

DATE OF MEETING: January 23, 2019

PLACE OF MEETING: Village Hall, Pawling, New York

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Robert Liffland
Trustee Dan Peters
Trustee Earl Slocum
Trustee John Burweger
Trustee Lauri Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Liffland said he met with Senator Harckham about 2 weeks ago and spoke about different projects the village would like to see happen. He said he had another meeting set up for Saturday and a package would be presented to the Senator with all the projects the village wants to complete.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to approve the Professional Service Agreements with Chazen Companies for Groundwater Assessment. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Trustee Burweger said the Oblong Land Conservancy was in the process of acquiring a 7.69 acre parcel of wetland owned by the Hovey family which fronts on West Main Street. He explained it is the headwaters of the north flow and it is environmentally clean. He said a condition of the Oblong's purchase is that they are looking for the village to take care of the snow removal on the West Main Street sidewalk. Trustee Burweger said the Hovey property sidewalk frontage is just under 200 linear feet on either side of a village well and the highway crew is already taking care of that. He recommended that the Village Board approves assuming responsibility for removal of the snow to encourage the Oblong to proceed with the Hovey land acquisition because the parcel is a critical wetland property as well as important to protecting the village's well and might provide future recreational opportunities.

MOTION by Trustee Burweger to approve the village assuming the responsibility for snow removal on the sidewalk adjacent to the Hovey property – Parcel No. 943088. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. Mayor Liffland said he would like to get the public's opinion.

Ms. Jeanette Daniels, a resident of Walnut Street, asked for the location of the property. Trustee Burweger explained the location.

Mr. Drew Montgomery, a resident of Quaker Hill Road, said it seemed like a good idea to protect the property especially since it is an integral piece of environmental property.

Mr. Michael Keupp, a resident of West Street, stated that the Oblong had looked at that parcel to put a trail in years ago. He said there were studies done but it never came about and he said the property should be acquired.

Mr. Lou Musella, a resident of Gristmill Lane, said he worried about the inconsistency of the village clearing this property but not other property owner's parcels. He asked if the Oblong had volunteers who could do snow removal. Trustee Burweger answered they did not however the Oblong might be willing to deed a small section of frontage next to the sidewalk to the village so that the village would have ownership. Trustee Taylor said the crew is already taking care of that section. Mr. Musella said there is an issue when homeowners are not removing the snow from their properties and everything should be consistent for all.

Mayor Liffland said he agreed with Mr. Musella. He said he thought the property was a little bit bigger than 200 feet. Trustees Taylor and Burweger disagreed and said it was under 200 linear feet. Mayor Liffland said he thought the Oblong should take care of it or the village should take care of all the sidewalks. Trustee Burweger said a solution would be the Oblong deeding a strip of frontage to the village.

Trustee Peters said he liked the idea that the property would be conserved. Mayor Liffland agreed with that but said he did not think it was fair for the village to take care of it. Trustee Peters said the village is taking care of the strip because a woman likes to walk to the Quickstop and it is before the owner gets out to clear the sidewalk. The Mayor said the village should be charging the property owners the fees for removal per the law if they are not removing the snow. Trustee Peters said that had been done but it was not done consistently. Trustee Burweger said the way around that was for the village to acquire ownership of the strip of property and he was pretty sure the Oblong would go along with that.

MOTION to amend the original motion to say that the Board would approve the responsibility for sidewalks if the Oblong would deed to the village the area fronting along West Main Street that would include the area adjoining the sidewalk. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Taylor to retain Cappillino, Rothschild & Egan, LLP to review a Planning Board file. **SECONDED** by Trustee Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Burweger to approve the minutes from December 3, 2018 – Organizational Meeting, December 3, 2018 and December 17, 2018. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to approve payment of the USDA Pay Request No. 6 in the amount of \$25,619.45 and the January 17, 2019 prepaid in the amount of \$1,000.00. **SECONDED** by Trustee Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Peter Cris, President of the Pawling Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Board for their involvement in the Economic Development Plan with the Town of Pawling and the Pawling Chamber of Commerce.

MOTION by Trustee Peters to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 PM. **SECONDED** by Trustee Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Village Clerk