



Village of Hyde Park Board of Trustees

Minutes of January 13, 2021

The duly warned regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees was electronically held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Trustees Present: Chair Riki French, Jack Anderson, Peter Gallo and Dan Young

Staff: Carol Robertson, General Manager and Karen Wescom, Clerk/Treasurer

Others: Elizabeth Fenn and Sue Trainor

Chair Riki French called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. There were no public comments. Two items were added to the agenda: response to Selectboard minutes and scrapping of the digger.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to approve the minutes of November 11, 2020. The motion carried.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to approve the minutes of December 17, 2020. The motion carried.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to approve the minutes of December 23, 2020. The motion carried.

There was a review and discussion of Gary Mallo's message of concern about traffic speed and accidents along Hwy 15 coming from the direction of Morrisville to the roundabout. His home is across from the Lamoille Valley Veterinarian Office. His message stated that he has witnessed at least a dozen accidents in front of our house since he moved here, and with several in the last month. He is not certain that all the accidents are reported since he often sees the vehicles drive away. The speed limit is 50 mph by his house and he believes that the speed limit needs to be reduced drastically by the time you enter the village on Route 15. The GM responded to Mr. Mallo and connected him with the Town Administrator, noting the Town roadway system and integration with state roads falls within the authority of the Town.

The Chair and Clerk/Treasurer reported that no letters of interest to fill the vacant Trustee seat had been received. The GM was directed to repost on social media a request for letters of interest from citizens, with a deadline of 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

Following review, discussion and amendment of the Development Review Board, motion by Dan Young and second by Jack Anderson to approve the following resolution titled Board Resolution, Development Review Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Board Resolution, Development Review Board

On December 31, 2020, with grateful appreciation for diligent and dedicated service to the Village of Hyde Park, the Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Charlie Aronovici, which encompasses the Village Trustee position on Village Development Review Board, where he served as Chair for over five years. Jack Anderson volunteered to temporarily serve the DRB in the Trustee position until June 2021.

Further, the Board of Trustees reaffirms the members of the Village DRB and with appreciation for their continuing service to the Village of Hyde Park.

Paul Trudell	2-year term, Initial appointment June, 2015	<u>Term Expires June 2021</u>
Adam Lory	2-year term, Initial appointment June, 2015	<u>Term Expires June 2021</u>
Ken McPherson	3-year term, Initial appointment Dec. 2018	<u>Term Expires June 2023</u>
Tom Weeks	2-year term, Initial appointment, June 2018	<u>Term Expires June 2022</u>
Jack Anderson	3-year term, Village Trustee position	<u>Term Expires June 2021</u>

OPEN POSITION Alternate

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..... end of Board Resolution

The Zoning Administrator Resolution was presented and needs discussed.

Pursuant to Title 24 : Municipal And County Government, Chapter 117 : Municipal And Regional Planning And Development Subchapter 009 : Adoption, Administration, And Enforcement (Cite as: 24 V.S.A. § 4448), motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to appoint Carol Robertson, who currently serves as Acting Administrative Officer, as the Assistant Administrative Officer. It shall be the policy of the Village of Hyde Park that the authorities, responsibilities and duties of the Assistant Administrative Officer are determined by Zoning Administrator Karen Wescom. The Assistant Administrative Officer will assume the role of the zoning administrator in the event that the Zoning Administrator is unable to accomplish her duties in a timely manner.

..... end of the Zoning Resolution

The Chair gave a report on activities and initiatives of the Lamoille County Planning Commission, to include the development of Racial Equity Statements, Fiber-Net Feasibility Studies and Regional Planning Committee work on the 2023 Comprehensive Plan.

Under agenda item Village Development Issues, the GM presented a review of zoning statutes and Zoning Board Resolutions which require approval by the Board of Trustees. Dan Young called attention to continuing erosion damage to Sylvan Road due to stormwater running under Route 100. Mr. Young noted that minor work was done in the past, yet it did not stop erosion or the mitigate damage to Sylvan Road due to the erosion. A review of the Town website showed that a Town grant for Sylvan Road was cancelled by the Selectboard and Sylvan Road is not included in current stormwater project plans. Mr. Young called out the potential danger due to the pitch of the road and potential for collapse. He asked for support to repair this stormwater issue.

The GM gave a brief review of utility operations. She reported that Utilities Working Foreman John Strek set October 1 as his target date for retirement. John will assist in recruitment, training and orientation of his replacement. We expect requirements for a wastewater certified operator and a water certified operator to necessitate additional expenses following John's retirement. Hyde Park will miss John Strek. The GM gave high praise and appreciation for John's skills, ability and dedicated work serving Hyde Park. Trustees expressed their appreciation to John Strek and recognized him as an exceptional foreman. The GM discussed coming Public Utility Commission, Department and legislative initiatives. She reported that social media reach has increased by five percent over the past 28 days.

There was a review and discussion of responses to Selectboard minutes of December 21, 2020. By consensus, the matter was tabled until the February meeting. The GM reported that the digger truck was scrapped because it was not operational for utility use due to age and condition.

The GM and Trustees thanked Karen Wescom for serving Hyde Park. Karen is an exceptional employee who has taken on new and difficult duties with distinction, and we are most grateful.

There being no further business, motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion carried.

Riki French, Chair

Date