

VILLAGE OF RENSSELAER FALLS
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2024
6:00 P.M. Regular Monthly Meeting

Present: Mayor Michael Hammond, Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield, Trustee Connie McAllister, Trustee Samatha Booth, Village Clerk Lisa Hammond, Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford, Nicholas and Shirley Calton, Shane Booth, Bob Poor and Ralph Hammond

Absence: Attorney Henry Leader, Code Enforcement Officer Grant Backus, and Trustee Jolene LaSiege

6:02 p.m. Mayor Michael Hammond opened the regular monthly meeting

1. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance
2. Appropriations: Sewer and General

Bills were audited by Trustees Charles Fifield and Jolene LaSiege

Motion: Charles Fifield Seconded: Samantha Booth Vote: unanimous

During the audit Trustee Fifield noted that the check was made out for less than the invoice due to Merrimans. Clerk Lisa Hammond prepared an additional check for balance due. Fifield signed both checks for payment to Merrimans.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of April 15th, 2024 were approved

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Charles Fifield Vote: unanimous

4. Reports: Departments and Committees
 - a. Sewer Report: Mark Basford presented a written report and was present at the meeting. Basford stated that sand is at the lab (Stouts) being tested. Basford stated that he thinks it won't be cost effective to get the Town of Canton to haul sand for the Village. Flow meter is here but not installed yet. The Lift Station should be painted before the end of May. Basford requested a dumpster be delivered to the

Sewer Plant next week to dispose of items after discussion. Mayor Hammond noted that items from the Historical building and Village Office will also be placed in the dumpster while at the sewer plant. Mark Basford noted that the owner of the red brick church inquired about moving the clean out due to putting an addition on his place. Basford will follow up with photos before construction starts.

Motion: Samantha Booth Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

24 Hours reported by Basford for and 37 Hours reported for Jared Murray for the Month of April

- b. Code Enforcement Report: Clerk Lisa Hammond reported that she texted Grant Backus about the position with the Village and has not heard back from him. A brief discussion was held on the position and the Village Board agreed to wait a little while longer to hear back from Backus. Clerk Lisa Hammond stated that Rusty Lawrence filed the 2022 and 2023 State reports for the Village of Rensselaer Falls. Hammond also noted that a new roof is going on the United Helpers Building and will reach out to them about the permit application. Clerk Hammond stated she has received an application for a pool replacement.

- c. Clerk's Report: Clerk Lisa Hammond reported that 2nd quarter sales tax was \$16,269.82. Sewer relevies are completed for the upcoming June Village tax bills. The Fire Department requested an additional member be added to their Bell Jar License. Batteries have been replaced on CR 14 in the Speed Limit Sign. The batteries that were received for CR 15 entrance were wrong and will be sent back to the company. Hammond stated that the library open house that was held on April 18th, 2024 had great attendance and input. Discussion was held on allowing Clerk Lisa Hammond to send out copies of local laws to residents in violation of such law. The Village board gave approval. Clerk Hammond asked for approval to reach out to a data person to install cameras around the Village Office and the Playground. Hammond will contact the person that the Fire Department used and is satisfied with. Trustee Samantha Booth requests that we ask how long the data will be stored on the cameras.

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Samanth Booth Vote: unanimous

- d. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Michael Hammond noted that his report is all through the agenda. The

next Mayors meeting will be held in Waddington at the bowling alley sometime in June. Trustees Booth and McAllister will attend with the Mayor. Yard sale days are May 18th, 2024 with 6 craft vendors and 2 food trucks. Another open house for the library project will be held too. The Fire Department will be selling pull tabs during the event.

Motion: Charles Fifield Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

e. Committee Reports:

Trees - Bob Poor stated that he and Ralph Hammond drove around the Village and checked on all the trees. All trees are in good shape. Discussion was held on contacting National Grid about a few trees that are threatening power lines in the Village. Clerk Hammond will contact them.

Motion: Samantha Booth Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

Playground/Falls Festival Committee - Meeting on these subjects following the regular monthly board meeting.

Motion to approve reports

Motion: Samantha Booth Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: Unanimous

5. New Business:

a. ½ Basketball Court/Pickleball Court:

Mayor Michael Hammond presented the board members with two quotes on a half a basketball court with a pickle ball court beside it from Grasse River and Wards paving. Pictures were also presented to the board members. Discussion was held on the Town of Canton doing the site work. Mayor Michael Hammond will meet with Highway Superintendent Steven Smith to look over the job and start the process of a MOU with Canton. Motion was made to hire Grasse River Paving in the amount of \$8,150.00 to do the paving work at the Playground. Discussion was held on the Festival/Playground committee helping in paying for the Basketball court.

Motion: Charles Fifield Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

b. Approval of Sewer Releives:

Motion to approve releives in the amount of \$13,347.50 to be placed on the Village Tax bills 2024.

Motion: Trustee Samanth Booth Seconded: Charles Fifield Vote: unanimous

c. Budget Amendments: CLerk Lisa Hammond presented budget amendments to the Board members for approval. Motion was granted.

See attached amendments

Motion: Conne McAllister Seconded: Samantha Booth Vote: unanimous

d. Meeting Dates: Mayor Michael Hammond requested that the June meeting be moved to the 3rd in place of the 10th of June. All board members in agreement. Clerk Hammond will remind board members as it gets closer.

6. Updates:

a. Playground Equipment:

Mayor Michael Hammond shared information on pricing for playground equipment. Mayor Hammond/Festival Committee members held discussion on the shipping costs and noted that at last month's Village board meeting it was agreed that the Festival/Playground committee and the Village would share the cost of purchase at \$2,500.00 each.

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Samantha Booth Vote: unanimous

Playground Committee member Connie McAllister asked questions about the proposed pavilion construction in hopes of moving forward on the matter. Questions and answers were received. McAllister is taking the lead on pricing of the structure. Further discussion will be held at next month's meeting. Mayor Michael Hammond will ask the Town of Canton about doing groundwork for the pavilion while here for the basketball

court. Mayor Michael Hammond thanked McAllister for her time on the matter.

b. Town of Canton Highway MOU

Rich Stoner has purchased a culvert for his driveway and a MOU has been drafted by the Town of Canton for the Highway Department to replace/install said culvert.

Motion to approve by Trustee Connie McAllister, seconded by Trustee Charles Fifield Vote: unanimous

c. Guardrail Estimate:

Mayor Michael Hammond reported that Nick Calton is still working with Jeff Crobar (Contractor) about putting guardrails up in the area of the Fire Department and Canton Street corner. Across from the Fire Department also needs guardrails. Discussion was held on the area behind the Falls Market ditch area putting guardrail there. Waiting to hear back with an estimate from Crobar. Discussion was also held on removal of metal rails on the corner of Elizabeth and Front Street in front of Palmer residence and replacing it with railing. Mayor Hammond spoke with Crowbar before the meeting and he will get prices to us for the June meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE VILLAGE BOARD - Mayor Michael Hammond is still working with replacing batteries for the speed signs. Incorrect batteries were sent to the Village - working on returning them and getting correct ones.

6:45 p.m. Closed Regular Monthly Board Meeting:

Motion: Connie McAllister Seconded: Charles Fifield Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa Hammond, Village Clerk