

PRESENT: Mayor Smith; Trustees Austin, LaChapelle and Watson; Attorney Erika Sellar Ryan; Chief Ernest Bassett; Timothy Ward; Mary Ward; Nathaniel Huntington; Matthew Saari; Karen Beckwith; Beth Reynolds; Marianne Blanchard; Makayla Wells; Elizabeth Robinson

Timothy Ward of the Canalway Trail Committee gave an explanation of where the proposed trail would be from Fort Ann to Whitehall. The Canalway Trail Committee has received a grant from Hudson River Valley Greenway for matching funds to complete a feasibility study conducted by Chazen Companies. The Canalway Trail Committee is asking for help with funding the feasibility study. Mayor Smith stated that the economics of the trail are favorable to the community. Investing in a better study would give a greater chance of completing the trail by receiving more information as to the cost of the trail. Motion made by Mayor Smith, seconded by Trustee Watson to invest \$500.00 into the feasibility study for the Canalway Trail, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Mayor Smith opened the public hearing at 6:09PM to take comments from the public regarding proposed changes to Local Law #1 of 1991 titled "A Local Law Prohibiting Open Burning" and Local Law #2 of 1985 titled "Historic Preservation Law". Beth Reynolds stated that burning a huge pile of leaves was not acceptable as this would create a fire hazard and a smoky mess. Attorney Sellar Ryan stated that New York State law supersedes this law and open burning only allowable for ceremonial purposes. Mayor Smith stated that the original intent of the proposed changes to this law was to prohibit burning of garbage but to allow bonfires. Chief Bassett stated that it should be for contained fires. Mayor Smith has tabled making any proposed changes to Local Law #1 of 1991 until the next meeting. Mayor Smith discussed the proposed changes to Local Law #2 of 1985 as recommended by the Historic Preservation Commission. Beth Reynolds asked how many active members were currently on the Historic Preservation Commission as the Commission would like to reduce the number of members from seven to five. There are currently five active members of the Historic Preservation Commission. Mayor Smith declared the Village as the lead agency with regards to proposed changes to Local Law #2 of 1985 titled "Historic Preservation Law". The public hearing was closed at 6:18PM.

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve the minutes of the August 15th meeting, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Austin to approve the minutes of the September 12th special meeting, all voting in favor, CARRIED

LETTERS: New York State Dept. of Transportation sent a letter regarding the intent for signage at various locations for the Empire State Trail. Correspondence was received from the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company stating they would pay for a survey of the parcel of village owned land under the firehouse for eventual subdivision. The Homecoming Committee sent a request for an open burn permit to have a bonfire at the Whitehall Recreation field for the annual Pep Rally. The Homecoming Committee sent a request for assistance from the Whitehall Police Department with the annual Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally. Bowitch & Coffey sent a copy of an environmental easement granted to the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation by Poultney Street Partners for property located at 16-50 Poultney Street. A Limited Notice of Appearance on behalf of the Whitehall Central School in connection with Whitehall Properties of Albany v. Assessor of the Town of Whitehall was received. Lori Holcomb submitted a letter requesting reimbursement for medical expenses due to her falling on Main Street. This notice was submitted to Northern Insuring. Keegan Brazzale submitted a letter regarding damages to her vehicle from running over a post. This claim was submitted to Northern Insuring. Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to accept the correspondence and to place it on file, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to allow the Homecoming Committee to have a bonfire at their Pep Rally, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Austin to provide assistance from the Whitehall Police Department for the Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally, all voting in favor, CARRIED

September 19, 2017 Regular Meeting Continued

BILLS: Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Austin to approve payment of the abstract covering claims #178-234 totaling \$96,610.21, all voting in favor, CARRIED

REPORTS: Village Justice and Acting Village Justice submitted reports for August. Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to accept and file the reports, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Trustee LaChapelle reported that more enforcement of local laws with regards to household furniture, refrigerators and junk left out in yards will be starting.

Trustee Watson reported that an actuator valve at the water treatment plant needs to be replaced for a total cost of \$2,346.00. Attorney Sellar Ryan asked if the Procurement Policy was followed for this purchase. Mayor Smith stated that this was emergency situation because without a functioning actuator valve the water treatment plant will shut down. Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to replace the actuator valve at the water treatment plant, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Trustee Austin reported that crosswalks were being painted on Main Street. Debris has been removed from Boardman Street cemetery. The replacing of the fence and sidewalk along Boardman Street cemetery will be held off until spring. Trustee Austin has been approached by veterans to place flags throughout the community. She received a quote from Lowe's for 50 flags with wooden poles for \$899.00. She will ask the Town of Whitehall and Chamber of Commerce to help pay for the purchase of the flags.

Mayor Smith stated that Joe Kelley of Joe's Pizza would like to close Gilmore Street from Broadway to West Street for a 20th Anniversary celebration on September 24, 2017. Mr. Kelley wanted to sell alcohol at this event but he did not bring in a license from the liquor authority to do this. Mr. Kelley will have bands on a truck to block the street which could be moved for emergency vehicles if necessary. Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to allow Joe Kelley to close Gilmore Street from Broadway to West Street for a 20th Anniversary celebration on September 24, 2017, Trustee Austin voting no, all others voting in favor, CARRIED

Mayor Smith reported that the Police Department received a grant for up to \$2,000.00 for protective equipment. The Village has to spend the money first and then be reimbursed from the grant. Chief Bassett said that the money could be taken from the Police Department's equipment fund. Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Austin to approve spending \$2,000.00 for protective equipment for the Police Department, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Mayor Smith reported that the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria is not drivable. Smith Street Auto gave an estimate of \$1,100.00 and Slate Valley Automotive gave an estimate of \$580.78 to repair the vehicle. The vehicle has 135,000 miles on it and it was questioned if it was worth repairing. Chief Bassett stated that the Police Department has three vehicles that are not in good shape and feels that this vehicle should be fixed. Motion made by Trustee Austin, seconded by Trustee Watson to have the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria repaired by Slate Valley Automotive at a cost of \$580.78, Trustee LaChapelle voted no, all others voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to approve payment of \$5,700.00 to Arold Construction Co. Inc. for Contract #1 Part A, \$226,403.77 to Arold Construction Co. Inc. for Contract #1 Part B and \$53,657.10 to Environmental Design Partnership for engineering services for Sanitary Sewer System Rehabilitation and to authorize Mayor Smith to sign the payment applications, all voting in favor, CARRIED

September 19, 2017 Regular Meeting Continued

The following sealed bids were opened for surplus equipment:

2011 Dodge 5500	Rodney Saunders	\$12,000.00
	Bruce McFarlane	\$ 5,773.00
	Village Truck Sales	\$15,690.00
	Jiem Rozell	\$ 8,001.00
	Dudley's Truck & Equip.	\$ 6,789.99
	Jane McFarlane	\$ 7,777.53
1998 Iron Horse Trailer	Bruce McFarlane	\$123.00
	Jiem Rozell	\$ 50.00
	Dudley's Truck & Equip.	\$230.00
(3) 11 ft. Plow	Village Truck Sales	\$750.00
	Dudley's Truck & Equip.	\$110.00
10 ft. Wing Plow	Dudley's Truck & Equip.	\$110.00
11 ft. Wing Plow	Dudley's Truck & Equip.	\$110.00
Sewer Jetter	Village Truck Sales	\$490.00
	Jiem Rozell	\$300.00
	Dudley's Truck & Equip.	\$ 65.00

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to accept the highest bid of \$15,690.00 for the 2011 Dodge 5500 and \$750.00 for the three 11 ft. Plows from Village Truck Sales, Trustee Austin abstaining, all others voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to accept the highest bid of \$230.00 for the 1998 Iron Horse Trailer from Dudley's Truck & Equip., Trustee Austin abstaining, all others voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to accept the highest bid of \$490.00 for the Sewer Jetter from Village Truck Sales, Trustee Austin abstaining, all others voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Austin, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to approve the attached resolution declaring the property at 1 Saunders Street (Tax Map #51.18-3-3) as Surplus Property and authorizing the sale of the real property and directs the Village Clerk to publish a legal notice soliciting sealed bids on the property as herein described to be sold "as is", with the Village Board having the right to reject all bids, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve the attached resolution to establish a capital reserve fund to be known as the "Water Filter Reserve Fund" with the purpose to accumulate moneys to finance the cost of replacing water filters at an estimated cost of \$150,000.00, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Mayor Smith reported that the current telephone systems do not work well. The Village is currently paying between \$800-\$900/month for the telephone system. He received the following three quotes for replacing the telephone system:

Vonage	\$313.00/month
APC Services	\$575.00 for installation & \$187.00/month for five phones
Prime Link	\$900.00 to set up & \$580.00/month

Mayor Smith is most comfortable with Prime Link as they brought in a technician to review the current system before giving a quote and the additional services it will provide. Motion made by Mayor Smith, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to enter into a 5 year contract with Prime Link for the telephone and internet systems. Trustee Watson doesn't feel like he has enough information regarding this and questioned if the price quoted would be for the length of the contract. Mayor Smith withdrew his motion until more information can be obtained.

September 19, 2017 Regular Meeting Continued

Mayor Smith reported that the Washington County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution to place the Martell property located at 45 Poultney Street back on the tax rolls.

Marianne Blanchard questioned a tax bill that she received. She purchased a piece of property in the middle of June and did not receive a tax bill for this property until August. The tax bill was sent to her after the Village Clerk received the real property tax transfer report from the Washington County Clerk in August. Mrs. Blanchard does not want to pay the late fee on this tax bill. She is also questioning the assessment as the property is assessed for \$83,700.00 and she purchased it for \$25,000.00. Attorney Sellar Ryan stated the value of her property can only be changed once a year by the Town Assessor and Mrs. Blanchard would have to go to Grievance Day if the Assessor does not lower the assessment. Attorney Sellar Ryan also stated that Mrs. Blanchard's attorney should have advised her of this when she purchased the property. Mayor Smith stated that the Village Board could not change the process regarding the assessment but would look into whether the Board could waive the penalty on this tax bill.

Elizabeth Robinson reported that owners of the larger boats that utilize the wall behind the museum would like an honor box installed to make donations. Mayor Smith told her that the property was the Town of Whitehall's and she would have to ask the Town Board if they would be willing to install an honor box.

Bethe Reynolds stated that the Village Board was doing a great job.

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to adjourn the meeting at 7:54PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Stephanie A. LaChapelle
Clerk-Treasurer