

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, April 19, 2021

7:00pm

7pm Mayor Neville welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Board Members

Trustee Conger
Trustee Morey
Trustee Walpole - via Zoom
Mayor Neville
Trustee Holl

Others in attendance:

Nancy Niswender - Clerk
Chad Shurtleff - DPW Suprv.
Lee Shurtleff - Village Historian
Steve Teeter - Elec Suprv.
Mike Anderson - Code Officer
Lt. Troy Boice

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 15th and 24th Board Meeting Minutes and the April 5th Annual Organizational Meeting Minutes. seconded by Trustee Holl , carried.

Audit of claims and approval thereof.

Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the claims presented for review and to adjust the budget as follows:

General Fund

A1990.4	CONTINGENCY	85.00	
A8010.4	ZONING		85.00

The claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

Abstract #11

GENERAL	34,116.97
WATER	7,975.74
SEWER	47,039.87
ELECTRIC	109,513.01
JOINT REC	844.50
CAPITAL	1,650.00

Seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.

Monthly Department Reports:

Electric: Supervisor Teeter

- Went through yearly truck inspections
- March 29th - NYS Safety Lineman in
- Tree Trimming
- Upgrade Service for C&D
- Project on DeMatteo Cayuga St
- Put pole & Service on Walpole Rd
- Doing Pole inspections around town
- Brush Pick up the First Week of May 4-7

Fire Dept

- Brush Fire - Stevens Rd
- Brush Fire - Salt Rd & McLean
- Burn Ban - until May 14, 2021
- New Ambulance set to arrive Middle of May.
- Tanker 822 - taken out of service - saddle under back tank is rusting out. Looking at options.
- Fireworks - July 2nd - working with school to see if it can be done there this year, still deciding.
- Jr Firefighter camp work on code complaint plan. New updated guidelines should be in the end of the month.
- Hannah Rosenthal heading back to Long Island and transferring to Smithtown fire Dept.
- John Schwartz has applied to be a member - he has been approved by the Fire Department Board.

Department of Public Works

Completed Work/Projects:

- Equipment repairs, backhoe, street sweeper.
- Begin street sweeping.
- Finish cleaning up the salt shed collapse.
- Repair fuel pumps at the garage.
- Miscellaneous repairs at the water filtration plant.
- Repair a broken curb valve at 116 Lincoln Ave.
- Clean the Main St. lot from dumping snow.
- Lawn and snowplow clean up.

Schedule of Work

- Flush hydrants the week of 4/26.
- Install water and sewer, new house on Barrows St.
- Continue street sweeping.
- Begin getting the pool & park ready for summer.

Mayor asked Suprv. Teeter and Suprv. Shurtleff to check the Waterworks out for signs for No Motorized Vehicles. Add them if needed.

Recreation Director Report

Groton Joint Recreation Committee

Jennifer Jones- Director Report & Comments

Winter Programming: March 8th- March 31st

- Youth Basketball
25 Boys Grades 4-6th- run by Marty Slade, Doug Portzline, KP McClain, Nate Reynolds
14 Girls grades 4-6th- run by Sue Bishop & Varsity Helpers
- Youth Wrestling
Coach invitation for 10 youth – run by Jeff Brockway & Jayme Evans
Babysitting Class- Was March 6th at the Legion community room. 9 participants.

Spring Programming

- Art Programming- Color Theory Classes starting in April 7th. These classes are funded by the Community Arts Partnership Grant. Classes will be held from 4-5pm, Wednesdays at the legion. Class filled in 48 hours. 12 Participants
- Youth baseball & Softball- registration has now closed with 156 participants! (151 in 2019) Since we cannot use school fields until April 19th, we will be utilizing the park field for older teams. The 10U and 12U teams (3) will start practicing at the park next week. I have requested some gym time next week for some drills for the younger teams.
Leon inquired on coaching and Dir. Jones said they are all set.
- Youth Track- TBD – Scott and Jennifer are ready

Summer Planning

- Summer Concerts: Friday's 6:30-9pm
July 9- Richman & The Po'BoYz
Aug 13th- Donna & The Mystics
July 16th- StrayCat Willie & the Strays
Aug 20th- 3's A Crowd
July 23rd- Iron Horse
Thursday Aug 26th- TBD Old Timers Band
July 30th- Tink Bennett & Tailor Made
Aug 6th- Cruise Control
Food trucks at Concerts- MoMo's and Alexanders are splitting the concerts dates to serve food. Aug 20th concessions will be done by the Groton Fire Dept.
- July 4th Fireworks are planned to be held by the Groton Fire Dept. Location TBD.
- Summer Camps confirmed are Art, Golf, Jr. Fire, Tennis, Dance, Hiking and Track.
TBD: Trail Maint, Basketball, and Archery.
Summer Booklet will be electronic with flyers send home to parents. I will also do Instagram and Facebook posts to promote.
- Farmer's Market with CCE does not seem to be moving forward at this time.
- Crafts: A happy medium? - Recommendation is for pick up at the park for this year. An example done so they can see.
Monica mentioned there would be lunch pickups at the Main St pavilion and crafts can be there too.

Pool & Summer Staffing:

- Pool staffing is very low. However, we do have a pool director with a WSI!
- Monica mentioned to contact workforce NY to see if they would be willing to help with the cost of classes and help find people that may want a job.
- Jenn Dean – asked if something could be sent to Groton High School students to see if there was interest.
- Scott Weeks said he would notify some of the students if we had information on how they could get the training.
- Lifeguard training is set up to recertify all 2021 guards in June at our cost.
- Pool COVID rules & Hours- How would we like to offer use of the pool this year? Groton residents and guests. Preregistration required.

Nick Wager – GYS April Report

- Youth Spotlight was Lilly – a 5th grader which is one of two transgender youth. Nick said that it is awesome that we can provide support to her at the program, she was able to connect with one of her best friends at school.
- Mondays helping at the food pantry with 12 kids, and they are doing great work. They will get some certificates from community members to recognize them.
- Outdoor adventure – Tuesday (11 youth) and Friday (12 youth) – including everyone if it remains manageable. They must build TPs, fires, building their kites, taught knife safety.
- Last Friday they did an easter egg hunt, had pizza, and the kids got prizes at the park, which was a great time for the kids. So many of them did not get to do that due to Covid this year and even last year.
- Nick is having the youth create logos for the Groton Youth Services, and he asks that the Commission used it and they will get a prize.

- Dance there is 11 youth, and it happens on Thursday afternoon, they are preparing for their recital in June. The dance teacher was having difficulty teaching with two different groups, so they have moved everyone into one group, and things are going well. We have a 9th grader registered for the program in the park, and he is doing a really good job.
- Nick said that one of the youths, with help from their dad, made their own TP and the mother shared those photos with Nick.
- Summer Camp is something that has been something that they are working on, and we will talk more later. But Nick is very excited and recently did a training on how you need on Zach is going to be the Assistant Director for summer camp. The community is going to provide hot breakfast and lunch for the kids during the day, and they will also provide space for pods during the summer camp.
- Glenn said the numbers looked great and he was very surprised with the number, and he was very impressed. He followed up to ask if the recital would be open to everyone, and Nick said that It should be, that depends on the space that they are in. However, if it is in the park there are no issues.
- Glenn asked if we know about being in the building...Nick said they had reached out, but they did not know yet.
- Pegi said that someone from Cornell--as I recall--had offered to help with logo design. Can we find someone who would be willing to work with the contest winner? Nick said that it would be something that could be done.
- Nick also said that he took a training called, The Benefits of Time and Nature.

Police Department

Lt. Troy Boice Reported

- A person in the village is printing out and selling fake temporary tags. Be on the lookout.

Code Officer Andersen Reported:

- Photos sent from Hotel items left out & Propane tank. The mattresses have been cleaned up, but there is a lot of other items
- 700 S. Main was sent a letter for clean up.
- Court order to Mary Pai on Spring St. for clean up items which she has not responded.
- New home on the Corner of Barrows & Baken
- C of O for Library
- C of O for Rackers on Spring St
- Toolans on Peru getting cleaned up.
- 8 Apartment inspections have been done
- 135 Main Dog Grooming Business going in. She applied for a sign permit.
- Mike Andersen notified the Board that he expects to be unable to continue in his position and that we should begin looking for a new code officer.

Action Items

- **Appointments**

The Mayor appointed Marge Hovanec as Substitute Crossing Guard at a rate of \$12.50 per hour
The Village Board accepted the application for John Schwartz in hook and ladder.

- **Adoption of the Village of Groton 2021-2022 Budget**

Trustee Conger made a motion to adopt the 2021-2022 Budget as presented, seconded by Trustee Morey.

All Those in Favor:

"aye" Trustee Conger
"aye" Trustee Morey
"aye" Trustee Walpole
"aye" Trustee Holl
"aye" Mayor Neville

The budget was duly declared adopted. [Type II Action under SEQR.]

- **Accounting Procedure update was reviewed.**

The Board agreed to the Accounting procedure and we will hold a public hearing next month.

- **Review of signers on bank accounts**

Trustee Conger made a motion to adopt a resolution to have Charles Rankin removed from all bank signatures and add Olivia Howarth to the Payroll and Consumer Deposit Accounts, seconded by Trustee Morey

- **Mayor Neville proclaimed May as the American Legion Poppy Month**

We will place an advertisement in the Shopper.

Presentation & Discussion Items

- Discussion of the NYCOM Annual Meeting - this will be held in person in June.
- Groton Olde Home Committee asked if we are on board if allowed. - The Board agrees they should continue with the planning and hopefully be able to hold this year.
- Glenn Morey sent an email from Frank Kruppa about holding a vaccine clinic in Groton. The Town is checking with the Board and if not we can do it here at the Village.

Old Business:

- **Update on Building Project**

The Building Committee had a meeting and decided to work with Complete Concepts to design the building and have the drawings done for the Fire Department and Village Office and get the specs together to go out to bid.

At 7:21pm Trustee Conger made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a specific personnel item., seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

At 7:49pm Trustee Morey made a motion to return from executive session, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Morey made a motion to adjourn at 7:52pm