

**Village Board Meeting
August 1, 2022, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center**

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

Village Key Staff: Police Chief Ernie Bassett Jr., DPW Superintendent Scott Mackey, Ass't Sup't Josh 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 Village Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts

Press: Austin Crosier, *NYVT Media*

Others: Mr. Russel Bronson, Mr. Matthew Rollwagen, and Mr. Tyler Williams

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

Ratify Meeting Minutes: Trustee Brown moved the ratification of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 11th as circulated. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: Mayor Labas reviewed the following monthly reports with the Board: Village Court, Police Dept., Fire Dept., Water Dept. (3 samples taken, all satisfactory), and Local Ordinance Officer. Deputy Mayor Smith moved acceptance of the reports as read. 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 for funding:

General Fund: \$33,707.12
Water Fund: \$12,270.29
Sewer Fund: \$8,857.13
Senior Shuttle: \$1,255.47
Unaudited
Vouchers: \$3,901.78

Total Claims: \$59,991.79

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

Budget Addendum: The Clerk-Treasurer circulated a memo recommending two budget transfers in the General Fund in order to avoid overdrawing any individual line items in the funding of this evening's appropriations:

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Reason</u>
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General Fund

A14204 Village Attorney, Cont. Exp.	+\$625.00	Tatko Suit, NYS Appellate Court
A79894 Slate Valley Museum, C/E	+\$130.00	Lumber, Repairs
A95509 Capital Projects	-\$755.00	Cure above shortfalls

Deputy Mayor Smith moved ratification of the budget transfers as recommended. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Financial Review—Fiscal Year 2021-22: Mayor Labas asked the Clerk-Treasurer to review the financial results for the 2021-22 fiscal year. The Clerk advised the Village's Annual Financial Report had been filed with the State Comptroller (OSC) in July, within 60 days of the Village's fiscal year-end. He reported that each of the three Funds ran a surplus for 2021-22 and updated the total reserves for the Board. The reserve totals for each Fund now meet or exceed the standard established through the Fund Balance Policy previously ratified by the Board. The Clerk advised that based upon the results seen for 2021-22 that the Village's Fiscal Stress score should decrease, likely from 14.2 to zero. The OSC formally releases fiscal stress scores sometime in February.

Mayor Labas thanked the Clerk for his report, and the Village Board and Department Heads for their work in seeking to control expenses and promote the Village's fiscal health. He advised that going forward, it would be his goal to keep all budgets balanced and to promote stable tax and utility rates. It is the Mayor's hope that for the 2023-24 Budget cycle, that the Village will see no tax or water rent increase, and perhaps even a small decrease in sewer rates. Mayor Labas reiterated that the Village's improving financial results are yet another part of the positive developments seen of late in Granville.

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

- A. **Grant Announcement:** Mayor Labas advised that the Village had received a Federal Grant to aid in establishing a plan to improve the Main Street Corridor. This grant team will provide expert advice at the Federal level on how to incorporate the recreative elements in the community (including the Rail Trail and the Mettowee River), the cultural campus (Pember Library & Museum and Slate Valley Museum), green streetscape elements (bike paths, etc.) and Travel/Tourism to help address the remaining vacancy on Main Street. This grant will focus on developing a Master Plan that will incorporate each of the above elements. A steering committee will be formed to work with Federal Officials in developing the plan, and committee members will be stakeholders representing those mentioned above. Following the formulation of the preliminary plan, Public Hearings will be conducted to solicit input and/or comment from those wishing to be heard. Upon final adoption of the plan, it is hoped that it can be used as a template for additional Federal and/or State grants to enact the plan's recommendations. A national press release is expected in this matter during the week of August 15th per the Mayor.
- B. **Bridge/Main Street Updates:** Mayor Labas advised that D.A. Collins would be returning to the Church Street bridge tomorrow to complete the upgrades there. Elements including the sidewalk, streetlights, and a new Water Main are to be addressed, in addition to an additional layer of pavement. These items could not be completed last fall due to the weather. In addition, the Main Street paving was completed last week. Mayor Labas praised the contractors and advised that the quality of the finished product was excellent. The State will be returning in approximately 2 weeks to complete the striping/paint crosswalks, etc. per Mayor Labas.

Request for Use of Veterans Park (Wedding, 9/10): The Mayor reviewed a request received from Gary Baldwin to use Veterans Park for a wedding ceremony on Saturday, September 10th at noon. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Brown moved approval of the request as submitted. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Labas opened the meeting to public comment at 7:15pm.

There was no public comment.

There being no other business, Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the Meeting be adjourned at 7:15pm. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer