

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Palatine Bridge Board was held on April 15, 2024. In attendance were Mayor James F. Post, Trustees Susan Barker, Peter Briele, Sarah Davidson and Aaron Rorick, DPW Supt. Rodney Sutton, CEO Anthony Howland and Clerk Emily Shults. There was no one present from the public and the meeting was called to order at 6:37pm.

Public comment was opened for the public hearing for the review of the 2024-2025 Budget. Trustee Sarah Davidson asked if the Celebrations code could be increased for her and Trustee Susan Barker to plan some things this year. It was agreed to up the Celebrations code A7989.4 by \$1200 to give a total of \$2000. The Contingency Fund would be reduced by \$1200. Trustee Sarah Davidson made a motion to close the public hearing and it was seconded by Trustee Susan Barker.

The Code Officer's Report was reviewed. CEO Anthony Howland met with Will Nieves from New Leaf Solar regarding Staley Road as an access road. Mr. Howland told Mr. Nieves that a building permit for the privacy fence will be needed. CEO Howland will look into the situation further to find out if a permit is needed for the access road. Trustee Davidson mentioned having Attorney Ayers add language in the agreement about the access road and how the Village would like it done. Trustee Susan Barker asked about the \$35000 Escrow and mentioned that it will be in an interest-bearing account. The Town agreed not to approve the solar project until there is an agreement with the Village and Solar Company. Trustee Barker asked CEO Howland if there is a noise ordinance for a concern that was brought to her attention. There is no noise ordinance, the police can be called. Trustee Aaron Rorick noticed the Citgo Gas Station is under new ownership and some updates are being made there.

The minutes for the March meeting were amended on the motion of Trustee Davidson, seconded by Trustee Rorick to add the exit of the executive session in the minutes. The minutes were approved by Trustee Sarah Davidson and seconded by Trustee Aaron Rorick. Mayor James F. Post brought up a recommendation to move \$50,000 from the General Fund Checking to the General Fund Savings to help gain more interest. A motion was made to move \$50,000 from the General Fund Checking to the General Fund Savings by Trustee Aaron Rorick and seconded by Trustee Peter Briele. The Treasurer's Report was approved on the motion made by Trustee Susan Barker, seconded by Trustee Peter Briele.

The DPW Superintendent's Report was reviewed. Mr. Sutton stated that the softeners at the Well House have been giving him and Joe Falsarella lots of problems. The timer went bad, then the motor was bad and took almost the whole week to fix it. It is a 20-year-old system and DPW Supt. Sutton is waiting on a quote from Countryman to clean and update some things. Mayor Post and Trustee Rorick both agreed that updates are probably needed with an old system and Mayor Post suggested contacting Lamont to see if they have anyone to contact. Mayor James F. Post asked Mr. Sutton to cover up the fire hydrant on East Grand Street and put a reflective flag on another one. DPW Supt. Rod Sutton did a walk through with DOT on the sidewalk project. Some corrections and work will need to be done. Mr. Sutton checked with DOT about a crosswalk for Dunkin, they recommended it go in front of Price Chopper to NAPA and down a sidewalk in front of Dunkin. Lamont will write a letter to DOT to get written confirmation on the crosswalk and lowering of the speed all through there. Paving at the Well House can be done now or when the weather is better.

Old business was discussed. The Town Solar was discussed, and Solar Street lights will continue to be tabled.

New business was discussed, and the Historical Homeowner's Credit presentation will be held at the May Board Meeting at 6pm. The garbage tags will be starting June 1st. The Grant for the basement is still out. Trustee Peter Briele made a motion to pass the Budget with the change in the Celebrations Code and Contingency Fund of \$1200, seconded by Trustee Sarah Davidson. Trustee Aaron Rorick asked if the memos that were sent out with the Water Bills were put on social media or the website, Trustee Davidson said she thinks it would be good to put them on staggered as a "Did you Know" post. The Village is in good shape with the help of MVEDD for another grant. Applications for the Clerk/Treasurer position were reviewed, discussed and interviews will be set up.

Bills were audited and ordered paid on the motion of Trustee Susan Barker, seconded by Trustee Sarah Davidson.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33pm was made by Trustee Aaron Rorick and seconded by Trustee Peter Briele.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Shults
Village Clerk