

Village Board Meeting and Public Hearing
March 25, 2021, 6:00pm
Village Municipal Center

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

Village Key Staff: Police Chief Ernie Bassett Jr., Ass't DPW Superintendent Joshua Hayes, and Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts

Press: Austin Crosier, *The Granville Sentinel*

Others: Rev. Jerry McKinney, Mr. Dan Poucher, and Mr. Russel Bronson

The Mayor led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00pm. He then called the Public Hearing to Order regarding the Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative.

Public Hearing—Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative: Mayor Labas called the Public Hearing to Order at 6:00pm. He briefly reviewed the rules for public comment and requested the sign in sheet from the rear of the room. The Village Clerk obtained the sheet and advised that no one had signed in to be recognized. The Mayor then queried those in attendance if they wished to make any comments for the record. There was no response. Hearing no input, Trustee Brown moved that the Public Hearing be closed at 6:02pm. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ratification—Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative: The Mayor asked the Board how they wanted to proceed with the Police Reform Plan as presented. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Hyatt moved ratification of the Plan as circulated. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ratification—Village COVID Emergency Response Plan: Mayor Labas asked the Village Clerk to update the Board concerning the proposed COVID Response Plan. The Clerk advised that the draft plan had been formulated based upon a webinar presented by NYCOM. The Plan attempts to summarize how the Village would classify essential employees, purchase and store Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), perform contact tracing, and assist in providing a means for employees to quarantine in the event of a future pandemic, emergency, or natural disaster. The Plan was circulated to Union Representatives, the Village Attorney, and Trustee Brown. A meeting was conducted to solicit input/feedback from the committee, and amendments to the plan were processed. The draft presented represents the amended plan. After a brief period of discussion, Trustee Brown moved the ratification of the Plan as circulated. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Consider Purchase of Used Bucket Truck: The Mayor asked the Ass't Superintendent of Public Works to brief the Board concerning the purchase of a used bucket truck. Josh Hayes reviewed a proposal provided by Upstate Auto Sales in Hoosick Falls. The truck is a 2009 Ford F350 Bucket Truck with 60K miles. Mr. Hayes advised that he and DPW Superintendent Scott Mackey had travelled to inspect the vehicle and found it to be well cared for and in good shape—the vehicle has new brakes, good tire tread on all six tires, a heated bucket/basket, etc. He feels that the unit represents a good value at the proposed price of \$16,971. The Board discussed the matter with the Ass't Superintendent, and he also indicated that the present bucket truck (Model year 1997) had multiple mechanical and safety issues.

The Board also consulted with the Clerk-Treasurer regarding availability of funds to purchase the truck. The Clerk advised that his best estimates for the present fiscal year included surpluses in all funds—General, Water, and Sewer—in the range of \$150-\$170K total. Following the period of discussion, Trustee Hyatt moved that the purchase be authorized as requested. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

At the close of the meeting, Trustee Brown thanked Trustee Munger for her tenure of service on the Board. He also referenced reporting in the local newspaper and statements on social media that indicated that the Village Board was akin to “an old boys club”. Mr. Brown stated that he finds these characterizations to be offensive, and that he did not consider himself to be someone who should be so classified. He also asked that this practice be stopped.

There being no other business, Trustee Hyatt moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:20pm. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard H. Roberts', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer