

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES      JANUARY 18, 2021**

Trustees: Eileen Konecny, R. Ted Warner, Patrick Dorner & Nick Burlingame

Trustees Absent: None

Mayor: Linda Jackson	Present X	Absent
Village Manager: Anthony Bates	Present X	Absent
Attorney for the Village: Robert McKertich	Present X	Absent

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance- Moment of Silence**
- 2. Fire and ADA Compliance**
- 3. Mayor's Comments**

**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS JANUARY 18, 2021**

I talked to Bob Taylor. I asked him why he was no longer interested in a glass recycling facility. He was incredibly surprised to hear this! He would welcome the opportunity to bring his glass to Endicott rather than to CAP in Allentown – a 5-hour trip away! He feels many others agree with him. Transportation is awfully expensive. Since we will probably be taking our recycling to Taylor's once their new facility is finished, any money he saves should trickle down to us in some way. Bob said he has 6 million dollars invested in his new facility. He is concerned that his new process still leaves lids and cardboard in some of the glass, so we would need to address that problem.

The glass recycling facility received grants from the Empire State Development and other sources, and we were discussing the next steps. When the Republicans got elected and promised to get rid of recycling in the Village, discussions ceased. So sad to see another business driven out!

I understand you guys felt uncomfortable with me delegating assignments, so my secretary and I will finish any projects that were started last year. That way you can turn your attention to your own projects. No liaisons will be necessary since all commissions and boards provide the whole board with meeting minutes anyway. I like this streamlining!

Last week I was invited to a press conference at the Southern Tier Community Center. They told us of all the services and projects they have planned. We saw the drawings of the upgrades. It is going to be fantastic. Former Trustee Cheryl Chapman is now a volunteer there and is helping with the Trade Unions training the students and adults in an alternate career for people not interested in college. Of course, she is also teaching cooking classes, and farm to table use of our locally grown produce! Hopefully Endicott Proud will be able to return to helping adults' study to take their GED exams. We need to give our residents hope for the future!

Years ago, then mayor Marion Corino offered us residents' trees to be planted in our median areas. Some residents have expressed an interest in that again. We will be talking to Cornell regarding trees and shrubs for Washington Avenue, and will see what they suggest for our medians. This will still depend on if we can find money for this type of project.

**3. Trustee Comments**

Trustee Konecny reported she had a meeting with Delta on the Avenue. She stated she will be holding a Heroes Parade but does not have a date or time.

Trustee Burlingame stated he has fielded some resident complaints re: garbage. He has attended a few webinars, and attended the Planning board meeting involving Imperium3 SEQR was discussed. He stated he received the official results from the Broome County Board of Election and led the election by 724 votes and Trustee Dorner by 581 votes. Spoke of the Recycling Law being rescinded. Reminded all that the new meeting procedures take effect this evening offering the opportunity for residents to speak at (2) hearing of visitors.

Trustee Dorner stated there was some miscommunication stated at the last board meeting re: his meeting with Mr. Taylor of Taylor Garbage. He stated he feels the Mayor is trying to slam the (3) Trustees that are in support of rescinding the Recycling Law but he also said their plan is to re-address the recycling Law and said there are some things they are working on but cannot put forward as of yet. He would like the Board members to get away from the fighting and bickering.

Trustee Warner stated there are about 40 people on Zoom tonight and appreciates the residents hanging in there with them through the last 10 months. He stated there is a new agenda for board meetings and now has (2) hearing of Visitors at every board meeting. The board is not following Roberts Rules any longer but are following the new board meeting procedures. Board members are allowed to answer any questions. He feels the Board meetings need to run more professionally. He volunteered to be the liason for the Water and Planning boards. The Mayor's Advisory Committees can speak with the Mayor and give them their suggestions only but cannot use Village resources.

**4. Village Manager Report**

Commented on putting the RFP out for the housing on Washington Ave. He met with the Broome County Metropolitan Transit Study. The Village was selected as a PILOT community. They evaluated and categorized every traffic sign in the Village. They are looking to share this information with the Village. He stated that the Broome County health dept has allocated the Village \$16,000.00 through a grant for creating Healthy Schools and Community Program which the Village use for sidewalk improvement. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row that they have allocated this money to the Village. He discussed the tax cap this year for the Village is 1.31

**5. Attorney for the Village Report**

He stated he sent the 239 review documents to the County re: the rescinding of the Recycling Law which they have a 30-day review period which at that point he will touch base with them to get an update. The Planning board will have to review this. He prepared the SEQR documentation and emailed to the Trustees. He will be preparing a resolution for the approval of the Recycling Law. He drafted a Law at the request of the Board for changing the procedures for governing board meetings and circulated this to the Mayor and Trustees. Suggested making a motion for a public hearing at the next meeting. He is conducting a training session for the Planning board members. He worked on the lead agency status for Imperium3 and which agency will be lead. The Planning board feels the DEC will be more beneficial given their staffing and expertise.



A motion to approve the accounts payables for 1/18/21 was made by Trustee Konecny and seconded by Trustee Dorner

Yes -4                  No -0                  Abstain -0

**13. 1<sup>st</sup> Hearing of Visitors- (3) Minute Limit**

John Visser- thanked Trustee Warner for reinstating the hearing of visitors on the newly formatted agenda and would suggest people making comments to be sure they are on video. He also thanked Trustee Dorner for his efforts with the Glass Recycling. Commented on the lack of involvement on the committees. He questioned the status of the Governors Reform Committee and asked if there was anything happening with this.

Ellen Tiberi- stated that the raised hand option is actually under reactions. She asked why the Visitor Center Museum has not been opened. Mayor Jackson stated that it has been closed due to COVID and staffing. She will look into when it should reopen.

Carol Layton- started by thanking the new VOE administration for allowing residents being able to voice their thoughts. Comments re: the website and why the updates were not placed on there. Trustee Warner stated that these updates will be addressed later in the meeting.

Appreciates the trustees for placing the Recycling Law back on the table to be rescinded.

Terry Farrell- appreciates John Visser's comments. She read out loud a letter from a resident re: tree removals on South St and their possible replacement. Trustee Warner stated that he'd like to find out what type of trees were removed. Terry stated they were dog trees. Mayor Jackson responded by saying these trees were affecting the sewer and infrastructure of the Village. She is looking into replacing the trees that will not destroy our sidewalks or infrastructure. Trustee Warner asked if the Mayor has the authority on her own to remove the trees. Village Manager Bates stated he did speak to Nikki Wales, who wrote the original letter, and she will provide a petition.

Chief Patrick Garey- responded to John Visser's Governors Reform Committee. As he has responded to him through email, they have been meeting monthly since July. There are 22 members combining of a great diversity and listed several. There are no minutes taken but he does take some personal notes and the meeting does include some confidential information. They are aware of the deadline. They feel the perception of the EPD will be solid.

Peter Burnett- comments re; the changes with the new format and recognition to the speakers. He commented on the website and the updates. Feels the website should be more accessible to residents and feels Facebook should not be relied on for information and choose the website for the main information to the public.

Bill Huston- concurred with the prior comments and its new format. Appreciates the concern with public participation and is very concerned about the tree removal issue. Feels there should be an ordinance or tree commission established. Appreciates the Trustee efforts to rescind the Recycling Law. He does not feel the Verizon License package should be passed. He also feels it is very strange that DEC should be lead agency for Imperium3.

**14. Resolutions/ Local Law(s)-**

- a. R#21- Resolution for Downtown Revitalization Projects related to the Greater Binghamton Fund award- **Held Over- Village Manager Bates**
- b. R#21- Water Pump Station Upgrades- **Held Over-**

**15. Unfinished Business**

Approval of Committees- see attached list

a. Airport Advisory Committee

A motion to approve the Airport Advisory Committee was made by Trustee Burlingame and seconded by Trustee Dorner

Yes -4                  No -0                  Abstain -1(Jackson)

b. Parking Authority Committee/Trustee

A motion to approve the Parking Authority Committee was made by Trustee Warner and seconded by Trustee Burlingame

Yes -4                  No -0                  Abstain -1(Jackson)

c. Board of Light Commissioners

A motion to approve the Board of Light Commissioners was made by Trustee Burlingame and seconded by Trustee Warner

Yes -4                  No -0                  Abstain -1(Jackson)

d. Board of Water Commissioners

A motion to approve the (4) members of the Board of Water Commissioners with a vacancy yet be filled was made by Trustee Warner and seconded by Trustee Dorner

Yes -4                  No -0                  Abstain -1(Jackson)

e. Wastewater Oversight Committee

A motion to approve the Wastewater Oversight Committee was made by Trustee Burlingame and seconded by Trustee Dorner

Yes -4                  No -0                  Abstain -1(Jackson)

f. Veterans Memorial Committee

A motion to approve the Veterans Memorial Committee was made by Trustee Burlingame and seconded by Trustee Dorner

Yes -4                  No -0                  Abstain -1(Jackson)

**16. New Business**

a. Attorney for the Village- Sub- Contractor vs Independent

No motion was made and item removed from the table

b. Health Insurance Proposal- item to be placed on the next board meeting

c. Requests from Trustee Warner (1-9)

-A motion for the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to send an email to our media company to make the following corrections on the Village website by Thursday, 1/21/21 was made by Trustee Warner and seconded by Trustee Burlingame

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-Removal of both Cheryl Chapman's pictures & captions under Mayor's Assistant & Deputy Mayor and remove her contact information for her as well.

Removal of the Mayor's Secretary, Village Manager & Attorney for the Village under the Mayor & Board section

Add: Picture & Contact Information for Trustee Nick Burlingame on the Mayor & Board page

Yes -3                      No -0                      Abstain -2 (Jackson & Konecny)

-A motion for the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to send an email to the appropriate Village employee to update the Village sign out front with the following changes within the next 3 weeks with a progress report given to Village Manager by 2/2/21

This motion was withdrawn by Trustee Warner. Mayor Jackson stated this is being worked on already.

**Side note from Janice:**

Brett Manchester of the Street department will order a new title sign for the Manager, correct the wording for the Attorney to Attorney to the Village, remove Cheryl Chapman's name and add Nick Burlingame as Trustee.

-A motion was made by Trustee Warner to approve the following resolution and seconded by trustee Burlingame: Held Over by Mayor Jackson

In accordance with NYS Village Law 4-412 (1a) the Endicott Board of Trustees approves the future creation of entities called Board Advisory Commissions (BAC). Each Endicott BAC shall serve at the sole direction and the pleasure of the Board of Trustees who may determine including but not limited to its purpose, its members, its Chairperson, its duties, its beginning date, ending date, meeting place and times of meetings and the frequency of meetings. A motion was also made that the Board of Trustees approves that each BAC hold their meetings in the rooms in the Village buildings and may if needed use Village video, audio, conferencing resources and other resources the Board may approve which the Village shall provide.

-A motion was made by Trustee Warner to create the following Board Advisory Commissions: Effective immediately in accordance with the Board Advisory Commission,

1. Business Development Commission
2. Temporary Refuse Commission
3. Washington Avenue Revitalization Commission
4. Cleanup Endicott Commission

-A motion to hold these items over was made by Mayor Jackson

-A motion was made by Trustee Warner to appoint the following people to the Washington Avenue Revitalization Committee, effective immediately: Held Over  
Mayor Jackson, Anthony Bates, Joe Moody and Ted Warner

-A motion to call for a Special Meeting on 1/20/21 at 6:00pm was made by Trustee Warner and address the prior items that have been Held Over and seconded by Trustee Burlingame

-Trustee Warner suggested that the Village send out Four (4) newsletters a year to the newspaper to give the public an update on Village projects. Trustee Warner is to check in on the costs.

**17. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing of Visitors- (3) Minute Limit**

Diane Hunter-Comments re: the Village website and questioned the Village parking space designated for Cheryl Chapman and if this has been removed. Asked the status of a FOIL she submitted last June. Village Manager Bates is looking into this.

Carol Layton- questioned the meaning of planting trees on residents “median”. She asked about the water pump Station being installed at Hayes Ave and the reasoning behind it. She asked if the list of committees can be published so residents can review it, are there regular meetings and when are they held and if residents are able to attend. Trustee Warner responded to the water pump question by saying the pressure was not strong enough filter through. Mayor Jackson responded re: the tree placements and she will be speaking with Cornell in re: to the type of trees that should be placed.

Terry Farrell- comments re; transparency within the Village and thanked Trustee Warner and the Village Manager for responding to Nikki Wales letter re: the trees

**18. Board Member Comments**

A letter was read by Mayor Jackson from Police Chief Patrick Garey re: the prior approval from Board to hire officers due to the expected 2021 retirements.

Trustee Burlingame- He congratulated the (3) new recruits and is striving to work toward a friendlier atmosphere at the board meetings

Trustee Dorner-Comments re: controversy and accusations amidst the Board

Trustee Warner- thanked the residents for staying involved with the Village. He also commended the Board for following the new Meeting Procedures.

A resolution to approve the next (2) Board Meetings on 2/1/21 and 2/15/21 for 6:00pm with a work session at 5:00 was made by Trustee Burlingame and seconded by Trustee Warner

Yes -5                      No -0                      Abstain -0

**19. Executive Session- None**

**20. Adjournment**

Motion Konecny and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Burlingame

To adjourn meeting at 10:04pm

Yes -4                      No -0                      Abstain -1 (Jackson)