

**Village of Afton**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY**  
**September 9, 2019**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held September 9, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

**Present:** Mayor Matthews, Trustee Muller, Trustee Lawrence, Trustee Simonds, Trustee Humphrey, Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier, DPW Superintendent Andrew Acla, and Village Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler.

**Absent:** Trustee Simonds

**Visitors:** Curtis & Gloria Harvey, Patricia Stafford, Axel Moore, Jon Matthews Lori Petzack, Charles Torres, Susan Weible, Jennifer DeCamp, Sandra McMinn, Dave Bailey, Judy Hinman, David Wylubski, John Lawrence, Jerry & Nancy Harris, Brendon Becker.

- A motion was made by Trustee Muller authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers, Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.  
**General Fund Vouchers # 94 - 123, Totaling \$21,741.33.**  
**Water Fund Vouchers # 30 – 36, Totaling \$7,857.08.**
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or corrections was made by Trustee Muller, seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

**Monthly Report:**

- **DPW/ Water:** Report Distributed. DPW Superintendent Andrew Acla gave a verbal account of his written report. He stated that the department had 1 emergency call out. They received 17 mark outs for Dig Safely of New York. They had a total of 26 brush debris and other picks. They worked on preparing Riverside Drive for the paving process. They used hot asphalt shim repairs for High Street and Sand Street. Hot asphalt repairs were done on drainages across from Sunset Drive and Highland Ave. The monkey bar playground equipment was removed from the existing playground on Leggett Park to make room for the ongoing assembly of the toddler playground equipment. Hot asphalt repairs were done on Winding Way for water services. Removal and disposal of 3 animal carcasses from Village roadways. Made a request with Chenango County Sheriff's Department for a placement of a speed radar placement on East Main Street. Spoke with Chenango County Highway Department to assist with a 55 mph sign to be placed at the end of East Main Street. Ditching was done on Spring Street Ext. Installed a pedestrian crosswalk sign on Main Street.
- **Police Department:** Report Distributed. Mayor Matthews read the report aloud.
- **Code Enforcement:** Code Enforcement Jeffrey Butler gave a verbal report. He stated that he

had complaints of an unkempt lawn and trash on Evelyn Ave. which has been addressed. There was a porta potty on Pleasant Ave that was removed. There is a camping trailer located on Long Hill Road, there does not seem to be anyone living in it. Mr. Butler will continue to follow up. There was an RV's parked on Blowers Hill Road. Mr. Butler spoke with the owner, who stated that he'd be moving the recreational vehicle. There were complaints of unregistered vehicles on Caswell Street and Maple Street. Mr. Butler stated that he worked with the Planning Board on the paperwork pertaining to the 239 for the property located at 222 Main Street.

- Planning Board: Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board met to go over and review the 239 committee review submitted for the property located at 222 Main Street. The application has been giving a negative recommendation by the County as well as DOT. Trustee Humphrey stated that a letter has been constructed to send to the Zoning Board of Appeals to give Planning Board opinion. Once this is done a meeting with the Appeals Board will take place. After that, the next step is to hold a public hearing. At that time the public is welcome to voice their opinions and concerns.
- Finance/Insurance: Remains the same.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Remains the same.
- Grant Committee: Trustee Muller stated that the Parks Community is working on a grant. It is required by the disability law that a sidewalk be put into place, with placement of the new playground equipment. Since there is a blacktopped basketball court in place the sidewalk should be run from the basketball court to the playground equipment making it accessible to all. The Parks Committee has been denied the grant currently. They plan on resubmitting the paperwork.
- Parks Committee: Trustee Muller informed those in attendance that the Park's Committee will be hosting a Halloween Party on October 26<sup>th</sup>, from 7 pm till 11 pm at the River Club. Tickets for this event are \$5.00 per person. The band, Short Change, will be the entertainment, there will be 50 / 50 raffles and door prizes. Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> best costumes will be awarded. You can purchase tickets for this event at the NBT Bank, River Club, Cobra Industries, or by contacting a parks committee member.
- Historian Report: Report distributed. Mayor Matthews stated that the report was available to anyone wishing to view it.
- Dog Control Officer: - No Report.

### **Old Business:**

- Yard / Storm Debris pick-up – Working on Policy - Trustee Lawrence presented the Village Board of Trustees with her rough draft of the lawn debris and brush pickup. Trustee Lawrence expressed that there needs to be a direct day as to when pickups will take place. That having an assigned day is not only beneficial to the Village but to the residents as well. Mr. Acla stated that his concern, about assigning a day is what if there is an emergency. Trustee Lawrence stated that if an emergency were to arise then as long as pickups were made within the following day or 2 the village residents should understand

that. Trustee Lawrence stated she is proposing a full sheet on the break down for the 4 seasons. We need to give the people information on what to expect and what the guidelines are. There were many opinions on the pros and cons of the use of plastic vs. paper bags. As well as the possibility of placing the grass clipping to the curb to be picked up via the leaf vacuum. Many did not think this would be a good idea. The hose may not reach far enough, plus the possible debris being blown or pushed into the streets causing a hazard.

### **New Business:**

- Trustee Lawrence asked DPW Superintendent Andrew Acla about the vandalism that took place at Davy's Field. Mr. Acla stated that the large telephone poles were pushing over, and a vehicle drove out on to the field and did donuts.
- Trustee Lawrence asked DPW Superintendent Andrew Acla where we are on the sidewalks. According to Mr. Acla we will need to have a contractor to come in to replace the sidewalks. Trustee Lawrence asked if there was any way we could lift the sidewalks or possibly grin them. Mr. Acla stated that we need to do as Bainbridge does. They replace 50 feet at a time. Trustee Lawrence asked if we have marked out the hazardous sidewalks. Mr. Acla stated, yes.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to accept the resignation of Robert Humphrey Jr. as a Planning Board Member. As Mr. Humphrey as now been appointed by Mayor Matthews as a Trustee, he can no longer hold the appointed position as a Planning Board Member. Trustee Humphrey will continue to work with the Planning Board as the liaison between the Planning Board and the Village Board of Trustees. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- Mayor Matthews asked for a motion to appoint Mr. Charles Torres as a Village Board of Appeals Member.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to appoint Charles Torres as a Village Board of Appeals Member. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to adopt the SEQRA Resolution - New York's State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) requires all state and local government agencies to consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors during discretionary decision-making. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

### **RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF AFTON SEEKING LEAD AGENCY STATUS IN CONSTRUCTION OF THE WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Afton Wastewater Collection and Treatment System Project will involve building a new wastewater treatment facility and collection system in the southwest quadrant of the Village of Afton; and

**WHEREAS**, the application was submitted together with a Full Environmental Assessment Form

("FEAF") and other supporting documentation ("Application Materials"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board of Trustees must comply with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA");

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Afton has completed a coordinated review with all project involved agencies and designated itself as Lead Agency pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law in the environmental review of the Project; and

**THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

Subject to providing notice to and obtaining the consent of all other involved agencies, the Village of Afton hereby designates itself as "lead agency" for purposes of compliance with SEQR, 6 NYCRR Part 617. The Village of Afton shall undertake and complete all duties and obligations of the "lead agency" as required by 6 NYCRR Part 617.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Afton adopts the findings and conclusions relating to the probable environmental impacts contained in the attached Environmental Assessment Form and file the Negative Declaration in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**

The Village of Afton hereby authorizes the Village Mayor to execute any and all documents on behalf of the Village as may be necessary to become lead agency.

**WHEREUPON**, the Resolution was put to a vote and the following result recorded

**4 AYES**

**NAYS**

**ABSTAIN**

- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to adopt Bond Resolution – Authorizing to submit the water application for construction & improvement of the Village sewer system at a maximum estimated cost of \$10,700,000.00 and authorizing the issuance of \$2,670,000.00 serial bonds to finance the costs thereof. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to allow for Mayor Matthews to sign the grant application with New York State EFC – (Environmental Facilities Corporation) to receive additional funding. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

**The Bond Resolution is a follows:**

BOND RESOLUTION DATED SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF AFTON,  
CHENANGO COUNTY, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING THE  
CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE VILLAGE  
SEWER SYSTEM AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF  
\$10,700,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF  
\$2,670,000 SERIAL BONDS TO FINANCE THE COSTS  
THEREOF.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees (the "Board of Trustees") of the Village of Afton, Chenango County, New York (the "Village"), as follows:

Section 1. The construction and improvement of the Village sewer system, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required in connection therewith, is hereby authorized at a maximum estimated cost of \$10,700,000.

Section 2. The plan for financing of such total maximum estimated cost shall consist of the following:

- (A) the issuance of up to \$2,670,000 Serial Bonds of the Village (the "Bonds") or bond anticipation notes of the Village for the foregoing object or purpose, which are hereby authorized, pursuant to the provisions of Local Finance Law;
- (B) grant proceeds in the estimated amount of \$5,000,000 from the NYS DEC WQIP-Waste Water Treatment fund;
- (C) grant proceeds in the estimated amount of \$2,160,000 from the Empire State Development Fund; and
- (D) grant proceeds in the estimated amount of \$890,000 from the Environmental Facilities Corporation Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Grant to pay a portion of said costs which are hereby authorized.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific objects or purposes is forty (40) years, pursuant to subdivision 4 of paragraph (a) of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law. The proposed maturity of the Bonds will be in excess of five years.

Section 4. Pursuant to Section 107.00(d)(3)(a) of the Local Finance Law, current funds are not required to be provided prior to issuance of the Bonds or any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of issuance of the Bonds.

Section 5. The temporary use of available funds of the Village, not immediately required for the purpose or purposes for which the same were borrowed, raised or otherwise created, is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 165.10 of the Local Finance Law, for the capital purposes described in Section 1 of this Bond Resolution.

Section 6. The Bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds shall contain the recital of validity prescribed by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, shall be general obligations of the Village, payable as to both principal and interest by a general tax upon

all the real property within the Village without legal or constitutional limitation as to rate or amount. The faith and credit of the Village are hereby irrevocably pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, and provision shall be made annually in the budget of the Village by appropriation for (a) the amortization and redemption of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes to mature in such year, and (b) the payment of interest to be due and payable in such year.

Section 7. Subject to the provisions of this Bond Resolution and of the Local Finance Law, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 21.00,30.00, 50.00 and 56.00 to 63.00 inclusive of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the Bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, and the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes, and the power to sell and deliver the Bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds, and the power to sell and deliver Bonds providing for substantially level or declining annual debt service, is hereby delegated to the Village Treasurer, the chief fiscal officer of the Village.

Section 8. This Bond Resolution is intended to constitute the declaration of the Village's "official intent" to reimburse the expenditures authorized by this Bond Resolution with the proceeds of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized herein, as required by Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this Bond Resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the objects or purposes described herein.

Section 9. The validity of the Bonds authorized by this Bond Resolution and of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds may be contested only if:

- (a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village is not authorized to expend money; or
- (b) the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of the publication of this Bond Resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or
- (c) such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of New York.

Section 10. This Bond Resolution, or a summary hereof, shall be published in the official newspaper of the Village, together with a notice of the Village Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 11. The Board of Trustees hereby determines that the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the regulations thereunder have previously been satisfied with respect to the expenditures authorized by this resolution.

Section 12. This Bond Resolution is adopted subject to permissive referendum in accordance with Section 36.00 of the Local Finance Law. This resolution shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption or if a petition is filed pursuant to Article 5-A of the Village Law, upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the Village voting on the referendum.

The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Mayor Matthews:	Voting: Aye
Trustee Humphrey:	Voting: Aye
Trustee Muller:	Voting: Aye
Trustee Lawrence:	Voting: Aye
Trustee Simonds:	Absent

The Resolution was declared adopted.

### **Recognition of Visitors:**

- Visitor Lori Petzack thanked the DPW crew for the pedestrian sign that was placed on Main Street. Ms. Petzack requested that the yellow lines on Spring & Caswell Street be repainted. Mr. Acla stated that the areas in question are State owned, the Village does not have the jurisdiction. Ms. Petzack also requested that 2 additional crosswalks be placed at the Fire Station and across from the Catholic Church. She has witnessed many senior citizens trying to across the streets at these locations, they struggle. Ms. Petzack requested that a school zone sign / 15 miles per hour / Children at play signs be placed on Spring & Caswell Streets. There are currently no sign. This is a bad traffic area, people are constantly speeding. Mr. Acla stated that he will have to research the possibilities of these requests.
- Ms. Petzack informed those in attendance that she has an update on the possibility of a traffic light placement in the Village. She stated that she has spoken with a member of Senator Fred Akshar's office. This person assured her that they will look into the matter immediately. Ms. Petzack stated that people continually speed through this village, even with the crosswalk sign in place. Visitor Jerry Harris asked Ms. Petzack if there was anyone in this crosswalk when she witnessed the cars going through the Village. Ms. Petzack stated that drivers need to slow down regardless.
- Trustee Lawrence asked DPW Superintendent Andrew Acla if the street sign that is currently placed by the East Side Cemetery be moved towards the Ryan house. Mr. Acla stated that he did not think it was possible to move the sign.
- Visitor Nancy Harris stated that she did not think that was the intent of Mrs. Ryan, she was looking to have the traffic to slow down, until they have reached the end of speed zones. Mrs. Harris also told Mr. Acla what a good job they did on Sunset and Highland Ave.
- After Mayor Matthews read the Police Department Report aloud, DPW Superintendent Andrew Acla asked if there was any indication as to how many hours the Police Force had clocked. Trustee Lawrence who is a member of the Police Committee stated that the Police Committee had a meeting with the Officer in Charge Quanson Wright. They have a good start on salary increases as well as coverage hours. Office Wright will be sending our resignation requests to those who are currently on our roster that have not worked. We are moving forward.

- Visitor Lori Petzack expressed her opinion that we need a full time officer and one part time officer. Ms. Petzack stated that when the accident occurred at the sideway day, it took 45 minutes for police assistance to arrive. Ms. Petzack questioned if the sidewalks mentioned included those, where people were hurt.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked Village Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler if he'd had he was aware of any septic systems not being in compliance. Mr. Butler stated that he has not heard of any at this time. He stated that he did have one when he first took over as the Village Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Harris stated that he's conducted an overview of the systems within the Village. He stated that 90% of the systems are in good working condition.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked the Village Board of Trustees what the board's plan is on a violation of the second placement of a camping trailer located within the village limits. He stated we need to act on this, will the Planning Board set a goal on violations. I'd like to hear more on this topic at next month's board meeting.
- Visitor Lori Petzack stated that her next door neighbor asked for her to bring to the attention of the Village Board of Trustees the there have been people sleeping in the stairway of the apartment building. She stated that she realizes that people need shelter. But this is trespassing, they need to be taken care of by the Police.
- When Trustee Muller explained that the Parks Committee had been denied for they grant fund they applied for, but that they would be reapplying. Visitor Lori Petzack asked Trustee Muller if she had any information on the grant funding for the water tank replacement. Trustee Muller stated that she is not the Mayor that question needs to be addressed to Mayor Matthews.
- Visitor The Mr. Brenden Becker, an Engineer with Lamont Engineers, P.C. explained the key factors in the grant application. He stated that if the Village does not receive the grant funds, it does not lock the village in part of the grant process. It was stated that this grant pertains to only the sewer and water lines.
- Visitor Lori Petzack asked the Village Board of Trustees if they were aware that the minimum wage was going up to \$15.00. She stated that in regards to our Police Force, they should be getting more money than they are currently offer. She recommends that the salary range be between (\$ 23 - \$ 28) hourly. She feels as though a full time Officer should receive a paid amount just below Officer in Charge Q. Wright. They are here to protect us we need to pay them their worth. It was stated that the hourly wage for New York City will increase to \$15 hourly, but here in Upstate the increase will be \$11.80 hourly.
- Visitor John Lawrence asked if the motion was made for Mayor Matthews to sign the water fund grant application. It was stated that it was added into the motion.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to adjourn regular meeting at 7:50 pm. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted  
 Ann Palmatier  
 Clerk / Treasurer





