

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SEPT. 19, 2016 7 PM

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Mayor Neville opened the meeting at 7 pm.

Present were: Mayor Neville, Trustees Conger, Morey, Holl and Evener, Lance Coit-Deputy Fire Chief, Steve Teeter-Electric Utility Supervisor, Chad Shurtleff – DPW Supervisor, Mike Andersen-Code Enf. Officer, Tim Williams-Police OIC, Karen Armstrong-Parkitects, Flo Allen, Gary and Kim VanBenschoten, Christine Personius, Phil Esparza

Pledge of allegiance.

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15th meeting, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

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

GENERAL FUND

Inc. Appro. Reserves-A511-\$27,243.10

Inc. Appropriations-Interfund Transfers-A9950.9-\$27,243.10

WATER FUND

From: Contingent Fund-1990.4-\$750

To: Trans & Distribution-Meters-F8340.21-\$750

Seconded by Trustee Evener, carried. The above adjustments and claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

GENERAL (A4)	\$106,362.64	MISC SPEC REV FUND-Beautification (CM4)	\$107.50
WATER (F4)	17,238.02	CAP PROJ-Misc Proj-Police Car (HM4)	27,243.10
SEWER (G4)	22,457.97	COM DEV (PI 16-9)	1,311.07
ELECTRIC (E4)	63,732.33	COM DEV (Microenterprise Grant)	34,642.36

Electric – Supervisor Teeter reported that the Dept. has installed most of the most recent delivery of the LED street lights. Poles on Cedar Lane will need to be changed out before the new street lighting fixtures can be installed. The digger-derrick truck will have the annual stress test performed on it. The bucket truck is new and will not need it this year. The Dept. has done some tree trimming. The Dept. will assist the Village of Dryden tomorrow with an electric service in their park that will be changed.

Public Works – The paving on Elm St and Carpenter Ave has been completed. 1300 tons of asphalt was used. Trucks from the Town of Groton, Town of Locke, and Town of Dryden (plus their roller) assisted. The paving on the municipal lot was completed in August. Also paved the exit lane at the Municipal Building. JW Stanley did the paving and the Dept hauled the asphalt. The Dept. did some pointing of brick at the fire station and the contractor did some patching; seems to have improved the leaking. The old playground structure at the park has been removed in anticipation of the new structure.

Bids were opened on Sept. 9 for a cab/chassis and utility body to be used as the DPW service truck. Delacy Ford submitted the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$42,435.86. (Another bid was submitted but it did not meet the submission requirements and all the required specifications.) Trustee Conger made a motion to accept the bid for the 2017 Ford F350 with Knapheide Body at the bid amount of \$42,435.86, seconded by Trustee Evener, carried.

Fire – Deputy Chief Coit stated that the Health Dept. will be here on Nov. 2 to offer flu shots to Village employees who may desire one. There will be a special department election this coming Thurs. (Sept. 22) due to Chief Babcock's resignation. The annual inspection and clambake will be on Sunday, Sept. 25 and the new officers elected will be sworn in. There will be water sources training for the Dept on Sept. 21 & 28. All three of our full-time paramedics will be attending the annual Vital Signs Conference.

Code Enforcement – Code Enf. Officer Andersen stated he is preparing letters for springtime to those who need to do sidewalk repairs. The garage at 123-25 Clark Street is failing and needs to be taken down. 32 window and roof permits have been issued year to date. 40 building permits have been issued totaling \$536,000. The bowling alley is now open for business.

Police – Lt. Williams stated that the Dept. has responded to 1427 calls to date. Old Home Days went fairly smooth. The vehicle has arrived, but we are awaiting the partition to be installed by the dealer. The fall firearms training will begin soon. Assistant DA Susie Cook gave the officers training on juvenile arrests. Officer Davenport has now completed his probationary period.

Joint Recreation – Trustee Conger reported that 2,255 attended the summer concerts this year. This is up from about 1,900 last year. Food sales were over \$2,000 (up from \$1,100 last year). Recreation program attendance was up a little to 205 (199 last year). Archery will be reduced from two to one sessions next year.

Youth Services – Trustee Conger reviewed the summer camp. Parents have suggested more marketing for next year. Monica Dykeman will likely run another camp counselor program, since most of the ones from this year will be moving on. Monica is working with the new Elementary School on some programs. The Youth Commission wants to cooperate with the Legion on the annual Halloween event. There were about 60 kids participating in the nerf war program.

Sewer – Trustee Morey noted that the transfer switch on the generator at the plant burned out and the mother board had to be replaced. Alvin Howell, plant operator, is working on a blower maintenance program. Maintenance is a must for the plant and it is time consuming.

Public comments:

Flo Allen came before the board to give a report on Olde Home Days. Due to lack of manpower, they did not charge for the circus, but made \$800 on the concessions. There will be \$985 to turn over for next year.

A Quotation from Landscape Structures for playground equipment in the amount of \$71,196.44 was reviewed. Karen Armstrong from Parkitects was present to answer questions the board may have in relation to the project. Upon conclusion, Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the quotation in the amount of \$71,196.44 under NCPA Contract #10-01 from Landscape Structures for the playground equipment, seconded by Trustee Conger, carried.

There will be a planning meeting for the community build of playground equipment will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at the high school cafeteria.

Trustee Evener offered the following resolution:

To Commemorate Our Hometown Electric Utility and Its Tradition of Service

WHEREAS, we, the citizens of Village of Groton, place high value on local control over community services and therefore have chosen to operate a community-owned, locally controlled, not-for-profit electric utility and, as consumers and owners of our electric utility, have a direct say in utility operations and policies; and

WHEREAS, Groton Municipal Electric provides our homes, businesses, farms, social service, and local government agencies with reliable, efficient, and cost effective electricity employing sound business practices designed to ensure the best possible service at not-for-profit rates; and

WHEREAS, Groton Municipal Electric is a valuable community asset that contributes substantially to the well-being of local citizens through energy efficiency, customer service, environmental protection, economic development, and safety awareness; and

WHEREAS, the electric utility industry is changing and will continue to change over the next few years, with the goal of allowing individual consumers to choose their power supplier while continuing service from their current electricity distributor, and

WHEREAS, deregulation of the electric utility industry has renewed public interest in and appreciation for the concept of locally controlled, community-owned public power systems;

WHEREAS, as this community's public power system, Groton Municipal Electric first and only purpose is to work in partnership with its customer-owners to furnish an essential public service and the best customer service to community citizens at lower-cost rates;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that Groton Municipal Electric will continue to work to bring lower-cost, safe, reliable electricity to community homes and businesses just as it has since 1933, the year when the utility was created to serve all the citizens of Village of Groton; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the week of October 2-8 as Public Power Week to recognize Groton Municipal Electric for its contributions to the community and to educate consumer-owners, policy makers, and employees on the benefits of public power; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that our community joins hands with more than 2,000 other public power systems in the United States in this celebration of public power, which is best for consumers, business, the community, and the nation.

Seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Evener made a motion to adjust the budget as follows, due to a duplication of a line item in the adopted budget:

FROM: A962.2-Budgetary Provisions for Other Uses-\$33,000

To: Village Attorney – Special Services – A1420.41 - \$3,000
Streets – Other Expense – A5110.4 - \$15,000
Budgetary Provisions for Other Uses – A0962.2-\$15,000
(Distributed As: Buildings - \$7,000
Motor Vehicle Equip. - \$5,000
Police Car - \$3,000)

Seconded by Trustee Conger, carried.

Trustee Evener made a motion that Schedule 5 of the budget be adjusted to base the salary of the Director of Recreation from a 17 hour week to a 25 hour week, providing for a new salary of \$498.00 per week, based on the recommendation of the Joint Recreation Committee. Effective date: October 3, 2016. Seconded by Trustee Conger, carried.

Village Administrator Rankin gave a report on the recent MEUA Conference and the Clean Energy Standards that went into effect on August 1st. All load serving entities will be required to purchase renewable energy credits (RECs) and zero – emission credits (to fund nuclear plants, called ZECs) under the new Standard. The New York Municipal Power Agency is the load serving entity for the Village, so these charges will be passed on to us thru NYMPA. The estimate cost for the ZECs along will be 2 to 2.5 mils per kwh.

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve travel for Nancy Niswender to attend Laserfiche training in Boston on Oct. 4-7, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

There was a brief discussion in relation to amendments to Chapter 119 of the Code of the Village of Groton (Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse). It was the consensus of the Board of have the amendments reviewed and finalized by the Village Attorney and hold the public hearing at the November board meeting.

Trustee Conger made a motion to move into executive session to discuss a confidential memo from the attorney for MEUA and NYMPA, seconded by Trustee Evener, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion to move out of executive session, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried. There were no votes taken or resolutions adopted during the session.

The meeting was closed at 8:15 pm.



CHARLES V. RANKIN
Village Clerk