

Village Board Meeting
March 14, 2022 7pm

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7PM. Trustees Tuttle, Najarian, Shapley and DuMond were present along with Fire Chief Mirabito, Electric Superintendent Livingston, Sewer Plant Operator Ingraham, Working Supervisor Kinney and OIC Nordberg. Visitors: Marcia Miller, Angela Fiato, Audrey Sullivan, Steve Page, Alan Lord, Jess Schindler, Sharon Davis, Bernie McDermott.

Motion by Trustee Najarian seconded by Trustee DuMond to accept board meeting minutes of 2/14/22, budget meeting minutes of 2/14/22 and 3/8/22. Ayes-all. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Tuttle seconded by Trustee Shapley to accept Treasurer's and Police reports. Ayes-all. Carried.

Mayor Brown opened the public hearing at 7:05pm on the five percent (5%) water rate increase effective 6/1/22. The Clerk Treasurer read the legal notice.

Fire Chief Mirabito reported he had discussions with Fire Department members regarding the LOSAP program. Fire Department members would like to have a representative from the Village office and a representative from the LOSAP program come to speak with fire department members regarding the LOSAP program. ISO insurance representative did an inspection of the Fire Department. We have been and are currently rated a "4", which is the highest rating a non-paid fire department can receive. Fire Chief Mirabito is awaiting the results of the new inspection. The rescue truck repairs are complete. The rescue truck will be transported by flatbed from Canada back to our fire station, they are currently making plans for that delivery. The fire department generator fix went well, it worked as it should with our recent power outage.

Electric Superintendent Livingston is not able to attend the Semi-Annual MEUA meeting on April 12th and 13th and would like the MEUA Board to be our voting delegate for the Village of Greene.

Motion by Trustee DuMond seconded by Trustee Tuttle to allow MEUA Board to be the voting delegate for the Village of Greene at the April 12, 2022 Semi-Annual MEUA meeting. Ayes-all. Carried.

Superintendent Livingston explained the higher PPAC (Purchase Power Adjustment Charge) charges that have been seen on the electric bills. The imposed increase in the Renewable Energy Certificates tax, (REC's) along with colder temperatures than 12 months ago, have caused an increase in the PPAC portion of the electric billing. The Village of Greene has not increased their rate per kWh since 2008. All increases since 2008 have been increases in taxes imposed by the government and are a pass through for the Village of Greene electric.

Working Supervisor Kinney reported the CHIPS, Extreme Winter Recovery and Pave-NY money has finally been received. Pothole work will be starting this week since the weather will be nice. The clock tower is keeping time but it is not chiming. The clock repair company will be contacted to walk us through some trouble shooting before he comes out to work on it. Yard waste will be addressed at the April 11, 2022 board meeting. The highway department would like to attend the H2O Dig Safe class on 4/1/22 in Cortland.

Motion by Trustee Najarian seconded by Trustee Shapley for the highway department to attend the H2O Dig Safe class in Cortland on 4/1/22. Ayes-all. Carried.

Mayor Brown thanked the highway department for a great job cleaning up from Friday Evening/Saturday storm. Working Supervisor Kinney thanked the other departments for all their help with the storm cleanup. Working Supervisor Kinney is still waiting on FEMA for the Birdsall Creek reimbursement.

OIC Nordberg reported the Police Department has been busy the last few weeks.

Sewer Plant Operator Ingraham reported the SRBC did their inspection of the wells and reporting practices for water last week. The inspectors were impressed with the SCADA system and very happy with the wells. The SAM grant still has not been addressed by Albany. Marcia Miller will get Clerk Treasurer the contact information for letters to be sent to Senator Akshar and Assemblyman Angelino to see if they can assist in getting the SAM Grant money to the village.

Motion by Trustee Tuttle seconded by Trustee Najarian to accept and sign contract to hire Municipal Solutions as our Financial Advisor for the potential water line project. Ayes-all. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Tuttle seconded by Trustee Shapley to accept and sign contract to hire Harris Beach as our Bond Counsel for potential water line project. Ayes-all. Carried.

Mayor Brown appointed Trustee Dumond as signer on the Newton Boyce Memorial Trust Fund.

Motion by Trustee Shapley seconded by Trustee Najarian to appoint Trustee DuMond as signer on the Newton Boyce Memorial Trust Fund to replace Trustee Hartley. Ayes-all. Carried.

Mayor Brown read resignation letter from Trustee Tuttle with regrets.

Motion by Trustee Shapley seconded by Trustee Najarian to accept resignation letter from Trustee Tuttle. Ayes-all. Carried.

Mayor Brown thanked Trustee Tuttle for all her hard work and years with the Village of Greene on Planning Board and Village Board.

Motion by Trustee Tuttle seconded by Trustee Najarian that the following audited claims be paid in total \$344,928.67

General Fund	\$50,245.11	Water Fund	\$5,429.78
Electric Fund	\$282,322.92	Sewer Fund	\$6,930.86

Ayes-all. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Shapley seconded by Trustee DuMond to authorize budget amendments. Ayes-all. Carried.

Mayor Brown opened the floor to visitors.

Jessica Schindler, Greene Rotary Grants Chairperson, has a project Rotary is applying for to purchase and install dog cleaning stations to be placed around the village to encourage people to pick up after their dogs. They are applying for a \$2,500.00 grant, providing cleaning stations and bags. Greene Central School Interact Club would be willing to keep things maintained. Greene Rotary is looking to have the Village of Greene sustain the project. All collection boxes and bags will be attached to the poles and after further discussion it would be 8 stations around the Village of Greene. May 1st is the deadline for the Grant application. Installation will need to be addressed. Final waste spot would most likely be the highway department dumpster. Marcia Miller, Planning/Zoning Chairperson, said she will set a date in April for a Planning/Zoning meeting with Rotary in regards to their project.

Motion by Trustee Najarian seconded by Trustee Shapley to work with Greene Rotary Club on dog station waste boxes. Ayes-all. Carried.

Angela Fiato, Special Ed Teacher/Class of 2024 Advisor, presented a 5K run for the Class of 2024 fundraiser on May 21, 2022 at 9AM. Discussions will need to be presented to Fire Department for Fire Police and Greene Police Department for layout of the 5K race. Proof of insurance will need to be provided as the Village of Greene cannot cover this event under their insurance. Lion's Club was suggested.

Motion by Trustee DuMond seconded by Trustee Tuttle for Class of 2024 to hold a 5K run fundraiser provided they find insurance coverage. Ayes-all. Carried.

Mayor Brown updated that Planning & Zoning will hold meetings on 3/30/22 at 7PM for property on S. Canal across from High School/Middle School and at 8PM for Eagle Scout Project.

Mayor Brown updated that Tuesday March 15, 2022 noon to 9PM are Village of Greene elections for 2 Trustee positions at the Village hall and 11AM to 8PM for the bus vote at the auditorium lobby of Greene High School.

Mayor Brown opened the floor to discuss the 5% water rate increase.

Marcia Miller said she thought the 5% water rate increase was acceptable considering all the challenges faced with budgeting and cost increases.

Bernie McDermott brought attention to the different date of fiscal years for the Village and Town of Greene. Town needs to be notified far enough in advance for the Town budget process. Mayor Brown stated he had discussion with Code Enforcer Wheelock there would be an increase but was unsure of percentage increase. Mayor Brown stated better communication with the Town will be made.

Motion by Trustee DuMond seconded by Trustee Tuttle to close public hearing for 5% water rate increase at 8:06PM. Ayes-all. Carried.

Motion by Trustee Tuttle seconded by Trustee Najarian to increase water rates 5% effective June 1, 2022. Ayes-all. Carried.

Trustee Shapley and Trustee DuMond thanked the office staff for their hard work at this busy time of year during budget season.

Trustee Najarian thanked the highway department for all their work for snow removal and ice storm. The Eagle Scout sign project will be heard at our April 11, 2022 board meeting after they meet with Planning and Zoning on March 30, 2022. The Garden Club will be seeking grants for the upcoming season. Trustee Najarian wanted to thank Trustee Tuttle for all her help and support over the years as Trustee.

Trustee Tuttle thanked Sewer Plant Operator Ingraham for all his work keeping the sewer plant operational and it was a pleasure working with him over the years.

Motion by Trustee Tuttle seconded by Trustee DuMond to adjourn meeting at 8:10PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Irene A. Tornillo
Clerk Treasurer