

VILLAGE OF BAINBRIDGE REGULAR MEETING
HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022 AT 6:30 PM
IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE,
15 NORTH MAIN ST., BAINBRIDGE

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wade called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Wade, Trustee Eisenberg, Trustee Mayes, Trustee Dann

EXCUSED: Deputy Mayor Taylor was excused.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Parsons, Chief Caratelli, Superintendent Webb, Deputy Clerk Loya

VISITORS: There were approximately 40 visitors present.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 11, 2022 Special Meeting were distributed to the Board.

Trustee Eisenberg moved to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2022 as presented, second by Trustee Dann.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

The minutes from the October 18, 2022 Regular Meeting were distributed to the Board.

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2022 as presented, second by Trustee Mayes.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

Mayor Wade moved the public comment section of the Agenda to the beginning of the meeting as there were several people who wanted to speak.

Commented [PW1]: You may want to fix this little formatting issue,

PUBLIC COMMENT: A lady who identified herself as the owner of Pearl Street was present to speak about her property. She said she lost all her possessions in the fire.

Lori McGraw spoke about the issues she feels are going on in the Village.

She said there is theft, break-ins, unsafe things going on in the back parking lot, new people coming to the Village in that may not be have a place to live, people threatening the lives of Village.

She does not feel that we are responsive to the issues that are happening in the Village and asked if the Codes are being upheld.

Chief Caratelli said that we have 60 hr. of coverage per week which limits the police coverage.

Someone asked if we the hours could be posted. Chief Caratelli that it compromises police effective.

Jahaira Liz said she lives in the Village but has worked with homeless people for 7 years. She said there are some programs for people to take advantage of at the County level but there is no homeless shelter in Chenango County. There is however, a warming shelter being opened by Catholic Charities. She added that the problems Bainbridge is facing is prevalent in other communities as well. She handed out some cards from 211 Homeless Coalition that who is homeless.

Robin Sherman said that she does not think the PD is responsive when they are on duty. She said a family member of hers had a trespassing complaint and was told that the Village would not handle it.

Dolores Nabinger said the person who is threatening people spent the summer at Clinton Park but is not gone. She said if he did not leave, they could not make him. She also added that Bail Reform is a very frustrating thing. You cannot put someone in jail unless it is a violent felony. She did suggest that people write to congressmen and other law makers to express our concerns with the Bail Reform.

Lori McGraw asked if it is time to revamp the police department? She asked about adding hours and the possibility of a full-time officer.

Chief Caratelli said that a full-time officer with benefits would cost around \$85k. This would almost double the police department budget.

Robin Sherman spoke about several "drug houses" in the Village.

The owner of 8 Pearl said that they are not a drug house. She wanted to know what proof anyone has that they are dealing drugs from this location. She said they did not ask that the campers be put there but that someone was trying to help them by giving them shelter.

Austin Williams who works at Sal's Pizzeria said that the bathrooms were vandalized there last week. He said he walks home from work at night and feels threatened at times. He says that he wants his kids to be safe and that safety is dwindling away in the Village.

Ron Ingham who lives at 102 North Main Street said that the property next to him is not being taken care of. He said there is a generator that runs all night long and his family has to use sound machines to be able to sleep. They also have trash, a junk car and motor cycle parts on the property as well as an open foundation.

Ron Bogert asked if there is any worth in doing foot patrol. He said that no one sees the police on foot patrol.

Chief Caratelli said his officers do nightly foot patrols and door checks. Several people spoke up saying that they never see any police on foot in the Village. Lori McGraw said that she has cameras outside her store and has never seen anyone check the doors at her business. Joe Ricco asked if the Village can initiate laws that would override the State Laws. Mayor Wade said that we cannot institute laws stricter than the State.

Mike Palmatier said the lights in the parking lot need to be adjusted to come on earlier in the evening.

Mayor Wade thanked everyone for coming and expressing their concerns. He said the Zoning Violations at 100 North Main have been addressed, several letters have been written with appearance tickets issued but they don't appear in court and the Judges will not issue warrants.

He then spoke about a Local Law that is being introduced tonight that will make it illegal to "live" in a camper on your property. Permits may be issued by the Code Enforcement Officer to allow someone to stay in one short term.

Mayor Wade said that there are homes in the Village that are pig stys, and we are also working on them. Vacant homes are also an issue but we are looking into options for them as well.

He then said that we are working on police coverage during the day as well as considering a full-time officer. He said he is sad that people don't feel safe and don't feel that the Village is safe for their children. Bail reform is a big problem. He has been on calls concerning this and would like people to call and write to the State government.

Dolores Nabinger said that it may be tough to get a full-time officer as no one is interested in going into law enforcement.

Ron Bogert asked if we could dedicate a part-time person to taking calls from businesses and citizens.

Trustee Eisenberg said that we are all on the same side. He is frustrated as our tax base has dwindled and business has left. He feels the Bail Reform law ties our hands. He said we are trying and have the resident's best interest at heart.

Jeff Webb said that we have thrown everything at these nuisance properties but not much has happened. Junk cars are also a problem, you get rid of one and two more pop up. When you send them to court, they just don't show up.

Amy Bookhout asked if you can arrest them for not showing up. Mayor Wade said that this is an option but does not happen.

Tim Price who just purchased a home on East Main Street said that there are absentee landlords that do not keep their properties up and there are tenants who deal drugs out of the apartments. Can something be done about this?

Mayor Wade said many of the properties we deal with are absentee landlords.

Traci Stafford lives across from 100 North Main and sees many cars visiting the property. They come and go all hours of the day and night.

Tara Doty-Blance says she sees a lot of frustration in the room. She says that she would like a way to log complaints in and track them.

Eric Barnard asked if we can start a neighborhood watch. Dolores asked if Casey could sit with them to start one. He said he could help with establishing a Neighborhood Watch.

Mayor Wade again thanked everyone for attending and sharing their concerns. He explained that the Board shares the same concerns and will work to address them.

REPORTS:

Reports were received from Public Safety, DPW, Water & Sewer, Animal Control, Clerk and Mayor.

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the above reports as presented, second by Trustee Dann.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

Mayor Wade said we received a quote from Ti-Sales for \$9,952.00 for replacement of the meter reading equipment. We have \$8,000 toward this price but will have to find where the other \$2,000 will come from.

Trustee Dan moved to purchase the meter reading equipment from Ti-Sales for a price of \$9,952.00, second by Trustee Mayes.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade

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Noes – None
Carried.

Audited Claims

The audited Claims October 2022 were as follows:

General Fund Abstract #5 in the amount of \$60,439.18, Check #'s
21425-21448

Water Fund Abstract #5 in the amount of \$2,944.74, Check #'s
5711-5714

Sewer Fund Abstract #5 in the amount of \$10,428.62, Check #'s
6131-6145

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the Audited Claims for
October 2022 as stated above, second by Trustee Mayes.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried

Unaudited Claims

The Unaudited Claims for November 2022 were as follows:

General Fund Abstract #6 in the amount of \$14,818.63

Water Fund Abstract #6 in the amount of \$36,928.30

Sewer Fund Abstract #6 in the amount of \$3,566.34

Trustee Eisenberg moved to approve the Unaudited Claims
for November 2022 as stated above, second by Trustee
Dann.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried

OLD BUSINESS:

Inoperative Motor Vehicles

Letters will be sent to 31 North Main and 8 Pearl Street this
week.

Court Results

CG Law has someone who will meet with Jeff about the code violations. We will send all paperwork to CG Law and await the meeting.

Sewer I&I Remediation

We did not make the cut for EFC grants. B&L suggested applying to USDA RD for funding.

Use of ARPA Funds

- 1) Well #1 TV Inspection and & Solutions - \$4,535 complete
- 2) B&L Sewer Project SEQR and Bond Resolution work - \$5000,
- 3) Well #1 Rehab - \$39(Est)
- Waiting for Layne Cristensen to sign the contract.
- 4) Water System Engineering Study, Match for USDA Grant - \$10K - Total estimate to date: \$64K – project completed, invoicing?
- 5) Back-up Generator for Wells – The grant application was re-submitted to FEMA after updating it to provide requested information. We are waiting on FEMA decision to fund the request. If we receive FEMA funds, we will have a \$9,000 match.
- 6) Generator and Transfer Switch for Main St. Pump Station – Estimate is \$40,000, Supt. Webb to get quote.
- 7) Lead Pipe Inventory – proposal from B&L \$5,000.program.
- 8) USDA RD proposal for water system grant from B&L - \$5,500
- 9) USDA RD proposal for sewer project from B&L - \$5,000
- 10) Total estimate ARPA fund uses \$113,045

Payne Solar Project

We are waiting on a fence permit from the project. We received notification of SEQR lead agency from the Town.

Water System Engineering Study

Commented [PW2]: Please check with Jeff on this. I think we were trying to get an estimate.

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Barton & Loguidice said since we did not meet criteria for grant through EFC, we should seek USDA RD funding. B&L has submitted a contract request to fund this process.

Kirby Street Culvert Rehabilitation

Another round of DOT Bridge NY funding has been announced. We will resubmit to Bridge NY Grant for the Kirby Street project.

Sale of Property Across from Baseball Field

Clerk Parsons found the deed for this property and forwarded to Mr. Byler's attorney.

DAR Tree in Park

Clerk Parsons will reach out to Mrs. Beach.

Jericho Alleyway

Waiting for opinion letter regarding ownership of the alley from our Village Counsel ([Beth Westfall](#)).

New York Forward

Mayor Wade submitted the grant application, have presented to the REDC and are awaiting the announcement for funding.

Restore NY

Mayor Wade and Clerk/Treasurer Parsons will work on preparing a letter of intent to seek funding under the 7th round.

Sexual Harassment Training

All employees must complete Sexual Harassment Training. Clerk/Treasurer Parsons will resend the link.

DPW Second Phone Line

Frontier came and installed the line for the alarm system. However, the \$1,800 motherboard that we were going to purchase for the alarm system is no longer available. We will now have to purchase a whole new system for the DPW for which the quote is \$4,800 and does not require a phone line as it is cellular.

Community Solar

Trustee Eisenberg and Deputy Mayor Taylor will meet with Dave Leidy to discuss community solar.

Steve felt that it was a no-brainer and that we should move forward with this. Steve asked if there are other companies that offer this and he said yes if we wanted to research them.

Introduction of Local Law #5 of 2022

Local Law #5 of 2022 – A Local Law amending Sub-section 165-46 of the Village of Bainbridge Code Regarding Temporary Uses.

Trustee Eisenberg moved to hold a Public Hearing on December 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM in the Village Clerk's Office, 33 West Main St., second by Trustee Dann.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mertz Late Penalty

Mr. and Mrs. Mertz did not receive their last water/sewer bill. They always pay on time and asked that the penalty of \$25.68 be forgiven.

Trustee Eisenberg moved to forgive the penalty for Mr. and Mrs Mertz (Acct #0196) July 2022 bill in the amount of \$25.68, second by Trustee Mayes.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None

Carried.

Payne Capital Charge Acct #0505

John Payne had a question about his water bill for his office and why it was higher than another property that uses more water.

Clerk/Treasurer Parsons researched this and found that his Capital Charges for Account #0505 were incorrect. He has an office and an apartment at this location and his capital charges reflected that there were 3 units at this building instead of 2.

The overcharges amounted to \$1,024.22 for water and \$1,464.41 for sewer. Clerk/Treasurer Parsons will contact Mr. Payne to see if he wants a credit or a refund.

Trustee Eisenberg moved to refund or credit Mr. Payne for the above amounts, second by Trustee Dann

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None

Carried.

Local Code Review

Trustee Eisenberg and Trustee Taylor have been meeting concerning modifying the codes.

Chief Caratelli said that he would like to add a school zone on Walnut and Prospect.

CORRESPONDENCE: Incoming – Mayor Wade received a letter from a grade school child asking about Bainbridge, he will respond.

Outgoing – None

ADDITIONS: Trustee Mayes asked about declaring the dump truck as surplus

Superintendent Webb said that it is a F9000 single axel dump.

Trustee Mayes moved to declare the F9000 single axel dump as surplus, second by Eisenberg.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

Trustee Eisenberg has been thinking about the court and wondered if having a Village Justice would help us enforce our local codes.

Superintendent Webb said that there will be some large expenditures for sewer in the next couple months. The press plates for sewer are working satisfactorily now.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Trustee Eisenberg moved to go into executive session at 8:52 PM, second by Trustee Mayes.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

Motion to return to regular session at 9:12 PM by Trustee Eisenberg, seconded by Trustee Mayes

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

Motion to promote Sgt. Beams to Chief by Trustee Mayes, Seconded by Trustee Dann, at \$30 per hour, effective Dec. 15.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

Motion to promote Patrolman Cole to Sgt by Trustee Eisenberg, 2nd by Trustee Dann, at \$28 per hour effective Dec. 15.

Vote: Ayes – Dann, Eisenberg, Mayes, Wade
Noes – None
Carried.

Chief Caratelli will remain on as Lt. in charge of training after Dec. 15 with no salary.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Eisenberg moved to adjourn at 9:15 PM, seconded by Trustee Mayes.

Mayor Wade adjourned the meeting at 9:16 pm.

Brenda L. Parsons
Clerk/Treasurer

DRAFT

