

Village of Wolcott  
Board of Trustees  
May 13, 2008  
7:00 PM

Mayor Monson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: Mayor Monson, Trustees Baker, Freer, Banks and White

Others Present: Larry Hogan, Lori Tyler, Jerry Laird, Ron Lancy, Joe Gallo, Otis Vezzose, Bill Steighler, Norma Stewart, Tom Connor, Art Williams and Kevin Costello

Pledge of Allegiance

### **Trustee Banks**

Mayor Monson congratulated Trustee Jessica Krasucki Banks on her recent marriage and stated that her name has been changed.

### **FEMA Grant Update**

The report prepared by US Archeological has been sent to FEMA where the appropriate officials have signed in approval. The report now must be signed by the State Historical Preservation Officer.

### **NYS DOT Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) Grant**

Mayor Monson showed a Power Point presentation detailing the draft plan for the grant application. Amy D'Angelo from Wayne County Planning has been working on the application and prepared the draft plan. The Village of Wolcott will be required to contribute a 20% match for the project, which may be done with in-kind services. Marty Mroczek from MRB Engineering will be meeting with Mayor Monson on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 to discuss engineering plans for the project which will provide for significant improvements to the downtown area. Mayor Monson will show the Power Point presentation at the next Village of Wolcott Planning Board meeting.

### **EPA Grant (Parks)**

The Environmental Protection Agency is accepting applications for project proposals which will improve local parks. The Village of Wolcott is considering submitting an application which will provide for new playground equipment at the Wolcott Falls Park as well as improved trails and a fountain in the Mill Pond. Additionally, improvements for Dr. Chan's Garden can be included in the project. Mayor Monson has asked Wayne County Planning if their department would be able to write the grant application if the project appears feasible. More information will be presented to the Board as it becomes available.

### **Police Department**

- Chief Costello asked Mayor Monson if he had spoken with Bob Skinner regarding his traffic concerns. Mayor Monson responded yes.
- Chief Costello asked if a special meeting was held two weeks ago. Mayor Monson responded that yes, a special meeting was held on April 29, 2008. Chief Costello asked if the special meeting had been posted. Mayor Monson responded yes.

### **Highway Department**

The Highway Department employees have been busy picking up brush and cleaning the streets.

### **Water/Sewer Departments**

- Lori Tyler informed the Board that the consumption as shown on the account of Suzanne Allman, of 8525 Warbler Road, does not appear to be correct. Some quarters are shown to have negative consumption while other quarters show consumption with a radically high reading. Mrs. Tyler would like the Board to review the account in detail and make a determination as to what course of action to take to correct any errors made on the account. There is a possibility that Ms. Allman may have been over charged for water usage. Mayor Monson stated that the Board would review the account.
- Art Williams, Village of Wolcott Attorney, stated that he had been trying to get hold of the attorney for Kathy McCarthy regarding her water bill. The meter was read when previously agreed to by all parties and the consumption as previously billed was found to be in line with the actual usage. Trustee Banks made the motion to waive the accumulated late fees and penalties and resubmit a bill to Kathy McCarthy for the actual water used in the amount of \$492.42, with the option of a six-month payment plan. Trustee Baker seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

### **Water/Sewer Departments (Continued)**

- The Board reviewed the list of re-levied water, sewer and property maintenance charges. Water and sewer charges re-levied totaled \$45,831.33 and property maintenance totaled \$5,687.67. Trustee Banks questioned some of the accounts where she was aware of the owner(s) being deceased or out of the Village of Wolcott. The unpaid amounts accumulated for water, sewer and property maintenance charges for properties inside the Village of Wolcott are re-levied onto the Village tax roll by parcel number, not owner(s) name.

### **Fire Department Function Request**

Trustee Freer made the motion to approve the request by Jim Flynn, Sr., for the use of the Fire Hall on June 28, 2008 for the purpose of an anniversary party. Trustee Banks seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

### **Siren**

An electrician from Newark Electric installed a new digital timer for the siren at the Village Hall. The siren was still not going off correctly at first but everything has been fixed now and the siren is working properly.

### **Code Enforcement**

Otis Vezzose reported that several building permits have been issued lately.

### **Historical Society**

- Trustee White made the motion to approve a request from the Historical Society for use of the Northup Park on July 26, 2008 for the purpose of the Living History Day. The park will be in use from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. Trustee Baker seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
- Also on July 26, 2008 at 12:00 noon the Lioness Club will be dedicating the new flag pole.
- Norma Stewart reported that the Historical Society members have been busy with getting the wiring and digging done for the installation of the new lamps.
- On August 23, 2008 there will be a breakfast at the Baptist Church. Pancakes and french toast will be served from 10:00 am until possibly 12:00 noon. Mrs. Stewart is not sure at present what the end time will be. Trustee Banks stated that the breakfast is being held the same day as the Wolcott Fire Department Golf Tournament.
- Mrs. Stewart reported that changes have been made to the displays at the Carriage House Museum.
- Mayor Monson asked if the display in the Kiosk at the Wolcott Falls Park would be changed. Mrs. Stewart will look into it.

### **Wayne County Surplus**

On May 15, 2008 Nick Rizzo and Melanie Countryman will go to Lyons to view the items declared surplus by Wayne County and see if anything would be useful to the Village of Wolcott.

### **Bill Steighler**

- Mr. Steighler expressed concern regarding the location of the survey stakes along the project area for the FEMA grant and the likelihood that the stakes will be moved when the project begins. Mayor Monson stated that the engineering firm doing the work will be responsible for placing the stakes back in the proper locations, not the homeowners.

### **Bill Steighler (Continued)**

- Mr. Steighler noticed that the pond at Dr. Chan's Garden is being dug out and requested that he be allowed to take his trailer there and take some of the dirt for his personal use. Mayor Monson and Trustee Baker both agreed that there would not be a problem with that as long as the dirt was for his personal use.
- Mr. Steighler asked if a time estimate was available for the FEMA grant project to begin. He expressed concern about the electrical lines in the area. Mayor Monson stated that the area would be surveyed prior to any digging and he would inform Mr. Steighler when a time frame was available. Mr. Steighler also stated that there is a catch basin behind his house. Mayor Monson stated that the engineering firm handling the project was being paid to know where the problem areas were but that he would make mention of the catch basin when the project begins.

### **Randy and Kathy VanAlstine**

Mr. and Mrs. VanAlstine were not present at the meeting to discuss their concerns.

### **Norma Stewart**

Mrs. Stewart asked when the flower pots would be placed around the fountain. Mayor Monson stated that the Water Department employees have been working on the fountain but that the flower pots would be there hopefully by the end of the week. Mr. Vezzose will take care of flowers for Mrs. Harris' urn in the park.

### **Tom Connor**

Mr. Connor expressed concern about the storm sewer drain behind his house and the fact that he is still having a significant problem with water drainage. Mayor Monson stated that MRB Engineering Firm has been contracted to conduct a drainage study of the area and that when the study is completed all problem areas will be addressed.

### **Garage Sales**

Mr. Steighler asked if the Village of Wolcott has an ordinance regarding the removal of Garage Sale signs after the sale is finished. Mr. Vezzose responded that yes, there was an ordinance. Mayor Monson stated that the issue of enforcing the ordinance will be looked into.

### **Jerry Laird**

Mr. Laird asked if Wayne County would be continuing the project on Lake Avenue where the concrete abutments were removed. Mayor Monson responded that yes the County would be continuing; however, the drainage study by MRB Engineering must be completed first.

### **Dan Smith**

Mr. Smith inquired about the status of the repairs to sidewalks which had been discussed last fall. Mayor Monson stated that the Board needs to review the proposed sidewalk agreement prepared by Art Williams. The matter will be placed on the agenda for the next Board Meeting. Trustee Banks would like to wait until the FEMA grant project begins because some of the sidewalks needing to be replaced may already be included in the scope of the project.

### **Rotary Clock**

The parts which were sent from the manufacturer were installed; however, the clock was still not working properly. A technician is coming to Wolcott from Illinois to repair the clock, which is still under warranty.

### **Mayor Monson**

- A Contractor from Savannah is donating his time and equipment to dig out the ponds for Dr. Chan's Garden.
- The Seaway Trail kiosk will be installed at the Wolcott Falls Park. The concrete pad will go in on May 14, 2008. The Village of Wolcott will pay for the concrete. Don Teeter will be donating some of the backhoe work and Mayor Monson expressed his thanks on behalf of the Village of Wolcott for his contribution.
- Mayor Monson read letters from the Governor's Office and the Office of the NYS Senate thanking the Village of Wolcott Mayor and Board of Trustees for approving Resolution 2008-11, supporting the New York State Property Taxpayers Protection Act.
- The new flag pole will be dedicated on July 26, 2008.
- Mayor Monson thanked the Clerk for giving the opening remarks for the National Day of Prayer gathering in Northup Park on May 1, 2008 in his absence as he had been called out of town.

### **Mayor Monson (Continued)**

- The walking trail from Lake Avenue to East Port Bay Road is now open. The poison ivy along the trail will be taken care of.
- Mayor Monson will be meeting with Court Clerk Jennifer Buckalew-LaDue on Thursday, May 15, 2008 to discuss plans for the upcoming Office of Court Administration grant cycle.

### **Trustee Baker**

Trustee Baker has nothing to discuss at this time.

### **Trustee Freer**

Trustee Freer thanked Mayor Monson for chairing the recent Dr. Chan's Garden Committee Meeting as he was unable to attend. To date there has been no response from Don Cole regarding the proposed location of the skate park, but the Lions Club is taking care of the matter.

### **Trustee White**

- Trustee White asked if a representative from the Fire Department was supposed to be present at tonight's Board meeting. Mayor Monson said no because they would need to know the balances in their budget accounts at the close of the fiscal year before any decisions could be made about the renovation project.
- At the recent Planning Board meeting it was discussed that, prior to meetings for variance requests, the list of things to consider for a use and an area variance should be read. Trustee Banks stated that she only recently became aware that financial hardship was to be considered for any variance request. Art Williams confirmed that was the case and stated that financial hardship could be a significant factor in determining the merit of a variance request. Trustee Banks asked who determines if a hardship exists. Mr. Williams stated that it would be up to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals but that it would be on a case by case basis.
- The Planning Board discussed the "Tip of the Month" and it was suggested that the tips be posted on a sign in Northup Park. Trustee White was asked to request that the Village Board approve the construction and placement of a sign in Northup Park for this purpose. Norma Stewart suggested that the tips might be better displayed on the bulletin board outside the Village Hall. Trustee Banks suggested contacting the local schools and churches regarding distribution of the tips in newsletters at no cost to the Village. Trustee Banks stated that the goal was to inform Village residents about code regulations that they may not be aware of. Mayor Monson stated that it comes down to enforcing the Village code.

### **Trustee White (Continued)**

- Mayor Monson will show the TEP grant Power Point presentation at the next Village of Wolcott Planning Board meeting.
- Trustee White has one item to be discussed during executive session.

### **Trustee Banks**

Trustee Banks has nothing else to discuss at this time.

### **Lori Tyler**

On behalf of the Mayor, Lori Tyler spoke with Chris Davis, who stated that she would be willing to maintain the flower pots on Main Street but that she would like to meet with someone to discuss exactly what needs to be done. The Historical Society will be taking care of planting the flower pots around the fountain.

### **Minutes of April 22, 2008**

Trustee White made the motion to approve the minutes of April 22, 2008 as read. Trustee Freer seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

### **Minutes of April 29, 2008 (Special Meeting)**

Trustee Baker made the motion to approve the minutes of April 29, 2008 as read. Trustee White seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

### **Treasurer's Report**

There were no questions or comments on the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2008.

### **Abstract #018**

Trustee Freer made the motion to approve abstract #018, voucher numbers 0940 – 1001, with check numbers 20554 – 20644, in the amount of \$56,044.87. Claims from the General Fund total \$36,454.96. Claims from the Water Fund total \$7,818.11. Claims from the Sewer Fund total \$9,716.30. Claims from the Trust and Agency Fund total \$2,055.50. Trustee Baker seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

### **Executive Session**

Trustee Freer made the motion to enter executive session at 8:00 pm to discuss personnel and contractual matters. Trustee Banks seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Art Williams and Kevin Costello were asked to attend part of the executive session.

**Executive Session (Continued)**

Trustee Freer made the motion to come out of executive session at 9:47 pm. Trustee Baker seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Trustee Baker made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 pm. Trustee Freer seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie A. Countryman  
Clerk/Treasurer