

December 8, 2017 Special Meeting 1:00PM

PRESENT: Mayor Smith; Trustees LaChapelle, Austin and Watson; Matthew Saari

Mayor Smith opened the public hearing at 1:00PM to take comments from the public regarding the Village's plan to submit an Empire State Development Grant application for the demolition of an abandoned building. The building known as "The Flat Iron Building" is located at 160 Main Street. Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to close the public hearing at 1:10PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve the attached resolution authorizing and directing Mayor Smith to submit the Empire State Development Grant application and act in connection with the submission including execution of all required certifications and forms and to provide such additional information as may be required, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Mayor Smith declared the Village of Whitehall Board of Trustees as the lead agency for completing the Short Environmental Assessment Form required for the Flat Iron Building demolition. The Board answered the questions on the Impact Assessment. Motion made by Mayor Smith, seconded by Trustee Watson declaring that the demolition of the Flat Iron Building will have no significant adverse environmental impacts and authorize Mayor Smith to sign the Short Environmental Assessment Form, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Donna Scott Austin, Horace Scott's daughter submitted a request to have the Village Board of Trustees sign a birthday card for Mr. Scott. Mr. Scott is a former Mayor of the Village of Whitehall and will be 100 years old on December 25, 2017. The Board members signed the birthday card for Horace Scott.

BILLS: Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Austin to approve payment of the abstract covering claims #336-348 totaling \$302,586.93, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Trustee LaChapelle asked if we could remove the Flat Iron Building. Trustee Watson asked if we could prove that there wasn't asbestos in the building. Trustee Austin asked if the building fell on its own could the Village clean up the debris. Mayor Smith stated that NYS Department of Labor will not allow the Village to take the building down as it is impossible to go into the building and test for asbestos. A certified asbestos removal contractor would be required to take the building down and remove the debris. Mayor Smith will have to state in the grant application how much is needed to remove the building and provide quotes from contractors. According to the grant information, \$300,000.00 is allowed for the removal of a contaminated building. Mayor Smith also stated that the land remaining after the building removal cannot be turned into municipal property if the grant is awarded and accepted.

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Austin to adjourn the meeting at 1:45PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Stephanie A. LaChapelle
Clerk-Treasurer