

Village Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting

February 12, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held on the 12th of February at 7:15 PM, in the Auditorium of the Snow Memorial Building, 4917 North Jefferson Street, Pulaski, NY 13142.

Members Present: Jan Tighe, Mayor; Jeffrey Fowler, Trustee; Amy Dobrzynski, Trustee; and Alan Engelbrekt, Deputy Mayor

Absent: Scott Pello, Trustee.

Village Staff/Officials in Attendance: Michael Martin, Chief of Police; Bill Noreault, DPW Supervisor; and Jennifer Gibbs, Deputy Clerk.

Guest(s): Steven Totten, Heidi Tompkins, and Mark Dobrzynski.

Public Hearing: Changes to Solar Zoning and Adopting a Solar Law

Alan Engelbrekt made the motion to open the public hearing at 7:15 PM with a second from Amy Dobrzynski. The motion passed with all in favor.

Mark Dobrzynski asked who would be in charge of permitting solar. Mayor Jan Tighe noted that it would be the Village Planning Board and/or possibly the Zoning Board of Appeals if there were any variance issues. Ground mounted residential solar would be by special permit.

Jeffrey Fowler requested the following changes to the stand-alone solar law:

- On page 5 of proposed Local Law No.1 2024, under 5. General Requirements, G. add Battery storage not permitted or a permitted use.
- Page 11. (No. 12) Omit a.)
- Page 11. (No. 12) b. Rewrite "All commercial solar energy systems shall be required to: "
- Page 12 (No. 12) 2. i. Add the any vegetative screening must be protected from deer. Deer resistant plants are not considered protected.
- Page 12 (No. 12) 2. ii Omit
- Page 14 (No.10) C. Delete/Omit

Amy Dobrzynski asked why we were allowing any solar in the Village and it was pointed out that we will be limiting solar to B2 and Industrial zones with the code changes that will be voted on at this meeting (Local Law No. 2 of 2024.) The point of the changes is to keep residential districts open to allow for construction of housing.

There was no other public comment. Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to close the hearing at 7:28 PM with a second from Alan Engelbrekt. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:29 PM with Mayor Jan Tighe leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Agenda Items #2: Public Comment

Agenda Item #3: Report from Tug Hill Circuit Rider

Heidi Tompkins reviewed the Tug Hill Commission's monthly newsletter. The Board was reminded that the Tug Hill Commission Board of Directors will be held here at the Snow Memorial Building at 10:00 AM on March 18, 2024.

Agenda Item #4: Approval of Minutes

Alan Engelbrekt made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2023, and January 8, 2024, meetings. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. There was no discussion.

Agenda Item #5: Approval of Staff Reports

The motion to approve the Building & Code, DPW, and Police staff reports was made by Alan Engelbrekt and seconded by Amy Dobrzynski. The motion passed 4-0.

Agenda Item #6: Approval of Vouchers

Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to approve the General, TA and Capital vouchers with a second from Amy Dobrzynski. The motion passed with all in favor.

Agenda Item #7: Treasurer's Reports

The motion to approve the January 2024 Treasurer's Reports was made by Amy Dobrzynski and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8: Old Business

- A. The Village Board received a copy of the Town of Richland/Village of Pulaski Comprehensive Planning Board minutes for their review.
- B. Changes in Village Local Laws
 1. The motion to adopt Local Law No. 1 of 2024 regulating solar energy systems in the Village of Pulaski was made by Alan Engelbrekt and seconded by Amy Dobrzynski. The motion passed unanimously.
 2. The motion to adopt Local Law No. 2 of 2024 amending Local Law No. 4 of 2021, a local law replacing Chapter 160 of the Pulaski Municipal Code entitled Zoning, to amend Article IV and its Table of Contents, for the Village of Pulaski, was made by Amy Dobrzynski. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.
 3. Mayor Jan Tighe requested that the Board review the subdivision law and come back with suggestions.
 4. The motion to approve the peddler/vendor's permit application form changes was made by Alan Engelbrekt and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler with the caveat that the Village Board review the fee schedule at the end of the year. The motion passed 3-1 with Amy Dobrzynski voting no. The changes included a 10-day permit.
- C. Review of Grants
 1. The Tree City renewal application has been sent in. Jody Olson is stepping down as chair with Sally Oliver taking her position. It will probably be 2-3 weeks before we hear back on the tree grant we are on with Central New York Regional Planning.

2. Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to adopt resolution No. 1 of the Year 2024 allowing the Village of Pulaski to accept grant funds, \$67,500.00 from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation to do an engineering study for upgrades to Dunbar Field. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.
3. The Village's Downtown Revitalization (DRI)/Restore NY application was not selected. The Village will receive a debriefing that will help with the next round's application.
4. Mayor Jan Tighe, Water Board Chairman Mike Sacco, DPW Supervisor, Bill Noreault and the engineer Corey Reid from BCA had a meeting with the vendors of the Zenner water meters. Information will be sent to Village residents soon. The meters will be free installation will be the responsibility of the owners. It will likely take 18-24 months to complete the project.
5. The Village is applying for grants to help fund future vehicles for the Police Department and DPW.
6. The Board reviewed the latest Sidewalk to School estimate and the Village has received a grant to match 50% of the total cost of the project. The loan amount would be about \$600,000.00. The mayor has reached out to Ed Gilson, the county legislator to see if Oswego County DPW would be willing to help with the project. Next month, March 11, 2024, will vote on a permissive referendum for the loan.
7. The Village is in line to meet the point necessary to receive a \$150,000.00 grant from the Climate Smart Community program. While not there yet, Pulaski is the leader of the program in point in a five-county area. We are at 3,800 points. Once we reach 5,000 points, we will be able to receive that grant.
8. The shared services program is no longer funded.
- D. The Village did not receive the CFA grant to help with the remediation of the Village dam. A phone conference will be held with the DEC, the engineer Gomez and Sullivan, the DPW Supervisor, and the mayor to discuss next steps.
- E. Amy Dobrzynski made the motion to approve the procurement policy that was updated in 2023. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jan Tighe requested everyone on the Board to bring in their policy books for updates. She also noted that the AUD's are also complete, just waiting for NYS's response and that the Village Clerk deserves thanks for all her hard work.
- F. Amy Dobrzynski made a motion to approve the agreement for Conveyance of Public Fishing Rights Easement to the People of the State of New York contingent on the approval by the Town of Richland. Alan Engelbrekt seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Agenda Item #9: New Business

- A. The Board reviewed the Village of Pulaski Public Works/Purchasing Spreadsheet. The owner of the bowling alley did apply for and receive a demolition permit.
- B. There is a training opportunity for Board Members and Village Officials Thursday, May 2, 2024, at the Turning Stone Casino. It is the NYS Tug Hill Commission's 2024 Local Government Conference.

- C. WWTP & Haldane Center will receive a free Energy Audit from Climate Smart Communities. Grant money may be available for any improvements required.
- D. Amy Dobrzynski made the motion to use the insurance funds \$44,000.00 to order a new police car and the contingency fund to pay for the balance. The total cost of the car ordered was \$55,184.44. Electric vehicles are not available for order currently. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.
- E. The Budget schedule was reviewed. The Board will need to make dates for a Budget workshop.

Agenda Item #10: Other

- A. It is time to take the required yearly prevention of sexual harassment training.
- B. There will be an eclipse on April 8, 2024. The county had two meetings regarding the eclipse. Traffic seems to be the biggest concern.
- C. PROP will be holding their fundraiser on April 18, 2024. It will be a cocktail party at the Kallet Theater.
- D. The 2nd Resource Fair will be held at the American Legion on April 19, 2024, between 3-6pm.

Agenda Item #11: Executive Session or Adjournment

A motion was made by Alan Engelbrekt to go into Executive Session at 8:31 PM. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to go out of Executive Session at 8:46 PM. Amy Dobrzynski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Next Regular Village Board Meeting and Public Hearing will be on March 11, at 7:15 PM.

Presented and Approved

Jennifer Gibbs, Deputy Clerk