

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA  
Minutes of Meeting  
January 9, 2020

Meeting called to order by President Richards at 6:57 pm.

Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance was said by all those who cared to join in.

Roll: Pres Richards, Treas. Pepple, Clerk Kelly, Trustees Fessenden, Fleury, Grinwis, Kelly, Sobers and VanSickle present. Also present Chief Strait, Eric VanDop, Preston Williams, Ethan Walker, Ed Hovey and Scott Meyers.

Minutes: Motion by Fessenden to accept the December minutes as presented; Kelly support; Carried

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Eric VanDop, Brickley DeLong, described audit reports handed out. Explained General Fund, Major Street Fund, Local Street Fund and Sewer. He explained about not funding depreciation, so we are hurting for future expenditures for capitalization as well as repairs. There was a discussion of Chart of Accounts and doing an annual vs. bi-annual audit. We are only required bi-annual. We have to have a hearing for the proposed budget.

Motion by Kelly to accept the financial report as presented. Grinwis support; Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

-Preston Williams is in attendance for Government class, Montague schools.

-Scott Meyers

1) Told of water issues along sidewalk beside the Country Settings Salon and heading towards the west where he now has a hairdresser shop next to his garage (Cave). Mentioned raising sidewalk as it goes further west. He would like to see it fixed. We can think about it for the spring.

2) Park at south end of village is as far as it can go for now. Electric in, but not light fixture yet. Blackmer to be doing that. Waiting for flagpole. Compliments to the scouts again for their work. The eagle is almost ready to go. They will be pouring the mount for it.

3) He bought the old bank, he and Tim Horton. Would like to see a bank there.

**STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:**

-2 lights are out, hope to fix this week. Discussion of LED bulbs.

-huge pothole in front of John Lambrix on Third St. as well as one by Wesco in the "alley" area. Suggestion of placing a cone but will be difficult as it is by his mailbox and driveway edge. Use a 5 gal bucket of cold patch.

-Wally Wolting gave a list to Fessenden of "issues." Burnette Foods potholes, Ed Hovey house on Garfield. Concern of water through the water system. Sump pumps going into our system? Should not be.....Letter should go out with Sewer bills.

-Meyers asked who has the authority to fill the potholes? Wolting can.....

**POLICE:**

-Kelly noted items from Chief's report. Copy of crash report from Dec 30 (Burnette accident). There were questions of time sheets in the past and Chief gave copies to a few council members so they can see what the police dept has for report hours. Reports must be sent to the state, so there is real tracking. They are doing 10-12 property checks now with the winter and snowbirds away. Chief also explained why he was in Rothbury on the clock, meeting to get equipment. Discussion of blight ordinance. Chief also takes the vehicle home so it is

cleaned and yes it does add mileage, but should help the vehicle last in the long term. Mention of more students walking, crossing First St and having the crossing guard has added more hours, but now he is trying to bring the police dept hours down. Mention of wishing to see more traffic stops. Person on Garfield (Art Gonzalez) has been given 30 days to clear up cars-tend to be 10 or more.

**PARKS/RECREATION:**

Conversation: Rec Plan Filed with the DNR.

**FINANCE /ORDINANCES:**

Jamie Near has bought a building for his business and will not be building behind his house on Garfield.

**INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING:**

Fleury followed up on website-not launched yet.

**SEWER:**

Need to identify and notify those using drains into our system. Fleury neighbor might be one.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

-Treas. Reported Act 51 money in now that audit is over (M-\$148249.29, L-\$28771.91). Issues with Act 51 report, auditors have submitted and worked with MDOT. Clerk to talk with Eric VanDop to be able to complete annually ourselves.

-Grinwis noted the extra rain and intrusion into lines themselves. Talk of manhole covers.

-Drainage is up 20K gals/week since October 2019.

-Kelly asked about picture of park as well of talk of actual ownership? Burnette or village? Get a quit claim deed or title search? Need a survey? Need to touch base with Joel (Burnette).

-Toilet in village hall not working, valve needs to be replaced, Veltman? Chief will do. New float valve.

Bills presented. Motion by Grinwis to pay bills as presented. Fleury support; Carried.

Pres. Richards adjourned meeting 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,