

**Village Board Meeting
March 1, 2021, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center**

Attendance: Village Board: Mayor Paul Labas, Deputy Mayor Gordon Smith Jr., Trustees Dean Hyatt, Stephanie Munger, and Dan Brown

Village Key Staff: Superintendent of Public Works Scott Mackey, Ass't Sup't Joshua Hayes, Police Chief Ernie Bassett Jr., Local Ordinance Officer Curtis Pedone, Village Attorney Michael Martin, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Diana Scarlotta, and Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts

Press: Austin Crosier, *The Granville Sentinel* (Livestreaming thru Granville Sentinel Page)

Others: None, due to ongoing pandemic

Mayor Labas led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the Meeting to Order at 7:00pm.

Ratify Meeting Minutes: Trustee Hyatt moved ratification of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 1st and the Budget Workshop of February 11th as circulated. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: The Mayor reviewed the following reports with the Board: Police Dept., Fire Dept., Village Court (2 reports), Water Dept. (3 samples, all satisfactory), and Local Ordinance Officer. Deputy Mayor Smith moved acceptance of the reports as submitted. Trustee Munger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Appropriations: The following claims were submitted to the Board for review and in consideration of payment:

General Fund: \$46,008.05
Water Fund: \$10,975.54
Sewer Fund: \$28,353.74
Senior Shuttle: \$ 859.38
Unaudited
Vouchers: \$ 277.92

Total Claims: \$86,474.63

The Board audited the claims and Trustee Munger moved their approval for payment. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Circulate Tentative Budget: Mayor Labas circulated the Tentative Budget for the Village for 2021-22. He advised that the Tentative Budget contained a 0.80% tax levy increase and a 0.47% Tax Increase. No residential water or sewer rent increases were proposed, although the Budget does contain a 2.5% increase in metered water rates. For a household assessed at \$100,000, property owners would see a tax increase of \$5.56/year or 46 cents per month. The Tentative Budget is Tax Cap Compliant. Mayor Labas advised that the Tentative Budget would be circulated to the press, posted to the Village website,

and would remain static for 30 days. Trustee Hyatt moved that the Village Clerk be authorized to advertise for a Public Hearing on April 5th at 7:00pm concerning the Tentative Budget. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Coin Drop Request: The Mayor reviewed a written request from the After Prom Committee, seeking permission for a coin drop on Saturday, April 17th. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Munger moved that that request be approved as submitted, providing that those participating were able to comply with all relevant NYS guidelines. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor's Reports: The Mayor advised the Board that he had been working with the Police Chief to advance the Police Reform process. A meeting was convened earlier this evening including the Mayor, Police Commissioner, Police Chief, and representatives from the Ecumenical Council, Granville Central School, and the community to review existing police department policies, data relating to traffic tickets, arrests, etc. based upon race, as well as the training received by Officers. Additional public meetings will be convened on Monday, March 15th, and Monday, March 22nd, to accept input and allow the public to ask questions. Following the receipt of public input, the plan will be modified as necessary, and then advanced to the Village Board for consideration. On Thursday, March 25th, the Board will convene a separate Public Hearing to accept any additional public input on the final draft of the Police Reform Plan before considering its ratification. Following the Public Hearing, the Board will formally adopt the Police Reform Plan and submit to the State on or before April 1st. Following the Mayor's report, Trustee Hyatt moved that the Village Clerk be authorized to advertise for a Public Hearing concerning the Police Reform Plan on March 25th at 6:00pm. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Labas then opened the Meeting to Public comment at 7:15pm.

The Mayor reviewed an email received from Susan Knapp, one of the proprietors at Slatetown Brewing Company. Ms. Knapp expressed concerns relating to employees and customers parking in spaces reserved for pickup of Take-Out Orders. She requested that the Village Board prohibit the practice of employees parking on-street as opposed to off-street, and that spaces for Take-Out be reserved specifically for that purpose. The Board discussed the email, and while several Trustees expressed that they sympathized with the concerns mentioned--and that courtesy between eateries should be the expected norm--they did not feel that this was an issue that could be taken up by the Village Board. Main Street is a State Highway (Route 149) and the Board did not feel that the Village could specify who could (and could not) park on a public highway. Even if the Board wanted to intervene, this simply would not be anything that the Police Dept. could enforce. While the Village has allowed Restaurants to place signage on the sidewalk promoting pickup for Take-Out service, this matter really seems more suitable for consideration by the Chamber of Commerce or by the vendors themselves. The Board agreed unanimously to take no action concerning the request.

Trustee Hyatt expressed a concern relating to vendors operating in the Village. He feels that the fees charged for a full season are not substantial enough and is also concerned with traffic flow and/or the noise generated by mobile vending units. He suggested that the Board consider a moratorium on future vending permits until updated rules/policies could be crafted by the Board. The Village Attorney advised that updating the rules to assure fairness was a good idea, but that a moratorium would likely require a Local Law. The Board discussed this matter at length and decided to table for the present time, as some vendors permits had already been issued in 2021. The Mayor advised that the concept of updating the rules/policies for vendors could be considered further in upcoming months.

There was no further public input/comment.

At 7:40pm, Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the Board convene an Executive Session regarding the Medical, Credit, Financial or employment history of a particular retiree within the Dept. of Public Works. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. *The Village Attorney accompanied the Board into the Executive Session.*

At 7:50pm, Trustee Brown moved that the Board return to regular session. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Mayor advised that no actions were taken during the Executive Session.

Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:50pm. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer