

February 8, 1994

The regular meeting of the Village of Hamilton Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Baker in the Community Hall at 7:00 pm on February 8, 1994.

Present

Mayor Baker, Trustees Bergen, Brink, Getchonis and Glaser, Village Engineer Rathbone, and Village Clerk Kogut.

Call to Order

Mayor Baker asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting with the following additions and changes.

1. Add the Cable Law to Old Business.
2. Add the Building Exchange to Old Business.
3. Add Budget Call letter to New Business.
4. Add discussion of the fee schedule for Farmer's Market to New Business.

Motion was made Trustee Brink, seconded by Trustee Getchonis and carried to approve the agenda as revised for the meeting.

Appointments

A. Town/Gown Committee. Mayor Baker stated he would like to appoint Sylvia Roe to the Town/Gown Committee.

Motion was made by Trustee Getchonis, seconded by Trustee Brink and carried to appoint Sylvia Roe to the Town/Gown Committee.

B. Madison County Environmental Management Council. Mayor Baker remarked he would like to appoint John Rathbone to the Madison County Environmental Management Council.

Motion was made by Trustee Bergen, seconded by Trustee Brink and carried to appoint John Rathbone to the Madison County Environmental Management Council.

Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting - January 11, 1994. On Page 5, item B, change himself to he in the second line. Also on Page 5, last paragraph, change we to he in the first line.

Motion was made by Trustee Glaser, seconded by Trustee Brink and carried to accept the minutes of January 11, 1994 as corrected.

Reports

A. Treasurer's Report - January 1994. Reviewed.

B. Dumpster Summary - January 1994. Reviewed.

C. Engineer Rathbone. Engineer Rathbone remarked the power bills for the last billing period are higher than the previous year, obviously reflecting the colder weather. We had to buy 1,722 kW of incremental power at an additional cost of about \$18,400 dollars. This along with the cost of energy associated with it resulted in a difference of about \$33,700 higher than last month.

Engineer Rathbone remarked that the generator for the Fire Department arrived on February 4, 1994. Dick Holcomb was very helpful with unloading the generator. Engineer Rathbone wrote a letter to Mr. Jim Webb acknowledging Mr. Holcomb's help. He also notified Glenn Bagnall, who is the contractor that will be installing it.

Engineer Rathbone stated that Don DeGroat who was hired several months ago has a bad respiratory problem. He worked for us for a few weeks and has not worked since October 1993. Because of the new American with Disabilities Act, we cannot let Mr. DeGroat go for medical reasons. We received a letter from his doctor stating he would not be able to come back to work for at least another 2-3 months. Engineer Rathbone remarked he would like to hire someone on a temporary basis.

After some discussion by the Board, motion was made by Trustee Bergen, seconded by Trustee Brink and carried to permit Engineer Rathbone to hire a temporary motor equipment operator, starting at \$8.47 per hour, excluding benefits.

Engineer Rathbone remarked he spoke with Paul Evans of the DOT and they will be coming through the village this summer to put in ramps along Route 12B at each intersection. Mayor Baker asked Engineer Rathbone to let them know that the village prefers not to have any work done the weekends of Colgate's Commencement and Alumni Weekend.

Engineer Rathbone stated he received a letter from Madison County Residency of the DOT asking for a quote in duplicate of time required for sweeping the highway.

Engineer Rathbone remarked that on January 18, 1994 an accident happened while two of the DPW crew were replacing a push arm on the wing plow. Dean Abrams was working on the problem and lost part of his finger. Mr. Abrams went home for the rest of the day and came back to work the following Monday, January 24, 1994. An accident committee made up of Dan Bergen, Engineer Rathbone and Gary Mlasgar investigated the incident. Engineer Rathbone will issue the results of the investigation to the Board as soon he writes up the report.

Engineer Rathbone stated he purchased a new snowblower. He had difficulty finding one this time of year, and finally ended up going to Beachy's Equipment in New Hartford where he found one.

D. Village Clerk Kogut. Village Clerk Kogut remarked that if we are going to hire someone temporarily, we are going to have to be more careful with the use of overtime, because the salary saved with the person on disability has been used for overtime.

Village Clerk Kogut reported that relative to the Norman von Wettberg matter, he contacted the American Arbitration Society. He found out that as long as it is in the litigation stage and still going through legal

steps, they do not like to get involved.

E. Governmental Committee Report. Trustee Getchonis remarked that the committee met in January and right now they are really only in the information gathering stage. They will be meeting again February 14, 1994 to see where they are at.

Approval of Claims

A. Claims for January 1994. Motion was made by Trustee Bergen, seconded by Trustee Getchonis and carried that the claims for January 1994 be approved as follows:

General	\$ 41,874.45
Capital Streets	1,782.54
T & A	4,092.08
Total	\$ 47,749.07

Motion was made by Trustee Bergen, seconded by Trustee Getchonis and carried to add to the claims \$383.27 for the annual Town/Gown picnic.

Communication/Information

A. Colgate Alumni Association 6/4/94 Parade. Mayor Baker stated he received a letter from RuthAnn Loveless asking permission for the Alumni Reunion Parade on Saturday, June 4, 1994.

B. Fire Chief Reed's letter re: Maple Avenue. Trustee Glaser remarked there is a problem with parking on both sides of Maple Avenue which has made it hard to drive down the street at certain times.

Engineer Rathbone remarked that in the past we have put out temporary "No-Parking" signs that were stuck into the snow banks, which eliminated parking in certain areas.

Mayor Baker asked Trustee Getchonis to get together with the Police Chief to discuss the solution and let him define the area so we could get the signs up now.

C. Trustee Getchonis' letter re: snow clearing. Trustee Getchonis stated he was concerned with having to stick the front of his car out past the banks of snow at intersections to be able to see around them. He asked the police department how they felt about it and they stated they had never seen it so bad. There was also concern with the sidewalks both in the downtown section and the residential sections of town.

D. Village Staff Meetings. Mayor Baker remarked the meeting was an information exchange keeping the various operating departments aware of what the others concerns and needs were. The meetings will continue and hopefully act as some type of forum for developing the highest level of cooperation within our own house as possible.

E. Meetings with Village Attorney Walton. Mayor Baker stated that Clerk Kogut, Engineer Rathbone, Code Enforcement Officer Sternburg, Chief Tilbe and he met with Linus Walton to talk about things in the various supervisory areas they felt he should be aware of. Mr. Walton also attended a

Planning Board meeting and Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to meet with the members of each of those boards. The Village Board discussed when it may meet with Linus Walton.

F. Chenango Canal Association - Letter of Support. Mayor Baker remarked he received a letter from Emily Marshall, secretary of the Chenango Canal Association, regarding the preparation of a grant application to the New York State Canal Corporation. They are asking for funding in the amount \$24,800 to cover the cost of total completion of 1.4 miles of the Chenango Canal and Tow Path from Bouckville north to Solsville. The Association would like the village's support of their efforts, and asked us to write a letter to Tom Prindle, of the New York State Thruway Committee. The Board agreed to have Mayor Baker write a letter of support.

G. Smith Block Meeting - 2/17/94. Mayor Baker stated that he sees the meeting as facilitating the landowners and getting them together to solve their problems. Mayor Baker remarked that Steven Jones will be at the meeting also with a survey of the fire lane.

Old Business

A. Approve sale of 1983 packer. Mayor Baker remarked we received a bid on the 1983 packer from Larry Baker of Oneida for \$17,050. He stated that we need a resolution authorizing the sale of the packer to Larry Baker Trash Hauling.

Motion was made by Trustee Brink, seconded by Trustee Glaser and carried to authorize the sale of the 1983 packer to Larry Baker Trash Hauling for the amount of \$17,050.

B. Little League request - lawn cutting. Mayor Baker stated there was a request from the Little League Association asking if the village could be responsible for cutting the fields on Eaton Street. Mayor Baker asked Engineer Rathbone if there was anything to report on this.

Engineer Rathbone indicated that last year we cut the grass for them one time which took one man all day. The grass would be cut at their request and if it were to interfere with garbage or recycling pickup or something else, it would be a problem.

Trustee Glaser stated that maybe we could make a small donation toward the cost of the mowing of the fields. Mayor Baker remarked that this could be discussed when the budget sessions start.

C. Environmental Management Council Nominees. Mayor Baker asked if there were any other nominees the Board wished to consider other than Engineer Rathbone. The Board had no other nominees.

D. Madison County Health District. Mayor Baker remarked he spoke with Steve Olmstead, Director of Environmental Health to try to get more information. Basically they would be dealing with uncodified complaints falling under the public nuisance heading such as; septic tank problems, cockroaches, garbage complaints, dog bites and rabies concerns.

Motion was made by Trustee Bergen, seconded by Trustee Glaser and carried that the Village of Hamilton participate in the Madison County Health District.

E. Downtown Revitalization. Trustee Bergen stated that with Nick & Nora's being vacant, Shepster's vacant and Den Kelly's empty lot, we have gone to a rather ill-looking downtown in some ways. He thought for a long time that the initiative would have to come from the property owners and

merchants to get anything done. However, the difficulty with the Smith Block suggests that this is going to be a real task. Trustee Bergen suggested that the Village Board have a special meeting with Colgate University Administrators to discuss what might be done downtown. Mayor Baker will get together with Ron Joyce and then suggest that the Board get together with Colgate's Administrators.

F. Cable Laws. Trustee Brink remarked that there was a public hearing in December on the Cable Law and at that time the Board was going to vote on it in January, but that did not happen. There were two laws to be voted on. One law would allow us to establish the service standards for the cable in the village. The other law would allow us to regulate the rates charged for cable television.

Motion was made by Trustee Brink, seconded by Trustee Glaser and carried to adopt Local Law #1-94 - Regulation of Rates Charged by Cable Television Operators for Basic Service Tier and Related Equipment.

Motion was made by Trustee Brink, seconded by Trustee Getchonis and carried to adopt Local Law 2-94 - To Establish Customer Service Standards for the Cable Television Industry.

G. Building Exchange. Mayor Baker stated that following the last Board meeting he and Clerk Kogut met again with Ed Vantine. Mayor Baker indicated to Mr. Vantine that the Board was willing to go forward, and Mr. Vantine remarked he wanted to check one last time with his partners David and Paul. Mr. Vantine did get together with them and then called Mayor Baker to say they wanted to go ahead. Mayor Baker told him our problem would be how to actually do this legally. The only parameter is that we would become responsible for 50% of the destruction and hauling, which was estimated at \$13,500. Mayor Baker will keep the Board posted as it moves along.

New Business

A. Prioritization of Master Plan Proposals. Trustee Bergen remarked at the November 30, 1993 public meeting there were some good suggestions from the audience. At the end of the meeting it seemed to be a consensus that sometime after the beginning of the year, the Board might think about what we could do realistically giving our resources as a first cut of the Master Plan. Trustee Bergen asked if the Board could do their homework on this and then discuss it at the March meeting.

B. Budget Call letter. Mayor Baker stated that in the schedule that Clerk Kogut handed out, it indicated that by February 8, 1994 the letter had to go out to the various budget area supervisors calling for their budget submissions by the required date. This has been done.

C. Farmer's Market. Trustee Brink remarked that last Fall the Board briefly discussed the possibility of an adjustment in the Farmer's Market fees. She handed out the rules and regulations from last year which showed the fees schedule. She felt that we need to increase the fees for the seasonal permit. Another thing might be to divide the season into two halves. Another concern Trustee Brink had was whether or not the village should run the market. Clerk Kogut has some information on other markets and he will get together with Trustee Brink for her to look at it. The Board will discuss this further at the March meeting.

D. Public Hearing - Solid Waste Law. Mayor Baker stated the Board needed to set a date for the public hearing on the Solid Waste Law. He suggested a target date sometime after the March meeting.

Adjournment

There being no additional business to come before the Board of Trustees, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul C. Kogut
Village Clerk-Treasurer