

# VILLAGE OF RENSSELAER FALLS

## Regular Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2020  
(6:00 P.M.)

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

Also in Attendance: Clerk Treasurer Lisa Hammond, Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford, Mark Bomyea, Rick Bomyea, Leighanne Mullaney, Shirley Calton, Calton, Heather Wainwright and Ralph Hammond.

Absent: Village Attorney Henry Leader and Code Enforcement Officer Tim Tuttle,

Additions to the agenda:

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance

1. Appropriations approved:

Motion: Connie McAllister                      Seconded: Jolene LaSiege    Vote: animous

2. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of February 10, 2020 Regular board meeting were approved.

Motion: Charles Fifield                      Seconded: Connie McAllister    Vote: unanimous

3. Reports: Departments and Committees

a. Sewer Report:

Mark Basford received approval on quotes previously provided to purchase upon motion.

Motion: James Blackburn                      Seconded: Charles Fifield    Vote: unanimous

Basford stated that he has heard from Corey Reynolds on the issues that were

repaired at his residence. Basford will reach out to Reynolds to stay in contact with him and be assured that things are flowing alright.

Approval to accept Basfords report

Motion: Connie McAllister          Seconded: Jolene LaSiege    Vote: unanimous

b. Code Enforcement Report:

Tim Tuttle was not present at the meeting. Tuttle reported 2 hours worked in the month of February to Clerk Hammond.

c. Clerk's Report:

Clerk Hammond reported that unpaid Village taxes were received from the County in the amount of \$6,481.44. Hammond also reported paying the retirement system \$2,509.00 for the Village contribution.

Clerk Hammond reminded the board to schedule a budget work session sometime this month.

Motion: Connie McAllister          Seconded: Charles Fifield    Vote: unanimous

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

e. Committee Reports:

*Trees* - None

*Playground* - Balance in checking account is \$3,380.48

*Fall Festival* - Mayor Hammond stated that there is a meeting following the regular monthly board meeting.

Motion to approve all Committee Trustee Charles Fified, seconded by Trustee Jolene LaSiege. All voted in favor, motion carries.

4. New Business:

a. Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments:

Clerk Lisa Hammond swore in ZBA Members Leighanne Mullaney and Ralph

Hammond to the board for a term of five year. Heather Wainwright and Matthew Schneller were appointed for a term of five years also.

Motion made by Trustee Connie McAllister, seconded by Trustee Jolene LaSiege. Motion carries.

b. New Fire Department Member:

Joseph Polinak was approved by the Village Board to join the Rensselaer Falls Fire Department after review of his application.

Motion: Charles Fifield                      Seconded: Jolene LaSiege                      Vote: unanimous

c. Amendment to Local Law:

Mayor Michael Hammond previously sent the members a draft local law on changes the ZBA and Planning Board to three members as opposed to five members due to the lack of available members wanting to serve.

Hammond will send it to Attorney Henry Leader and Code Enforcement Officer Tim Tuttle for review.

5 . Updates:

a. LWRP Grant - 1st Meeting w/Consultant 3-4-2020:

Mayor Michael Hammond invited anyone that would be available to go to this meeting with him. Hammond noted that the meeting is going to get to know each other better and work on setting up a public input session. The Local Water Revitalization Plan goes hand in hand with the Grasse River and the Comprehensive Plan. Both Grasse River and the Comp Plan have been completed. Now the LWRP will be the final piece of the puzzle to be completed. Mark Bomyea asked Mayor Hammond to be added to the email list on any correspondences with the matter.

Or did you say the LWRP was a going to be in three stages. I'm confused

Hammond noted that a lot of the Comprehensive Plan information was transparent and not a lot of Village of Rensselaer Falls residence participated in the public meetings. Hammond added he repeatedly asked people to be involved and the numbers were low.

Mayor Hammond, Trustees Connie McAllister and James Blackburn will be attending this Thursday's Mayors Dinner in Ogdensburg.

b. Pavilion Project Discussion - Possible Approval:

Discussion was held on the design of the pavilion and the cost of the plans. Discussion was held on the size to be built. Mayor Michael Hammond stated he has been in communication with Laura Bomyea about the project. Hammond noted that Corner Stone, Striaght Construction and Whitten Construction have requested the plans/prints for the project so they can possible submit an estimate and bid. Hammond noted that the Village of Heuvelton is doing a similar project and that the labor and material there are being donated by the residence. The Village of Rensselaer Falls has a \$50,000 grant from Patty Ritchie Office and would like to move forward with the pavilion. Much discussion was held on the materials and size. Laminated posts are being considered to dress it up. The area is wet where the structure is supposed to go. but the engineer will address that along with the contractor.

Mayor Hammond to get back to the engineer with the short list of changes such as 40x80 in size, shingled roof, 8x8 laminated posts and drainage problem.

c. Economic Development Consortium Discussion:

Mayor Michael Hammond stated that he attended a meeting in Canton with the Presidents of both SLU and SUNY Canton, United Helpers, Bank employees, Health Alliance System, both Town and Village of Canton and Canton Central School employee at EDC session. Hammond stated this group meets twice a year and they are not asking for any money from Rensselaer Falls to participate. All the members listed above contribute to this consortium. The monies received from these groups funds the Town and Village Economic Developers Office so it can run. The ED Office applies for grants, ect. Discussion was held on SUNY Canton purchasing the Jubilee Plaza. Hammond found the meeting very informational.

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

Ralph Hammond reported that he and Bob Poor attended a tree seminar in Canton and that it was very informational . Hammond noted that they were offered an arborist to come to the Village and look over the trees. If any large trees in the Village need to be

removed, they will send the power company over to lay the tree down and then it would be the Villages responsibility to cut it up and remove it. Mark Bomyea noted he can by contacting the CDC if the Village needs it.

Discussion was held on the Street lights that have been replaced with LED along Congress Street. Clerk Lisa Hammond will reach out to National Grid on a timeline of when the rest of the Village will be completed.

After discussion of relocating the Village generator from the Sewer Plant to the Fire Department it was decided to do so upon motion.

Mayor Michael Hammond held continuing conversation about upgrading the tractor at the sewer plant.

Motion: James Blackburn      Seconded: Charles Fifield      Vote: unanimous

7:08 p.m. adjourned

Motion: Connie McAllister      Seconded: Jolene LaSiege      Vote: unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa Hammond, Village Clerk