

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY MAY 7, 2019
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The first of the bi-monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday May 7, 2019 beginning at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom of the Village Hall, 7 Stage Road, Monroe, New York. Mayor Neil Dwyer called the meeting to order and led in the pledge to the flag. Emergency exits were announced.

Present: Mayor Dwyer; Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Also present: Attorney Terhune, Village Clerk Baxter and Deputy Clerk Zahra

MINUTE APPROVAL: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF APRIL 1ST , MEETINGS OF APRIL 2ND & 16TH , PUBLIC HEARING OF APRIL 11TH AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF APRIL 29TH & 30TH :

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Behringer, the Organizational Meeting Minutes on April 1st were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Houle, the Minutes of the April 2nd 2019 Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

On a motion by Trustee Alley seconded by Trustee Houle, the Public Hearing Minutes of April 11th were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

On a motion by Trustee Behringer seconded by Trustee Houle, the Minutes of the April 16th Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None
Abstain: Trustee Conklin

On a motion by Trustee Alley seconded by Trustee Behringer, the Minutes of the April 29th Special Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None
Abstain: Trustee Conklin

On a motion by Trustee Houle seconded by Trustee Behringer, the Minutes of the April 30th Special Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None
Abstain: Trustee Conklin

BUDGETARY TRANSFERS / MODIFICATIONS:

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Houle, with all in favor, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorized the Treasurer to make the following fund transfers / modifications to balance the budget:

From:	Description	To:	Description	Amount
A.9950.960	Transfers Crane Park	A.7550.410	Celebrations	10,000.00
Budget Modifications				
A.1560	Safety Inspection Fees	A.1440.450	Engineering Contractual	2,832.75

A.2115	Planning Board Fees	A.8025.450	Plan Bd Engineer Contract	3,350.00
A.3501	CHIPS	A.5112.200	CHIPS Improvements	23,159.18
A.2705	Donations	A.7550.410	Celebrations	300.00
A.2260	Police Services	A.3120.412	PD Uniforms	363.50

COMPLETION OF PROBATIONARY PERIOD: OFFICER LINDELL, DISPATCHERS HALEY AND TROVATO:

On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, having exceeded the required probationary term required by Orange County Human Resources, the following employees have satisfactorily completed the probationary term and are hereby given permanent status for civil service requirements:

Daniel Lindell, Police Officer, effective April 18, 2019
Richard Haley, Dispatcher, effective March 29, 2019
Alexandra Trovato, P/T Dispatcher, effective Aril 23, 2019

The required MSD-426-B will be submitted to the Orange County Department of Human Resources.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

APPOINTMENT: BRIEN PENNELLA, P/T PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of Police Chief Melchiorre and appointed Brien Pennella to the position of part-time Parking Enforcement Officer, effective May 8, 2019 at an hourly salary of \$20.00 per hour. Mr. Pannella is currently a part-time dispatcher with the Town of Warwick Police Department, and has undergone the required Department background investigation, physical and drug screen.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

APPOINTMENT: JAILENE RAMIREZ, P/T DISPATCHER:

On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Behringer, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of Police Chief Melchiorre and appointed Jailene Ramirez to the position of part-time dispatcher, effective May 8, 2019 at a salary of \$18.73 per hour. Ms. Ramirez is currently an advisor with the Orange County Sheriff's Office explorer Post 5110, and has undergone the required Department background investigation, physical and drug screen.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

RESIGNATION: EMILY WHITMAN, MONROE JOINT PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION (MJPRC):

On a motion by Trustee Behringer, seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board accepted with regret the resignation of Emily Whitman from the Monroe Joint Park and Recreation Commission effective immediately. The Board expressed their appreciation of Ms. Whitman's dedication to the Commission since her joining in 2016 and wished her and her family well in their move from Monroe.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

APPOINTMENT: JOHN GILSTRAP, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Alley, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of Mayor Dwyer and appointed John Gilstrap, 332 North Main Street, Monroe, NY to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill one of the two vacant Alternate positions that currently exist on the ZBA. Mr. Gilstrap was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 4 year term, beginning June 1, 2019, expiring May 31, 2023.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Behringer, Conklin and Houle

Nays: None

APPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – FRANK PACE:

On a motion by Mayor Dwyer seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of Mayor Dwyer and appointed Frank Pace, 46 Moseman Road Yorktown, NY 10598 to the part-time position of Code Enforcement Officer effective immediately. Mr. Pace will work a minimum of 10 hours per week, up to a maximum of 20 hours, at an hourly salary of \$20/hour. Mr. Pace will focus specifically on property maintenance, fire inspections and rental inspections. Appointment is contingent upon pre-approval from Orange County Department of Human Resources.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle

Nays: None

EVENT APPLICATION: QUASQUICENTENNIAL FISHING DERBY:

The Quasquicentennial Committee, sponsored by Action in Monroe, submitted an event application to host a fishing derby in Crane Park on Saturday May 18, 2019 from 8am to 11am. The application has been reviewed and approved by the Building Department, the DPW and the Police Department. There are no additional costs for additional police protection as B Line officers will monitor the event for any potential traffic related issues. On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Alley, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the event application submitted by the Quasquicentennial Committee, sponsored by Action in Monroe, to host a fishing derby in Crane Park on Saturday May 18, 2019 from 8am to 11am. Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Monroe Fire District and Monroe Volunteer Ambulance Corp will be notified of the event when the approval letter is sent.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle

Nays: None

EVENT APPLICATION: 2019 VILLAGE OF MONROE FARMER'S MARKET:

On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the events application submitted by Trustee Dorey Houle for the Annual Village of Monroe Farmer's Market. The Market will begin on Sunday, June 2, 2019 and conclude on Sunday November 17, 2019. The Market will be open on Sundays from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM and will be located in the commuter parking lot on Millpond Parkway. The application has been reviewed and approved by the Building Department, the DPW and the Police Department. There are no additional costs for additional police protection or DPW services. The Police Department will close off the commuter lot every Saturday evening and re-open the commuter lot every Sunday after the event ends. B and C Line officers will monitor the event for any potential traffic issues. Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Monroe Fire District and Monroe Volunteer Ambulance Corp will be notified of the event when the approval letter is sent.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle

Nays: None

EVENT APPLICATION: QUASQUICENTENNIAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE:

The Quasquicentennial Committee, sponsored by the Village of Monroe, submitted an event application to host a community yard sale in the commuter parking on Millpond Parkway on Saturday, June 1, 2019 from 10am to 3pm. Setup for the event will begin at 8am. The application has been reviewed and approved by the Building Department, the DPW and the Police Department. The estimated cost of

additional Police Services is \$568.00 and includes one officer on 8 hours of O/T @ \$71.00/hr to assist with setup prior to the event, pedestrian crossings on Millpond Parkway during the event and break-down after the event. On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Behringer, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the event application submitted by the Quasiquicentennial Committee, sponsored by Village of Monroe, to host a community yard sale in the commuter parking lot on Saturday June 1, 2019 from 10 am to 3pm. Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Monroe Fire District and Monroe Volunteer Ambulance Corp will be notified of the event when the approval letter is sent.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

EVENT APPLICATION: 2019 VILLAGE OF MONROE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES:

Mayor Dwyer has submitted an event application for the 2019 Summer Concert Series featuring five (5) concerts, to be held at the north side of the Lake Street between the Mill Ponds on the following dates: June 29th, July 13th, July 27th, August 10th and August 17th. Concerts begin at 7PM and end at approximately 8:30PM, and in the case of rain, will be held the following Sunday beginning at 7pm. The application has been reviewed and approved by the Building Department, the DPW and the Police Department. The estimated cost of additional Police Services is \$1,065 for all 5 concerts and includes one officer on 3 hours of O/T @ \$71.00/hr per concert to close down Lake Street between Rt. 17M and Millpond Parkway as well as to assist with traffic control points. On a motion by Mayor Dwyer, seconded by Trustee Conklin, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the event application submitted by Mayor Dwyer for the 2019 Summer Concert Series featuring five (5) concerts, to be held at the north side of the Lake Street between the Mill Ponds on the following dates: June 29th, July 13th, July 27th, August 10th and August 17th. Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Monroe Fire District and Monroe Volunteer Ambulance Corp will be notified of the event when the approval letter is sent.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF PLANNING BOARD FEES / MONROE FREE LIBRARY:

In a letter to the Board of Trustees, Patricia Shanley, President of the Library Board for the Monroe Free Library, submitted a letter requesting a waiver of Planning Board fees in the amount of \$925.00 associated with the construction of a deck off the rear part of the library. The deck is to be used for outdoor programs and concerts which will be an asset to the community. Monroe Free Library is requesting the waiver because the library is a non-profit organization which is funded by the taxpayers. On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Behringer, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the request of the Monroe Free Library for a waiver of Planning Board fees totaling \$925.00 for the construction of a deck off the rear part of the library.

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Conklin, Behringer and Houle
Nays: None

UNPAID CHARGES LEVIED TO THE FY/2020 TAX ROLL:

On a motion by Mayor Dwyer, seconded by Trustee Houle, it was:

RESOLVED, per the requirement of Orange County Real Property Tax Service, the preparer of the June Village Tax Bills, the Board of Trustees authorized the Village Clerk to forward the following amounts to be levied to fiscal year 2020 June Village Tax:

Amount to be raised by taxes	\$7,169,844.00
Unpaid Water Charges (WR010)	\$209,475.05
Property Maintenance Charges (DM001) (2018 Lawn/Grass Violations)	2,006.63

The property maintenance charges (DM001) listed above pertain to the following properties: TM# 235-2-18/ 235-1-20 / 209-1-46 / 205-4-126 / 235-4-6 / 212-2-2 / 206-5-7

Ayes: Trustees Alley, Behringer, Conklin and Houle
Nays: None

VILLAGE SAFETY ASSESSMENT:

Mayor Dwyer stated that he asked Police Chief Melchiorre to attend the meeting to discuss a Village Safety Assessment that the Board has recognized that Village needs.

Chief Melchiorre stated that they are looking to address the facilities within the Village of Monroe, including Village Hall itself where they want to do a threat safety assessment at that location. Chief Melchiorre added that they also wish to do the Water Treatment Plant, inlets, pump house and gate house and address those issues. Chief Melchiorre also added the Village's Highway Department. He continued that the assessment would include the threat of possible chemical usage, equipment, safety and security. Mayor Dwyer added that it would involve cameras and alarms.

Chief Melchiorre continued that they have already started looking into grant opportunities to see if there is any funding for Mombasha Reservoir although he does not think there are any grant opportunities for Village Hall or the DPW. Chief Melchiorre advised the Board that Sergeant Krauss would be taking the lead on this assessment and they would get as much assistance from the outside as possible.

Mayor Dwyer stated there does seem to be more grant opportunities for water out there, and the Village has recently written two grants with the Town of Monroe and both are on assessment and vulnerability at the lake which needs to be controlled and restrict the access to.

DISCUSSION: INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT – VILLAGE OF MONROE & TOWN OF BLOOMING GROVE:

Mayor Dwyer stated that the Village is looking into entering into an inter-municipal with the Town of Blooming Grove. He continued that the Trustees have all been provided copies in their mailboxes and it has also been forwarded on to Attorney Terhune for review. Mayor Dwyer continued that the purpose of the IMA is to work cooperatively with the Town of Blooming Grove for certain services that they have expertise in, specifically tree cutting. Mayor Dwyer added that they have licensed arborists and tree cutters along with a certified bucket truck to come into the Village and assist with trees issues that have become a hazard in and around the Village. Mayor Dwyer stated that he had a conversation with Town of Blooming Grove Supervisor Rob Jeroloman, who has extended further services as well should the Village need them. Mayor Dwyer also stated that he hopes to get things wrapped up by next meeting so they can enter into this agreement.

Attorney Terhune requested that the Board review it, specifically the section of exhibits, which lay out the scope of work. Attorney Terhune added that the check marks that are included appear to be the work that the Mayor is proposing to be provided on occasion. Attorney Terhune added that she took a quick look at the language but she herself has only just received it, so she will take a more thorough look at it.

Trustee Conklin commented that she thinks it's fantastic to share services with another municipality.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Trustee Behringer commented that the 2019 Monroe Clean Sweep was a great success. She added that the Board members worked together along Rt. 208 by the old Joe's Fit-It location and it turned out really nice. Trustee Behringer continued that she hoped more people would take the initiative all year long to keep our community clean rather than just on Earth Day. It was nice to see people coming together to make our Village and Town look attractive.

Trustee Houle thanked the Monroe Police Department for their help with the Arbor Day celebration on April 28th at Smith's Clove Park. Officer Mahoney and Sergeant Guzman helped by digging some holes and planting some trees. They planted 3 seedlings in honor of the Village's Quasquicentennial Anniversary. Trustee Houle continued that two of them have nice, little buds on them, one looks like a Charlie Brown tree, so she hopes that it survives and they all grow into beautiful trees.

Trustee Houle also wanted to give kudos to Officer Dunn on his extension knowledge of truck inspections. Trustee Houle recently attended one of the Police Departments field trainings and the amount of knowledge that Officer Dunn has regarding truck inspections is absolutely amazing.

PUBLIC COMMENT: # PRESENT 13 TIME: 7:27 PM

Resident John Karl thanked the Board for getting the dates together for the spring hydrant flushing, it is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Karl asked if the DPW garage building on Maple Avenue had an alarm system in it and Mayor Dwyer replied that it did but wasn't sure if it was active or not. Mr. Karl responded that the Town of Chester recently had a serious mishap and luckily it happened at 8pm and their Police Department is right there so when the officers went outside, they saw it. Mr. Karl added that the timing as far as the seasons go, had it been in the dead of winter, you could have lost 4 or 5 plow trucks, it could be detrimental. If the fire alarm system is not set up, it should become a priority. Mayor Dwyer responded that he contacted Greg Townsend of Marshall & Sterling Insurance and asked him to put together a policy on it. Mayor Dwyer also stated that he reached out to the DPW Superintendent in Chester and offered the Village's services while they get things back in order.

Mr. Karl continued that he and the Mayor had met the day prior regarding the Town of Monroe's proposed conservative cluster residential housing that is within 1,500 to 1,600 feet of Village boundaries. Mr. Karl stated that he has some concerns over what they are proposing. Traffic is one of them. It used to be that Freeland, Spring and North Main Streets used to be gridlocked only on Friday nights. Now it is every single day. There are some concerns as to why they want to do it, and do it along Village boundaries. If that is the case, then why not let those properties be annexed into the Village. Mayor Dwyer responded that he attended the Town of Monroe meeting the night before but did not speak publically. Mayor Dwyer continued that a lot of what they talked about was addressed. One thing that the Town offered to do was to leave the public hearing open and continue dialogue. They expect two more public meetings and Mayor Dwyer asked them to prepare a Power Point presentation as well. He stated that he could sense there was a lot of anxiety in the room which seemed to subside after Councilman McGinn gave some explanations and was followed by Supervisor Cardone. Mayor Dwyer added that Town Attorney Brian Nugent also spoke, and the Town encouraged more residents to come out to the next meeting and speak. Mayor Dwyer also stated that he advised the Town that the residents of the Village of Monroe need more information and would like to know what the Town is thinking about along the peripheral. Mayor Dwyer stated that the Town agreed and will keep the conversation open. Mr. Karl replied that he has nothing against the Town, but they can't even seem to get it right up on Gilbert Street where they have buildings being constructed that aren't approved on the plans, and they're just building and threatening litigation and that's right here, which is less than 1,600 feet away.

Mr. Karl stated that history seems to be repeating itself when Meadow Glen was being built along Bailey Farm Road. He was involved with that regarding water contracts and such. That was supposed to be workforce housing and moderate income housing in there, but the almighty dollar talked. The Town took the money and let the developer do away with what was promised to the community. Mr. Karl stated that the Town and the two Village's need to get together and figure out a way to move traffic through here. It will only get worse as they continue to build across from the NYS Trooper Barracks. It gets more and more frustrating every day when you get stuck sitting in traffic. Mayor Dwyer replied that he had a meeting that day with the Village's traffic consultants regarding that very same thing. There is a whole new narrative starting up. Mr. Karl asked if the Southeast Orange Traffic Passport was still in play and Mayor Dwyer replied he wasn't sure. Mr. Karl continued that in the past they were aggressively pushing the Larkin Drive Extension which ran parallel to Rt. 17 and came out onto Rt. 208 which would eliminate most of that Blooming Grove traffic that has to snake its way up North Main Street. Someone needs to start addressing the traffic because what's the sense of building if you can't move around. Mayor Dwyer agreed.

Resident Sharon Scheer stated that she was an environmental advocate for the community. She continued that she has met with Senator James Skoufis and is trying to get a clear cut tree bill put to legislation. The environmental studies are scary. There is a long eared bat is critically endangered. Ms. Scheer presented to the Board a copy of the Town of Palm Tree Environmental study that was done and Ms. Scheer stated that there was to be a real study of bat sonar to be done. A study that would have included ground sonar. She added that Forrest Road was just recently clear cut because there was complaint about bats. Ms. Scheer continued that bats are good for the environment and they're coming to the Village. They will travel 20 to 30 miles from the caves. She requested that the Board put out an alert to the residents that there will be more bats coming in to the community and rather than put out the bug zappers, they could purchase a 3 chamber bat box, which is a more natural way, and it will do a better job at controlling the mosquitos. Ms. Scheer shared that she had 4 bat boxes installed down in O&R Park and there are no bugs there. People just don't think about nature anymore and how important it is. The Environmental Study of Palm Tree was ignored. They said there were bats presented but its missing the part that states that they are endangered.

Ms. Scheer continued that the bad news is that if you take the mosquitos away, which is what the bats eats, you will have a much bigger issue than the measles, you'll be dealing with West Nile Virus. Bring the bats here. Install the 3 chambered bat boxes and face them southeast, they'll heat up in the sun during the day, and the bats will come out at night.

Mayor Dwyer asked Ms. Scheer if she reached out to the officials in Kiryas Joel regarding this and she replied she had not. Mayor Dwyer suggested it might be a good idea and Ms. Scheer replied she wasn't sure what to do so she went to Senator Skoufis. She acknowledged that she isn't the best with negotiations so perhaps someone from the Village could do it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Trustee Conklin, seconded by Trustee Behringer, with all in favor, the meeting was closed at 7:42 PM. Following a 5-minute recess, the Board convened in Executive Session for discussion of pending litigation and personnel.

Executive Session Minutes compiled by Mayor Dwyer.

OPEN SESSION:

On a motion by Trustee Houle seconded by Trustee Behringer and carried, the Open Meeting resumed at 9:40 PM.

AUTHORIZATION TO ASSIGN 2ND DETECTIVE TO MONROE POLICE DEPARTMENT ROSTER:

On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Conklin, and carried, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the request of Police Chief Melchiorre and authorize the assignment of a police officer to the position of Detective effective July 1, 2019 to the Monroe Police Department roster. The assignment would follow the terms and conditions as set forth in the Agreement between the Village of Monroe and the Monroe Police Benevolent Association. This assignment would bring the total number of detectives to two (2).

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Trustee Houle, seconded by Trustee Conklin and carried, no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann-Margret Baxter
Village Clerk