



VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

243 MAIN STREET, JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790

www.villageofjc.com

Village Board

Gregory Deemie, Mayor

Deputy Mayor Clark Giblin

Trustee Martin Meaney

Trustee Benjamin Reynolds

Trustee John Walker

Minutes of a Work Session of the Johnson City Village Board held at 5:00pm on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 via Zoom Video Conference

Present: Gregory Deemie, Mayor
Clark Giblin, Deputy Mayor
Martin Meaney, Trustee
John Walker, Trustee
Benjamin Reynolds, Trustee

Absent: None

Also Present: Cheryl Sacco, Legal Counsel
Cindy Kennerup, Clerk/Treasurer
Thomas Johnson, Deputy Clerk
Robert Bennett, Director of Public Services
Mari Giurastante, Planner – Grant Writer

Mayor Deemie called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., called roll call and confirmed there was a quorum for the meeting.

Mari Giurastante updated the Mayor and the Board on grants.

Rail Trail

- Feasibility Study is complete
 - The Mayor will discuss with the Board and possibly have Bergmann come discuss the BOA and design standards in the next couple months.

Mari will send out an email to the Mayor and the Board with the information she has discussed at this work session.

- Communication with rail line
 - She has not heard back from Joe Moody, but will be giving him a phone call to

follow up. He is the person spearheading this whole thing. Last she knew Mr. Moody was in contact with the rail line. There needs to be negotiation regarding the price and project timelines.

- Finances and additional funding
 - There is a snag in funding due to COVID. The Greater Binghamton Fund is still in the works. We need to find other avenues of funding so we can complete this project. The rail line will not sell us piece mail.

At The Agency meeting on 7/24/2020 they discussed doing monthly or quarterly updates.

- Updates they talked about included:
 - Facelift – Enrique Nunoz at New York Styles (280 Main St) has been completed
 - Reimbursement will be next year
 - Must meet MBE requirements
 - 13 other properties
 - Victory Building – Paulis, the new developer, is still committed
 - Business improvement district – there has been no discussion
 - Smart Community Grant – multi-modal transit
 - The properties turned over to BU will not be in our grant program
 - State Reporting is quarterly for Grants – The Agency is taking care of that for the Facelift program.

Most projects for the Greater Binghamton Fund will be covered through a Request for Qualification. It includes:

- Stormwater mitigation gardens
- Park improvements
- Streetscape improvements
- Gateway improvements

Not included are the Wi-Fi hotspots.

The quarterly report to the state was submitted.

Other projects in GBF that were not included with the RFQ were:

- Murals
- Jennison Park – have final approval from Dormitory Authority of the State of New York \$120,000 is from DASNY, the other is from the Greater Binghamton Fund
 - Delta is doing the landscape architectural design
 - Donna Lupardo promised us the money which is through DASNY.

Main Street Grant

Ms. Giurastante and the property owners are working with the State. Under review are:

- 258 Main Street
- 265 Main Street – David Whalen
- Liam Burns

- 296 Main Street
- Red Robin historic sign
 - Trying to find a way to get the signage fixed - cost is about \$50,000

BOA information

- Received extension of BOA Fund
- Historic preservation design guide will be created with additional funding – Bergmann will be doing this
- National registry district has been completed
 - Creating a local historic district
 - Historic Review Board
 - Susquehanna Heritage

CDBG Grant Programs are moving forward

Restore NY Grant – 19 Avenue B

- Stabilization Grant
- Mari will have the Board review the RFQ before it goes out

Economic Development

- 305 Main Street – Old Village Hall
- 247 and 257 Main Street have been purchased by the owner of Dos Rios and The Colonial

Amelia LoDolce, Executive Director and Christina Zawerucha, Community Garden Program Manager with VINES Gardens discussed the following:

- Sherman Street Community Garden
 - Selling out every year
- Looking for another community garden site
 - Have funding
 - Within walking distance to people that are the highest need
- Would like to expand services in Johnson City
- Looking at water access issue which can be prohibitive.
 - Would the Board would be willing to provide free water for the gardens
 - Have data with what the water would cost. In 2018 they only used \$40 worth of water. Cost of installing spicket and meter system was more than the water they are using. Looking to make it more cost effective to run the community gardens.

Possible properties

- 38 St. Charles Street
- 194 St. Charles Street
- 78 Crocker Avenue
- 219 Main Street

Other municipalities they work with are Binghamton and Endicott and both give them free water. Endicott also gives free water in Endwell.

Mayor Deemie questioned how many gardens they have and how many more are you looking to open up.

Ms. LoDolce responded they have eighteen total, including Binghamton, Johnson City, Endicott, Endwell, Hillcrest at the Children's Home, Port Dickinson, the Otsiningo Community Garden. It depends on the property availability, community interest. They accept proposals from community members for community gardens; an individual, church or non-profit that has property. They are also looking at vacant lots in the County.

They have funding from NYSDEC and they are looking in environmental justice areas per their requirement, but they have some flexibility.

Mayor Deemie suggested 219 Main Street and Trustee Reynolds agreed with the location.

Trustee Giblin stated Ms. LaDolce said the Sherman garden is sold out every year. What are some of the costs people pay to rent the space?

Ms. Zawerucha informed the Mayor and the Board the cost for Sherman Street is \$20 per year. They do offer scholarships to anyone who requests them with no questions asked.

Mayor Deemie asked how many raised beds are at the Sherman Street gardens? How big are the beds?

Ms. LoDolce answered they have eighteen and they do have a waiting list. It costs them a little over \$10,000 to develop the site and installing the water was \$2,500 of that. In other municipalities, the water departments installed a simple water spicket and it does get turned off every year so there is no risk of freezing. The City of Binghamton told her it cost about \$500 for materials. The \$2,500 was a big hit to their budget. The beds are 4 x 10.

Ms. Zawerucha stated they have a lot of volunteers and a significant amount from Johnson City, who come in and help at their gardens. A nice group of Johnson City High School students came twice this year. There is a Johnson City family that comes every week to help in the garden.

Mayor Deemie thanked Ms. LoDolce and Ms. Zawerucha for coming in and thanked everyone at VINES.

Ms. Zawerucha thanked the Mayor and the Board for giving them the shot at doing community gardens in Johnson City.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1

A motion to enter executive session at 5:47 pm regarding legal recess was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit executive session at 5:54 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

Mayor Deemie and the Trustees discussed the Agenda and Resolutions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

A motion to enter executive session at 6:00 pm regarding sale and/or acquisition was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit executive session at 6:53 pm was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Meaney. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #3

A motion to enter executive session at 6:57 pm regarding contract negotiation with Police Department was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Meaney. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit executive session at 7:11 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #4

A motion to enter executive session at 7:12 pm regarding legal recess was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Walker. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit executive session at 7:22 pm was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Gi Meaney blin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:24 pm.

Cindy Kennerup
Village Clerk/Treasurer

CK/kc

Recordings of the Village Board meetings and work sessions
are available for review through the Village Clerk/Treasurer's Office.

09012020 ABSTRACT QUESTIONS

- 1) Are invoices for AutoZone for the Police Department dating back to 2018. PO# PDB 21040, numerous invoices dated 10/16/18, 11/12/19, 11/13/19, and 3/13/19. Is there an issue with AutoZone? **Yes, there has always been an issue with AutoZone billing.**
- 2) It appears that we are also paying the same invoices on the same PO, one for \$52.72 and one for 41.17? **If you compare the invoice numbers, they are different.**
- 3) Please tell us what BenefitScape is? Also, what is the contracted services for \$2125.00? **This is the company that reports per the Federal mandates the 1095C. HFC paid for 2018 the following June after they received the Broker of record. Per HFC they did not pay this year because they were no longer the broker of record. Either the Village pays or Harding and Brooks would pay.**
- 4) Is there a difference between the Hot patch and Pot Hole filler? We purchased both on the same day one from Barrett and one from Broome B. **YES. We purchased both on the same day one from Barrett and one from Broome B.**
- 5) It appears we have 2 separate invoices for Broome B. for August? **Yes, different dates and invoice numbers.**
- 6) What are the 5 computers for the Police Department? **It's our annual purchase of replacement computers that we do every year. We have about 30 computers in our building that are in various offices in workstations and some that are dedicated to running specific systems such as the evidence processing station, prisoner processing, TRACS, etc. Every year we rotate the older obsolete computers out of service. This is often mandatory as some of the older computers run old operating systems and software that are not compliant with NYS cyber security standards.**
- 7) Vander Molen Fire apparatus did some work on one of the fire trucks. We were charged for 2.35 hours each way from Dewitt, NY? That seems very excessive. Syracuse is only 1 hour away. **Vander Molen's corporate office is in DeWitt, NY. Our service shop which is where all of our Technicians are dispatched out of is in Ballston Lake, NY.**

With all due respect to all, I submit these questions on the Bills for September 1, 2020. Please add these to the work session minutes.

Trustee Walker

Here are my questions and comments:

- 1) Why are we buying bug spray for \$31.19 for the water department when we are paying for pest/bug control? Did we call the bug man and ask if there was an additional cost? **Answered by Water Clerk as JClark is now retired. I'm assuming the question is for a Home Depot purchase in the amount of \$39.19. There was an excessive number of spiders (spider nest opened) in the maintenance garage. The maintenance garage is not sprayed/maintained by the exterminating company due to potable water materials stored in the area.**
- 2) Why are we paying Auto Zone Bills in the police department from 2018 and 2019 in September of 2020? **Apparently, AutoZone conducted an internal audit of their invoices and sent us a list of about 20 invoices that their system showed had not been paid. Phil went through his**

records and located about half of them, which we had paid. There were no records of the remainder of invoices, leading us to believe that AutoZone had never sent those to us and therefore they had not been paid. Based on all of this, it leads me to believe that AutoZone's invoicing and invoice tracking systems are not very accurate, but we are paying the old invoices that we did not originally receive.

- 3) What is BenefitScape \$2,125, and why are we paying it now when it was due on March 20, 2020? **This is the company that reports per the Federal mandates the 1095C. HFC paid for 2018 in June after they received the Broker of record in June. HFC did not pay this year because they are no longer the broker of record. Either the Village pays or Harding and Brooks would pay. It was received by the Village via email on 8/27/2020. This was the first that the Village saw of this bill. The Village has not paid this bill in the past, so either the Village pays it or our insurance company pays it.**
- 4) Who was the HP lap top for \$920.00 purchased for? **This is for the Grant Writer and it was budgeted.**
- 5) What are the 5 new computers purchased for and if the monitors have integrated speakers why did we need to purchase 5 speaker bars? **It's our annual purchase of replacement computers that we do every year. We have about 30 computers in our building that are in various offices in workstations and some that are dedicated to running specific systems such as the evidence processing station, prisoner processing, TRACS, etc. Every year we rotate the older obsolete computers out of service. This is often mandatory as some of the older computers run old operating systems and software that are not compliant with NYS cyber security standards. The monitors do not have integrated speakers so we had to purchase the speaker bars.**

I respectfully request that these questions and comments are attached to the work session minutes.

Thank you,

Trustee Meaney