

**Village Board Meeting
November 6, 2023, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center**

Attendance: Village Board: Mayor Paul Labas, Deputy Mayor Gordon Smith Jr., Trustees Dean Hyatt, Daniel Brown and Denise Davies

Village Key Staff: DPW Superintendent Scott Mackey, Ass't Sup't Josh Hayes, Fire Chief Michael Zinn, Ass't Fire Chief Keith Seebode, Police Chief Ernie Bassett Jr., Village Justice Roger Forando, Village Attorney Michael Martin, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Dee Scarlotta, and Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts

Press: Doug LaRocque, *NYVT Media*

Others: Mr. David and Mrs. Kathy Juckett, Mrs. Mary King, Mr. Matthew Rollwagen, Mr. Steven and Mrs. Felicia Dougherty, Mr. John Freed, Mr. Erik Pekar, and Mr. Peter Kischak

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

Ratify Meeting Minutes: Trustee Hyatt moved ratification of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 2nd as posted to the Village website. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: Mayor Labas reviewed the following reports with the Board: Police Dept., Fire Dept., Local Ordinance Officer, Water Dept. (3 samples, all satisfactory), and Village Court (2 reports). Deputy Mayor Smith moved acceptance of the reports as read. Trustee Brown 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:	\$35,739.83
Water Fund:	\$9,481.22
Sewer Fund:	\$13,970.76
Senior Shuttle:	\$1,053.34
Unaudited	
Vouchers:	<u>\$35,747.84</u>

Total Claims: \$95,992.99

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

Mayor's Reports: The Mayor reviewed the following matters with the Board of Trustees:

- A. Reimbursement Rate—Sidewalk Replacement Program: Mayor Labas reviewed the present sidewalk reimbursement program with the Board. He advised that the reimbursement for those participating in this program is limited to the lesser of 50% of the cost paid by the property owner or \$2.50/SF. The Mayor advised that the reimbursement rate per SF is almost the lower

of the two calculations and that this rate had been static for at least 15-20 years. The Mayor would like to see the reimbursement rate increased to somewhere in the neighborhood of \$5.00/SF. He reminded the Board that constituents would still be limited to a maximum of 50% of the costs associated with the replacement in this case. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Brown moved that the Sidewalk Replacement Policy be amended to allow for the reimbursement of constituents for the lesser of 50% of the replacement cost or \$5.00/SF. Trustee Davies seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously,

- B. Election Reminder: Mayor Labas noted the Election equipment located in the rear of the Village Hall and reminded those in attendance that tomorrow is Election Day for Federal, County and Local Offices. Polling will take place here at the Municipal Center from 6:00am to 9:00pm for Granville's Districts 1, 2 & 3. The Mayor wished all candidates good luck, and encouraged those in attendance to come out and cast their ballots.
- C. Statement Concerning School Crossing Guard: The Mayor advised those in attendance that the Village and School District had reached a tentative agreement regarding the Crossing Guard position. The terms of the tentative agreement included the Village working with NYS DOT to install signage to improve pedestrian safety on Quaker Street and across Potter Avenue, the Village canvassing/hiring a civilian crossing guard, and the school agreeing to fund the cost of the crossing guard thru the end of the school year. The Mayor went on to make a statement thanking the School Board for their willingness to work to a solution in this controversial issue, and reinforcing that it was the Village's goal to provide for the safety of the children, particularly on Quaker Street. The Mayor advised that he had not yet received the Tentative Agreement, but requested that the Board authorize him to proceed/execute the agreement per the above terms. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Brown sponsored a motion to allow the Mayor to proceed as per the above terms, with review/counsel from the Village Attorney as necessary. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- D. Review Winter Parking Ban: Mayor Labas reminded those in attendance that the Winter Parking Ban is now in effect, and will be enforced. There is no overnight parking on Village Streets from 11pm to 5am in order to allow the DPW to maintain the streets in the event of snow/ice removal, and to allow for the orderly provision of emergency services as needed. With any snow removal, windrows are formed and these can shrink the traffic lanes on certain village streets. On-street parking only exacerbates this issue. The Mayor would like to see the Winter Parking Ban hours amended to prohibit parking from 8pm to 8 am, and asked the Board members to consider this request. He reiterated that he will ask the Police Dept. to enforce the Local Law, and noted that landlords had an obligation to provide off-street parking options for their tenants.
- E. Water Service Line Inventory: The Mayor reviewed a recent mandate from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concerning Water Service Line Inventories. This mandate is being enforced by the NYS Dept. of Health. To attain compliance, all communities that operate a Water System are being required to create an inventory of their water service lines to assure that they are not composed of lead. The Village is seeking the public's help in assembling the inventory of water service lines. To aid the public with this mandate, the Chief Water Operator has posted instructions on the Village website relating to the testing of their service line/connection. There are simple tests that can be completed by the property owner to assure

that their service line is not composed of lead. For those residences/businesses that are unable to comply, the DPW will be required to go door to door to perform their own testing/inspection. The Village has one year to complete their inventory per the Mayor.

At 7:25pm, the Mayor opened the meeting to public comment.

Mrs. Kathy Juckett stated that she appreciated that the Village and School had reached a tentative agreement concerning the Crossing Guard position. However, she feels that the solution took too long to come to fruition, and she expressed concerns for the safety of the children in the interim. Mrs. Juckett also expressed concerns regarding several dangerous dogs that are running in the Village without a leash or any supervision. In one case, she understands that two dogs attacked a cat and injured it severely, and she reported of hearing of several other cases where dogs threatened or menaced pedestrians and/or other dogs who were properly leashed. A discussion ensued between Mrs. Juckett, the Village Justice, and the Police Chief regarding who handles complaints and how the Village Court processes cases that are brought by the Animal Control Officer (ACO) or Police Dept. It was noted that the Police Dept. will respond and process cases where they observe aggressive behavior or if there is a public safety issue, but that the ACO was responsible for handling cases where the behavior is purported to have occurred previously/in the past.

Trustee Hyatt thanked the Granville PTO for their efforts in coordinating the recent "Trunk or Treat" event at the Granville Elementary School. He noted a huge turnout of children, with many businesses and individuals providing treats and special displays for the kids. He also recognized the Granville Engine & Hose Company for their assistance in repairing several strands of lights on the Christmas Tree in Veterans Park. He noted that the Department's participation was essential to accomplishing the repair.

There was no other public comment.

At 7:40pm, Deputy Mayor Smith sponsored a motion to convene an Executive Session concerning a matter pertaining to contract negotiations within the Police Dept. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. *The Village Attorney accompanied the Board into the Executive Session for its entirety.*

At 8:20pm, 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 decisions were made during the Executive Session, nor did any matters need to be advanced as a result of discussions therein. He wished all in attendance a Happy Thanksgiving, and solicited a motion to close the meeting.

Trustee Hyatt moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20pm. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer