

A Regular meeting of the Village of Newport – March 16, 2015

The Village of Newport regular meeting was called to order on March 16, 2015 @ 7:04 by Mayor Hennings with the following members present:

Mayor – Ashley Hennings
Trustee – Steven Woods
Trustee – Heidi Worden

Tricia Foster (clerk), Michele Weakley (Treasurer), Barb Curran (historian), Ellen Harris, Linda Hennings, Christian Shahin Wood (ZBA), Tom Roberts, Herm Harris (street superintendent), Michael Woods (water superintendent), Rich Abbott, George Farley (codes & zoning), Craig Fehlhaber

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of minutes for February 9, 2015

Motion made by Trustee Woods to accept the minutes for the Water update meeting held on February 9, 2015, seconded by Mayor Hennings.

All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Woods

Opposed: Trustee Worden

Motion carried

Approval of minutes for February 16, 2015

Motion made by trustee Woods to accept the minutes for the regular meeting held on February 16, 2015, seconded by Mayor Hennings.

All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Woods, Trustee Worden

Opposed: none

Motion carried

Department heads report:

History center:

Barb Curran gave her report and it will be placed on file.

Water Superintendent:

Michael Woods gave her report and it will be placed on file.

Street superintendent:

Herm Harris gave his report and it will be placed on file.

ZBA:

Christine Shahin Wood was here and reported that there was no new business

Planning Board:

No new business

Codes & Zoning:

George Farley gave his report and it will be placed on file.

Fire:

The firemen got their 5 minutes on TV during the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Recreation:

The committee is gathering schedules for spring softball and baseball and looking to post calendar on website.

As far as the building project at the Playground, the village is trying to do is separate the bathroom from the rec. room so when games are going on they can just use the bathroom not have the use of the whole building. Also looking to put on a shed to house the equipment. Trustee Woods liked the 2nd option from the estimate that was given and Mayor Hennings was in favor of it as well. Little League starts around May 1st, would like to look into the procurement policy and get other quotes.

Treasurer:

Michele Weakley gave her report and it will be placed on file.

Michele wanted to clear up rumors going around as they do at election time that the village is not going bankrupt. She placed a call to the State Comptroller who gave her a website to go to and Newport was listed at 17.5% and has been since 2012. At 45% it's susceptible stress, 60% it's a moderate stress and anything over 70% is significant stress. So Michele thinks the village is doing well according to this information.

Water: abs 10 vouchers 49-54 \$3959.40 checks 3230-3235

General: abs 10 vouchers 198-213 checks 10135-10150 \$8209.07

Water project update:

On March 23rd generator start-up and training will begin. And then we need to get warmer days so we can get the tank filled.

Snyder Proposal:

Snyder's wrote a letter and proposal to sell 100 gallon propane tank and 3 regulators to the village. We need to contact Jack Dodson and Snyder fuel about this because the tank has not been installed. Will discuss later to see if the village want to purchase.

Budget:

The budget needs to be sent to the clerk by March 20th and then the clerk needs to send it out to the board by March 31st. April 6th we will hold the re organizational meeting with the budget meeting following @6:00PM.

Mayor Hennings would like to clear up some things. Norway fire contract are not being over charged and are paying their fair value. Mayor Hennings wanted to say the rate prior to the windmills going up were more than they are paying current. Also wanted to say that she is not purchasing lights on Bridge Street with fire money, this is illegal.

Public comment:

Started @ 7:27PM not to exceed 30 minutes

Rich Abbott found it interesting that on the January 19th minutes that George Farley had no new business on his report but on January 16th a permit was issued. Also about the parking that he talked to

the town and they don't have a problem with him parking on bridge St. Mayor Hennings said that they can't enforce that right now because our parking tickets are incorrect, we are working on getting new one printed up. Also asked if we had an ethics committee and Mayor Hennings told him that we didn't. Said that there was a remark from Trustee Woods and that he would be turning over to Herkimer County. Trustee Woods stated that was not what he said. Mayor Hennings also said that she didn't like the way he was addressing the board.

Trustee Worden wants to know why the village lawyer wasn't here, she thinks that she has not upheld her contact. Wants to know if we are sending her a letter on this and said the old administration had set up that she would be at meeting. Mayor Hennings asked if she could get where it had said that and Trustee Worden said that she would email it to her.

Mayor Hennings said about the Snowmobiles in the village, we have to remove the signs on bridge St. and need to change the other signs in Village about the overnight parking and 2 hour parking.

Trustee Worden wanted to know if there was a listed created with any buildings / property in the village that are given access to our water dept. All physical building not being charged would like to request a reading on them. Wanted to know if there was a true reading done on how much water the village is using. Tom Roberts said that one was done on this and that Jack would have the % on this. Mayor Hennings will request this from him.

Craig Fehlhaber said that he thinks that we should use the service of a professional engineer on the playground project; they are able to do plans and that the Codes and Zoning officer should need it. Also that he is in the construction business and would like the opportunity and if not being here he would have not known about this. Also about the problem at the firehouse an air sample should be done to given the board and placed on file with the project. Mayor Hennings said she was looking into all of this and that the Village procurement policy would be followed.

Trustee Worden said that coming late tonight she had to park farther away and doesn't think that the recycling should be what it is. Asked about the placement of the no alcohol signs at the playground and how does this work at the firehouse. Mayor Hennings said that the signs for the playground came from the public parks dept.

Motion made by Mayor Hennings to close the meeting @ 7:58PM, seconded by Trustee Worden.

All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Woods, Trustee Worden

Opposed: none

Motion carried

The vouchers were reviewed and signed and the bank statements and balance sheets were reviewed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia L Foster

Village Clerk