

Village of Hamilton

Board of Trustees

March 8, 1988

The regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held in the Village Library at 7:00 pm on March 8, 1988.

PRESENT

Mayor Getchonis, Trustees Ray, Fuller and Erb, Village Engineer Rathbone, Fire Chief Holcomb, Village Attorney Hughes and Village Clerk-Treasurer Kogut.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

The subject of annexation was brought up. Engineer Rathbone reported that there was a meeting of the Brookview Drive area residents relative to the matter. There was a positive feeling regarding annexation, however, doubt has been raised concerning the idea, and interest has been lost. It was pointed out once again that the benefits to both the property owners and the Village may not be realized immediately, but that it may take several years to feel the impact. Mayor Getchonis indicated that the Village may have a committee in the future to evaluate the impact of annexation.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, and seconded by Trustee Fuller that Priscilla Suits be appointed Village Assessor effective April 1, 1988 at the rate of \$110 monthly.

Ms Suits is currently serving as Town of Hamilton and Town of Madison Assessor. She will work approximately 20 hours per week on the records of both the Village and Town of Hamilton. Regular office hours will be held in the Town of Hamilton office.

Following additional discussion, motion to postpone consideration was made by Trustee Ray, seconded by Trustee Erb and carried.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, seconded by Trustee Ray and carried that the minutes of the regular meeting of February 9, 1988 be approved.

REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report - February 1988. Motion was made by Trustee Ray, seconded by Trustee Fuller and carried that the Treasurer's Report for February, 1988 be approved.

B. Police Report - February 1988. Trustee Ray made the observation that the monthly report shows little activity from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm, and that no-one "walks a beat" during that time. Mayor Getchonis added that he also felt that the downtown merchants deserved to see an officer during the day.

Motion was made by Trustee Ray, seconded by Trustee Erb and carried that the Police report for February, 1988 be approved.

C. Library Report - 1987. Mayor Getchonis indicated that he has received a copy of the Library report for 1987, and has furnished the Trustees with a copy of the cover letter. He advised them that the report is available in the Village Office.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, seconded by Trustee Fuller and carried that the claims for the month of February, 1988 be approved for payment as follows:

General	\$ 15,741.85
Community Development	3,476.73
Capital	117,171.75

Joint Activity	190.00
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COMMUNICATIONS

A. Resignation of R. Milner from Recreation Commission. The resignation of Mr Milner from the Recreation Commission was recently received. Trustee Fuller has recommended Mr. Paul Rose as a possible replacement.

B. Copies of correspondence from the NYSDOT to Eve Ann Shwartz and Mrs. Werner regarding the bridges over the feeder canal on the Jaquay property.

C. Mayor Getchonis has written to Mr. Metz, the individual who is purchasing a lot of property in and around Hamilton. Mr Metz called the Mayor and advised him that he will be in Hamilton in early April.

D. Mayor Getchonis has written to both area Pennysavers, requesting they consider a policy of distributing their material only to residents who have exhibited a desire to have it.

E. Mr. Robert Howard of the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Senior Center wrote requesting support for the continuation of the program and the continued inclusion in the Village budget.

F. Letters of objection to the proposed Paragon Cable changes from several village residents.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Additional police officer. Prior to the meeting, Trustee Baker advised that he continues to be in support of funding for an additional officer, but he feels that the use of part-time officers *must* be reduced. The Mayor pointed out that hiring this person would bring the Police Department back to the staffing levels of the early 1980's.

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, seconded by Trustee Fuller and carried, with Trustee Ray dissenting, that the Police Chief begin the procedures, in conjunction with the County Civil Service Office, for the hiring of an additional police officer.

B. Little League field. Rich Cohen and Don Palmateer were present representing Mid York Little League, a not-for-profit organization affiliated with Little League International. Because of this affiliation, they are required to meet certain standards, one of which is for regulation playing fields.

Their proposal is for the development of two regulation Little League fields to be constructed on the Village owned property on Eaton Street. These fields will then preclude the need to play on fields owned by Colgate or the school district. They plan to continue to remain completely independent of the Village for financial support and will raise funds for the construction themselves.

Following their presentation, Mayor Getchonis advised them to meet with the Recreation Commission, and to develop more complete plans for the area.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Bid Opening. A single bid from the Pharsalia Volunteer Fire Company for the purchase of the old Fire Department rescue vehicle was opened. Their bid was for \$501.99. Concern was expressed over the fact that only one bid

458
was received, and the amount of the bid.

Motion was made by Trustee Fuller, seconded by Trustee Erb and carried that the bid of the Pharsalia Volunteer Fire Company be rejected, and bids be sought again at a later date.

Fire Chief Holcomb expressed the thanks of the entire fire company for the purchase of the new vehicle. He indicated that training on the use of the new rescue tool would take place on March 19 & 20. In response to an invitation issued by the Chief, the Trustees will meet at the fire station at 7:30 on March 15 to see the new truck.

B. Paragon Cable. Mayor Getchonis mentioned that Paragon Cable is requesting renewal of their franchise to operate in the Village, and that the Village Board will be following the proper steps to ensure that the best agreement possible for the cable customers will be reached.

C. Farmers' Market Rules. No particular changes to the rules are felt to be necessary, however, Trustee Ray stated that he still felt that the rates charged to vendors for their spaces should not be part of the language of the local law establishing the market, but should be changeable by Board resolution whenever necessary.

The Clerk mentioned that vendors who had reserved spots last year would be given an early deadline to renew this year. Any who did not renew would lose their priority status for that spot, and it could be given to another vendor.

D. Courthouse seating. The Code Enforcement Officer has inspected all the Village's areas of public assembly. The Courtroom currently uses folding chairs and can legally only accommodate 12 people. With permanently fixed seating, 40 people can be allowed. Mr. Maltzan will attempt to locate seating that can be installed.

E. Sanford Field House. It has been noted that Track and Field events have recently been held in Sanford Field House. Colgate University had previously agreed that spectator events would not take place there as it was intended to be a practice facility only. Mr. Maltzan will be asked to clear this up with the University.

BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

A. Engineer Rathbone. Raised the issue of the 1977 dump truck and plow. The repair costs are increasing, and the truck is showing considerable signs of wear and tear and aging. A new vehicle is available on NYS Contract, and the plow, if not on NYS Contract will most likely need to be bid.

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, seconded by Trustee Ray and carried that Village Engineer proceed to obtain a new dump truck from NYS Contract and bid the snow plow, with financing to be provided in the 1988-1989 budget.

B. Trustee Ray. Mentioned the traffic signs in front of the Colgate Inn have been knocked down again. Also, that the sign that is protected by the "temporary" barrel looks very unsightly.

He also felt that there were still too many signs and traffic islands at the Utica Street-Eaton Street intersection and suggested we ask the NYS DOT to remove them. Engineer Rathbone advised Trustee Ray that that street and intersection were the under the sole jurisdiction of the State, and that there is little the Village could do to cause a change in the intersection.

The Utica Street - Montgomery Street intersection has been made hazardous at times due to snow being piled and the occasional parking of a car at the corner of Den Kelly's property. Finally, he asked that Mr. Maltzan check with Mr Reuter to see that all his vehicles are kept in accordance with the Village junk car law.

D. Trustee Erb. Advised the Board that part time police officers D. Prete and A. Wilson, and secretary K. Charles have resigned. Interviews for

secretary have been scheduled. Officers F. Donahue and Kk. Jaquay have completed one month of their basic school and are ranked second and third in a class of 26.

Trustee Erb also asked if the Recycling committee can address the use of plastic bags in the Village, noting that NYS may ban the use of styrofoam materials (cups, etc.) in areas such as State Parks.

E. Mayor Getchonis. Made note of the resignation of Richard W. Gorton from Fountain Fire Company #1, and asked for a motion to appoint James J. Althaus, 44 Payne St as a firefighter of the Hamilton Fire Department.

Motion was made by Trustee Fuller, seconded by Trustee Ray and carried that James J. Althaus, 44 Payne St., Hamilton be appointed as a volunteer firefighter of the Hamilton Fire Department.

F. Attorney Hughes. Requested a resolution authorizing New York Telephone to replace and/or install sidewalk along Payne Street in conjunction with their telephone line improvements in that area.

Motion was made by Trustee Ray, seconded by Trustee Fuller and carried that New York Telephone be authorized to install and/or replace sidewalk in the Village right-of-way along Payne Street in conjunction with their telephone line improvements in that area.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, seconded by Trustee Ray and carried that the Village Board go into executive session to discuss personnel at 10:00 pm.

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, seconded by Trustee Fuller and carried that the Village Board return to regular session at 10:24 pm.

Due to the recent resignation of Tom Zdanowicz as working foreman, motion was made by Trustee Fuller, seconded by Trustee Ray and carried that the vacancy be posted and, after the required waiting period, be advertised, to be done as soon as possible.

Motion was made by Trustee Ray, seconded by Trustee Erb and carried that the salaries of the Municipal Utilities Commission members be increased retroactive to January 1, 1988 as follows:

MUC President	\$ 1,350	annually
Commissioners	900	annually

and, that effective June 1, 1988 the Mayor's and Trustees' salaries be increased as follows:

Mayor	\$ 1,350	annually
Trustees	900	annually

and that from June 1, 1988 on, the salaries of the Mayor and Trustees, and the Municipal Utilities Commission members will remain equal.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Trustee Erb, seconded by Trustee Ray and carried that the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees be adjourned at 10:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul C. Kogut
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Village Clerk-Treasurer