

**Village of Afton**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY**  
**May 14, 2018**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held May 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

**Present:** Mayor Burnett, Trustee Harvey, Trustee Simonds, Trustee Zablocki, Trustee Matthews and David Bird

**Visitors:** Sara Weeks, Wendy Hosier, Daniel Fugnani, Joan Pallateri, Thomas O'Donnell, Joyce Thorsland, Steven & Sherry Johnson, Jerry Harris, April Leggett, Marge Petrie and Bobby LaForte

- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers, Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed.  
**General Fund Vouchers # 267 - 298, Totaling \$70,102.29.**  
**Water Fund Vouchers # 86 – 97, Totaling \$52,174.40.**
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or corrections was made by Trustee Harvey, seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

**Monthly Report:**

- DPW/ Water: Report distributed.
- Police Department. No report.
- Code Enforcement: Report distributed.
- Planning Board: Trustee Matthews informed the Village Board of Trustees that he has met with a couple looking to place a bid on the Chuck Male property with the hopes of having horses on the premises. They are currently working on a site plan with their ideas to bring to the Village Board of Appeals. This will need to be done fairly quickly as the bids on this property must be returned to the County on July 24, 2018 by 5 pm. Trustee Matthews informed the Village Board of a request of variance that was submitted by a gentleman trying to allow for chickens on his property within the Village, this too will need to be presented to the Village Board of Appeals. Trustee Matthews informed the Village Board of Trustees that the company that has obtained the property next to Afton Equipment, for the placement of a Dollar General Store has contacted him about the proper sign regulations. Trustee Matthews informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board will be working on updating the New Census over the summer; this will consist of the gathering of Village addresses.
- Finance/Insurance: Mayor Burnett just met with Mr. Parsons our Insurance Agent, last Monday to discuss the coming year's policies. There is an expected small increase on some of our policies.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Remains the same.
- Grant Committee: Working on the closing of the Strategic Plan.

- Parks Committee: Trustee Simonds informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Committee will be holding a garage and vender's sale at the New Town Hall on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- Historian Report: Report distributed.
- Dog Control Officer: Reports distributed for the last 2 months as they were received after our last meeting.

### **Old Business:**

- Weiss Cleanup – Remains the same.
- Sidewalk- Strong- per Mr. Strong he grew tired of waiting on DPW, he has repaired the sidewalk himself.
- Trespassing posting – Vallonia Springs property posted according to the law – Mr. Bird was informed that the nice weather is here, this needs to be done by next month's meeting.
- Credit Card – Has been withdrawn – Due to Sally Muller no longer Mayor. – The Village Board has decided to Table for the time being.
- Hydrant Flushing - Time Plan – Per Mr. Bird this will be done once school releases for the summer.
- Discussions of Street Lights – Meeting was held with Mayor Burnett, Trustees Matthews and Mr. Grangers. After looking at the energy audit of the Village office, it was used to give a rough estimate of how is spent on our streetlights. Half of what the Village pays out to NYSEG goes towards servicing. Mr. Granger thinks that he can obtain grant funding up to 50% for this project. He is willing to enter into a service agreement of a 5 year contract for the maintenance of the streetlights with the Village. Mr. Granger also thinks that he may be able to enlist the help of Senator Fred Akshar for granting assistance.
- Energy Audit – The written contract has been received and reviewed by the Village Attorney to enter into agreement with Eastern Energy to move forward with the updating of the electrical lights within the entire Village Office Building. Currently we are waiting on a start date with this project from Eastern Energy.

### **New Business:**

- In Our March meeting, the Village received a certified letter from Steve & Sherry Johnson with the request to place their property located at 138 Winding Way on the Village water line. At that time, they were returned down by the Village Board of Trustees, due to the Village having a Moratorium stating no water will be supplied to residents living outside of the Village. A letter was sent to the Johnson's explaining this.
- The Village received a second letter from Steve & Sherry Johnson with the request to place water services to their property located at tax map number 289.11-3-7 on Winding Way within the Village water line. They then would like to pipe the water to the neighboring property dwelling.

- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to allow a curb box to be placed on tax map number 289.11-3-7 within the Village boundaries owned by Steve & Sherry Johnson. According to the Water Rules & Regulations, the Villages responsibility lies only to the placement of a curb box. It will be the property owners responsibility to place the water piping from the curb box to the dwelling, pending Villages approval of the allowable supplies as stated in the Water Rules & Regulations set forth by the Village Board of Trustees. Votes are as follows: Trustee Simonds – Yes, Trustee Harvey- Abstain, Trustee Matthews – Yes, Trustee Zablocki – Yes.
- Visitor Wendy Hosier asked the Village Board of Trustees when the next Flood Mitigation Meeting would be held. Mrs. Hosier was informed that there is a meeting scheduled for this Wednesday, May 16 2018 at 10 am, in the Jack D. Bolster Community Center.
- Visitor Daniel Fagnani from Delaware Engineering, D.P.C. spoke with the Village Board of Trustees about the water tank replacement process. He informed the Board as to where we are in the process of the grant gathering and submission. Mr. Fagnani also answered questions that were addressed by village residents.
- Visitor April Leggett reminded the Village Board of Trustees that we are working on the closing of the two grants that the Village has received with her help. Those grants are the Flood Mitigation and the Strategic Plan. Ms. Leggett informed the Board of Trustees that she had attended a meeting in Ithaca today on the Southern Tier Consolidated Funding Application Workshop. Ms. Leggett expressed to the Village Board of Trustees that there is funding available for projects that would be beneficial for the Village of Afton. Trustee Matthews asked Ms. Leggett what the cost would be for the Village to apply to some of these grant funded programs. Ms. Leggett stated that it would all depend upon which grants are applied for.
- Visitor April Leggett informed the Village Board of Trustees that when she attended the Watershed Screening Update meeting held in Binghamton in late March, the Village of Afton was not present on their list of screening results that we are in a higher economic risk of flooding do to damage in the watershed. Ms. Leggett stated that the DOT is now currently aware that the Village of Afton needs to be included with any ongoing projects to fix the issues that exist here in Afton.
- Visitor April Leggett informed the Village Board of Trustees that DOT would be conducting a meeting here at the Jack D. Bolster Community Center on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 10 am to discuss the ongoing Flood Mitigation as well as the sinking culvert.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to allow April Leggett to continue grant-funding applications on the Village behalf. Seconded by Trustee Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.
- Visitor
- Jerry Harris welcomed the New Mayor as well as the Trustees. Mr. Harris stated that he hopes that this New Board will be able to move forward in a positive way to benefit our community.
- Visitor Jerry Harris stated that our streets and sidewalks are horrendous. He feels as though our community has significantly declined in the last 4 years. Mr. Harris suggested that the

Village Board of Trustees should appoint a couple of their Board Members as a Street Maintenance Program. He feels as though this would be most beneficial in getting our streets and sidewalks mending, repairing, and replaced so that they will last. Mr. Harris stated that if need be he would be willing to help. Mr. Harris also asked the Trustees to take a walk or drive through the Village to see all the much needed repairs. Mr. Harris suggested that the sidewalks could be edged

- Visitor Jerry Harris stated to the Village Board of Trustees that he feels as though the DPW is wasting valuable time and resources by continually mowing the property across from the Fair Grounds. Mr. Harris stated that this property is not in use for any one function, the time spent there could be spent on cleaning up sidewalks instead.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked the Village Board of Trustees what they plan on doing on East Main Street, he stated that this road is horrible.
- Mr. Bird stated that Chenango County Asphalt will be repaving East Main Street from the Village Line to just past Mr. Harris's house, sometime next month. Mr. Bird stated that the other side of the Street needs to be raised up a 1 ½ before this project is started. Mr. Harris stated that the Street should be grinded before you pave, otherwise the road will continue to do the something as it is now.
- Visitor Jerry Harris also asked the Village Board of Trustees about the water that has continued to pool between the sidewalk and street on the east side next to the old Burnett house. Mr. Harris suggested that the Village might want to think about putting in a couple of small culverts or possibly ditching.
- Visitor Jerry Harris talked about the riverbank destabilization. Visitor April Leggett stated that there are grants available for riverbank stabilization.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked why the Village has purchased a new backhoe along with a trailer for transport. He does not understand the need for such equipment.
- Visitors Thomas O'Donnell & Joan Pallateri stated that they feel as no information is being giving to residents by the Board. They feel as though everyone needs to be made aware of what is happening within our community. They expressed that positive information needs to be blasted, make people excited to live here. The Village Board did inform the couple that most information about the Village is posted on the Town of Afton Web page that the Town / Village share. The site to find this information is ([www.townofafton.com](http://www.townofafton.com) ).
- Discussions of a possible master email list to be constructed as a way to better communicate with the public. A possible hub – with Town/ Village / Residents.
- Discussions of the tree program removal were brought forth. There are many trees within the Village that may be hazardous.
- Visitor Sara Weeks asked Mr. David Bird if the water issues on the East Side has been taken care of. Mr. Bird stated no, he has two gentlemen from Rural Water Association coming on Tuesday to look things over.
- Visitor Sara Weeks presented the Village Board of Trustees with information pertaining to the two yellow houses location on Main Street. Along with a house on Spring Street. Ms.

Weeks stated that we was interested in the possibility of purchasing property. Ms. Weeks provided the Village Board of Trustees with photographs of the deplorable conditions of all of these houses. She expressed concerns of safety issues. She asked the Village Board of Trustees to consider starting the process of notifying the Health Department to condemn these said properties.

- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to ask Mr. Richard Metzger for his resignation as the Village of Afton Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Metzger no longer lives in the surrounding area, the Village Board feels as though a local person would be more suitable for the convenience of Village residents. Seconded by Trustee Matthews. All in favor motion passed.
- Visitor Sara Weeks expressed to the Village Board of Trustees that the fire hydrants are in need of painting. She suggested that maybe a community beatification program or a different type of origination could possibly paint the fire hydrants. Trustees Harvey suggested that maybe a Girl Scout Troop would be interested in helping.
- Visitor Sara Weeks asked the Village Board of Trustees about fire lines within the Village. She asked who decides where fire lands should be placed. Trustee Zablocki informed Ms. Weeks that there are no fire lanes within the Village.
- **The Village Board of Trustees were informed that the Notice of bond adoption resolution for the purpose of improvement to the Village water system, including the design & purchase of new 210,000 – gallon water storage tank, necessary site work and removal of existing tank with an estimated maximum cost of \$1, 250, 00.00. Will be placed in the Villages designated paper.**

As follows

#### NOTICE OF BOND RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the resolution a summary of which is published herewith has been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Afton, Chenango County, New York on the 9th day of April, 2018. Such resolution was adopted subject to a permissive referendum and the period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for such referendum without a valid petition having been submitted and filed, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village of Afton is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of New York.

Ann Palmatier  
Village Clerk  
Village of Afton

**BOND RESOLUTION DATED APRIL 9, 2018. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SERIAL BONDS OF THE VILLAGE OF AFTON, CHENANGO COUNTY, NEW YORK IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,250,000**

PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL FINANCE LAW TO FINANCE CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE VILLAGE'S WATER SYSTEM AND DELEGATING THE POWER TO ISSUE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE SALE OF SUCH BONDS TO THE VILLAGE TREASURER.

Object or Purpose: certain improvements to the Village's water system, including the design, purchase and installation of a new 210,000-gallon water storage tank, necessary site work in connection therewith and removal of the existing water storage tank, at an estimated maximum cost of \$1,250,000.

Period of Probable Usefulness: forty (40) years.

Amount of Obligations to be Issued: not to exceed \$1,250,000, a portion of such amount to be offset by a Water Infrastructure Improvement Act grant anticipated to be received from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

A complete copy of the bond resolution summarized above is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Village Clerk located at the Jack D. Bolster Community Center, 105 Main Street, Afton, New York 13730.

Dated: May 9, 2018  
Afton, New York

- **A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to allow the Village Clerk to close the Office at noon on Thursday, June 21, 2018. Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed. A notice will be placed in the Tri- Town prior to closing.**
- The Organizational Meeting for the Village of Afton was held during the regular May meeting. Motion was made for the following: Planning Board Members are as follows – April Leggett, Ernest Cutting, Robert Humphrey Jr and Bruce Bosket. Appeals Board Members are as follows – Richard Cuthbertson and Michael Lawrence. The Attorney for the Village will be Coughlin & Gerhardt. The official depository for all monies will be The NBT Bank. The official newspaper will continue to be The Tri-Town News. Our mileage reimbursement will be \$.50. Our monthly board meeting will be held every second Monday of the Month at 7PM. in the Susquehanna Room at the Jack D Bolster Community Center 105 Main Street. The Planning Board monthly meeting will be held on the first Monday of the Month at 7PM, as the same address. All Village committees will remain the same. Deputy Mayor will be Gloria Harvey, Motion for the preceding was made by Trustee Simonds and seconded by Trustee Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.
- **A motion was made by Trustee Harvey to close the Village Office on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in observance of Memorial Day. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.**
- **A motion was made by Trustee Zablocki to move \$30,000.00 from DPW Equipment Reserves Fund to General Checking Account for the purpose of funding the purchase of a new backhoe. Seconded by Trustees Harvey. All in favor motion passed.**

- A motion was made by Trustee Harvey to move \$10,504.05 from General Fund Savings Account #2 to General Checking Account for the purpose of funding the purchase of a new backhoe. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Matthews to place \$27,002.70 from Water Checking into Water Equipment Fund 8340.20 for the purpose of funding the purchase of a new backhoe. Seconded by Trustee Zablocki. All in favor, motion passed.
- Letter of request Village Clerk Treasurer – Tabled for executive session
- The Village Board of Trustees were informed that Janice Nickerson presented the Village with a pedestrian yield sign that was donated to the Village of Afton by the Village / Town of Sidney.
- Posting of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Joelyn Sines 5K Run /Walk has been added to the Community Calendar Events on WBNG TV. The Event will be held on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with a start time of 9 am. Registration forms for this event can be found on the shared web site for the Town and Village at ([www.townofafton.com](http://www.townofafton.com)).
- The Village Board of Trustees were informed that once again, as with every year the Committee for the Joelyn Sines 5K Run / Walk are requesting Police presence during the race.
- The Village of Afton received a letter from the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association. They are requesting a waiver of fees for the following date of events for the Afton Fair, which will run from July 6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to waive the vending permit fees. Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed.
- The Village Board of Trustees received the draft of the revised water rules & regulations along with a letter that will be sent out to Village residents.
- The Village Board of Trustees were given the legal notice that was sent to the Villages designated paper, The Tri – Town News. This notice informed the public of the audit conducted by The New York State Comptroller's Office.
- Trustee Harvey reminded everyone of the upcoming Memorial Day Parade, on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am. The speaker for this year's parade will be John Lawrence. After the parade, the First Baptist Church will be serving hot dogs and drink.
- A motion was made by Trustee Matthews and Seconded by Trustee Zablocki to go into executive session, for personnel reasons. All in favor, motion passed. 9:05pm.
- A motion was made by Trustee Zablocki and Seconded by Trustee Matthews to close executive session. All in favor, motion passed. 9:45pm.
- A motion was made to make by Trustee Simonds to place a penalty fine violation on the revised water rules and regulations to be equal to the six (6) month water

billing service that the said violator is charged. Seconded by Trustee Zablocki. All in favor, motion passed.

- A motion was made to accept the new drafted revised Water Rules and Regulations, with the one change on penalties by Trustee Simonds. Seconded by Trustee Zablocki. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to allow the Clerk/ Treasures to receive pricing for 500 copies on a new booklets pertaining to the New Water Rules and Regulations. Seconded by Trustee Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Zablocki to increase the Village Clerk / Treasures hourly rate by an additional \$3.00 per hour, to be added to the already approved raise for this coming budget of 2018/2019. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Zablocki to adjourn our regular meeting at 9:50 pm and Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted  
Ann Palmatier  
Clerk / Treasurer