

**Village Board Meeting
September 12, 2022, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center**

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

Village Key Staff: Fire Chief Ryan Pedone, Ass't Fire Chief Michael Zinn, Police Officer Joshua Whitney, Ass't Superintendent of Public Works Josh Hayes, Local Ordinance Officer Curtis Pedone, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Dee Scarlotta, and Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts

Press: Austin Crosier, *NYVT Media*

Others: Mr. Charlie and Mrs. Mary King, Mr. Matthew Rollwagen, Mr. Russel Bronson, Mr. Eric Pekar, Town Supervisor Matt Hicks, Mr. George Demas, Mr. Robert Tatko, Mr. David and Mrs. Kathryn Juckett, Mr. Paul Garrone, Ms. Krystal Morey, and Mr. Tyler Williams

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 Brown moved acceptance of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 1st as circulated. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: The Mayor reviewed the following monthly reports with the Board: Police Dept., Fire Dept., Local Ordinance Officer, Village Court, and Water Dept. (3 samples, all satisfactory). Deputy Mayor moved acceptance of the reports as submitted. Trustee Ackert 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:	\$37,183.82
Water Fund:	\$11,093.64
Sewer Fund:	\$99,273.99
Senior Shuttle:	\$1,645.97
Unaudited	
Claims:	<u>\$7,980.20</u>

Total Claims: \$157,177.62

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

Budget Transfers: The Clerk-Treasurer circulated a memo recommending several transfers in the General Fund to avoid overdrawing any individual line items in the funding of this evening's appropriations. In addition, the Clerk-Treasurer recommended a single transfer in the Sewer Fund to appropriate ARPA monies approved previously by the Board of Trustees to fund lighting upgrades at the Wastewater Treatment Plant:

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

A72700 Summer Concert Series	+\$225.00	Travel/Sound Expenses, 2 bands
A73104 Cont. Exp, Swim Program	+\$950.00	Increased Fuel Costs
A73101 Pers. Service, Swim Program	-\$550.00	Cure above shortfalls
A78989 Grant Writing	-\$625.00	Cure above shortfalls

ARPA Transfer

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

G4960 Federal Aid, ARPA	+\$6,767.52	Show Federal Aid, ARPA
G81304 Sewer Dept. C/E	+\$6,767.52	Appropriation per Board Authorization

Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Hyatt moved approval of the budget transfers as requested. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Authorize Village Clerk's Attendance at NYCOM Conference: For many years, the Village Board has authorized attendance for staff in the Village Clerk's office at the NYCOM conference. NYCOM partners with the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) to offer classes concerning a wide range of subjects—from Conduction of Elections to the Retirement System, Meeting Procedures, FOIL, etc. This year, the Mayor is recommending attendance for the Village Clerk. Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the Clerk-Treasurer be authorized to attend the conference in Saratoga. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ratify Fall Leaf & Brush Collection Schedule: Mayor Labas advised that he had spoken with the DPW Superintendent and confirmed that department will be providing leaf & brush pick-up again this year. A proposed schedule was circulated to the Board for review, highlighting pick-ups on Mondays, beginning October 3rd, thru November 21st. The only exception would be the Columbus Day Holiday (10/10), when pick-up will be scheduled for Tuesday, October 11th. Leaves may be raked curbside or placed in clear or brown paper bags, and brush should be bundled in lengths not exceeding 4 feet. Following a brief discussion period, the Board agreed unanimously to the schedule as proposed.

Resolution—Correction of Errors—Village Tax Bill (Dale & Steven Bucciero): The Mayor asked the Village Clerk to brief the Board concerning an abatement request for the above applicants. The Clerk explained that during the conversion of the utility billing system last year, a duplicate account had been created for Mr. & Mrs. Bucciero in error. As a result of the duplication, a balance for Sewer Rent had been turned over to the County in error for the duplicated account. The account was, in fact, paid timely, and thus the balance seen for the Sewer Relevy should be abated. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Brown sponsored a Resolution to abate the Sewer Relevy and correct the error. Trustee Hyatt seconded the Resolution and it carried via roll call vote.

Resolution—Village Court Audit: Mayor Labas advised that Deputy Mayor Smith had performed the annual audit of the Village Court records using a template provided by the Justice Court Fund. The

Deputy Mayor advised that the court records were in good order. Following a brief discussion, Trustee Brown sponsored a Resolution to ratify/accept the audit as presented. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and the Resolution carried unanimously via roll call vote.

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

- A. Request for Lighted Tractor Parade: The Mayor reviewed a packet received from Tractor Parade Co-sponsors Paul Garrone and Krystle Morey. Information provided included date/time/place, the parade route, County permit, etc. This year, the Committee proposes to partner with the Granville Backpack Program. Mayor Labas then recognized Ms. Morey and Mr. Garrone. A brief period of discussion ensued. Following the discussion period, Trustee Hyatt moved that the Lighted Tractor Parade be scheduled for Friday, December 9th, at 6:00pm as per the route described. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- B. Report—Telescope 100th Anniversary Celebration: Mayor Labas highlighted the 100th Anniversary Celebration for Telescope that took place last weekend. He congratulated Telescope on reaching this impressive milestone, and thanked the company for all that they have done to support the community through the years. The Anniversary dinner on Friday was well attended, well planned and it was a beautiful evening. The Mayor concluded by wishing Telescope much continued success.

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

Mr. Charlie King addressed the Board concerning juveniles lighting off fireworks late at night at the Little League complex and other locations throughout the Village. He feels that this is a stress to the community, and would like to see greater police coverage/presence to prevent further occurrences. The Mayor agreed with Mr. King that the fireworks were a disturbance and that the individuals involved should be brought to justice. The Mayor advised that he understood that the Department had been working this case, and may have some good leads; he asked Officer Whitney if he could brief those in attendance in this matter. Officer Whitney advised that while the investigation was in its early stages and ongoing, that the Department did have some good information that he felt could well lead to the apprehension of those responsible. As to Police staffing, the Mayor advised that he and the Police Chief are continuing their recruitment efforts, and that Granville, like many other smaller local departments, continued to see shortness in staffing. He advised that canvassing efforts will continue, but that as the Village could only hire certified officers, it is difficult to expand staffing. Mayor Labas noted that the present budget maintains salaries and benefits for five (5) full-time officers. However, the results from the recent civil service examination yielded just one candidate for Granville, and they would have to attend a 6-month academy even if hired. In closing, the Mayor sympathized with Mr. King's concerns and pledged to continue to work to recruit good-quality officers locally.

Mrs. Mary King reiterated the concerns mentioned by Mr. King and noted that the response time for the late-night fireworks approached forty-five (45) minutes by the NYS Police. She noted that the State Police are somewhat "handcuffed" in that they are not as well-versed with the layout of the Little League, Rail Trail access points, and/or the Village streets.

Mrs. Kathy Juckett spoke concerning a number of subjects. She advised that she felt that the Village had to continue to engage higher elected officials regarding the lack of qualified candidates for the Police Department. She offered her assistance in reaching out. She also expressed that she did not feel that

there was a shortage of workers—but rather as shortage of people willing to work. She thanked the Mayor and Board for their attendance at Telescope’s festivities and the various Village Departments for their assistance, particularly during Friday’s dinner, when some 1,000 people were served. Mrs. Juckett reiterated her previous concerns relating to transparency and emphasized that she hoped and expected that elected officials from the Village would be leaders in this regard. She emphasized that she was not an adversary to the Village. In closing, Mrs. Juckett stated that she would like to see Village Board meetings telecast via some media (Zoom, etc.), without attendees being able to comment, but being able to observe the proceedings, from a remote location, if they choose to do so.

Mr. Robert Tatko addressed the Board concerning a dog complaint at 45 Columbus Street. He advised that his efforts to contact the ACO to date have not yielded results to mitigate the situation. The Mayor advised that he would contact the ACO and follow up to Mr. Tatko directly. Mr. Tatko thanked the Mayor and requested his contact information in the event that he needed to follow up.

Trustee Hyatt addressed some Code Enforcement issues with a three-story structure located at the corner of Main and Church Streets, and asked if the Town Supervisor could check with Code Enforcement and advise, as Trustee Hyatt would like to see the building re-occupied/returned to service.

There was no further public comment.

At 7:40pm, Trustee Ackert made a motion that the Board convene an Executive Session regarding a matter pertaining to the appointment or promotion of a particular employee within the Police Department. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

At 8:00pm, the Village Clerk exited the meeting.

At 8:05pm, Trustee Hyatt moved that the Board return to regular session. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Trustee Hyatt moved the appointment of Joshua Whitney to the position of Police Sargent, provisional pending successful completion of the Civil Service exam to be conducted for the position, with salary commensurate with the existing Collective Bargaining agreement, retroactive to June 6th. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Trustee Brown moved that the Board appropriate monies received through ARPA Funding for sidewalk work throughout the Village, including the east side of Quaker Street from Morrison Avenue to Potter Avenue, from West View Drive to the north end of the Schuyler Plaza/Tractor Supply, and on Irvine Place adjoining the Elementary School. Trustee Ackert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no other business, Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the Meeting be adjourned at 8:10pm. Trustee Brown seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer