

MINUTES

For the
Village of Dryden

Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

Held on Wednesday February 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Approved 3/20/24

MAYOR: Michael Murphy
TRUSTEES PRESENT: Dickinson, Wakeman, Converse, Sinclair
CLERK/TREASURER: Rotha Marsh, also recording secretary
SUPERVISORS: Seargent DeCoursey, Paul Sabin
ATTORNEY: Natalie French
GUESTS: Chris Skawski, Rocco Lucente, Brenda Carpenter, Paul Simonet, Dan & Amy Mulligan, Ken Paddock, Cathy Paddock, Larry Fabbran, Jerry Sheng, Tom & Sharon Keegan

The pledge to Allegiance was recited and the Board meeting was opened at 6:01pm

Privilege of the Floor:

Privilege of the Floor was opened at 6:03

The first guest Chris Skawski & Jerry Sheng on Clean Energy Communities. Chris addressed the Board about NYSEDA's grant program, & challenges. He talked about how converting to heat pumps, lowering the carbon emissions could qualify for grant funds to be used to continue eliminating the carbon footprint. He spoke about the Village joining the Town of Dryden in a campaign to challenge residents to convert to heat pumps. He talked about the Village becoming a climate smart community. Trustee Sinclair will continue working with Chris and Jerry to achieve this.

Ken Paddock spoke next requesting that the Village Board consider installing sewer lines to the residents on Berkshire Dr. Their septic systems are in their final stages of working and would be costly to update or replace. They believe being added to the sewer system would benefit them all. Trustee Wakeman read the letter that Ken sent to the Board, which will be attached. The Board will look into the cost and possible grant money to accomplish this but there are no guarantees at this time.

Brenda Carpenter announced that "Dairy Days" is scheduled for June 8th if the Board so approves. The Board and the Audience were all thrilled that "Dairy Days" will continue. This will be the 40th year.

Rocco Lucente presented a slide show depicting the changes to the Ezra Village plan that were requested by the public at the last meeting. He would like to break ground this summer. They are still waiting on the DOT for a traffic study before proceeding. He plans to be at the March Planning Board meeting.

Tom Keegan from 6 Lewis St. is concerned with the Dryden Lake Dam and the possible flooding from debris that has collected in the streams and creeks. He has heard that the dam will be rebuilt in 2025 and wants the Village to look into having the flow from the dam slowed down or be adjustable. He has many pictures that he will send to the Board.

Paul Simonet came to the Board and requested that they approve his plan to have a sewer later on his property at 76 E. Main St. connect to a second sewer lateral owned by Kayla Lane Clark next door. A sewer lateral is the responsibility of the property owner from the main to the home therefore it would not be Village policy to ever have laterals connected when the property is owned by different parties. Superintendent Paul Sabin suggested a different alternative and the Board was in agreement. Paul Simonet needs to address these requests through the planning department.

Monthly Reports:

Camden Group- - The Board accepted the emailed report.

Code Enforcement- Code Enforcement also emailed their report and it was accepted.

Supervisor's Reports:

DPW-Paul noted for the record that there is a discrepancy on Camden Group's report concerning chlorine residual s being over the limit. He will contact Chris Cabisca at the Sewer Plant in regards. Paul also reported that he and the Mayor visited TC3 and found that there is a lot of I & I coming from the campus. They have drains tied into the sewer system that should not be. The Village might help them with dye testing. Paul also handed out his monthly report of normal activities.

Police Dept. – Sargeant DeCoursey reports that everything in the Police Department is running smoothly at this time. He handed out the monthly calls report. They did some DWI checks on Superbowl Sunday but nothing to report.

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION:

Approve the November 15, 2023 Regular Board of Trustees meeting minutes: (Mayor, Trustee Sinclair, Dickinson and Wakeman):

On a motion by trustee Sinclair and seconded by Trustee Dickinson the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Abstain

Resolution No. 2.21.1-2023

Approve the November 15, 2023 Regular Board of Trustees meeting

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the minutes from the November 15, 2023 regular Board of Trustees meeting

Approve the November 28, 2023 Special Board of Trustees Public Hearing meeting minutes: (Mayor, Trustee Wakeman, Sinclair and Dickinson)

On a motion by trustee Dickinson and seconded by Trustee Sinclair the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Abstain

Resolution No. 2.21.2-2023

Approve the November 28, 2023 Special Board of Trustees Public Hearing meeting minutes

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the minutes from the November 28, 2023 special Board of Trustees Public Hearing meeting minutes.

Approve the December 20, 2023 Regular Board of Trustees meeting minutes: (Mayor, Trustee Wakeman, Converse)

On a motion by trustee Wakeman and seconded by Trustee Converse the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Abstain, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Abstain, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.3-2024

Approve the December 20, 2023 Regular Board of Trustees meeting minutes

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the minutes from the December 20, 2023 regular Board of Trustees meeting

**Approve the January 17, 2024 Regular Board of Trustees meeting minutes:
(Mayor, Trustee Wakeman, Dickinson, Converse & Sinclair)**

On a motion by Trustee Sinclair and seconded by Trustee Dickinson the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.4-2024

Approve the January 17, 2024 Regular Board of Trustees meeting minutes

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the minutes from the January 17, 2024 regular Board of Trustees meeting

**Approve the January 31, 2024 Special Board of Trustees meeting minutes:
(Mayor, Trustee Wakeman, Dickinson, Converse & Sinclair):**

On a motion by trustee Sinclair and seconded by Trustee Dickinson the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.5-2024

Approve the January 31, 2024 Special Board of Trustees meeting minutes

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the minutes from the January 31, 2024 Special Board of Trustees meeting

Approve the February 6, 2024 Special Board of Trustees meeting minutes:(Mayor, Trustee Wakeman, Dickinson, Converse & Sinclair):

On a motion by trustee Dickinson and seconded by Trustee Sinclair the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.6-2024

Approve the February 6, 2024 Special Board of Trustees meeting minutes

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the minutes from the February 6, 2024 Special Board of Trustees meeting

Budget Amendment line-Item Transfers:

On a motion by trustee Wakeman and seconded by Trustee Sinclair the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.7-2024

Budget Amendment line-Item Transfers

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the following budget amendments / line-item transfers

Abstract:

On a motion by trustee Wakeman and seconded by Trustee Sinclair the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.8-2024

Abstract

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the abstract dated February 21, 2024 and authorizes the Mayor to sign it.

Discuss and approve the request from Southworth Library to increase the financial support \$500.00 to \$10,500.00 for the 2024 Library year but FYE May 31, 2025 for the Village:

Tabled till after the Budget is decided

Adopt Proposed Local Law No. 002-2024 to allow the override of the tax cap:

On a motion by trustee Wakeman and seconded by Trustee Converse the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.9-2024

VILLAGE OF DRYDEN

LOCAL LAW 002 OF THE YEAR 2024

A LOCAL LAW TO ALLOW THE OVERRIDE OF THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-C

SECTION I. **PURPOSE & INTENT.**

It is the purpose and intent of this local law to allow, if determined necessary and/or appropriate, for the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing in 2024 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the tax levy limit as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

SECTION II. **AUTHORITY.**

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c which expressly authorizes a local governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) or more of said governing body.

SECTION III. **TAX LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE.**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden, County of Tompkins, is hereby authorized, if determined necessary and/or appropriate, to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing in 2024 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

SECTION IV. **SEVERABILITY.**

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm, or corporation or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court order or judgment shall not affect impair or invalidate the remainder of this local law but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm, corporation or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

SECTION V. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Local Law would take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Discuss and possibly approve the proposal from MRB Group for Grant writing for a Dryden Water Main Extension Project:

Tabled

Discuss and possibly approve the proposal from MRB Group for a Sanitary Sewer System Flow Monitoring Study (Phase II):

Tabled

Discuss and possibly approve the Climate Smart Communities Pledge resolution:

On a motion by Trustee Sinclair and seconded by Trustee Wakeman the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.10-2024

Approve the Climate Smart Communities Pledge resolution

WHEREAS, the Village of Dryden believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Village of Dryden, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, *adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:*

- 1) **Build a climate-smart community.**
- 2) **Inventory emissions, set goals, a plan for climate action.**
- 3) **Decrease energy use.**
- 4) **Shift to clean, renewable energy.**
- 5) **Use climate-smart materials management.**
- 6) **Implement climate-smart land use.**
- 7) **Enhance community resilience to climate change.**

- 8) **Support a green innovation economy.**
- 9) **Inform and inspire the public.**
- 10) **Engage in an evolving process of climate action.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor Murphy appoint Board of Trustees member and Deputy Mayor Thomas Sinclair to serve as the Climate Smart Communities Coordinator of the Village of Dryden to facilitate the activities of the Climate Smart Communities Task Force, assist Village personnel to prepare required reports and implementation activities and to communicate with Village residents, the Board of Trustees, the Village Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals about Climate Smart Communities initiatives.

Discuss and possibly approve the following resolution to increase AIM funding:

On a motion by trustee Sinclair and seconded by Trustee Converse the following was passed: Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.11-2024

Approve the following resolution to increase AIM funding

Whereas, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State; and

Whereas, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

Whereas, New York's local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals; and

Whereas, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during that same period; and

Whereas, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and

Whereas, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and

Whereas, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

Whereas, the Governor's 2024-25 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and

Whereas, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Village of Dryden Board of Trustees urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

Discuss and possibly approve the following mayoral appointment to the ZBA:

On a motion by trustee Dickinson and seconded by Trustee Wakeman the following was passed: Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Abstain, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.12-2024

Approve the following Mayoral appointment to the ZBA Board

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the Mayor's appointment of Julie Powell to the Zoning Board of Appeals as the Alternative member effective 2/22/2023.

Discuss and possibly (1) declare surplus and (2) authorize the Mayor to quit claim to the Estate of Stephen J. Stelick, Sr., the rights, title and interest the Village of Dryden may have, if any, to the portion of 82-84 West Main Street allegedly obtained by the Village by Public Auction on March 10, 1964 as documented by a Certification recorded on May 15, 1967 in Liber 468 of Deeds, at page 852:

On a motion by trustee Wakeman and seconded by Trustee Converse the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.13-2024

Declare surplus and authorize Mayor to quit claim a portion of the property 82-84 W. Main St. to the Estate of Stephen J. Stelick, Sr.

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby declares 82-84 W. Main St. as surplus and authorizes the Mayor to quit claim to the Estate of Stephen J. Stelick, Sr., the rights, title and interest the Village of Dryden may have, if any, to the portion of 82-84 West Main Street allegedly obtained by the Village by Public Auction on March 10, 1964 as documented by a Certification recorded on May 15, 1967 in Liber 468 of Deeds, at page 852."

Discuss and possibly approved revised Village of Dryden Procurement Policy

On a motion by Trustee Dickinson and seconded by Trustee Wakeman the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.14-2024

Approve revised Village of Dryden Procurement Policy.

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the revised Procurement Policy for the Village of Dryden.

Discuss and possibly approved revised Village of Dryden Equal Employment Opportunity Policy:

On a motion by Trustee Dickinson and seconded by Trustee Wakeman the following was passed:
Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

Resolution No 2.21.15-2024

Approve Village of Dryden Equal Employment Opportunity Policy.

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby approves the **Equal Employment Opportunity** for the Village of Dryden.

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Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues - not to reconvene:

On a motion by trustee Sinclair and seconded by Trustee Converse the following was passed: Vote Murphy- Aye, Sinclair- Aye, Wakeman-Aye, Dickinson- Aye, Converse- Aye

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Resolution No. 2.21.16-2024

Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues - not to reconvene

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden hereby adjourns To Executive session for to discuss personnel issue at 8:49 pm not to reconvene.