

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Avon was held in the Whitney Room of Village Hall, 74 Genesee Street, Avon, New York, on October 2, 2023.

Present: Thomas Freeman, Mayor
 William Zhe, Trustee
 Tim Batzel, Trustee
 Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee
 Patrick McCormick- Trustee

Staff: Ken Farrell, DPW Supt.
 David Piampiano, Fire Chief
 Andy Anderson, Code Enforcement

Visitors: George Brown, Genesee Street
 Jimmy Harrington, Councilman, Town of Avon

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

VOUCHERS and MANUAL CHECKS:

Upon a motion made by Trustee Zhe, the vouchers and manual checks/electronic payments were approved for payment from the following funds:

#1-GENERAL FUND	\$16588.96
#4-SCHEDULE C	\$6241.93
#5-WATER	\$3415.44
#6-SEWER	\$12847.26
#TA00-TRUST & AGENCY	\$5992.11
TOTAL	\$45085.70

Electronic payments:

Fed/NYS Taxes	p/r 23-19	\$16038.52
Nationwide Retirement	p/r 23-19	\$2710.21
	TOTAL:	\$18748.73

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

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

DPW UPDATE:

Supt. Farrell provided the following update to the Board:
DPW Activity – past weeks

- Worked on North Ave Sidewalks (finished pouring today).
- Brush
- Prepped to pour concrete at Case Park for ADA ramp into Gazebo (poured today).
- Repaired fence on North Ave curve, branch had fallen at broke fence & post.
- Worked in I&I issue at Sacket Rd Apartments
- Research I&I issues on East Main St. Possible storm drain tied into sanitary sewer.

WWTP

- Cleaning reeds out of Sludge beds
- Prepped to work on Primary Clarifier weir discharge box.
- Repaired Primary Clarifier weir discharge box (welded bottom & side plate)

Water

- Lead service inventory.
- Replaced water meter at 299 Wadsworth Ave.
- Stake outs
- Koester Assoc. at Pebble Beach Pump Station to do a flow test.

Pebble Beach Pump Station

- After meeting on 9/13 Koester Assoc. to replace intake line to pumps. As of 9/28 Koester is now going in the direction of swapping out impellers.

UV Disinfection

- The Pre-Construction Meeting is set for 10/6/23, 2 pm at the Village office.

Next 2 weeks

- Grind & Pave Linden St.
- Repair sidewalks
- Seal mural wall (Graffiti Shield)
- Prep for leaves.

*Supt. Farrell noted that in the last water bills to residents, he included a notice that leaf pickup will start in mid-October.

*Pem Power to come and look at the generator.

*Supt. Farrell discussed replacing a tractor. The Quotes he has received has ranged from \$56k to \$73K. The tractor most comparable to what we already own is the lowest quote at this point. Supt Farrell will have our current tractor repaired in order to see if he can get a better trade in value or get a better price if sold. He will have more information at the next meeting.

TREASURER UPDATE:

Treasurer Quinlan was unable to attend, but provided the Board with the following update electronically:

Ongoing

- Gathering cost estimates for 2019 GVDA grant.
- The Board needs to determine additional use(s) of the ARPA funds.
- Continued review of IT policies w/Shawn Petti, Hurricane Technologies. Future Board approval.
- Heather working on reporting salary & contributions as our former employee does want to retire from NYS.

- Attorney Whiting responded to NYPA re: outstanding invoice. No response from NYPA yet.
- Organizing sign & hitch rail purchase for Erie-Attica.
- 2017 GVBA grant reimbursement request to be made after water work is complete and all checks have been cashed.
- 2018 GVBA grant reimbursement request to be made after all checks have been cashed.
- National Grid has set up a new streetlighting account. Still waiting for approval to install arms & release on CD.

New

- NYS Parks contract executed. RFP out to the consultants w/deadline of 10/19.
- Submitted third reimbursement request for WWTP disinfection bills to-date.
- Submitted reimbursement for Villages First Impressions grant.
- Awarded bulletproof vest grant.
- Awarded Police Traffic Services grant.
- Attending Genesee Valley Trail Towns gathering on 10/2.
- Attending Parks & Trails NY site visit at Erie-Attica on 10/2.
- Eclipse zoom meeting on 10/11.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Chief Piampiano provided the following update to the Board:

- Next two weeks will be the company dinners on Monday night.
- Thursday, 10/5, ACS will be conducting their annual evacuation drill. Some students will be walking down to the firehouse.
- Drills continue. Upcoming drills include truck inspections, engine operations, and encapsulate foam drills with the county. Will also be doing airpack refresher drills. Currently have 18 in use, 2 in reserve.
- Have gone live with the first responder program as of September 30th.
- Officers meeting to be held 10/17/2023.
- Planning on opening the bays up for Halloween as they have in the past.

Trustee Hoffmann added to the discussion and reported on the Chiefs meeting she recently attended.

- Stated that the truck committee will be meeting again and that she will join the committee.
- Stated that discussion was had in regard to the bylaws that are still in the works. Trustee Batzel said that a presentation to the Board may come after the first of the year.
- Trustee Hoffmann created what she called a “wish list” consisting of items, projects, and facility needs that the chiefs discussed at the meeting which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 1. Ramp and apron coming out of bays
 2. Roof leaking, missing shingles,
 3. Clean downspouts
 4. Door by ambulance bay doesn't open
 5. No hot water
 6. Update lighting outside of building

7. LED lights on the bay floors for trucks
 8. New/update windows
 9. Ready room furniture
 10. Make sure generator runs well
 11. New tools for department
 12. Programs for the department- funding available through grants.
 13. Cascade System- fills air bottles. System runs approximately \$70,000. The department has reached out to Livonia, who has contact info for a grant writer that may be able to help.
- Chief Piampiano requested of the Board assistance in obtaining equipment, specifically Class A Uniforms, from members who no longer participate in the Fire Department perhaps by a certified letter. The Chief suggested that the Board may want to discuss with the Village Attorney as to the most appropriate verbiage. After discussion, members of the Board felt that the first point of contact should come from the department. Trustee Batzel will reach out to members that Chief Piampiano provided.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Code Officer Anderson provided the following update:

- Discussed the controlled burn that was called in today. Residents called to complain about an open burn that was happening earlier in the day. There were complaints of ash covering cars, driveways and in pools. APD requested the office staff to take names and numbers of people who called for them. Code Officer Anderson stated that there was no permission given to perform the burn and was in touch with the resident who conducted the burn and the fire department.
- Received several complaints about the loud noise continuing at Kraft. Code Officer Anderson said that it was a compressor issue that seems to have been resolved.
- Bob Alexander has passed his fir test in his Code Enforcement sequence and will be taking his second test this week.

CLERK UPDATE:

The following items are updates from Clerk Randall:

- Clerk Randall provided the Board with a copy of the LCN article about the Mayor's Forum and Proclamation of Cooperation between the Villages.
- A copy of the Avon Chamber Minutes were provided.
- A copy of response letter to DEC in regard to the WWTP annual inspection was provided by MRB.
- A copy of the award letter from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee to APD was provided. The department was awarded \$2376 to participate in the Statewide Police Traffic Services Program.
- A copy of the request for proposal that will run in the LCN on Thursday, 10/5 was provided from Treasurer Quinlan for the Five Arch Bridge Project.
- Received today- A copy of the Preliminary Town Budget for 2024. The public hearing for the budget is scheduled for October 26 at 6:15pm at the Town Hall. Also provided to the

Board was a copy of the public hearing notice for the East Avon Fire Department Proposed Budget for 2024 which will be held on October 17, 2023 @6pm.

MINUTES:

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hoffmann and seconded by Trustee Zhe, the minutes from the September 18, 2023 meeting were approved as submitted. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

REOPEN PUBLIC HEARING- Proposed Local Law #6 of 2023:

At 7pm, the Village Board re-opened the public hearing for proposed local law #6 of 2023. The proposed law would provide a partial tax exemption from real property taxes to certain eligible volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. The local law was provided to the Board previously for review.

Mayor Freeman discussed sending a letter to the Fire Department and offered a draft as to what he thought should be sent. He wants to make sure that the entire department is aware of this exemption, and if the exemption is not something the department thinks would incentivize members to join or maintain their membership, what can the Village offer instead? Trustee Hoffmann stated that there is talk of legislation that could be forthcoming that could change the opportunities from choosing the real property exemption or the personal income tax exemption to being able to take advantage of both. All four Trustees are hesitant about adopting this local law.

Mayor Freeman asked those of the public in attendance their thoughts. Mr. George Brown stated that he feels there are too many questions still unanswered for the Board to adopt the local law. Town Councilman Harrington agreed with Mr. Brown.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hoffmann and seconded by Trustee Batzel, the Board closed the public Hearing at 7:08 pm. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

Upon a motion made by Trustee McCormick and seconded by Trustee Zhe, the Board decided to not move forward with proposed Local Law #6 of 2023 providing a partial tax exemption from real property taxes to certain eligible volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
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William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

Clerk Randall will send the information to Livingston County as requested by William Fuller.

TRUSTEE UPDATE:

- ✚ Trustee Hoffmann reviewed the meeting that she and Trustee McCormick attended at the library. They attended to discuss with library board members the possibility of eliminating parking across the street from the library for safety purposes. The library board members were concerned with this idea and discussed alternate suggestions including bump outs, additional crosswalks near the municipal lot, and possibly a reduction of speed in the business district. The library also announced that they have received funding for their backyard project. Supt. Farrell asked if we would be maintaining the sidewalks again this winter as he had not had a request yet. Councilman Harrington stated that fellow councilman Paul Drozdziel said that the library has someone lined up.
- ✚ The Board reviewed the draft of the indemnification, hold harmless, and insurance agreement. Trustee Zhe will discuss this with the insurance representative.
- ✚ The Board reviewed the correction of the 2023 Village Tax Roll and refund for Avon on the Green. William Fuller of Real Property Tax Services for Livingston County supplied the Board with a request for the Board to review and asked them to approve the correction. It was stated that the investigation into the correction request was found valid and due to a clerical error, and a refund is due to Avon Limited Partnership in the amount of \$728.23.

Upon a motion made by Trustee McCormick and seconded by Trustee Hoffmann, the Board accepted the correction to the 2023 Village Tax Roll and will issue a refund in the amount of \$728.23. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hoffmann and seconded by Trustee Zhe, the Board adjourned at 7:32 pm by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Randall
Village Clerk