



VILLAGE OF HYDE PARK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of October 14, 2020

The duly warned regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees was electronically held on October 14, 2020.

Trustees Present: Riki French, Chair, Jack Anderson, Charlie Aronovici, Peter Gallo and Dan Young
Others: Carol Robertson, General Manager

Chair Riki French called the regular meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and opened the floor for public comments. There were none. There were two additions to the agenda. The GM requested the reappointment of Karen Wescom as Village Clerk. The Chair requested that the Board discuss Charlie Aronovici's decision to resign as Trustee.

The Chair opened the floor for the election of the Chair. Motion by Peter Gallo and second by Jack Anderson to elect Riki French Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

Under the Chair's report, the GM discussed the addition of a "Messages to the Board" feature on the official municipal website www.villageofhydepark.com. This feature offers a convenient way for communicating with the Board in a way similar to Open Public Comments.

The floor was opened for Trustees to bring village issues and concerns to the Board's attention. There was a discussion about speeding on Main Street. Peter Gallo announced that he volunteered to serve and was appointed by the Selectboard to a new county policing committee that will work with Sheriff Marcoux. Dan Young discussed life safety concerns due to the continuing erosion of Sylvan Road at the intersection of the culvert under Route 15 and Sylvan Road.

Motion by Peter Gallo and second by Jack Anderson to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March 11, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting, April 1, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting, April 10, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Peter Gallo and second by Jack Anderson to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, September 9, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

The Draft 2020-2025 Town and Village Hazard Mitigation Plan was reviewed, as well as the recommended additions by the Planning Commission. Motion by Peter Gallo and second by Dan Young to agree with the Village Planning Commission in all regards. As Hyde Park Electric Commissioners, the Board of Trustees recommends the addition of the following statement:

To promote a more resilient community, we support municipal utility investment in renewable technologies, to include alternative electric generation technologies, as well as solar combined with technologies capable of storing total generation. We support an individual's right to provide for their energy needs with solar and battery back-up in a manner that does not shift cost to other ratepayers or residual energy back to the distribution and transmission grid.

The motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion and consideration of the electric department's high arrears due to the pandemic and disconnection moratorium, motion by Jack Anderson and second by Charlie Aronovici to inform the Public Utility Commission that in 2021 Hyde Park Electric would use Hyde Park Solar, Waterhouse Project renewable energy certificates to satisfy both Renewable Energy Standard requirements for Tier 2 and Tier 3. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to approve the Allonge offered by the Union Bank and authorize Trustee signatures on the document shown below:

ALLONGE FOR ATTACHMENT TO NOTE It is mutually desirable and agreeable to the parties hereto that the terms of a certain Municipal Corporation Note (hereinafter called "Note") #5701002501 dated October 6, 2017, in the original amount of \$30,688.00, executed by Village of Hyde Park, Inc. State of Vermont (hereinafter called "Borrower") to the order of the Union Bank (hereinafter called "Bank") be amended in the following particulars. Effective October 14, 2020, the maturity date shall be extended from October 16, 2020 to October 16, 2021. Furthermore, effective October 16, 2020, the interest rate shall be adjusted from the current rate of 1.98% to a rate of 1.49%. All other terms and conditions remain the same. It is further understood and agreed that all other terms and conditions of said Note not be modified hereby; they shall be and remain the same and that this Allonge, when executed by Borrower and Bank, shall be attached to and become a part of said Note, and shall have the same force and effect as if the terms and conditions hereof were originally incorporated in said Note prior to its execution. Dated this 14th day of October, 2020.

The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to send the electricity bill for Grange Hall located in North Hyde Park to the Town of Hyde Park for payment. The motion carried unanimously.

There was a consensus to replace broken Christmas bulbs with LED bulbs, and not to add more lights or other holiday decorations in 2021.

The General Manager gave a review of Utilities, Work Plan and Operations, to include the Public Utility Commission approval of the required new Pole Attachment Tariff to comply with the PUC's order. She discussed the Net Metering Objection filed in response to the Public Utility Commission's Case Number 20-2421-NMR. She discussed the October 16, Annual Net Metering Report which is a new annual requirement of the Public Service Department to Hyde Park Electric so that the PSD can respond to the PUC pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8010. The report will be provided to Trustees and discussed at the next Board Meeting. There was a discussion and update on Wastewater Improvements and Water Improvements. The GM noted that the website www.villageofhydepark.com contains an information link on the home page Public Notice bulletin board. She shared and discussed the Public Utility Commission, Moratorium Restrictions, effective October 15. This will require that we revise the Disconnection Form and obtain PUC approval of the revised form. She discussed the Vermont COVID-19 Arrearage Assistance Program and the administrative difficulties due to delays and changes coming from the PSD. The PSD site has not yet been fully functional, yet the office has approved over sixteen applicants. The VW funded VTrans PEV Incentive Program providing incentives for purchasing or leasing electric vehicles was discuss as well as the additional funding and continuance of the program requiring us to sign a new agreement. There was a review of Village social media and efforts to improve communications with the community that we serve. All social media including the official municipal website were created by and are administered entirely by inhouse staff.

Motion by Peter Gallo and second by Jack Anderson to appoint Karen Wescom to continue serving as Village Clerk. The motion carried unanimously.

Riki French led a discussion about steps to notify residents of an open Trustee position, as well as how to apply by letter of interest and next steps by the Board. It was decided by consensus that the process would extend over several months and utilize social media and postings.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo. The motion carried.

Riki French

Date