be on the Parks, Property and Sidewalks Committee. Trustee Kovacs will be on the Community Engagement Committee.

Trustee Liddle made a motion to accept the organizational chart. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 4-0

The organizational meeting closed at 7:07 pm.

The regular meeting opened at 7:07 pm.

Public Hearing for the 2023-24 Budget: Mayor Pinter reviewed each budget line in the General Fund. We did not allocate funds for the attorney because there are funds in the retainer. The board increased from 3 members to 4 members so there is an increase in that budget line. There were no questions on the General Fund budget. Mayor Pinter reviewed the Water Fund. Revenues were based on 2022.

Trustee Kovacs made a motion to adopt the 2023-24 budget. Trustee Halstead seconded. Approved 4-0

Minutes: Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the March minutes, seconded by Trustee Halstead. Approved 4-0.

Financial Reports:

Trustee Kovacs made a motion to approve the February financial reports. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 4-0.
Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve Abstract 11 for payment. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 4-0.

Bank Account Signatures:

Trustee Kovacs made a motion to remove Sandra Bollinger's signature from all bank accounts and to add Kelly Pinter to the bank accounts. Seconded by Trustee Liddle. Approved 4-0

Water Report – Dale Bullock 17,000 gallons per day. There is concern about the water at 82 Main Street. It will be repaired by Pete Andrews. Bottles were ordered for water testing. Tests will be split to 5 at a time. Adirondack will be billing. The ship date for the generator is 9/29/2023. Hopefully the generator will be replaced in October. Mayor Pinter asked about the plan for flushing hydrants. Dale and Jarrett will meet with Laurens Fire Chief Pidgeon. Flow tests are needed. The Laurens Together group will paint hydrants. An inventory of lead service lines will be done. In 2007 lead lines were required to be replaced. Houses outside of the system may not have been replaced. Jarrett believes there may be grants available for the replacement of pipes. An engineering report may have that information. The 2023 Water Quality Report needs to be updated.

Committee Reports

Parks and Park Improvements – Trustee Halstead - The park needs signs asking people to clean up after their dogs.

Street and Sidewalks – Trustee Starr Liddle

The Job Corps only has 5 students. They will do their best on the sidewalk project this summer.

Mayor's Report – Kelly Pinter

Mayor Pinter said that minutes are available per public requests. She would like to set up a website. The .gov domain name is free.

Mayor Pinter is excited to be mayor. Laurens was incorporated in 1811 and is the smallest village in the county by population and geography. In the 1860 census there were more than 700 residents. In the last census there were 185 residents. The average age is in the 50s. The mayor would like to encourage people to fix up rundown properties. A Code of Ethics was handed out to all trustees.

Mayor's Goals:

- Use ARPA funds to improve the water system
- Inventory assets
- Create a village website. A nominal annual fee would be \$100.00
- Replacement of sidewalks.
- Clean up of sidewalks
- Apply for grants such as CHIPS, PAVE NY, community enhancement and local records management
- Brick entrance at Knapp Park
- ARPA - using the standard allowance if funds remain after the water projects
- Village appeal and homeowner recognition; alternate uses for Schlee Park

New Business: The Historical Society is requesting the use of the gazebo for a broom making workshop on June 5th.

Old Business: Sandra Bollinger reported that the Easter Egg Hunt was a big success. Sharon and Mike Stevens volunteered as well as the Key Club and Starr and Peggy Liddle. They filled 2,000 eggs.

ARPA funds must be allocated by 12/31/2023.

Grant awards from NYSCA for the summer concerts will be announced on April 12th. Otsego County will announce the community events grants on April 5th. The Community Engagement Committee will be involved planning these events.

Public Comments: Monica Kovacs asked about the status of the bridge repair. The bridge is on town property and the town is planning to apply for a grant for the repair. The post office is beginning delivery to homes that are not currently in the line of delivery. A flashing speed limit sign would benefit the village since people do not adhere to the 30mph speed limit. Mayor Pinter said the lowest speed limit for a village is 25mph.

Adjournment: Trustee Halstead made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Liddle seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Erica LaBuz
Village Clerk

Attachment 1

VILLAGE OF LAURENS

April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Oath of Office: Mayor and Trustees

Meeting date	First Tuesday of the Month except July meeting on July 11 th
Banking Facility	Community Bank
Official Newspaper	Daily Star
Attorney	Whiteman Osterman and Hanna LLP
Health Officer	Fox Hospital
Clerk-Treasurer	Erica LaBuz
Deputy Clerk	
Village Assessor	Kassandra Cade-Laymon
NYS Fire/Building Code Enforcement Officer	Otsego County Codes Office
Historian	Marie Iannotti
Registrar of Vital Statistics	Deb Lawyer
Dog Control	Julie Polulech
Park/Village Maintenance	
Water Superintendent	Dale Bullock
Assistant Water Superintendent	Jarrett Hotaling

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Mayor	Frank Kovacs
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BOARD COMMITTEES

Community Engagement Committee	Frank Kovacs
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Parks, Property & Sidewalks Committee	Tom Halstead and Starr Liddle
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