

PRESENT: Mayor Smith; Trustees Austin, Armstrong and Watson; Attorney Erika Sellar Ryan; Sgt. Richard LaChapelle; Janet Tallman; Matthew Saari; Danielle Jones

Janet Tallman of Environmental Design Partnership discussed Phase 2 of the Sanitary Sewer System Rehabilitation project. She stated that NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation is pleased with the progress made with Phase 1 of the project. Phase 2 priorities will be resolving the infiltration of storm water through cracks in the lines and manholes. A lot of the manholes are located in the backyards of private properties requiring easements to proceed with the work. The manholes will be refurbished and then CCTV will be used to look for infiltration. Cross connections to homes needs to be separated to remove storm water from the sanitary sewers. An application for a Community Development Block Grant has been submitted to work with homeowners to separate laterals. Janet Tallman stated that the milestones cannot be met without funding from grants. USDA/Rural Development has funds to be used for the next phase of work through a grant. An application to Rural Development must be submitted as soon as possible. Mayor Smith stated that the Board has the authority to hire for Professional Services without following the bid process. Motion made by Mayor Smith, seconded by Trustee Austin to hire Environmental Design Partnership to prepare and submit the grant application to USDA/Rural Development for funding to complete Phase 2 of the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Danielle Jones has an issue with farm animals at her neighbors that keep coming into her yard especially ducks. The ducks are leaving feces on her wood pile and eating her dog's food. The neighbor is threatening her family because she has complained about the ducks. Zoning Officer Peter Telisky told her that the Village does not have an ordinance pertaining to ducks. Mayor Smith stated that there is no action the Board can take until they adopt a local law. Attorney Sellar Ryan suggested Mrs. Jones talk with an attorney regarding her rights through the Ag & Markets law which has a provision regarding the animals in her yard. Trustee Armstrong stated that the Town of Whitehall may have an ordinance that could be used to send a citation to the neighbor. Attorney Sellar Ryan stated that the Town law could be used.

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Armstrong to approve the minutes of the December 18th meeting, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Austin to approve the minutes of the January 10th meeting, all voting in favor, CARRIED

LETTERS: Sean Winchell submitted a request to cross Village property on Pike Brook Road to log on land owned by Larry Matte. Allen Forestry sent correspondence for sale of timber at Pine Lake with payments totaling \$15,340.62. An Annual Report of payments made to the Village for 2018 was received from Washington County Treasurer Albert Nolette. Charter Communications submitted correspondence regarding upcoming programming changes. A letter was received from Northern Insuring announcing that they are relocating their Whitehall Office to Glens Falls. NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation sent a notice of violation for the Water Treatment Plant for failure to submit a complete SPDES DMR. A letter was received from NYS Homes and Community Renewal informing the Village of the award of a \$300,000.00 Community Development Block Grant for the creation of a public parking facility on Main Street. Motion made by Trustee Armstrong, seconded by Trustee Watson to accept and file the correspondence, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Armstrong to grant permission for Sean Winchell to cross the Village's property on Pike Brook Road to log on Larry Matte's property on the condition that Mr. Winchell provides an Indemnification Agreement and agrees to return the land to the same condition as it was before he crossed it, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Austin to authorize Mayor Smith to sign the Grant Agreement with NYS Homes and Community Renewal for NYS CDBG Project #1249PF123-18 for a \$300,000.00 grant, all voting in favor, CARRIED

BILLS: Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Austin to approve payment of the abstract covering claims #425-482 totaling \$294,506.54, all voting in favor, CARRIED

REPORTS: Justice Putorti submitted a report for December. Chief Bassett submitted a Police Report. Motion made by Trustee Armstrong, seconded by Trustee Watson to accept and file the reports, all voting in favor, CARRIED

January 15, 2019 Regular Meeting Continued

Trustee Watson presented a report from George Rockenstire for the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants. Trustee Watson reported that the Dept. of Public Works has been plowing and had concerns because they were not called out for the last storm. There was a miscommunication with the Police Department regarding the call out. The two newest employees have their permits and are working on obtaining their CDL licenses.

Trustee Austin has concerns with the sidewalks not being cleared after a snow storm. A notice will be placed in the Whitehall Times to remind property owners of their responsibility to clear the sidewalks adjoining their property.

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Austin to hold a public hearing on February 19, 2019 at 6:00PM for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding the Village's community development needs and possible submission of a Community Block Grant application for the 2019 program year with the intention of requesting funds to assist Roma of Whitehall, LLC establish a restaurant named The Railyard Taproom and Family Restaurant at the site of the former Roma Restaurant, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Mayor Smith reported that he has sent a letter to NYS Office of Community Renewal asking for an extension on the grant to replace the South Bay watermain because the bids to place the waterline under South Bay came in over budget and MJ Engineering is changing the project to replace the waterline on South Bay Bridge. He is also contacting Senator Betty Little asking for more funding for this project. If we don't receive more funding to complete this project, we will lose the original funding grant. Trustee Watson asked if the new waterline would be one continuous pipe without joints so as not to have the same issues as the current waterline. Mayor Smith also sent a letter to Washington County Real Property Tax Services asking to be exempt from the Town/County Tax bill for the Flat Iron property that was received. Mayor Smith is working on upgrading the internet service at the Water Treatment Plant.

Motion made by Trustee Armstrong, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve payment of \$33,727.51 to Environmental Design Partnership for engineering services and \$55,596.47 to Gallo Construction Corp. for work on the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Austin, seconded by Trustee Watson to authorize Mayor Smith to sign the grant agreement with LARAC for Music in the Park, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Austin, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve Change Order #1 extending the contract deadline from January 7, 2019 to March 31, 2019 with Gallo Construction Corp. for work on the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Armstrong, seconded by Trustee Austin to approve payment of \$2,250.00 to Shelter Planning & Development for grant administrative services for the Engineering Planning Grant, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Armstrong, seconded by Trustee Austin to convene into executive session to discuss specific personnel and potential litigation at 7:24PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Armstrong, seconded by Trustee Watson to adjourn executive session and to reconvene into regular session at 7:55PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Steven Brock requested to be paid for two weeks of vacation in lieu of time off. This request was tabled for further investigation by the Board.

Motion made by Mayor Smith, seconded by Trustee Watson to adjourn the meeting at 8:03PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Stephanie A. LaChapelle
Clerk-Treasurer