

March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting 6:00PM

PRESENT: Mayor Eagan; Trustees LaChapelle, Putorti, Watson and Norton; Brian Brooks; Steven Brock; Robert Putorti, Jr.; Sgt. David Buxton; Roark Merrill; Mitch Steinberg; Gretchen Steinberg; Dennis Maher; Caton Deuso; Justin Macura arrived at 7:08PM

Steven Brock stated that he has parked the 2005 Chevrolet truck due to a crack in the frame and would like to purchase a new 1-ton Dump truck. The new truck and plow would cost between \$75,000.00 to \$90,000.00 and no trucks are available until next year due to production delays. He needs the truck to plow some of the smaller streets throughout the Village. Mayor Eagan stated that this should be discussed at the Budget meeting. A Budget Workshop has been scheduled for March 23, 2022 at 2:00PM.

Brian Brooks talked about the need for a live fire training center in Whitehall for the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company. He invited the Board to tour the training center being built in Salem. Mr. Brooks also stated that there is a need for a Fire District, an additional building for equipment, recruitment and retention of members for the Fire Company.

Roark Merrill introduced Mitch and Gretchen Steinberg from Florida who have possible interest in Whitehall. Mr. Merrill stated that he is falling in love more and more with Whitehall as he sees the community come together to solve problems.

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to approve the minutes of the February 15<sup>th</sup> and February 23<sup>rd</sup> meetings, all voting in favor, CARRIED

LETTERS: Derek LaChapelle submitted a letter of resignation as a Laborer with the Dept. of Public Works. Brian Collis of Mr. Ding-A-Ling requested a Vendor's Permit to be allowed to sell ice cream throughout the Village. Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company sent a list of additions and deletions to their roster. Correspondence was received from Charter Communications regarding upcoming programming changes. Motion made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to accept the correspondence and to place it on file, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to accept Derek LaChapelle's resignation as a Laborer with the Dept. of Public Works, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Putorti, seconded by Trustee Watson to table the request for a Vendor's Permit for Mr. Ding-A-Ling to sell ice cream throughout the Village until more information is received such as dates and times of operation, all voting in favor, CARRIED

BILLS: Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Norton to approve payment of the abstract covering claims #22-00482-22-00488, 22-00498-22-00500 and 22-00503-00548 totaling \$257,730.51, all voting in favor, CARRIED

REPORTS: Beecher & Bethel, LLP submitted an audit report of the Village's financial records for the Fiscal Year Ending May 31, 2021. Compliance and Zoning Officer, Justice Putorti and Justice Nichols submitted reports for February. A summary statement was received from NYCLASS regarding the Village's investment accounts. A 2021 Annual Report was received from the Erie Canalway commission. The Police Department, Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment Operators submitted reports. Motion made by Trustee Putorti, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to accept and file the reports, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Robert Putorti, Jr. stated that the Village Court has reimbursed the Village \$1,000.00 towards the \$1,799.00 that the Village paid the Justice Court Fund. The Court Clerk has reviewed prior records and discovered that the \$1,000.00 was there but was in the wrong account. Mr. Putorti stated that the caseload at the Village court has increased and he would like to increase the hours and pay for the Court Clerk.

Sgt. Buxton stated that the radio repeater is installed at Skene Manor and once the radios are reprogrammed the communication issues should be resolved.

March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Continued

Mayor Eagan offered the following appointments to the Planning Board:

Stephanie Safka 1-year term  
Dennis Maher 2-year term  
Diane Petryk 3-year term  
Roark Merrill 4-year term  
Shane Bennett 5-year term

Motion made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve the appointments, all voting in favor, CARRIED

APPLICATIONS: Dilen Younger and Daniel Cardoso submitted applications for Laborer.

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to accept the applications and to place them on file, all voting in favor, CARRIED

The following bid was received for the purchase and installation of a new 50-Kilowatt diesel powered generator and OTEC automatic transfer switch.

Hour Electric Company, Inc. - \$29,334.00

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Norton to accept the bid from Hour Electric Company for a new 50-kilowatt generator and transfer switch at a cost of \$29,334.00, all voting in favor, CARRIED

American Legion submitted a request to be allowed to walk in the streets on April 23, 2022 for a walk-a-thon to benefit VA's healthcare for Homeless Veteran program and America's VetDogs Programs in New York State. The request is to walk the parade route and have assistance with traffic control from the Police Department. A discussion took place regarding shortening the parade route for less traffic congestion on a Saturday morning. Motion made by Trustee Putorti, seconded by Trustee Watson to allow the American Legion to hold a walk-a-thon on April 23, 2022 in the streets utilizing a shorter parade route of Skenesborough Drive to Broadway and back to Skenesborough Drive, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Environmental Design Partnership submitted a proposal for survey and engineering services to replace the 14-inch watermain on State Route 22 at a cost of \$68,500.00. The Village's Dept. of Public Works will be performing the labor to replace this watermain. Motion made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee Watson to accept the proposal for Environmental Design Partnership for the survey and engineering services to replace the watermain on State Route 22 and authorizing the use of COVID relief funds to pay for this service, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to approve the attached budget amendments, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Norton to approve the attached resolution acknowledging that the required audit of the Village Justice records was conducted, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Justin Macura stated that the American Legion has started the Hometown Heroes Project which is to hang banners of service personnel on poles throughout the Village. He wanted to know who would hang the banners and what poles would be used for this project. Mr. Macura was told to contact National Grid for permission to hang the banners on their poles and it was suggested that the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company may be able to help with hanging the banners.

Trustee Norton presented an updated Water Fee Schedule and asked the Board to review and give suggestions if any changes were needed. Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to table the adoption of the new Water Fee Schedule so the Board can review it, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to convene into executive session at 7:35PM to discuss specific personnel, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Norton to end executive session at 8:18PM and reconvene into regular session, all voting in favor, CARRIED

March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Continued

Motion made by Trustee Putorti, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to convert the current accumulated earned vacation days from 8 hours/day to 10 hours/day for the Full Time Police Officers until May 31, 2022, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Norton, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to adjourn the meeting at 8:22PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Stephanie LaChapelle  
Clerk-Treasurer