

July 11, 2023 Regular Meeting 6:00PM

PRESENT: Mayor Eagan; Trustees LaChapelle, Watson and Putorti; Dan Styczynski; Nancy McGrath; Sandra Berger; John Panetta; Theresa Panetta; Kendra Stevens; Shannon Fonda; Brian Brooks; Marjorie Mohn; Steven Gauci; Danielle Jones; Kandy Bruce; Dana Grant; EJ Conzola

Brian Brooks asked if a picture reflecting the efforts of the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company to put out a fire that was made into three panels could be placed back on the wall outside of the Village office. Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Putorti to allow the placement of the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company's picture on the wall, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Nancy McGrath, Sandra Berger, John Panetta, Theresa Panetta, Steven Gauci, Danielle Jones and Kandy Bruce expressed concerns with the smell in their neighborhood and not being able to use their outside spaces due to the smell. The smell is coming from a neighbor that has chickens, a rooster, an emu and several dogs. The feces is not being removed and is creating a nauseating smell in the air.

Shannon Fonda is the owner of the property where the animals are kept and the smell is coming from. She stated that she is trying to rectify the complaints by moving the chicken coop to the backyard and placing down lime and shavings on the feces.

Dan Styczynski is aware of the situation. He is working with Ms. Fonda to get the situation rectified. Washington County Code Enforcement was contacted by a neighbor and are issuing a citation to the owner.

Marge Mohn asked where she could bring brush that she has picked up from her yard as the transfer station is no longer open. Mayor Eagan will look into this for her. Mrs. Mohn asked what the situation was with the building next to the Elks that is falling down and in really bad shape. Dan Styczynski stated that he has sent several citations to the owner and that Washington County Code Enforcement is involved. Mrs. Mohn asked if money coming from the CHPE line could be used to buy and tear down this building. The CHPE money won't be coming in until at least 2026 and the Village cannot purchase or do work on private property. Mayor Eagan stated that there is grant money through NYS Restore to help with the repair or removal of buildings but that the owner would have to apply for this.

Kendra Stevens would like to purchase property owned by the Village of Whitehall at the end of Elizabeth Street. She has maintained this property which is adjacent to her property since purchasing her home in 2017. She stated that Elizabeth Street does not go past her home.

Dana Grant asked what was happening with the potholes on Main Street where the brick is coming through. Mayor Eagan stated that this portion of Main Street is owned by NYS Canal Corporation who she contacted regarding this. NYS Canal Corporation representatives visited the area and have plans to do repairs to the road, the retaining wall and place fencing on the pier to prevent trespassing.

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Putorti to approve the minutes of the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, all voting in favor, CARRIED

LETTERS: Charter Communications submitted correspondence regarding upcoming program changes. Motion made by Trustee Putorti, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to accept and file the correspondence, all voting in favor, CARRIED

BILLS: Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve payment of the abstract covering claims #24-00080-24-00130 totaling \$80,677.15, all voting in favor, CARRIED

REPORTS: Zoning/Compliance Officer, Justice Nichols and Justice Putorti submitted reports for June. Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to accept the reports and to place them on file, all voting in favor, CARRIED

July 11, 2023 Regular Meeting Continued

Trustee Putorti stated that the property located at 16 Wheeler Avenue is a mess. Dan Styczynski stated that all of the vehicles on this property are registered and insured. Trustee Putorti stated that the grass is growing on a property on Elbow Street and going into the road.

Trustee Watson reported that the Vac truck is being repaired with new seals. The Dept. of Public Works have been fixing potholes, water leaks and working on Route 22 waterline replacement.

Motion made by Trustee Putorti, seconded by Trustee Watson to approve the attached resolution to provide payment for the increase cost of the Poultney Street waterline replacement project from \$481,000.00 to \$536,851.00, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Mayor Eagan reported that she and Trustee Norton along with Matt Fuller and Sean Doty met with the representatives for the CHPE line regarding the resolution of the differences with the road use agreement. CHPE will pay \$7,000.00 to the Village for the engineering costs to review the road use agreement in relation to the Village's infrastructure and \$50,000.00 line of credit for future repairs to our infrastructure if needed. Mayor Eagan feels that CHPE now has a better understanding of what concerns the Village has and the line will be moved further away from our infrastructure. The Village of Whitehall is most impacted by this line coming through and we need to be sure that we are protected now and in the future.

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Putorti to convene into executive session to discuss specific personnel at 7:33PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee LaChapelle, seconded by Trustee Putorti to end executive session and to reconvene into regular session at 8:00PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee LaChapelle to adjourn the meeting at 8:30PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Stephanie A. LaChapelle  
Clerk-Treasurer