

**Village Board Meeting
January 8th, 2024, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center**

Agenda

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call to Order
3. Ratify Meeting Minutes (12/4)
4. Monthly Reports
5. Appropriations
 - General Fund
 - Water Fund
 - Sewer Fund
 - Senior Shuttle
 - Unaudited Claims
6. Budget Transfers, ARPA
7. Resolution—Set Date, Time Place for Village Election
8. Resolution—Recreation Funding (Pickleball Courts)
9. Request for Exemption—Animal Control Law (GCS)
10. Coin Drop Requests
11. Review 2024-25 Budget Process
12. Mayor's Reports
 - A. Final Tractor Parade Report
 - B. Other
13. Public Comment
14. Executive Session
15. Adjournment

Village Board Meeting
December 4th, 2023, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center

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

Village Key Staff: Police Chief Ernie Bassett Jr., Fire Chief Michael Zinn, Assistant Chief Keith Seebode, Village Justice Roger Forando, Local Ordinance Officer Curtis Pedone, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Dee Scarlotta and Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts

Press: Matt Sarri, *NYVT Media*

Others: Mr. Matthew Rollwagen, Mr. Matt Hicks, Town Supervisor, Mr. Steve and Mrs. Felicia Dougherty, Mr. George Demas, Mr. Dan Williams, Mr. David and Mrs. Kathy Juckett, Mr. John and Mrs. Linda Freed, Mr. Connor Hoagland, Mr. Peter Kischak, and Mr. Nate Lewis

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 Hyatt moved ratification of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 6th as posted to the Village website. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: The Mayor reviewed the following reports with the Board: Fire Dept., Police Dept., Village Court, Water Dept. (3 samples taken, all satisfactory), Dog Control, and Local Ordinance Officer. Deputy Mayor moved that the reports be accepted as read. Trustee Davies 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:	\$184,471.10
Water Fund:	\$17,990.64
Sewer Fund:	\$42,167.62
Senior Shuttle:	\$1,493.92
Unaudited	
Vouchers:	<u>\$5,468.56</u>

Total Claims: \$251,591.84

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

Budget Transfers: The Clerk-Treasurer circulated a memo requesting a single budget transfer in the General Fund to address the recent billing from the NYS Retirement System:

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

A90108 Retirement Costs (ERS)	+\$27,100.00	Reinstatement of Village Attorney
A31201 Police Dept. P/S	-\$27,100.00	Cure above shortfall

Deputy Mayor Smith moved approval of the transfer as presented. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Authorize Mayor to Execute Contract—South Granville Fire District: For many years, the Board has authorized the Mayor to execute the contract with the Town of Granville to allow the Granville Engine & Hose Company to provide fire protection to the South Granville Fire District. The Mayor generally consults with the Village Attorney and/or Fire Chief if there are any changes seen beyond dates, syntax, or the contract amount. Subject to these parameters, Trustee Hyatt moved that the Mayor be so authorized in keeping with past practice. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

- A. Holiday Committee—Final Report: the Mayor asked the Village Clerk to brief the Board concerning the Village/Chamber of Commerce's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. The Clerk provided a report detailing the number of children served (314), approximate attendance (1,250-1,500), and various logistical details. He thanked the DPW, Police Dept., and Fire Dept. for their support, as well as the Volunteer Committee, Chamber, Great Meadow Federal Credit Union and others. The Mayor and Board commented that the Village decorations looked nice this year and wished everyone in Granville a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season.
- B. Tractor Parade Update: Mayor Labas advised that the Tractor Parade was next up on the Village Calendar. It is scheduled for Saturday night (December 9th) and he noted that some 67 entries had been received to date. The Mayor commented that this was always a fun family event that is well attended. The early weather forecast looks favorable. The Mayor thanked Tractor Parade co-chairs Paul Garrone and Krystle Morey for their efforts, and wished all entrants well. He expects that this event will be a great time.
- C. Ratify New Member—Granville Engine & Hose Company #1: The Mayor advised that he had received a memo from Fire Dept. Chief Mike Zinn this morning requesting that the Village ratify a new member previously approved by the Company's membership. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Hyatt moved the ratification of Robert Dienst as recommended by the Department. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- D. Authorize DPW Superintendent to Execute Contract—Casella Waste Management: The Mayor advised that the DPW Superintendent had been negotiating proposed terms for Casella Waste Management to haul sludge from the Wastewater Treatment Plant to a landfill in Franklin County. The proposed contract term is for a period of three years. The Mayor advised that the price would be increasing by \$5/ton, but that he felt that this was acceptable in the present inflationary environment. Trustee Hyatt agreed and sponsored a motion to allow the DPW Superintendent to execute the contract as requested, subject to

review of legal counsel as necessary. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- E. Reminder—Parking Ban in Effect: Mayor Labas reiterated that the Village Parking Ban had taken effect on November 1st. He thanked constituents for doing a good job in respecting the parking restrictions to date, and reminded those in attendance that this was an important consideration pertaining to public safety.

The Mayor opened the Meeting to public comment at 7:15pm.

Mr. Dan Williams advised that the Slate Valley Museum had hired a contractor who will place additional electrical outlets to avoid having to use extension cords, etc. as noted in a recent insurance inspection. He advised that the necessary upgrades would be completed before Christmas. The Board thanked Mr. Williams for his report and for getting this issue handled.

Justice Forando asked if the Board would be making any appointments pertaining the Village Court this evening. Mayor Labas advised that the Board would be discussing this matter in Executive Session and that he would discuss it with the Judge following consultation with the Board.

There was no further public input.

At 7:20pm, Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the Board convene an Executive Session to consider several potential applications for employment. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

At 8:00pm, Trustee Hyatt moved that the Board return to regular session. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Trustee Hyatt moved the hiring of Walter Bixby to the position of DPW Laborer part-time at a rate of \$20/Hr. The hire would be conditional on passage of a localized background check. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Smith moved the hire of Norman Bogart to the position of Crossing Guard at a rate of \$15/Hr., subject to a localized background check. Trustee Hyatt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Labas extended Holiday Greetings to all in attendance. He also recognized Town Supervisor Matt Hicks for his many years of service and noted that Granville had been well-served during his tenure.

At 8:05pm, Deputy Mayor Smith moved that the Meeting be adjourned. Trustee Davies seconded the motion and it carried without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer

APPROPRIATIONS

January 8, 2024

GENERAL: \$ 34,404.50

SEWER: \$ 23,506.06

WATER: \$ 9,493.63

SENIOR SHUTTLE: \$ 1,059.24

UNAUDITED VOUCHERS: \$ 4,380.93

TOTAL.....\$ 72,844.36

Proposed Budget Transfers/Amendment

January 8, 2024

The following transfers are recommended for the General Fund to allow for the appropriation associated with the new awning for the Slate Valley Museum. These transfers pertain strictly to the ARPA monies received through the Federal Government:

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

A4960	Federal Aid, ARPA	+\$2,764.50	Show Federal Aid, ARPA
A79894	SVM Contractual Expense	+\$2,764.50	Show purchase of new awning

Your approval of the above transfers is requested this evening to allow us to proceed. If you have any questions or require any further information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treas.

**Resolution #1 of January, 2024
Set Polling Location and Hours—Village Election
January 8, 2024**

On a motion by Trustee _____, seconded by Trustee _____, the following Resolution was advanced for the Village Board of Trustees' consideration:

Whereas, there will be a Special Village Election in 2024 to fill the unexpired term of Lisa Ackert, Trustee on March 19th, and

Whereas, the Village Board wishes to comply with Election Law Section 15-104(3) pertaining to the establishment of polling location(s) and hours of voting, and

Whereas, the Village Board expects a low to moderate turnout in conjunction with the present election cycle, now

Therefore, be it so **R**esolved, that the Village Board hereby declares that the Village Municipal Center shall be the sole polling location for the Village Election of March 19th, 2024, with polling hours established as 12:00 noon to 9:00pm.

The Resolution carried via the following roll call vote:

Mayor Paul Labas	_____
Deputy Mayor Gordon Smith Jr.	_____
Trustee Dean Hyatt	_____
Trustee Denise Davies	_____
Trustee Dan Brown	_____

Thus, Mayor Labas declared the Resolution duly adopted.

I solemnly affirm that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the proceedings as adopted on January 8, 2024 by the Granville Village Board of Trustees.

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer

**Resolution #2 of January, 2024
Recreation Funding—Pickleball Courts
January 8th, 2024**

On a motion by Trustee _____, seconded by Trustee _____ the following Resolution was offered for consideration:

Whereas, the Village and Town of Granville appropriate funding annually into a Joint Account for the purposes of Recreative Activities for youth, seniors and families, and

Whereas, the Village has obtained a grant from the Granville Community Foundation in the amount of \$22,500.00 to construct two (2) Pickleball Courts in Mettowee Park, and

Whereas, Pickleball is a popular, fast-growing sport in many local communities and across the nation, and

Whereas, one of the stated goals in the Village's Recreation Plan adopted through a public process as a result of the RERC Grant was to place pickleball courts locally, and

Whereas, there is an ample fund balance seen in the Joint Recreation Fund to partially fund construction of the courts without excessive depletion, and

Whereas, the Village Board hopes to encourage different forms of recreation in the Mettowee Park in order to promote healthy choices, exercise, and social/recreational choices for its constituents, now

Therefore, be it so **R**esolved, that the Village Board approves the appropriation of \$7,500 from the Recreation Fund for said purpose, and requests that the Town Board consider the same.

The Resolution carried by the following roll-call vote:

Mayor Paul Labas	_____
Deputy Mayor Gordon Smith Jr.	_____
Trustee Dean Hyatt	_____
Trustee Dan Brown	_____
Trustee Densie Davies	_____

Mayor Labas thus declared the above Resolution to be duly adopted.

The foregoing represents a true and accurate copy of the proceedings carried at the Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees conducted on Monday, January 8th at 7:00pm at the Village Municipal Center.

Richard H. Roberts, Village Clerk



Granville Agriculture Program



The Granville Agricultural Program has grown into a thriving, vibrant program that services over 60% of the student population in the Jr/Sr High school. We continue to offer extension programs to GES and MJT, both by visiting them as well as inviting them to our annual "Ag Fair."

For Granville CSD to continue to grow as an agriculture program and to allow our students to have hands-on experience in the fields most prevalent in our area, we need to be able to implement livestock into our curriculum. Without having an educational exemption, I have not pursued funding to incorporate this: however, I believe it will be an obtainable goal.

If the educational exemption is provided for either the school, myself (as a certified agriculture instructor), or for FFA as a whole, I plan on starting with a small (20-25 birds) flock of laying hens housed primarily in one of the wind tunnels behind the school, but pastured using solar powered fencing when weather permits. Students will use the birds for husbandry, handling, training, and also be able to market and sell the eggs in our FFA Store in school, following the USDA guidelines.

Should the program continue to grow and thrive, I would like to have the option to pursue funding for a small barn on campus for a few live-in but primarily visiting animals for specific units.

Suggested amendment; *"An educational exemption will be allowed on the basis that the livestock reside on the GSD Campus with oversight from a GSD employed certified Agricultural Instructor."*

- This keeps the exemption closed to only the Agriculture Program
- Animals from the program are only exempt while living on the campus
- The opportunity to grow as a program as funding becomes available
- The flexibility to move the program in the direction of current trends, interests, and the integration of industry specific hardware.

Educational Exemption for Agriculture Programs

The Smith Hughes Act of 1917

The Smith Hughes Act enacted in 1917 provided federal support to educating students in vocational education. All programs were expected to be available to public school students, and to encompass a 50% hands-on component in their education.

Purpose of Animal Education:

"Animal agriculture is a significant portion of U.S. agriculture. Related research, education and extension activities are continually changing to address new challenges and opportunities brought about by rapidly advancing technologies, evolving consumer demand, and the need to make positive contributions to environmental, human, and animal health."

Source: <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/animal-programs>

Positive Career Outlook Nationwide:

<https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2015/article/working-with-animals.htm>

"A career in animal science makes you part of one of the biggest industries in the world! U.S. agriculture alone is a \$992 billion business, and animal agriculture is a large component of U.S. agriculture, employing large numbers of animal science graduates. According to a study initiated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Purdue University, results show that more than 57,900 annual job openings for new graduates between 2015 and 2020, and some 35,400 qualified graduates available each year for these positions resulting in a shortage. For this reason employment opportunities for agricultural scientists are expected to be optimistic."

Source: https://animalscience.cahnr.uconn.edu/ansc_graduate_employment/

Precedent Set in Major Cities:

Chicago - <https://itstartswithag.com/>

Philadelphia

-<https://www.philasd.org/saul/wp-content/uploads/sites/655/2017/09/Animal-Science.pdf>

New York City - https://www.johnbowne.org/m/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=65010&type=d

Matriculation Agreement with SUNY Schools:

-Granville Animal Science Pathway currently holds a matriculation agreement with SUNY Cobleskill, offering students up to 9 credits.

-Currently pursuing agreements with SUNY Morrisville and Delaware Valley University

Verbiage from Other Village/City Ordinances:

Generally accepted:

"This section does not apply to livestock that is part of a recognized educational program such as FFA or 4-H."

Connecticut State Recommendation for Local Ordinances:

"Student projects involving the keeping of farm animals are authorized by right subject to issuance of a certificate of zoning compliance. The application for approval of the certificate of zoning compliance shall include the certification by the 4H Club Agent of the Cooperative Extension System or a qualified school instructor or project manager that the applicant's Statement of Use and Animal Management Plan comprehensively describes the proposed project, including shelter provisions, outside confinement areas and manure management; protects animal welfare and is expected to have no potential adverse environmental and neighborhood impacts."

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOAG/Commish_and_Gov/LivestockGuidanceBookWEB-002-FINAL.pdf

Caldwell, ID:

(4) Livestock:

A. Commercial Livestock Use: The raising of livestock for the specific purpose of selling the livestock or livestock products (such as milk, meat, eggs, etc.) represents commercial livestock use. Such use requires compliance with the base standards in this section, approval of a special use permit and compliance with all conditions placed upon the approved special use permit. The raising of animals for youth development activities involving 4-H or Future Farmers Of America (FFA) and the sale of such animals shall not be considered a commercial use.

6. Exceptions to minimum lot size:

(A) Animals classified as livestock within this section may be kept on less than one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) acre for educational purposes, such as 4-H or FFA as long as the performance standards listed above are complied with. The specified maximum animal density allowed for one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) acre shall not be exceeded for such educational uses.

https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/caldwellid/latest/caldwell_id/0-0-0-16111

Indiatown, Florida:

*(d) Any student with a 4-H or FFA project may request an exemption. **(from village ordinances)***

https://library.municode.com/fl/indiatown/codes/charter,_comprehensive_plan_and_land_development_regulations?nodeId=PTIIIAP_APXBLADERE_CH1GEPR

Other news articles:

<https://www.wwaytv3.com/havelock-high-school-gets-two-dwarf-goats-after-board-approves-animals-in-schools/pic/1573769/>

New York State already has in place some of the most stringent requirements for having animals in the classroom;

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/EDN/809>

2001 Release from NY DOE on a successful Agriculture Program in a Local Public High School

<https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/career-technical-education/agricultural-education-equipment-and-facilities-guide.pdf>

**Major takeaways:* with the CTE standard that 50% of all education should be hands-on, the each pathway is given a list of what would be best practices, for only the Animal Science Class with 12 students and an Equine Science emphasis, the following is listed; *"Stable area, 1500 sq. ft.; outdoor area, 3000 sq. ft; race track at least 3/8 mil; Stables for 10 horses with the following for each horse: Min. box stall 10' x 10', stable working area at least 15'x 10' for all weather use"* (pg 15)



December 22, 2023

Village of Granville
Mayor Paul Labas
51 Quaker St.
Granville, NY 12832

Dear Mayor Labas,

The Granville Little League Board of Directors recently met and discussed our upcoming season for this Spring. In preparation for the 2024 Granville Little League Season, we are requesting approval from the Village Board of Trustees to hold our annual coin drop and Parade.

As you are aware, the coin drop is a major fundraiser for our program and has traditionally been held the Saturday before the opening day Parade. This year, the opening day parade is Sunday, April 28. We are requesting Saturday, April 27th for the coin drop.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request, if additional information is required, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Paul Garrone
President
Granville Little League



NEW YORK FFA
ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS
GRANVILLE CHAPTER

c/o Sally Aldous
42 Dibble Lane
Granville, NY 12832

December 13, 2023

Granville Village Board
Village of Granville Municipal Building
51 Quaker Street
P.O. Box 208
Granville, NY 12832

Dear Village Board Members:

We are writing to request permission to do a coin-drop in the Village of Granville as a fundraiser for the Granville FFA Alumni and Supporters. Our organization helps to cover expenses that the local FFA Chapter incurs throughout the year. Some of these expenses include Official Dress and expenses related to attending the FFA National Convention, which is being held this October in Indianapolis, Indiana. At this time, it is looking like it may cost each student upwards of \$1,000 to attend the National Convention and we would like to help offset the amount that individual students will be required to come up with in order to attend.

The approval of a coin drop in the village of Granville would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Officers of Granville FFA Alumni and Supporters
Andrea Rathbun, President (kayakcrew@gmail.com)
Stephanie Browe, Vice President (stephbrowe8@gmail.com)
Sally Aldous, Treasurer (salad@icloud.com, jrlloomis@comcast.net)



January 1, 2024

Rick Vladyka
155 Beecher Rd.
Granville, N.Y. 12832

Village of Granville
51 Quaker St.
Granville, N.Y. 12832

Dear Village Board,

I'm writing to respectfully request authorization to conduct a coin drop in 2024 to benefit the Granville High School Trap Club. The Trap Club was established in 2018, is completely self-funded and has been extremely successful since its inception.

The Trap Club serves as far more than an avenue toward marksmanship. The participating students are held to a much higher than the normal standard of behavior. They are required to participate in community events, perform community services. The students are taught safe and responsible firearms handling along with avenues to promote safety. The program has proven to instill positive values and leadership skills in our next generation of leaders.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick Vladyka', is written over a light gray background.

Rick Vladyka, Trap Coach

Granville Area Food Pantry
PO Box 352
Granville, N.Y. 12832

December 18, 2023

Dear Mr. Roberts,

I am writing this to request that our local food pantry be allowed to conduct a coin drop in the village in 2024 to benefit the food insecure in our area. Could we be scheduled on May 4 or June 8 or any other Saturday that works for the village?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Syndy Anoe".

Syndy Anoe

Granville Area Food Pantry Coordinator

518 955 5551

buddymunster3@aol.com

granville@roadrunner.com

From: Matthew James <mjames9112@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 1, 2024 12:35 PM
To: Village Clerk
Subject: Coin drop

Hi my name is Matt James and I am the president of the Granville youth football program and we are a non profit organization. We are submitting this letter to the village board to ask if we could hold a coin drop on July 13th from 9 am- 1 pm and if there is rain that day, we would like to use July 20th for a rain date for the same times. We have done this for many years in the past and hope we can still do it to help the kids and organization out . If this passes through the board could you let me know by email mjames9112@yahoo.com or call my cell phone at (518)955-8289

Sent from my iPhone
Sent from my iPhone

January 3, 2024

Granville Village Board

51 Quaker Street

Granville, NY 12832

Dear Mayor Labas and Board of Trustees,

On behalf of the Granville High School After Prom Committee I would like to extend our sincerest appreciation for allowing us to hold coin drops in the Village each year. We are committed to providing our students with an opportunity to attend a safe and fun event following their high school prom. Our event is held at the high school and is supervised by volunteers with assistance from school personnel. The coin drop has proven to be one of our best sources of fundraising and I am happy to report that in 2023 we raised \$3,475.00 to help offset the costs of the After Party. We live in a generous community and donors realize the importance of supporting our student population and keeping them safe.

I am requesting approval to hold a coin drop in the month of April to allow us time to fully prepare for the May event. Should you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration and wishing each of you a Happy New Year.

Bridget Sheldrick-Humphries



Chair GHS After Prom Committee

GranvilleAfterProm@yahoo.com

802-779-4964

Overview—2024-25 Budget Process
Village of Granville

- **January:** Budget Officer will reach out to Village Dept. Heads
- **February:** Board presented with working copy of Village Budget
- **Mid-February:** Budget Workshop
- **March:** Presentation of Tentative Budget (Budget then remains static for 30 days)
- **April:** Public Hearing, Budget Ratification

Tractor Parade Report, 2023

- 75 Tractors Registered/Entered/Paid
 - 68 Tractors Participated
 - Attendance estimated at 7,000-8,000
 - \$1,600+ in prizes awarded to participants
 - Donation of Cash and Goods/Food provided to the Granville Food Pantry
-
- Thank you to our DPW, Police Dept. and Volunteers for providing traffic control, signage, cones, and aiding public safety
 - Thank you to Paul Garrone & Krystal Morey for their efforts in coordinating the route, soliciting prizes, finding judges, and Managing the event
 - Thanks to Telescope for allowing the use of their facilities to line up the parade