

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, of the Village of Montgomery was held in the Court Room, at 133 Clinton Street, Montgomery, NY 12549, on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:30 pm.

Present: Mayor Brescia, Deputy Mayor Scheels, Trustee Andolsek (absent), Trustee Hembury, Trustee Lindner, Atty. Dowd, Village Clerk Rivera-Fernandez, DPW Supt. Nelson, Police Chief Herlihy, Kevin Conero, Maria Beltrametti, Tom Steed, Don Berger, Dan Byam, Susan Hembury, Randi Picarello, Marc Devitt.

RE: MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED

Mayor Brescia asked all in attendance to stand for a moment of silence for the passing of Austin Andolsek. He will certainly be missed.

Mayor Brescia opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

RE: MINUTES

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Lindner, the Board approved the minutes of February 16, 2021. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: REQUEST TO MEET WITH BOARD

None

RE: ABSTRACT NO. 02-2021

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Trustee Hembury, all bills listed on ABSTRACT NO.02-2021 were audited and approved for payment with \$112,768.36 from the General Fund, \$31,960.15, from the Water Fund, \$21,322.09 from the Sewer Fund and totaling \$166,050.60. Check No: 78419- 78471, 1715 - 1721. Motion carried 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Treasurer Griffith reported a CASH BALANCE for the month of February 28, 2021, as follows: General Fund \$1,432,866.30, Water Fund \$273,953.32, Sewer Fund \$507,904.13.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

None

RE: APPROVE SUBSURFACE TECHNOLOGIES INC PROPOSAL FOR THE CLEANING OF HOLT WELL #4

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Hembury, the Board approved the Subsurface proposal for the Cleaning of Holt Well #4, for \$3,920.00. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: INTRODUCTION OF LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2-2021, EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM FOR AN ADDITIONAL 60 DAYS

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Hembury, the Board approved to Introduction Local Law #1 of 2021, extending the Moratorium for an additional 60 days, to allow the Village time to complete the amendments to the Village's Zoning Law as contemplated by the Comprehensive Plan Update and set a public hearing. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: APPROVE ZONING INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR A QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR VILLAGE RESIDENTS

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board approved the zoning informational meeting to be held at the Montgomery Senior Center on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7 pm. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING FOR INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2021

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board approved to hold the Public Hearing on March 18, 2021 at 7:20 pm, to be held in the Court Room, at 133 Clinton Street, for the Introduction Local Law No. 1 of 2021 extending the Village moratorium for 60 days, allowing the Village time to complete the amendments to the Village's Zoning Law as contemplated by the Comprehensive Plan Update. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: EVENTS:

Veterans Corner dedication, Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 12 Noon at the intersection of Goodwill Rd. & Roosevelt Avenue.

Chambers Court dedication, Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 1 pm (in honor of Skip Chambers).

Village of Montgomery Police Department open meetings for Policies review and update, Thursday, March 4th and Thursday, March 18th, both at 6 pm, held at the Senior Center, 36 Bridge St.

The next regular Village Board Meeting, Thursday, March 18th at 7:30 pm, in the Court Room, 133 Clinton Street.

Run for the Gold 5K Race, Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 9:30 am Start at 21 Walkkill Avenue.

RE: STREET CLOSING

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Lindner, the Board approved closing Oakley Street on Monday beginning at 11 am to 4 pm, for the accommodations of the repast, for the family members of Austin Andolsek. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

RE: DEPARTMENT REPORTS – DPW

DPW Supt. Nelson is hopeful the cleaning of Holt well #4 will rejuvenate the well. However, if these measures do not work in our favor, he will have to pursue another remedy for Holt well #4. It's the Villages largest producer with Holt #3 being the next. He had nothing further to report.

RE: DEPARTMENT REPORTS – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Herlihy mentioned receiving the speed trailer purchased as a partnership, as a courtesy of Medline Industries through the Village preservation committee. He expects to have it up and operational beginning on Tuesday, March 9th, at 9:30 am in a close proximity of Montgomery Elementary School, just outside of the school zone. It has not yet been determined in which direction it shall be placed, either face in or out of the Village. We have completed our Hope Not Handcuffs partnership on the twenty fifth. He is leaving some business cards, with the Hope Not Handcuffs information listed as well as the Village of Montgomery Police Department. The Police Department is able to accept anyone coming the Police Department asking help or looking for help. We are offering the information during a call for anyone in distress or that's in a crisis that we help them as well; as an extra helping hand extended to that person. The training that we are looking to obtain is going towards and involves more than just having the Police there to arrest and write tickets but as an outreach of a community program. Therefore, learning to see what is going on, assess the situation.

Furthermore, an individual posted something wonderful on social media about three of our Police Officers. Without naming the individual, he read the post aloud. "This is not what I wish to post about myself but just want people to understand the job that the Montgomery Police Officers did and how they saved my life. I can't say enough of Officer Stuart Lloyd, Officer Kristopher Kolvenbach, and is so sorry about not getting the name of the other officer, which is, Officer Tyler Briere. The Village of Montgomery Police Officers went above and beyond the call of duty to help me. Officer Lloyd was so kind and caring, more than I've ever seen any officer be. He saw how awestruck about what most people would not think anything of. The more he talked to me, the more he understood I needed help. Officer Lloyd told me I wasn't bad, but deep down I was much worse and somehow, he was able to pick up on it. It is important to recognize depression, anxiety, and mental health; which is what he did while taking the accident report. He took the extra time to call and get someone to help me. Your kindness and caring saved my life. My experience with the three of you compared to the interaction on the day of the assault was different. It was night and day. The caring and pushing me to just talk to someone to help me cope; which I had none after the assault. All three of the Officers were awesome and what a Police Officer should act like. Thank you again so much. "

He wanted to share it with the Board. There was an assault, it did not happen at this location. Speaking of other instances in the outreach of the community, there might be people that don't approve of, for whatever reason of getting an after-action report that they may have had somewhere else. What we are emphasizing here is the outreach to the community. So we can lend a helping hand, it just not knocking in doors with arrests, writing summons's, and things of that nature. He is very happy with the performance of the three gentlemen, who are dedicated to their community service and to the community.

He mentioned the EO 203 open meetings are on the 4th, and the 18th at 6 pm at the Senior Center. The plan he hopes to adopt is posted on the Village website and had been introduced at the last meeting. The meetings are open to everyone, for community participation to discuss any issues. The residents do not have to be in attendance for their questions to be presented, any questions or opinions that may be had can be emailed to policereform@villageofmontgomery.org or call the Police Station at any time, at 845-457-3666. Again, he urges any one to attend the meeting with their questions and concerns.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Berger thanked the Board for putting together the Local Law extending the moratorium. He thinks it's a great idea. He asked Trustee Lindner about the public informational meeting, will there be handouts and visual aids detailing the zoning maps.

Mr. Byam has hopes for the Montgomery Library to become a full-time library, with a children's section and children's programs. His wife is the Treasurer and a member of the Friends of the Library, that does have a small program for children. He asked if any the Board members have a chance to visit the Goshen Library, it's pretty awesome. Why can't we have a library like that?

Mayor Brescia and the Deputy Mayor Scheels replied they have seen the Goshen Library.

Mayor Brescia said it costs a lot of money.

Mr. Byam said yes, it can cost a lot of money. It's not easy and it won't be easy.

Trustee Lindner said it was discussed at last meeting. Marc Devitt brought it up as well. One of the thoughts we had was to come up with a dollar figure for the cost to bring our library not to the same standards as Goshen has but something above what it is currently. Once we know what to cost is maybe we can propose a referendum to the residents.

Mr. Byam quoted Henry Ford in 1947, "When you think you can or you think you can't, you're right".

Mayor Brescia said good point. We will look at the options for the voters to decide.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board adjourned the meeting of March 2, 2021 at 8:07 pm. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Monserrate Rivera-Fernandez, Village Clerk