

# VILLAGE OF RENSSELAER FALLS

## Regular Meeting Minutes

May 3rd, 2021

6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Michael Hammond, Trustee Jolene LaSiege, Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield and Trustee Connie McAllister, Village Clerk Lisa Hammond

Absent: Attorney Henry Leader, Code Enforcement Officer Tim Tuttle, Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford, Trustee James Blackburn

6:01 p.m. Mayor Michael Hammond opened the Regular monthly meeting

Mayor Michael Hammond added two items to the agenda

Discussion on snow removal and Executive Session personnel

1. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance

2. Appropriations:

Sewer and General

Bills were audited by Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield and Trustee Jolene LaSiege

Motion: Charles Fifield      Seconded: Jolene LaSiege      Vote: unanimous

Mayor Hammond noted that the second speed sign has arrived. It was noted that the gas reimbursement for Mark Basford was approved upon receipt of the gas slip.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of April 5th, 2021 were approved

Motion: Connie McAllister      Seconded: Charles Fifield      Vote: unanimous

4. Reports: Departments and Committees

a. Sewer Report: Written report was received.

Motion: Jolene LaSiege                      Seconded: Connie McAlliser    Vote: unanimous

- b. Code Enforcement Report: Written receipt was received.

Motion: Charles Ffield                      Seconded: Connie McAllister    Vote: unanimous

Trash and vehicle issues are being addressed. One new home build permit was issued. Discussion was held on the cost of permits and it was decided that this will be a discussion down the road.

- c. Clerk's Report:

Clerk Lisa Hammond reported that the Assessor sent an increase in assessment of \$1,500.00 at the playground property. The Village is tax exempt from paying land tax. Clerk Hammond stated that the quarterly sewer bills went out with Historical yard sale information, flushable wipes information, the Falls Festival Fundraiser information and letting the residents know that there is now a drop box placed in the Village Office door for their convenience. A lot of good things are happening in our little Village. A brief discussion was held on the Clerk being reimbursed for her cell phone, as it is used for the Village operations.

Motion: Connie McAllister                      Seconded: Jolene LaSiege    Vote: unanimous

- d. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Hammond stated that he has not heard anything on the Mayors Dinner. Hammond noted he will report throughout the agenda.

Motion: Charles Ffield    Seconded: Connie McAllister    Vote: unanimous

- e. Committee Reports:

*Trees* - Bob Poor was present and said when it gets closer to July, he will take a look around and see what we need.

*Playground* - Discussion was held on installing the ball throw machine. Mayor Hammond talked with a contractor about steel structure at the playground - a brief discussion was held on the matter. Board members were in agreement that they would be interested in meeting with the contractor for

discussion of the matter.

Falls Festival Committee: Meeting - May 13th, 2021 6 p.m.

Motion: Connie McAllister    Seconded: Jolene LaSieve    Vote: unanimous

## 5. New Business:

### a. Falls Festival and Yard sales - Discussion

Mayor Michael Hammond went over the ideas and plans for the upcoming fundraiser for the Falls Festival to be held on May 22nd, 2021. Discussion was held on food items and prep. Committee members decided that a shed and Historical clean up and organizing will be held. Music will be available during the fundraiser. Mayor Hammond stated that he wants to be mindful of the other fundraisers that are going on like the rescue squad needs and the fire truck refurbishment run coming up. Donations have been received for the fundraiser.

### b. Zoom subscription - Discussion

Discussion was held on the use of zoom and it was decided to renew the subscription.

Motion: Connie McAlliser    Seconded: Charles Fifield    Vote: unanimous

### c. Relieves - Discussion and Possible Approval

Clerk Lisa Hammond presented in writing to the board members the names and amounts of sewer rents unpaid to be relieved to the Village tax bills. Approval was granted.

Motion: Charles Fifield    Seconded: Connie McAllister    Vote: unanimous

## 6. Updates.

### a. Local Law/Policy: Tabled

b. Heuvelton Street Project - Discussion & Possible Approval:

Mayor Hammond stated that he met with Matt Murdock on the project and has confirmed that Jeff Crowbar is interested. Hope to review in June. Hammond discussed the estimate the Village received from the Town of Canton and he and the board were in agreement that it was worth looking into private companies to compare prices and reevaluate. Discussion was held on the fact that the Village still owns a portion of the Town paver and what happens to that investment.

c. West Front Street Project - Discussion & Possible Approval:

Same as above. The Village will seek 3 estimates. One from the Town of Canton and the other two from private companies.

d. Pioneer Park Projects - Discussion & Possible Approval:

Mayor Hammond stated that this project should be starting very soon. Two new electrical services will be placed in the park. Tradesmans Contracting dug the trench for the wire and S.H. Electric will complete the hook up. Materials will be purchased by the Village.

e. County Hazard Mitigation Committee - Discussion

Mayor Michael Hammond stated that this meeting will be held on May 24th, 2021. James Blackburn will serve on the committee to represent Rensselaer Falls.

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

Mayor Michael Hammond stated that Jerry Godwin approached him about mowing the Village areas in need. Hammond talked with Godwin about putting in a bid, noting that Hammond has been doing the mowing for the last two years. Godwin stated that he was busy and he would be willing to fill in when Hammond was unable to do the mowing. Michael Hammond stated that he plowed & snowblowed / shoveled six times over the winter months. It was agreed by the board members that Hammond should be paid for his time. The money is in the budget.

6:37 p.m Executive Session Personnel

Motion: Trustee Connie McAllister Seconded: Trustee Charles Fifield Vote: unanimous

6:42 p.m Out of Executive Session

Motion: Charles Fifield Seconded: Connie McAllister Vote: unanimous

6:43 p.m. Adjourned meeting

Motion: Jolene LaSiege Seconded: Connie McAllister

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa Hammond, Village Clerk