

A regular meeting of the Village of Newport board – August 19, 2013

The Village of Newport board meeting was called to order on August 19, 2013 @ 7:00 PM by Mayor Hennings. With the following members present:

Mayor – Ashley Hennings
Trustee – Heidi Worden
Trustee – Kim Farrell

Others present: Tricia Foster (clerk), Michelle Weakley (treasurer), Barb Curran (historian), Dick Foster, Steve Wood (ZBA), Chris Woods (ZBA), Clara Hill, Linda Hennings, George Farley (Zoning and Codes), Ellen Harris, Herm Harris (street supt.), Bill Keiffer, Cathy Asaro (deputy clerk), Carson Marko, Tony Bugeya, Chris Lynch, Bill Wilder, Jack Dodson (water engineer), Amanda Fries (Observer dispatch)

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Worden told Mayor Hennings that she thinks that the meeting should be taped.

The board discussed the recording of the minutes and Mayor Hennings said that she didn't think that they should be recorded. Mayor Hennings noted that minutes would be recorded verbatim even if the meeting was recorded. Trustee Farrell was not in favor of it as well.

Department head Reports:

History Center: Barb Curran gave her report and it has been placed on file.

Street Superintendent Report: Herm Harris gave his report and it has been placed on file.

Water superintendent report: Mike Wood was not present. Did pass along that the monthly water test was out this week and that he just received the yearly one to be completed.

Codes and Zoning: George Farley gave his report and it was placed on file.

Planning Board: Christine Wood was there and gave her report.

Playground: The season is now over and was a good one. They would like to plan another movie night before the end of the summer. They are 2 extra basketball hoops that are going to be put up on the playground.

Treasurers Report: Michelle Weakley gave her report and it has been placed on file.

General account: Abstract #3 vouchers 50 – 69 check # 9726 – 9741 \$10,070.77

Water account: Abstract #3 vouchers 11-14 check # 3132 3135 \$533.07

Parking update:

Have not heard anything about moving the sign on Main St, we have new contact information so we will follow up with them.

Need to order new duplicate parking tickets, so we can have a copy and then a copy on the car. All in favor of this. If ticket not paid will go to Village Court and then court would send to County to be placed to driving record. We will look into this.

Street lights: for the past 3 weeks there has been a counter by Moody's. State is testing to see if they want to put in a stop light.

Time Warner update: Mayor Hennings has made calls; the hearing will possibly take place for October for the 30 days for review. The paperwork is at Time Warner for changes that need to be made.

Grant update: Trustee Farrell has calls into Seward's office. Need to define what the project would be, with the possibility of changing it to East St to help with the drainage problem there. If there were going to be changes had to submit changes with pictures to show that it was an ongoing problem.

Trustee Worden brought up that Karen Murphy who lives on East St. had sent emails to all of the board about the problems on East St. She told us that she had received no reply from anyone about this and now her house is for sale. Mayor Hennings said that she stopped her house several times and no one was home any time.

Planning board seat had to be on website for 30 days and it went up on 8-19-13. Anyone interested should see the Mayor.

Water update:

Great news for the Village with the additional 1.8 million grants that doesn't have to be paid back. Hopefully this money will allow us to do some of the add ons that were suggested. We need to be suggestions from the Dept. of Health

Water project: Jack Dodson was here.

We got letter for approval of project. With the additional funding doesn't mean that the village is still going to be do everything. The Village needs to make sure that we get in writing the approval for the grant. With the additional funding given the Dept. of Health is strongly urging the village to move ahead with additional water line from the village line to Newport Gray rd. As well as the generator. He is going to send an amendment so we can plan the additional water line. Jack thinks the additional planning will cost approx. \$15,000.00.

Public comment: Started @ 7:49 not to exceed 30 minutes.

Bill Wilder asked about need the 8 inch for fire protection per codes.

Chris Lynch asked about village policy about job posting. She thinks that they need to be posted in the newspaper as well as the village website. Also said that bids for jobs over \$1,000.00 should be posted in the newspaper. Mayor Hennings said that appointed positions do not have to be placed in the newspaper. Herm Harris said that we should call the Evening Telegram and see how many papers are sold in the area, thinks that the cost of the ads are not worth it, people are reading the news in different ways now.

Chris Wood said that it is important to make sure all the t's are crossed. Thinks that there should be a learning curve that we are a community and not one person is doing things wrong. Also thinks that there are a lot of projects going on right now and we need to realize how people read news is changing.

Trustee Worden said not all places have a water meter, thinks with the water project coming that everyone should have one and they should be in working order. Said that Harris Dale Farms were grandfathered in and have no water bill, they don't have a meter. Thinks that the village lawyer should look into this.

Dick Foster asked if there was an update on the School St property. Only thing heard was the one party didn't show up and it was postponed.

Trustee Worden asked if there was an update on the West St property. Said that someone had been on the property with heavy equipment to relive the water. George Farley didn't know of anything.

Bill Wilder also asked about outdoor wood burning stoves, wondering if they can burn all year long. He thinks that after April 15th they can't burn and then they can start again Nov 1st or 15th unsure of date. He has a neighbor that has one and he can't open his windows or put AC on. He was told to call the DEC they will check into it. He thinks that we need to have a local law about this.

Diane Beopple asked about the cat contact the village had with the Humane Society.

Meeting adjourns @ 8:25PM by Mayor Hennings

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia L Foster
Village Clerk