

**VILLAGE OF RENSSELAER FALLS**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**February 10, 2020**  
**(6:00 P.M.)**

Present: Mayor Michael Hammond, Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield, Trustee's, Connie McAllister, Jolene LaSieve, James Blackburn

Also in Attendance: Code Enforcement Officer Tim Tuttle, Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford, Mark Bomyea.

Absent: Clerk Treasurer Lisa Hammond and Village Attorney Henry Leader

Additions to the agenda:

1. Fire Department attendance to Banquet on March 28, 2020

McAllister x2 Fifield x2 Hammond x2 to attend

2. 2020 Census Boundary map:

Mayor Hammond stated that he signed the boundary map and returned to the State.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance

1. Appropriations approved:

Motion: Charles Fifield                      Seconded: Connie McAllister      Vote: animous

2. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of January 6, 2020 Regular board meeting were approved.

Motion: Connie McAllister                      Seconded: Jolene LaSieve      Vote: unanimous

3. Reports: Departments and Committees

- a. Sewer Report:

Mark Basford updated the board members on the sewer issue located at the corner of King and Congress. Basford stated that the Village Sewer Pipe is fixed and working

well. Basford added that the drainage tiles located there don't appear to be going anywhere. It has been filled in with stone and the grading and seeding will be done in the spring. Three houses go into the same collection on that street and a sinkhole has caused problems with the sewer Basford said drainage is a big problem in the Village. Mayor Hammond wants to see more french drain work done in the Village and entertains getting a quote from Jeff Crobar. Mayor Hammond asked Basford to correspond with Corey Reynolds on his root problem interfering with the sewer line at this property.

Mark Basford added the testers were in the Village and overall everything is good. Basford has not heard on the non compliance issue at the Plant, he stated probably next month. \$900.00 meter is needed to be purchased. Basford to send an estimate to the board members.

Approval to accept Basfords report

Motion: James Blackburn                      Seconded: Connie McAllister      Vote: unanimous

b. Code Enforcement Report:

Tim Tuttle was present and stated that he spoke with the County Planning Office and you can not combine Planning Board members with the Zoning Board members. They suggest passing a local law reducing the size of the boards from 5 members to 3. Tuttle stated the Village zoning laws are no good with no boards in place. The time has passed regarding a request for variance at E. Gushea's property. Tuttle is going to have Henry Leader move forward and grant the variance. Tuttle stated no contention of this property. Tuttle was told that a municipality is not required to follow its own law. Mayor Hammond added that Leighanne Mullaney will be joining the zoning board of appeals, leaving once vacancy.

Motion made to accept Tutttles report.

Motion: Connie McAllsiter                      Seconded: Charles Fifield      Vote: unanimous

c. Clerk's Report: Clerk Hammond not in attendance

d. Mayor's Report: Mayor M. Hammond stated he will report later in the agenda.

e. Committee Reports:

*Trees* - None

*Fall Festival* - Mayor Hammond stated he and Shelly Sanderson have been in correspondence about t-shirts, sweatshirts etc. Jolene LaSeige stated she has been working on designs for things.

Motion to approve all Committee Trustee James Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Connie McAllister. All voted in favor, motion carries.

#### 4. New Business:

##### a. Sales Tax Resolution:

Mayor Hammond went over the different proposals “out there.” Hammond went over the resolution which was similar to the one passed by the Village of Canton and discussion was held.

Motion to pass resolution made by Trustee Jolene LaSeige, seconded by Trustee Charles Fifield. Motion carries.

#### 5 . Updates:

##### a. National Grid LED upgrade:

Mayor Hammond stated that the Village received an estimate for changing out 52 lights to the LED for \$950.00. Mayor Hammond read over the details of the conversion and incentives. Hammond wants to have further discussion with National Grid on putting in additional lighting, removing poles and adding holiday lights.

##### b. LWRP Grant - Town Lead:

Discussion was held C & S being chosen as they are currently the ones working with Canton on a Brownfield project on Riverside Drive. Mayor Hammond stated that three companies presented and C & S presented the best. C & S knew alot about the Oswegatchie River. The State looks at both LWRP’s and Comprehensive Plans.

c. Fire Department Request:

Discussion was held a generic response from the Town of Canton on the request sent to them on how the appropriations from the Town of Canton to the four fire departments within the Township are still split up, stating that it will be on the February Town Agenda. Jeff Hammond was the Fire Department representative for Rensselaer Falls and Mark Bomyea was the Village of Rensselaer Falls representative.

7. Any other business that may come before the Board:

Mayor Michael Hammond discussed with the board members, using plans of the Village of Heuvelton from Andy Martin on a pavilion. Hammond has been in contact with Laura Bomyea. The prints are Martins, not the Village of Heuvelton and are available to the Village of Rensselaer Falls in the amount of \$250.00. Discussion was held on previous prints that were done by Robert Burnett. The board request reviewing the prints before deciding. Hammond reminded the board members of the \$50,000.00 grant that the Village has been sitting on for a couple years.

Mark Bomyea stated that the Fire Department is looking to purchase a generator and washing/dryer machine. The Washer/Dryer is about \$20,00.00. Bomyea added that the department has been applying for grants for over ten years. Bomyea suggested to James Blackburn to reach out to Bob Crowe of the Canton Fire Department as he writes grants and gets the funding most all the time. Blackburn to try for a micro grant portion. Blackburn wants to apply for turnout gear and washer/dryer at the same time. Bomyea stated the Fire Department wants to purchase a generator and have the Village contribute toward it. Total cost of the generator is \$22,000.00.. This generator will help the Fire Department house people that are without power in times of need. Discussion was held on purchasing a generator that sits on the back of a tractor. Ideas and numbers will be researched to see if this option will work. James Blackbur gave a brief discussion on rescue squad narcotics and the amount required to order. Blackburn is working on this crisis.

7:05 p.m. adjourned

Motion: Connie McAllister    Seconded: Charles Fifield    Vote: unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:  
Lisa Hammond, Village Clerk