

December 4, 2024: Regular Meeting

There was a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Tully on Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Municipal Building.

Present: Erin C. Goodfellow, Mayor
Benjamin Bibik, Deputy Mayor
Kathryn Vernay, Trustee
Thomas Chartrand, Accountant
Daniel Ray, Trustee
Benjamin Vincent, Codes
Roxanne Oliver, Trustee
Dan, Engineer
Maureen Bibik, Clerk/Treasurer

Absent: Courtney Hills, Counsel (available by phone)

Visitors: Michael Hoke, Labor Crew Leader
Frank Speziale
Dan Jean, Koester

Pledge of Allegiance/Call to Order

Mayor Goodfellow led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Motion was made by Mayor Goodfellow, 2nd by Trustee Oliver to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2024 meeting. Ayes carried.

Treasurer's Report

General fund: the developer deposit from Tractor Supply came in, and placed the budget in the positive. The Village of Tully is on target to make the budget.

Water Fund: water and sewer funds were on point for this time of year.

Spending: was quiet all month, which kept the budget in the positive. Last payment for the Main Street Grants has been paid off, officially closing that project.

There is a \$5,000.00 residual is left in the Main Street Grant money that covers the items the Village of Tully spent during the grant. Accountant Chartrand will write a voucher next month and roll it back into the general fund, to finally close out that fund.

Main Report: General spending is only at 13% with Revenues are at 83%, Sewer Spending is at 15% with Revenues at 64%, Water Spending is at 14% with Revenues at 66%.

Upon motion by Mayor Goodfellow, 2nd by Trustee Ray that the Bank Reconciliation be approved. All ayes carried. Upon motion by Mayor Goodfellow, 2nd by Trustee Oliver, it was unanimous to accept the treasurer's report, subject to audit. All ayes carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon motion by Mayor Goodfellow, and 2nd by Trustee Oliver, January's organizational meeting date has been moved from January 1, 2025 to January 8, 2025 at 6:30pm, with the regular meeting to follow immediately after. All ayes carried.

The Environmental Paving Solutions LLC submitted a contract to be signed by Mayor Goodfellow for the concrete sidewalk replacement of Lincoln St/Railroad St/Douglas St for \$110,527.50. The project is to replace the existing sidewalks that are uneven, cracked, and have tree root damage. Replacing the sidewalk on the odd side of Railroad St will make it gentler on the skids on the plows, it will make snow clearing easier during the winter months with less ice buildup. It will also make both sidewalks of the streets look the same, instead of one side smooth and safe for wheelchairs, bikes, and strollers, and the other side a tripping hazard. Upon motion Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Mayor Goodfellow, suggests that we get the company to countersign the contract after the Mayor signs it, and to keep a copy at the Municipal Building before December 31, 2024. All ayes carried.

Tully Hill has notified the Village of Tully that they won't be paying their water/sewer bill due to their bill being over \$10,000. It has been suggested that they look for and repair any possible leaks that they might have. Mayor Goodfellow suggested that this might need legal action and that the Board should contact Attorney Hills about Tully Hill and another outside water user that has an over \$5,000 water/sewer payment that they have refused to pay. Accountant Chartrand suggested that its time to take the offenders to small claims court.

Upon Motion by Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Trustee Ray, the Affidavit of Collection is to be signed by the Board, authorizing Clerk Bibik to be the tax collector for the Village, and allows Clerk Bibik to collect Village taxes. All ayes carried.

Fire Commissioner: It is the Village of Tully's turn to choose who the new Fire Commissioner would be for the Board of Commissioners. The only candidate who petitioned was Mike Bradley. Mike Bradley has been a Village resident for 30 years, 39 years as a volunteer fire fighter, Assistant Fire Chief for 15 years, and Fire Chief for 2 years. He currently does not hold any line office in the fire department. Mr. Bradley has experience working with tight budgets, working with the community through his volunteer fire fighting, and is prepared if the new OSHA standards for firefighters passes. Upon Motion by Mayor Goodfellow, 2nd by Trustee Vernay, Mike Bradley is the Village's newly appointed Fire Commissioner. All ayes carried.

Blanket Bond: Blanket Bond that protects the Village from infidelity by the tax collector. Trustee Bibik recuses himself from the vote. Upon Motion by Mayor Goodfellow, 2nd by Trustee Ray, a Resolution on signing the Fidelity Bond to protect the Village. All ayes carried.

Health Insurance: A resolution on representatives for the Village health insurance needs to be decided and sent to Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium before December 15, 2024. Trustee Oliver stated that since it was decided in October's Village Board Meeting, that Trustee Oliver would be the representative for the Village of Tully, it is required to have an alternative. Upon Motion by Mayor Goodfellow, 2nd by Trustee Ray, a Resolution was made that the alternate representative would be Bobbi Jo Brissette. All ayes carried. It was decided that copies for October 2024 and December 2024 Village Board Meetings would be the formal written letter stating who the Village chose as the health care representative.

Evolution Consulting: Price changes and contract renewal. Because Mike and Scott have a CDL license, it is required by federal law that they get randomly drug and alcohol tested. Upon Motion by Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Trustee Vernay, that the Village accept the price increase and to continue the contract with Evolution Consulting, LLC. All ayes carried.

Upon Motion by Trustee Vernay, 2nd by Trustee Bibik, allowing Mayor Goodfellow and DPW Supervisor Mike Hoke to sign the inventory list of insured equipment for the insurance company. All ayes carried.

The Village web site is up and running. Trustee Bibik has someone working on the site to keep it current. In turn, Trustee Bibik asked Trustee Vernay if she'd be willing to work with the individual to put together a business directory for the site.

Upon Motion by Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Trustee Ray, the old back up battery for the old computers has been declared scrap, and the proper disposal process will be taken by the village at the lowest cost possible. All ayes carried.

Upon Motion by Mayor Goodfellow, 2nd by Trustee Ray, to make a resolution to move the General payroll from December 31, 2024 to December 20, 2024. All Ayes carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

DPW

MRB on Schedule w/construction for the WWTP Influent Pump Station Improvements. MRB is planning on the Village of Tully to award the Bid to a contractor on January 8, 2025. The advertisement with the proper legal wording was provided to the Clerk for posting. Avalon will be assisting with contractors on the bids, which is a website. The proposed Bid Opening Date is December 31, 2024 at 2:00pm. MRB will be in attendance to help with the Bid Opening process. The Village will open the Bids openly and publicly, MRB will scan and organize all the

bids, and return them to the Village for our records. On January 8, 2025 MRB will give the Village of Tully their recommendations of the award of the contract. It is a tight and aggressive schedule, but one that MRB feels, with the right contractor, can be done well, and on time for an early spring construction. Upon Motion from Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Trustee Varney, authorizing the Village Clerk to advertise for the Bids in the Post Standard and around town. All ayes carried. Upon Motion by Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Mayor Goodfellow, to schedule a Special Meeting on December 31, 2024 at 2:00pm of the public opening of Bids with quorum, and to advertise about the public meeting. All ayes carried.

Construction Estimate is just under \$200,000. That includes three (3) new pumps, new piping, new valving. The Village needs to find and talk to an Electrical Contractor that can make the connections to the pumps. DPW said that they are currently talking to Tim Smith. There is a set of drawings of the plans at the Municipal Building.

PACS Storage and Pump was discussed last meeting. Possibly had an influent pump to put in, but it was one size larger. It was concluded that it wouldn't be put in because it wouldn't work properly and would eventually need to be replaced again. Got a Quote from Cyclops for a pump, installed for \$7650. Got a Quote from Koester for the pump, installed at \$6700.

Broken Digester, as discussed last meeting is working, but not at its best. DPW has solicited to replace all the diffusors. Sanitary is proprietary, so have a SOLE Source letter with a quote for cleaning and replacing all the diffusors in both the digestors. The cleaning and the repairs will take 2 days in the near future. It should typically be done in Spring, but due to the severity of needing to clean and repair the Digestors, it will be done in Winter. The cleaning of the digestors should be done every 5 years. The digestors in question were installed in 1999 and in the past 25 years, the Digestors have been cleaned only once. Koesters quote for the cleaning and repair of the two Digestors is \$28,563.00 which includes all parts, the labor to clean them, confined space entry, and dumpster.

There is an inventory of Grit that needs to be removed. There are 15 55-gallon drums stored with grit from the past 10 years.

Koesters did some extra testing off the secondary clarifier wearers and lagoon, and the results showed that DPW can bypass the lagoon. Koesters will do the same test again this month, due to the over abundance of phosphorus in the water is off the charts. Phosphorus readings were twice as high off the lagoon after the clarifiers then the test just off the second clarifier. It could be an outlier, but it explains why Koesters is performing more tests. If the test results show that the lagoon is giving the higher phosphorus levels, that the lagoon will need to be cleaned in the summer to reduce the phosphorus output. A lot of the cleaning will be in house, contingent on the valves being replaced.

Three out of the four back up generators have been installed (located at the lift station, booster station, and the hot box at the heater tank). Still waiting on the generator for the main pump house. DPW will pour the concrete pad themselves for the generator at the pump house, which will be done in spring.

Water produced at the well in November 2024 2.569 million gallons, waste water treated at the water treatment plant was 2.944 million gallons.

DPW has a new computer at the pump house, which everything is up and functioning. Trustee Bibik has been talking to Verizon about the original plan to put in a hard wire of Fios to the pump house for better internet connection. Verizon does not remember that discussion with the Village. Trustee Bibik spoke to Dave Knapp via phone about the original plan of having a hard wire to the pump house. Trustee Bibik needs prior authorization to get the hard wire internet put into the DPW office. Trustee Bibik worked out a contract with Verizon where its no money out of pocket to run the line, but the Village will be placed under a 2-year contract of \$99.00 a month tax exempt procurement. There is no other option than Verizon for internet for DPW, at this time. Trustee Bibik will look into seeing if the Village needs a State Contract with Verizon. Upon Motion by Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Trustee Oliver, it was declared that Verizon is the Sole Source for internet for the DPW. All ayes carried.

With the water plant having decent internet, Trustee Bibik stresses the need to secure the connection to prevent hacking from outside sources. Trustee Bibik has a network engineer that has written up a Proposed Network Infrastructure to protect the DPW from outside hackers. The firewall will cost \$452.00, \$199.99 for a wireless router, total for the Hardware is \$651.99. The proposed labor cost to install is a total of \$550, for a grand total of \$1,201.00. this is contingent only if Verizon puts in the hard wire. The \$99/month contract is only valid if the Village uses its own router. If Verizon installs their own router, the \$99 monthly 2-year contract will be void. SECA (government agency for cyber defense) does offer cyber security grants that the Village can apply for to help cover some of the costs of securing DPW's internet.

COUNSEL:

No report

CODES:

Ben Vincent wishes to thank Trustee Bibik and family for moving the clerk's desk into his office to use.

Vincent has stated he has done quite a few fire safety inspections, but still have a few more to do.

Tractor Supply is moving pretty quickly, and the library is moving a long too.

Vincent is having an issue with handing out an appearance ticket. Vincent has given 2 notices of order of remedy to the offender who would not clean up their rubbish on Warren St, but now he feels it needs a more legal action. Vincent spoke to Attorney Hills about the ticket. She has never issued an appearance ticket in Tully before. Attorney Hills is trying to make sure that the local judges won't throw the case out right away. Vincent is hoping to get the situation taken care of in the next couple weeks.

ENGINEER:

No Report

Upon Motion by Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Trustee Ray, it was unanimous to review and authorize the accountant to pay the bills, subject to audit. All ayes carried.

Upon Motion by Trustee Bibik, 2nd by Trustee Vernay, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm. All ayes carried.

Respectfully Submitted
Maureen Bibik
Village Clerk