

**Village Board Meeting and Public Hearing
June 6, 2022, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center**

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

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

Press: Austin Crosier, NYVT Media

Others: Mr. Matt Hicks, Town Supervisor, Mr. Erik Pekar, Mr. George Demas, Mr. John Freed, Mr. Matthew Rollwagen, and Mr. Dwayne Daigle

Deputy Mayor Smith led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the Public Hearing to Order at 7:00pm concerning the proposed changes to the Zoning Map. He briefly reviewed the rules for public comment for all Public Hearings conducted by the Village, and two advisory opinions that had been received—one from the Village Planning Board, the other from the Washington County Planning Agency. Both opinions were read into the record. Neither opinion expressed objection to the proposed reclassifications, and each referred the matter back to the Village Board as a matter of local concern. The Deputy Mayor then inquired if anyone had signed in to be recognized. The Deputy Clerk obtained the sign in sheet and advised that no one had signed in. The Deputy Mayor then inquired if anyone in attendance had neglected to sign in, but wished to be recognized.

Mr. George Demas spoke concerning the Mayor's ownership interest in one or more of the properties being considered for a change in zoning classification. He expressed that he felt that there was a potential conflict of interest with this, even though the Mayor had recused himself from voting in the matter and had stepped down from the bench and was not presiding over the Public Hearing.

There was no further public comment.

Trustee Hyatt moved that the Public Hearing be closed at 7:05pm. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Deputy Mayor called the Regular Session of the Meeting to Order at 7:05pm.

Consider Action—Proposed Changes to Zoning Map: Deputy Mayor Smith inquired as to the Board's pleasure concerning the proposed changes to the Zoning Map. Trustee Hyatt moved approval of the changes as presented/proposed. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried 4-0, with Mayor Labas abstaining.

Mayor Labas then approached the bench and took over for Deputy Mayor Smith as Presiding Officer for the balance of the meeting.

Ratify Meeting Minutes: Trustee Brown moved ratification of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 18th as circulated. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: The Mayor reviewed the following reports with the Board: Fire Dept., Village Court (4 reports), Water dept. (3 samples, all satisfactory), Police Dept., and Local Ordinance Officer. Deputy Mayor Smith moved acceptance of the reports as presented. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:	\$193,906.55
Water Fund:	\$21,152.74
Sewer Fund:	\$37,885.67
Senior Shuttle:	\$1,273.22
Unaudited Vouchers:	<u>\$2,549.90</u>

Total Claims: \$256,768.08

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

Budget Transfers: The Clerk-Treasurer circulated the following Budget Transfers necessary to close out fiscal year 2021-22 and to fund legal expenses in the current fiscal year associated with the defense of the lawsuit stemming from the 2020 Special Election:

For 2021-22 Fiscal Year

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<u>General Fund</u>			
A11101	Village Court, P/S	+\$250.00	Additional Staffing (Bailiff), COVID-19
A19104	Insurance Premiums	-\$250.00	Cure above shortfalls
<u>Water Fund</u>			
F83401	Water Administration P/S	+\$350.00	Additional Labor, Hard Winter
F83404	Water Fund C/E	+\$350.00	Additional C/E, Water Valve Replcmnt
F95509	Capital Projects	-\$700.00	Cure above shortfalls
<u>Sewer Fund</u>			
G81101	Sewer Admin., P/S	+\$3,000.00	Additional Labor, Hard Winter
G90308	FICA Taxes	+\$250.00	Additional Labor, Hard Winter
G95509	Capital Projects	-\$3,250.00	Cure above shortfalls

For 2022-23 Fiscal Year

General Fund

A14204 Attorney C/E	+\$2,350.00	Legal Fees, Tatko Lawsuit
A95509 Capital Projects	-\$2,350.00	Cure above shortfall

Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Ackert moved ratification of the transfers as presented. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Request for Use of Veterans Park (Military Promotion): Mayor Labas reviewed a letter received from Ashley Bowen requesting use of the bandstand in Veterans Park on Saturday, June 11th at 1:00pm for the purposes of a military promotional ceremony. After inquiring if this date was open on the calendar, Trustee Brown moved approval of the request as written. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor's Reports: The Mayor briefed the Board and those in attendance in the following matters:

- A. Spring Yard Waste Must Be Bagged for Pick-up: The Mayor advised that as a result of Village Dump Trucks being used for other purposes in the spring season, that the leaf vacuum is not available to clear leaves and other yard debris. He advised that no further pick-ups would be made by the DPW of non-bagged waste.
- B. Leash Law to be Fully Enforced: Mayor Labas advised that there had been a recent incident in Mettowee Park where a dog or dogs attacked another pet there. The pet and its owner were both injured in the attack, and the pet had to be euthanized due to the severity of its injuries. The Mayor emphasized that there is a leash law in the Village and if you are walking your dog on public property, it must be leashed. There are no exceptions to this policy and he has directed that the Village Leash Law be fully enforced. He asked that all pet owners be respectful of the law so that no one else has to go through the trauma associated with an event like this in the future.
- C. Request from Charlie King—Veterans' Banners: The Mayor reviewed several text messages received from Charlie King, coordinator of the Veterans Banner project in the Village. Mr. King is requesting that the Veterans Banners be allowed to remain hanging in the Village through the summer months until Veterans Day. It is hoped by leaving the banners up through the summer/fall seasons, additional family visiting Granville would be able to view the banners, and this would also save time, labor, and resources. There are some 162 banners presently hanging in the Village, and more to be placed. Following a brief discussion, Trustee Brown moved that the Veterans banners remain in place through the Veterans Day Holiday. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Labas then opened the meeting to public comment at 7:20pm.

Mr. George Demas reiterated his concerns expressed in the Public Hearing earlier in the evening relating to parcels that were reclassified in terms of zoning on Slate Valley Drive. A discussion ensued between Mr. Demas and several Board members pertaining to his concerns.

Mr. John Freed praised the Board's decision relating to the Zoning of certain parcels on Slate Valley Drive. He stated that he feels this type of development is a positive thing for the Village, in that it increases the total assessed valuation, thus reducing the tax burden slightly for all existing taxpayers.

Mr. Erik Pekar spoke in opposition to the request that the Veterans banners be left up on the poles during the summer months. He stated that he felt that leaving them up for such an extended period might make them "blend in" and seem less noticeable. Trustee Brown asked that Mr. Pekar consider the position that perhaps some family and friends of those Veterans featured might have a greater opportunity to review and inspect the banners during the summer/fall seasons, and noted that the banners are a great source of pride for local families. He stated that he does not feel that the families will allow the banners to become commonplace, but rather that this might afford an opportunity for additional exposure to loved ones of those who have served.

There was no further public comment.

At 7:25pm, Trustee Brown moved that the Board convene an Executive Session pertaining to a potential appointment within the Police Department and for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. *The Village Attorney accompanied the Board into the Executive Session.*

At 7:45pm, Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the Board return to regular session. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Trustee Ackert moved the acceptance of the resignation of Mary Warner from the Zoning Board of Appeals, with regret. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Board thanked Mrs. Warner for her time and thoughtful service to the ZBA.

Mayor Labas then announced that he was making two appointments to the Zoning Board Appeals. Mr. Eric Scribner was appointed to fill the vacated term of Mary Warner, and Mr. Tim Mead to fill the vacated term of Mr. John Freed. The Mayor thanked Mr. Scribner and Mr. Mead for their willingness to serve the Village in this capacity.

Trustee Hyatt moved the resignation of part-time Patrol Officer Joseph Bethel, with regret. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Trustee Ackert moved the hire of Joshua Whitney to the position of Police Officer at the 10-year salary rate per the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. It was discussed that Officer Whitney would like to be considered for the position of provisional Sargent, following completion of a probationary term. The Board agreed to consider this request upon completion of the probationary period.

There being no other business, Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:55pm. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer