

VILLAGE OF RENSSELAER FALLS

January 13, 2025

6:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting

Present: Mayor Michael Hammond, Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield, Trustee Connie McAllister, Village Clerk Lisa Hammond, Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford, Nick Calton and Rick Martin

Absence: Attorney Henry Leader, Trustee Jolene LaSiege and Trustee Samantha Booth

5:30 p.m. Motion to enter into Executive Session by Trustee Connie McAllister and seconded by Trustee Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield for the purpose of Personnel Code Enforcement Officer. All in favor.

5:58 p.m. Motion to come out of Executive Session by Trustee Connie McAllister, seconded by Trustee Charles Fifield. All in favor

6:00 p.m. Mayor Michael Hammond opened the regular meeting

1. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance

2. Appropriations: Sewer and General

Bills were audited by Trustees Charles Fifield and Connie McAllister

Motion to approve bills.

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Charles Fifield Vote: unanimous

3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of October 7, 2024 and November 4, 2024 were approved by Charles Fifield

4. Trustees Sworn in:

Trustees Connie McAllister and Nicholas Calton were both sworn into office by Village Clerk Lisa Hammond

5. Appointments:

Clerk: Lisa Hammond appointed by Mayor Michael Hammond to run with his term through December 2025.

Deputy Clerk: Becky Donnelly

Deputy Mayor/Trustee: Connie McAllister - McAllister to be added to General and Sewer Bank Accounts

Code Enforcement Officer: Ron Dulmage possible approval in new business

Attorney: Henry Leader

Planning Board: Full

Zoning Board: Full

Official Newspaper: North Country this week

Mileage Federal Rate: Follow current Federal rate

Official Bank: Community Bank NA

All above appointed approved by Trustees Nick Calton and seconded by Connie McAllister. All in favor.

6. Reports: Departments and Committees

- a. Sewer Report: Mark Basford was not present, but will follow up with a written report. The sand is in place and one bed is in use. Basford hopes to use Heuveltons loader to move piles of dirt at the plant.

69 Hours reported by Basford for and 32 Hours reported for Jared Murray for the Month of November. Note: Hours are up due to sand bed replacement.

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Trustee Nick Calton Vote: unanimous

- b. Code Enforcement Report: see new business

- c. Clerk's Report: Clerk Lisa Hammond reported that she attended the municipal clerks dinner meeting. Taxes were sent onto the County. Hammond stated she and the Mayor met with Ron Dulmage, Code Enforcement Officer. Becky Donnelly continues to work with Hammond. Corning is still behind on payments. One death was reported in the Village this month.

Motion: Nick Calton Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

- d. Mayor's Report: Mayor Michael Hammond stated for the record that outgoing Deputy Mayor/Trustee Charles Fified has served on the Village Board for the past ten years. Hammond thanked Fified for his service to the Village of Rensselaer Falls and also his service in the military. The board members and staff were in agreement with Mayor Hammond and also thanked Fified for his dedication to the Village. Snacks were shared

in honor of Fifield. Mayor Hammond stated that the Mayors dinner was canceled for December 2024.

Motion: Trustee Nick Calton Seconded: Trustee Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

e. Committee Reports:

Trees - none

Falls Festival/Playground: Meeting to be held after the regular Village monthly meeting tonight.

Committee reports approved by motion of:

Motion: Nick Calton Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: Unanimous

6. New Business:

a. Library Resolution:

Pro-Housing Grant Resolution was discussed. Mayor Michael Hammond stated that this document has benchmarks supporting housing initiatives. The resolution stated that the Village will be active in promoting and supporting prohousing development within the Village.

Motion: Nick Calton Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

b. Fire Department member approval:

Mayor Michael Hammond stated that Maddy Hurlbut's application was to be presented to the Village board but with the weather was not able to get it to us. Approval will be granted after proof of physical and the application review.

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Nick Calton Vote: unanimous

c. Code Enforcement Officer Appointment:

Mayor Michael Hammond stated that Ron Dulmage, Code Enforcement at Ogdensburg is retiring upon the City finding his replacement. Dulmage wants to be the Village of Rensselaer Falls Code Officer. Dulmage has reviewed our Code

and current problem areas around the village. Mayor Hammond noted that discussion was held on Dulmage during executive session with no action taken. Mayor Michael Hammond proposes that the Village of Rensselaer Falls hires Ron Dulmage as Code Enforcement Officer with the start date of January 2, 2025 at a salary of \$400.00 a month to include a cellular service plan "straight talk" and a computer. Clerk Lisa Hammond noted that the increase to the monthly fee for Code Enforcement will not affect this year's budget, so therefore no budget amendment will be necessary.

Motion: Trustee Connie McAllister Seconded: Nick Calton Vote:
unanimous

7. Updates: none

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE VILLAGE BOARD

Mayor Michael Hammond added to agenda: Superior Plus Propane proposal.

Discussion was held on Superior offering the Village .30 cents cheaper than Merrimans, the Villages current Propane provider. Full board was in agreement of the change in providers.

Rick Martin was present and had questions about erecting a fence. After a brief discussion it was decided that Martin will wait to reach out to our new Code Enforcement Officer after the first of the year.

6:22 p.m. Closed Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Nick Calton Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa Hammond, Village Clerk