

## **Newport Regular Meeting**

**July 15, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Village of Newport was called to order on July 15, 2024 @ 7:02 p.m. by Mayor Butler with the following members present:

Mayor – Marc Butler

Trustee – Steven Woods

Trustee – Thomas Roberts

Maureen Damone (Clerk), Herm Harris (Streets), Travis Coleman (Street Superintendent), George Farley (Codes & Zoning), Michael Woods (water superintendent), Christine Lynch (ZBA Secretary), Richard Foster (Deputy Clerk), Anthony Bugeya (Parking Enforcement Officer)

Absent: Michael Woods

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Woods made a motion to approve the Minutes from the June 2024 Meeting, Trustee Roberts 2<sup>nd</sup>, all approved.

Public Comments (not to exceed 30 minutes): Dan Spellman requested that the Village pay for half of the fireworks for this year's Firemen's Field Days. Mayor Butler made a motion to pay the F.D. \$1,750 representing that cost; S. Woods 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimously passed. F.D. is to provide insurance for same. This will be the last year the Village will supplement fireworks for Field Days. Also, the F.D. is looking for volunteers for the Field Days. A booklet is being written for children's events which will occur after the children's parade, including a bouncy house.

Mayor's Report:

1. The Mayor presented the idea of placing two outdoor security cameras outside the new Village office on Bridge Street, the cost of which would be \$2,800. More cameras (including indoor) could be added at a later date.
2. Snyder Fuel submitted a quote for installing a propane furnace at the new office, in the amount of \$10,895.00.
3. The Historical Society has requested using the new Village office for a program.
4. Regarding the School Street Project, a Voucher will be prepared in the amount of \$15,480.00 payable to Central Paving, Inc.
5. The fire truck payments have been paid in full; therefore, ownership should be signed over to the Fire District.

6. The Mayor publicly thanked Travis Colman and Herm Harris for helping with the move to the new Village office.

Department Reports:

Parking: A. Bugeya advised that School Street has overcrowded parking, and tickets are being ignored as the Justice advises there is no law in writing that can be enforced. Therefore, it is requested that fines be instituted as State Troopers do not have a lot of time to write tickets for parking. Wintertime parking must also be addressed as snow is a factor. Suggestions were made to go to the Town of Newport or use the parking area behind the Historic Center. Another issue is that ATVs ride fast by the playground, and State Troopers are not allowed to chase them. A discussion was had about attorney John Joslin's drafted law regarding parking.

Historical: None

Water: None

Streets: Report submitted (copy attached)

ZBA/Planning: Reports from April and May from Secretary were submitted (copy attached).

Codes/Zoning Officer: There is a violation on West Street, where there is a lot of trash, as well as equipment/vehicles, including snowmobiles, being worked on. These have been registered by the owner, who has been written up and given 30 days to correct the violation. Report submitted (copy attached)

Fire: See Public Comments by Dan Spellman above

Recreation: A playground program is up and running. The new gazebo covers a large hole and provides shelter for spectators, who can see the baseball field from it.

Treasurer: A report was provided by Deputy Village Clerk Richard Foster (copy attached).

Library: None

Drafts of new Village Parking Laws and a Brush Grass Weeds Local Law were drafted by Village Attorney John Joslin, Esq. The new parking laws were discussed during the Mayor's Report, and the latter laws will be discussed with the ZBA. Currently, weed-whacking is performed monthly. Both laws need to be refined before voted upon.

A motion was made by Trustee Roberts, Trustee Woods 2<sup>nd</sup>, to accept a bid received regarding the Village Office exterior from Rick Lynch General Contracting in the amount of \$4,600. Unanimously passed.

Resolution No. 2024-3 to hire Jeffrey Hanretty, CPA on an interim basis as of July 15, 2024.

All in Favor: Trustee Roberts presented, Trustee Woods 2nd, Mayor Butler  
Opposed: None

Resolution No. 2024-4 to transfer \$19,500 from the Village's Revitalization Reserve Fund into the HUD Housing & Rehabilitation Fund regarding May 2024 payment to Herkimer Next Inc.

All in Favor: Trustee Roberts presented, Trustee Woods 2nd, Mayor Butler  
Opposed: None

Resolution No. 2024-5 to accept the resignation of Treasurer Terry Fellows as of June 30, 2024

All in Favor: Trustee Roberts presented, Trustee Woods 2nd, Mayor Butler  
Opposed: None

Resolution No. 2024-6 to pay Denise Parmon \$576.00 for consulting services

All in Favor: Trustee Roberts presented, Trustee Woods 2nd, Mayor Butler  
Opposed: None

Resolution No. 2024-7 to transfer \$3,500 from the Recreation & Reserve Fund into the General Fund for the purchase of the gazebo in the playground

All in Favor: Trustee Roberts presented, Trustee Woods 2nd, Mayor Butler  
Opposed: None

Resolution No. 2024-8 to transfer \$904 from the Revitalization Reserve Fund into the General Fund for flowers and plants for Village

All in Favor: Trustee Roberts presented, Trustee Woods 2nd, Mayor Butler  
Opposed: None

Deputy Clerk Richard Foster submitted proposed new water rates. These are to be presented at a Public Meeting on August 5, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Newport Firehouse, the information of which will be published in the *Observer-Dispatch*.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m. on motion of Trustee Robert, Trustee Woods 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Payment Vouchers 15-36 were approved for payment