

**Village Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting**

**October 10, 2023**

**The monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was duly held on the 10th of October 2023, in the Auditorium of the Snow Memorial Building, 4917 North Jefferson Street, Pulaski, NY 13142.**

Members Present: Jan Tighe, Mayor; Alan Engelbrekt, Deputy Mayor; Jeffrey Fowler, Trustee; and Ryan McGrath, Trustee.

Absent: Scott Pello, Trustee.

Village Staff/Officials in Attendance: Cathy Spinney, Village Clerk/Treasurer; John Howland, Code Enforcement Officer; Michael Martin, Chief of Police; Bill Noreault, DPW Supervisor; and Jennifer Gibbs, Deputy Clerk.

Guest(s): Melissa Wadkinson, Steven Totten, Daniel Postal, Kristin Pratt, Ernie Wheeler, and Steve Balcom.

Agenda Items #1: Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM with Mayor Jan Tighe leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**Public Hearings**

Alan Engelbrekt made the motion to open the public hearing at 7:15 PM. Ryan McGrath seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

**A. Solar Law**

Daniel Postal of AES Clean Energy Development, LLC. addressed several concerns that were brought up at the last meeting on September 11, 2023, at the public hearing on the proposed solar amendments. AES & Young /Sommer LLC sent a "Model Solar Energy Local Law" that addresses the decommissioning, safety, and emergency response protocol of the proposed solar project at 141 North Street. Kristin Pratt reiterated that proposed Model Solar Law address the concerns the Village and residents had at that previous meeting and is the law is based on Oswego's. She also noted that restricting the areas commercial solar is allowed may make it difficult to meet the Climate Action Plan's goals and that they are not looking to challenge the code as it is but would like to keep the status quo. Jan Tighe mentioned that the Comprehensive Plan also includes housing, and the idea is to keep residential districts for homes and allowing commercial solar in R-3 districts will limit the available space for building residences. Steve Balcom said again that if he does not go ahead with the solar project, the land will be kept for agricultural purposes only and not for housing. Kristin Pratt gave examples of how adopting a solar law rather than just making the proposed amendments to code would help the Planning Board with its decisions on solar. Jan Tighe also noted that we haven't heard yet from the Village lawyer or Oswego County.

B. Property Maintenance

Jeffrey Fowler agreed with the changes that Melissa Wadkinson made to the proposed Property Maintenance Law, but felt he could simplify the code further, and submit the document before the next regular meeting.

Jeffrey Fowler made the motion at 7:34 PM to end the public hearing for the above proposed changes to the Village Code. Alan Engelbrekt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Agenda Items #2: Public Comment

Melissa Wadkinson asked whether there is a better way to notify residents of boil water advisories. Bill Noreault explained the difficulties of going from door to door. The Village DPW employees are needed to make repairs on the water mains and there is no one to spare without prolonging the fix. The Village does not have most residents phone numbers and unless the advisory encompasses the entire Village a reverse 911 call would not work.

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Minutes

Alan Engelbrekt made a motion to accept the minutes from August 18 and September 11, 2023. Jeffrey Fowler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #4: Approval of Staff Reports

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

Agenda Item #5: Approval of Vouchers

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

Agenda Item #6: Approval of the Treasurer's Report

The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Alan Engelbrekt and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #7: Old Business

- A. There was no Haldane report. Alan Engelbrekt noted that open skate will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- B. Highlander Construction still has restoration work left to do. The Village has held on to the retainage until the work is completed. The Village also is working out a final amount owed to the Water Commission for sidewalks that were replaced that were not part of the Water Main Replacement Project. The total will be between \$50,000 and \$60,000.
- C. There was a Wellhead Protection meeting/tour that included Jim Soule of the Water Commission, Ron Novack the Water Supervisor for the Town of Richland, and Lauren Darcy of the CNYRPB. The group visited the Village and Town wellheads.
- D. The Comprehensive Planning Board is still looking for volunteers.
- E. Changes in Village Local Laws

1. The sign law will be reviewed again at the regular November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Melissa Wadkinson is reviewing discrepancies and simplifying the law.
  2. Ryan McGrath made the motion to table the Solar Amendments. Alan Engelbrekt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
  3. A copy of the Peddler/Vendor Application was included in the packet for the Board to offer suggestions to update the fee schedule and time options for transient vendors.
- F. A copy of the Salmon Rivers Council of Governments October Report was handed out to Board members for their review.

Agenda Item #8: New Business

- A. Alan Engelbrekt made the motion to appointment of Reve. Brett Charsky as an alternate for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ryan McGrath seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.
- B. The motion to renew the Agreement of Municipal Cooperation was made by Alan Engelbrekt and seconded by Jeffrey Fowler. The motion passed 4-0.
- C. Alan Engelbrekt made a motion to adopt the Procedures for Post-Issuance Compliance with Federal Tax Law as a Village policy.
- D. The Board agreed to table the topic of whether all phone calls and emails with Village lawyers should be cc'd or in conference with all of the Boards members until more information about the reason for the change is known.
- E. The Village of Pulaski DRI and NY Forward grants were submitted.
- F. Mayor Jan Tighe attended the Conference on Housing & Homeless Coalition of CNY.

Agenda Item #9: Other

Thank you notes will be sent out for the following:

- Assembly Minority Leader W. Barclay
- Elizabeth Woods
- Connex Care
- U.S. Representative Claudia Tenney
- County Legislature Ed Gilson
- Operation Oswego County
- PROP – Margaret Weigle
- State Senator Mark Walczyk
- CNYRPB – David Balter
- American Legion – David Walker
- Salmon River Fine Arts Center – Ann Buchau
- Fulton Companies
- Flashy Flamingo

Agenda Item #10: Executive Session/ Adjournment

There was no need to hold an Executive Session. Jeffrey Fowler made the motion to adjourn at 8:05PM with a second from Ryan McGrath. All were in favor.

**Next Regular Village Board Meeting and Public Hearing will be on November 13, 2023, at 7:15 PM.**

**Draft & Unapproved**

**Jennifer Gibbs**

**Deputy Clerk**