

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

Present In Person: Mayor Michael Hammond, Trustee Jolene LaSiege and Trustee James Blackburn

Attendance by Zoom: Deputy Mayor Charles Fifield, Sewer Superintendent Mark Basford, Bob Poor

Absent: Trustee Connie McAllister, Village Clerk Lisa Hammond, Code Enforcement Officer Tim Tuttleland Village Attorney Henry Leader

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance
2. Appropriations approved:

General and Sewer

Motion: Charles Fifield Seconded: Trustee James Blackburn Vote: unanimous

Discussion was held on a bill from St. Lawrence County, TTS Tree Service and National Grid. Approval to pay these three bills along with others by the Board of Trustees. The bills came in for payment today.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of September 14, 2020 Regular board meeting were approved.

Motion: Charles Fifield Seconded: James Blackburn Vote: unanimous

4. Reports: Departments and Committees

- a. Sewer Report:

Mayor Michael Hammond noted that he had no report from Mark Basford.

b. Code Enforcement Report:

Mayor Michael Hammond read Tim Tuttle's report aloud.

c. Clerk's Report:

Mayor Michael Hammond reported that taxes collected to date is \$32,840.70 reported at 84% collected.

Motion to approve department reports by Trustee James Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Jolene LaSeige. Vote: unanimous

d. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Michael Hammond noted he has meetings coming up with the LWRP and the Economic Development Consortium

e. Committee Reports:

Trees - None

Playground - None

Falls Festival - Hopefully a fundraiser will be held at some point

Mayor Hammond noted that the annual Halloween festivities will not be held at the Fire Department this year due to COVID. Hammond added that there may be something done with fire trucks and characters going through the Village giving out candy in a safe manner.

Motion by Trustee James Blackburn to approve committee reports, seconded by Trustee Jolene LaSeige. Vote: unanimous

5. New Business:

a. South Street Trees:

Mayor Hammond noted the tree bill arrives just today for \$900.00 and has been approved. Resident Richard Powell thanked the Village for the removal of the trees. Hammond stated that TTS did a good job and that the Town of Canton may take care of the stumps for the Village because the Village helped purchase

the stump grinder with taxpayer money, along with a portion of the paving machine. Discussion was held on preparing a MOU with the Town to have these jobs done in the Village. Mayor Hammond stated that Canton Highway Superintendent Terry Billings resigned on September 24, 2020 from the Town of Canton. Hammond and the Board members agreed that Billings did a good job through the years for Rensselaer Falls and thank him for his years of service.

b. State Street South Trees: Discussed above

c. LWRP Boundaries:

Mayor Hammond shared a screen with the board members of the boundaries and talked about suggested sections that should be included. Hammond stated that Richville has all of their Village Boundaries included in the plan. Hammond discussed the comprehensive plan and wants to ask why Richville has all of their municipal boundaries included, but yet Rensselaer Falls has whole blocks of areas not included. Hammond wants to see a better understanding of the land from the engineers. After discussion it was agreed by all board members that the map should be changed to reflect the discussion.

d. Economic Development Consortium:

6. Updates:

a. Summer Street Projects: Discussion and Possible Approval

Mayor Hammond noted what work has been done by the Town of Canton Highway crew over the past several days. Discussion was held on the material used and projects that were taken care of. Trustee James Blackburn requested that the manhole tool owned by the Village be available when the firemen are cleaning out the manholes.

b. Congress Street Drainage Project: Discussion and Possible Approval

The Town of Canton Highway Department fix approximately 35 feet of crumbling drainage pipe along Congress Street; this was a \$400 fix. The village will monitor this section of Storm water drainage and in the spring plan for a more permanent fix to the problem.

D. Canton Community Grant Award:

Mayor Hammond asked permission to do a press release on the \$1,000.00 that was received to do upgrades at the Historical Association from the Canton Community Fund Grant Award. To highlight both our Historical Association and the Canton Community Fund program.

All board members approved.

7. Executive Session: Personnel - As Identified as proper by Public Officer Law Section 105(1) (F)

6:40 p.m. motion by Trustee Jolene LaSeige to go into executive session for the purpose of F. a particular employee, seconded by Trustee Charles Fifield. Vote: unanimous

7:05 p.m. came out of executive session by motion of Trustee James Blackburn, seconded by Trustee Jolene LaSeige. Vote: unanimous

7:06 p.m adjourned meeting by Motion of Trustee Jolene LaSeige, seconded by Trustee Charles Fifield. Vote: unanimous

Respectfully Submitted from recording and notes by Mayor Micheal Hammond:

Lisa Hammond, Village Clerk