

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LAURENS
September 5, 2023
REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm

Present: Mayor Kelly Pinter, Trustee Frank Kovacs, Trustee Starr Liddle, Water Superintendent Dale Bullock, Assistant Water Superintendent Jarrett Hotaling, Clerk Erica LaBuz

Absent: Trustee Tom Halstead, Trustee Jonathan Heelein

Others: County Representative Rick Brockway, Marie Iannotti, Steve Pinter

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: Trustee Kovacs made a motion to approve the August minutes. Seconded by Trustee Liddle. Approved 3-0.

Financial Reports: The July Financial Report was reviewed. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the financial report and Abstract #4. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 3-0. Insurance for 23-24 was higher than budgeted by \$47.96 in the General and Water Fund. Trustee Kovacs made a motion to transfer \$47.96 from A1325.4 and FX8310.4 (Administrative Contractual) to A1910.4 and FX1910.4 (Insurance). Seconded by Trustee Liddle. Approved 3-0.

Water Report – Dale Bullock: The pump house lost power which caused pump 2 to not work. NYSEG responded. The cause was a mouse chewed through the wire. There appears to be a leak in the system. Pete Andrews of Rural Water will be called. Stretch’s Lawncare is recommended for plowing at the pumphouse. The quote is \$65.00 to plow when over 3” of snow has fallen. Trustee Liddle made a motion to use Stretch’s Lawncare for plowing. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 3-0

Lead/copper testing will be done in October. Bottles will be handed out at the meeting on October 3rd. Meter reads will be done on 9/22. Trustee Kovacs recommended a basket filter to keep pebbles out of the system.

Committee Reports

Parks, Property & Sidewalks – Trustees Liddle and Halstead

No report

Community Engagement – Trustee Kovacs

Trunk or Treat will be held on October 28th.

Mayor’s Report – Kelly Pinter

The Historical Society thanked the village for the use of the gazebo for their broom making demonstration.

Public Comments:

County Representative Rick Brockway spoke about the property at 108 Main Street which had been destroyed by fire. The county was going to sell it to the land trust but it went up for tax sale instead. It may be infested with rats and it is possible that a homeless individual has taken residence there.

County codes will contact the owner. A new tower will be erected to replace the New Lisbon tower. The tower is for emergency services communications. A cannabis festival will be held at the horse farm on County Route 10 in October. Both the Town of Laurens and Otsego County are working to prevent noise issues. There is no tax auction this year. The county is visiting property owners who have not paid taxes to ask if they need assistance. The strategic planning committee is surveying county residents on what the county can do to improve services.

The clerk reported that the Laurens Fire District Board of Commissioners is facing budgetary challenges. Two commissioners and the treasurer resigned this year. Expenses are high due to truck repairs on aging fire apparatus. There will be a public hearing in October on the 2024 budget. There will be three openings for commissioners – one for an expired term and two for the commissioners that were appointed due to resignations.

Adjournment: Trustee Liddle made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Erica LaBuz
Village Clerk