

**VILLAGE OF RENSSELAER FALLS**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 7, 2018**  
**(6:00 P.M.)**

Present: Mayor Michael Hammond, Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield, Trustee's, Jolene LaSieve, Trustee Connie McAllister and Stacy Gushea

Also in Attendance: Sewer Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Esther Gushea, Clerk Treasurer/Deputy Lisa Hammond, Kyle Hartman and Ernie Swartfigure

Absent: Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford, Village Attorney Henry Leader and Code Enforcement Officer Tim Tuttle

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.
2. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of December 3, 2018 Regular Board meeting were approved.

Motion: Charles Fifield

Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

3. Appropriations:

- a. General: \$6,036.54
- b. Sewer: \$3,507.22

Motion: Stacy Gushea

Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

4. Trustee Sworn In:

Connie McAllister was sworn in by Village Clerk Lisa Hammond for a two year term as Village Trustee

5. Department Head Reports:

- a. Sewer Report: Mark Basford submitted a written report
- b. Code Enforcement Report: Mayor Hammond submitted a written report from Tim Tuttle in which was read aloud

c. Clerk's Report: Clerk Gushea gave a verbal report.

d. Mayor's Report: Verbal report was given.

e. Committee Reports:

*Trees* - report was mentioned of Carl (Red) St. Denny working on various trees in the Village. Mayor Hammond noted that it is looking nice.

*Playground* - Discussion was held on holding a cornhole and possible Texas horseshoe tournament at the Fire Department this winter to raise money for the Falls Festival. Mayor Michael Hammond will talk to the Fire Chief about possible dates and times and interest. Jolene LaSiege wants to see raffle baskets, lottery trees and other fundraisers to help with the festival expenses.

Small Business - none

*Fall Festival* - none

6. New Business:

a. Fire Summit/Fire Contract w/Town of Canton - Discussion:

Mayor Michael Hammond reported that the Town of Canton will be holding its annual Fire Summit meeting on January 30, 2019 at 6 p.m. in Canton and is hoping for a representative from the Village of Rensselaer Falls. Mayor Hammond is going to ask Mark Bomyea to consider representing the Village, and attend the meeting along with the Rensselaer Falls Fire Department representative. Hammond reported that a copy of this year's fire contract has been sent to Attorney Henry Leader for his advice.

b. Pedestrian/Bike Path - Discussion:

Mayor Michael Hammond reported that he had discussion with both St. Lawrence County Legislature Joe Lightfoot and Heuvelton Village Mayor Barb Lashua about forward thinking of a bike/pedestrian path connecting Rensselaer Falls and Heuvelton. All parties are in favor and look forward to making this come to fruition.

## 7. Updates:

### a. State Street Rehab Project Invoice:

Discussion was held on the invoice from the Town of Canton, as Trustee Connie McAllister was not at last months meeting and wanted to be updated. Mayor Hammond reminded the board members that the Village of Rensselaer Falls contributes just over \$19,000.00 to town taxes.

Board members expressed their concern on services not being received such as Recreation, Highway and Economic Development services from the Town of Canton.

### b. Ditching Estimates: Discussion

Report was given that Mr. Greenard will be giving the Village an estimate on ditching.

### c. Snow Removal:

Mayor Hammond and Trustees thanked Ernie Swartfigure for a job well done. Swartfigure reported that the new snowblower and accessories are working out great.

### d. Vital Statistics:

Mayor Hammond reported that the Town of Canton has this matter on their agenda for the 16th of January. After the Town of Canton passes the resolutions to transfer the Vital Records to the Town, the Village of Rensselaer Falls will do so at their February regular board meeting.

### e. Workers Compensation:

Mayor Hammond stated that he met with County Legislative Chair Joe Lightfoot and held discussion on Workman's Comp. Discussion was held on who is responsible for the costs. Lightfoot was unaware that the Village of Rensselaer has no full time employees. Hammond expressed the Villages concerns of not receiving the refund that was forthcoming from the billing error from last year

over charging the Village. Lightfoot said he will speak with County Attorney Steve Button about this and make sure it is taken care of.

f. New York Cancer Coverage - CFIS

Mayor Hammond reported that the Village of Rensselaer Falls will be paying for coverage of 5 interior fire fighters under the new Firefighters Cancer Coverage Law. Hammond stated that the Village will pay for a total of 10 interior fire fighters in the next budget cycle.

8. Any other business that may come before the Village Board:

6:54 p.m. meeting adjourned

Motion: Connie McAllister      Seconded: Stacy Gushea      Vote: unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa Hammond  
Village Clerk