

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Avon was held in Conference room A and B of Village Hall, 74 Genesee Street, Avon, New York, on February 21, 2022.

Present: Thomas Freeman, Mayor, phone
Tim Batzel, Trustee
Mark McKeown, absent
Patrick McCormick, Trustee
Bill Zhe, Trustee

Staff: Ken Farrell, Supt. of Public Works
Joseph Geer, Chief of Police
Christine Quinlan, Treasurer

Visitors: Stacey Colt, Senior Bash Committee
George Brown, Genesee Street
Cheri Frew, Ross Lane
Amanda Hoffmann, Temple Street (phone)
Edward Forsythe, Sackett Road

Per new legislation signed into effect by Governor Hochul, the meeting was made available to the public by video/teleconference. However, the Board is currently meeting in person and invites the public to do so if comfortable. The Board requests that you wear a mask in the Village Hall, regardless of vaccination status, and if you have symptoms or feel sick, to please stay home.

Trustee Zhe called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

SENIOR BASH COMMITTEE, STACEY COLT:

Mrs. Colt was in attendance as the representative of the Senior Bash Committee, to request permission from the Board to allow the Avon Senior Class of 2022 to continue the long-standing tradition of painting the wall on Spring Street as part of the Senior Bash. The evening- to be held on June 23rd, 2022, will begin with the car parade around the village, led by the Avon Police and Fire Departments. Students decorate their cars and follow a route leading them to Spring Street in order to paint the wall. Kraft allows the students to park in their lot while they paint. Chief Geer has officers on duty for traffic control while the students are there, and the students paint the wall from the bridge west. Supt. Farrell stated that the wall will more than likely remain painted for a few weeks and will be repainted by the Village DPW when the schedule permits. The Board extends their congratulations to these hard-working seniors and agreed to allow the students to paint the wall as is the tradition.

ROSS LANE, GEORGE BROWN:

Mr. Brown attended the meeting, along with Ms. Frew, to continue the discussion on Ross Lane. Mr. Brown has discussed with the Board the signage on Ross Lane and how it compares to Local Law #4 of 2018 (attached). Mr. Brown provided the following letter to the Board:

February 21, 2022

Village Board
Village of Avon
74 Genesee Street
Avon, N. Y. 14414

Re: Traffic signs on Ross Lane

Dear Village Board:

My name is George B. Brown; I reside at 342 Genesee Street, Avon, N. Y.

The purpose of this letter is to propose an amendment to Local Law-4-2018. At the Village Board meeting on February 7, 2022, the Board indicated that it would confer with Village Attorney Whiting about the adequacy of Local Law-4-2018 and the possible need to amend that law to prohibit thru-traffic from Rochester Street to North Avenue. Such an amendment would change the intent of Local Law-4-2018 and would cause additional confusion among the residential, service, and delivery traffic using Ross Lane.

Ross Lane does not warrant a “no-thru traffic” sign at the intersection of Rochester Street and Ross Lane; traffic should be able to flow unrestricted from that intersection to North Avenue. Perhaps a better approach is to amend Local Law-4-2018 with a definition of the term “no-thru traffic.” As the term “no-thru traffic” can mean different things in different applications, the Board has the flexibility to define the term to conform with the intent of Local Law-4-2018. I propose the following definition be added to Local Law-4-2018:

“For the purpose of this law, “no-thru traffic” is defined as prohibiting motorists who do not have residential or commercial business on Ross Lane from using Ross Lane as a convenience to travel from North Avenue to Rochester Street.”

On Monday, February 21, 2022, I intend to address the Board about this proposed amendment to Local Law-4-2018.

George B. Brown

The Board discussed the definition and signs. Supt. Farrell said he was waiting on the county to take care of the sign that they needed to remove and was going to double check that all signs were in line with the law. The Board stated that at this time, the law would remain as is. However, if need be, they would take into consideration Mr. Brown’s suggestion to define the term.

VOUCHERS and MANUAL CHECKS:

Upon a motion by Trustee McCormick, the following vouchers were approved for payment.

#1-GENERAL FUND	\$19159.70
#4-SCHEDULE C	\$22497.68
#5-WATER	\$1658.87
#6-SEWER	\$34698.94
#HH-81- PUMPSTATION	\$3206.25
#TA00-TRUST & AGENCY	\$1789.76
TOTAL	\$83011.20

The motion was seconded by Trustee Batzel and carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	No Vote
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Mark McKeown, Trustee	Voting	Absent
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes

DPW UPDATE:

Supt. Farrell provided the following update to the Board:

DPW Activity – past 2 weeks

1. *Lights in Circle Park*-LL&P came out and investigated the wiring, possible bad wire under 5&20 or looked like disconnected wire on pole. Contacted NG rep stopped out and checked wires and determined bad wire under 5&20. NG looking into replacing for us.
2. Fixed pothole
3. Took inventory of bad signs
4. Cleaned up after snow fall & cleaned off catch basins for rain event (Thursday).
5. Investigated Inflow and Infiltration in sewer system
6. Started working on roof of topsoil building
7. Serviced equipment (rebuilt skid steer snowblower, fixed plow on 6-wheeler)
8. Ran storm sewer from Amalfi Dr. Pond.
9. Chad, Nick, Kirk, and Ken attended water/wastewater class for credit hrs.

WWTP

1. Gathering information for GHD engineers (3rd party) firm for Village, Town, County, Liv.Co. IDA.
2. Computer at plant went on us, Aqualogics to get new one for us and install software on it.
3. Rain event. 1.1” of rain/ snowmelt on Thursday 2/17 with 4.3 MGD. Friday 3 MGD, Sat 2 MGD, Sunday 1.6 MGD about 1 MGD more than normal.

WATER

1. Pump Station, CP Ward has started. Excavated and found the 20” valve that was installed in late 60’s. This week they are going to see if it operates.

- Contacted Zac Cracknell at Liv.Co. Highway, regarding sign removal Ross Lane. He asked me to send an email stating that we are taking 1-way designation off the street inventory, making it 2-way. Waiting for response.
- Have a call into Mike Hinds about crosswalks on Wadsworth Ave and drainage on 5&20.
- Lights to be changed out in office next Monday 2/28/2022
- Dan Snyder continues his work on the concession stand at the Driving Park. He is moving at a good pace and hopes to be complete in the next week or two.

TEASURER UPDATE:

Treasurer Quinlan provided the Board with the following update electronically:

Ongoing

- Working on 2019 and 2021 GVBA grant documents and quotes...2019 project will be portable restrooms, and 2021 project will be a gazebo.
- National Grid agreement mailed on 2/11/22...timeframe of roughly six months total.
- Jen Talbot's recommendations have been resolved except for NYS retirement deductions reported.
- The Board needs to determine use(s) of the ARPA funds. Final uses have been determined by US Treasury.
- Awaiting date/time from D. Brown's family for park bench recognition event.
- Awaiting date/time from Olie Olson for BOCES benches' recognition event.
- 2017 GVBA budget detail documents submitted to NYS Dept. of Ag for approval on 12/23/21. All project elements have been determined eligible for funding on 1/14/22. Waiting to hear from NYS Dept. of Ag that agreement has been signed & we can proceed.

New

- NYS Review Board to meet & approve NR nomination on March 10th. Landmark Society and the Village to host a tax credit virtual meeting on April 14th at 7 p.m.
- Waiting on artist bio for mural flyer to be printed by Genesee Valley Penny Saver.
- Didn't receive funding from the Genesee Valley Arts grant program for the Arts Festival.
- Attended the Genesee Valley Trail Towns kickoff meeting on 2/18.
- Attending Liv. Co. Walls mural festival grant meeting on 2/23.
- Meeting with Maureen Wheeler re: NYMS-TA grant on 2/23.
- Attending Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Community Campaigns virtual webinar on 2/23.
- County First Impressions grant deadline is 3/25. Municipalities can apply for curb appeal and public art projects including permanent public art including murals and structures, street furniture, and public fixtures including informational kiosks, banners, and plaques.
- Parks & Trails NY grant deadline is 3/28. Municipalities can apply for bicycle infrastructure, informational signage, bicycle, and pedestrian safety infrastructure, placemaking activities.
- Working on budgets. Third quarter review for current fiscal year after Feb. closes.
- Provided a timeline for budget season that included a special meeting for the presentation of budget and budget adoption.

COMMERCIAL SEWER ANALYSIS:

Treasurer Quinlan provided the Board with the 2022 commercial sewer analysis for review. A public hearing will be held at the March 7th Board meeting to any complaints in relation to the number of commercial sewer rents assigned for the year commencing August 1, 2022. Letters will be mailed out tomorrow to alert those who will have changes.

WWTP DISINFECTION FINANCING DISCUSSION:

Trustee Batzel and Treasurer Quinlan updated the Board about their conversation with Jason Schwartz, Bernard Donegan, Inc. re: the financing for the Wastewater Treatment Plant disinfection project. The Village has two options: pay ~\$195K out of fund balance now for the engineering contract or pay ~\$210K for the engineering agreement but pay it through the project over a duration at 0%. The Village would be responsible for paying ~\$15,000 more, which would equate to \$500/year over the life of the EFC loan (presuming we do ultimately finance through EFC at 0%). It would seem that the flexibility of having the additional fund balance available would outweigh the extra costs overall. The extra \$195K that would be kept in fund balance could potentially be used to offset future capital needs, and if those alternatively needed to be bonded (presumably not at 0%) then the dollars would be better leveraged there. Potentially the nominal interest could offset the additional \$500 cost on a savings account with \$195K. Maintaining healthy fund balance levels across all funds may prevent a future credit rating downgrade. Trustee Batzel and Treasurer Quinlan concur with Jason’s recommendation to increase the engineering agreement to cover MWBE requirements.

The Board will look to vote on a choice at the next Board meeting.

CLERK UPDATE:

Clerk Randall provided the following information to the Board:

- Deer Committee Report Week 7-5 of six sites harvesting. For 14 hours harvesting, 2 shots taken (both bolts recovered), 2 deer taken. 23 deer observed. To date- 21 deer harvested, 23 shots taken (2 misses) for a 91% success rate, 190 deer observed over 19 dates of harvesting. (Week 6 and 7 reports provided).
- Jason Molino provided an update of the Avon WWTP Evaluation on behalf of the Joint Sewer Committee (provided to the VB and Planning Board per Mr. Molino’s request).
- Provided per Mayor Freeman’s request was an email from Bill Davis re: draft of memorandum of understanding in regard to a potential third-party agreement with Mr. Howlett addressing the Pole Bridge Road drainage project. Mr. Davis stated that to draft the memo would cost \$1000.00, which Mayor Freeman stated he was willing to split with the Town of Avon after discussing with Supervisor LeFeber.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Batzel and seconded by Trustee McCormick, the Board agreed to split the \$1000 cost with the Town of Avon, making the payment from the Village \$500.00.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	No Vote
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

Mark McKeown, Trustee	Voting	Absent
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes

- Provided by MRB for the Board’s review: Engineering Design Services Amendment #1 for the Village of Avon WWTP Disinfection Improvements. Will revisit at the next meeting.
- Fire Department Election to be held April 7th, 2022 (calendar of events provided).
- Letters of Intent for the Fire Department election provided. Received three letters: Brian Strozewski- Fire Chief, Dan Snyder- 1st Assistant Chief, and William Boyd- 2nd Assistant Chief. The Board reviewed and accepted all letters.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Batzel and seconded by Trustee McCormick, the Board accepted the letters of intent from Chief Strozewski, Assistant Chief Snyder and 2nd Assistant Chief Boyd. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	No Vote
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Mark McKeown, Trustee	Voting	Absent
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes

- Email update from Ann Younger- in the process of obtaining a Tavern Wine license for the theater. Her attorney recommended to let the Village Board know.
- Letter from Liv Co. Economic Development notifying of the reimbursement to Jeremy and Keegan Fisher for the improvements at 77-79 Genesee Street.

MINUTES:

Upon a motion made by Trustee McCormick and seconded by Trustee Batzel, the minutes from the February 7, 2022, were approved as submitted. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	No Vote
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Mark McKeown, Trustee	Voting	Absent
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes

POLICE UPDATE:

Chief Geer provided the following report to the Board:


- Chief Geer received an email from resident Casey McLaughlin commending Officer Ferrara for his response to an emergency call at his parents’ home.
- Officer McFadden is off from school for the school break. Chief Geer will be using the opportunity to do the 6-month evidence room audit.
- Background check has been completed for the new hire, Ian Hall. He will be doing his psychological test in the next week. Results should be received after 14 days. Should be set for final Board approval by the second meeting in March or the first meeting in April.

TRUSTEE UPDATE:

- ✚ The Board decided to table the discussion of the ARPA funds until the whole Board was in attendance.
- ✚ The Board discussed the Covid policy, specifically the masking policy, for the Village Hall and decided to continue requiring the masks to be worn. They will review any changes or recommendations at the next meeting.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Batzel and seconded by Trustee McCormick, the Board adjourned at 6:45pm. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Randall
Village Clerk