

DATE OF MEETING: July 20, 2020  
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.

The Clerk read the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Pawling Board of Trustees (“Trustees”) is the governing board of the Village of Pawling; and

**WHEREAS**, at the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on July 6, 2020, the Board resolved to seek out the services of special counsel to conduct an investigation with respect to the activities of Mayor Robert Liffland pertaining to 146 East Main Street and related matters;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees have identified Kerry Lawrence Esq. as a candidate to serve in such capacity;

**NOW, THEREFORE, it is:**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees designates and appoints Kerry Lawrence, Esq., of the law firm of Calhoun and Lawrence, LLP as special counsel to conduct such investigation on the following terms: (i) \$10,000 retainer; (ii) \$450 per hour; and be it further,

**RESOLVED:** that Trustees Lauri Taylor and John Burweger are authorized, for and on behalf of the Village, to execute a written engagement letter with Attorney Lawrence upon the foregoing terms.

**MOTION** to approve the above resolution was made by Trustee Taylor. **SECONDED** by Trustee Burweger. Mayor Liffland asked for all in favor. Trustee Taylor voted aye. Trustee Burweger voted aye. The Clerk stated she was going to do a roll call vote.

Mayor Robert Liffland...

Mayor Liffland said he had something to talk about on the issue and this was as good a time as any. He asked if the Board was actually going to spend \$10,000 - for what – that was what he wanted to know. Trustee Taylor said it was to look into the activities the Board brought up at the last meeting that they were uncomfortable with that had taken place at 146 East Main Street. Mayor Liffland asked what that was. Trustee Taylor said all the work that was done there. Trustee Burweger concurred. Mayor Liffland said the only work that was done there was the permit for the demo and the water line. Trustee Taylor said that was right – without permits. Trustee Burweger stated without permits and at a cost to the village. Trustee Taylor stated and without any discussion with the Board. Mayor Liffland asked what they meant without permits. Trustee Taylor said there was no discussion with the Board – they had gone over it at the last meeting and Mayor Liffland voted to move forward with hiring outside counsel. Mayor Liffland said but not for \$10,000 – that was a lot of money. Trustee Taylor said it was something they

need to do. Mayor Liffland said he did not think they need to do that because there was no permit for that. Trustee Taylor asked there was no permit for what? Mayor Liffland responded for the water line running down through there. Trustee Taylor said that was right – he didn't get permits. Mayor Liffland said it got permits. Trustee Taylor said that was not to her understanding. She said they had letters from the Health Department saying that he didn't do things properly out there. Mayor Liffland asked Mr. Lou Musella to get Jim Greges who was outside. Mayor Liffland said Jim was in it and he could tell them more than he could. Mayor Liffland thanked Mr. Greges and said he was wondering if Mr. Greges could clarify what happened at 146 East Main Street. Trustee Taylor said Jimmy was not responsible for getting permits to do that work. Mayor Liffland responded he would tell her what happened with the permits. He asked Mr. Greges to go ahead. Mr. Greges asked if he meant for the water dig. Mayor Liffland said right. Mr. Greges asked what permit they were referring to. Trustee Taylor said the Health Department. Mr. Greges said he had a tailgate meeting at the beginning of the water dig and he talked to Kenny who works for Environmental Consultants who told him normally Karl handles all that stuff and he knew nothing about it and Kenny said he would handle that part. Mr. Greges reported he asked Kenny if he would handle the Health Department and Kenny said you only had to notify them and let them know they were doing it and Mr. Greges said ok. Mr. Greges said he thought it was all being handled by Kenny and the next thing he knew Kenny said they had to do tests and stuff like that which was fine. He stated then Kenny came and said something about some papers that the Mayor had to sign or something so Mr. Greges said ok and he went and told Robby there were some papers to sign and he thought they were done. Trustee Taylor said again it was not Jimmy who was involved with permitting and they have to provide plans to the Health Department and that was not Jimmy. Mayor Liffland said Mr. Greges just said who it was. Trustee Taylor said it was not Kenny either. Mayor Liffland said they always had the water guys take care of that – “what are you kidding me?” Mayor Liffland asked if he was right or wrong – who took care of it. Mr. Greges said all he knew was that it was Karl who always handled it. Mayor Liffland said they were way off base. Trustee Taylor said she did not believe she was. Mr. Greges said that was the way it was as far as he knew in the past. Mayor Liffland said that was always how it was. Trustee Taylor asked then why was the letter from the Health Department specifying all sorts of information. Trustee Slocum said the letter from the Health Department said we didn't get the permits. Trustee Taylor responded exactly. Mayor Liffland said that was because it got stopped. Trustee Taylor said no. Mayor Liffland said yes it did – well it didn't get there because...the guy never went there... Trustee Taylor said ok – what she was asking for was for it to be...Trustee Slocum said the letter was to Joe Zarecki and if he didn't understand it...Mayor Liffland said no, it was not that, the guy that was supposed to do the permit didn't do it. Trustee Taylor responded ok, so wait a minute, there is an issue and it needs to be looked into to figure out what the problem is... Mayor Liffland asked for \$10,000. Trustee Taylor said it was up to \$10,000, it was a retainer, it didn't mean they were spending ten but it needs to be looked into. Mayor Liffland said they could look all they want – there is nothing to hide. Trustee Taylor stated ok and that was what they talked about at the last meeting and the Mayor agreed to it and that was what they were moving forward with. Mayor Liffland responded not for \$10,000. Trustee Taylor said they were not spending that – it was a retainer. Trustee Burweger concurred with Trustee Taylor. Mayor Liffland asked if it wouldn't go over that. Trustee Taylor said she did not know yet – right now it needs to be looked into because there is a lot of confusion and misinformation and it needs to be cleared up and that's what this is for. Mayor Liffland said he thought a lot got cleared up tonight. Trustees Taylor and Burweger said they did not think so. Trustee Taylor said the three of them did not think so. Mayor Liffland said he would disagree with them. Trustee Taylor responded he could disagree with them and that was why they needed to move forward with having it looked into to make sure everything was handled properly. Trustee Taylor asked to get back to the vote please.

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| Mayor Robert Liffland | Nay             |
| Trustee Dan Peters    | Recused himself |
| Trustee John Burweger | Aye.            |
| Trustee Lauri Taylor  | Aye             |
| Trustee Earl Slocum   | Aye.            |

Frank Fish of Buckhurst, Fish & Jacquemart, Inc. gave a proposal on professional planning services in regard to the urban regulations and how they interact with the existing area and bulk schedule of the zoning code.

**MOTION** by Trustee Taylor to hire Frank Fish of Buckhurst, Fish & Jacquemart, Inc to move forward with the review of the village's codes and then also look into updating the Master Plan. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**MOTION** by Trustee Slocum to approve the use of 2 parking spots on Charles Colman Boulevard for McKinney and Doyle during the COVID restrictions and to offer spots for other businesses during the COVID restrictions. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board wanted all the businesses within the village to know that they supported them and if they needed any assistance they should to come before the Board and the Board would work with them.

**MOTION** by Trustee Taylor to support the Second Saturday proposal however they would need a Village Green permit for anything on the Village Green or for using the bandstand. **SECONDED** by Trustee Peters. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**MOTION** by Trustee Peters to approve the Metro North Treasurer's Report for June 2020. **SECONDED** by Trustee Taylor. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

The following Resolution was proposed by Trustee Peters, who moved its adoption, and seconded by Trustee Taylor.

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Pawling Board of Trustees ("Trustees") is the governing board of the Village of Pawling; and

**WHEREAS**, upon information and belief, a petition is circulating in the Town and Village of Pawling relating to dissolution of the Village;

**WHEREAS**, the Board has discussed the need for professional assistance in preparing timely and accurate communications to citizens of the Village pertaining to this matter;

**NOW, THEREFORE, it is:**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees designates and appoints Josh Sommers of Focus Media to provide such services on the following terms: \$150 per hour, and be it further,

**RESOLVED:** that Mayor Robert Liffland is authorized, for and on behalf of the Village, to execute a written engagement letter with Josh Sommers on the foregoing terms.

The question of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote, the Board of Trustees voting as follows:

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|-----------------------|------|
| Mayor Robert Liffland | Aye  |
| Trustee Daniel Peters | Aye  |
| Trustee John Burweger | Aye  |
| Trustee Lauri Taylor  | Aye  |
| Trustee Earl Slocum   | Aye. |

**MOTION** by Trustee Burweger to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 P.M. and go into Public Comment.  
**SECONDED** by Trustee Slocum. There was no discussion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

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Village Clerk