

March 10, 2021

Mayor Julie Robinson called the meeting to order at 602PM with the Pledge to the flag

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| Attendance | Mayor Julie Robinson |
| Trustees | Bruce Widrick Keith Bush Linda Nortz Lloyd Richardson |
| Treasurer | Charlene Mosier |
| Deputy Clerk | Liz Jones |
| Clerk | Dawn Ashline |
| Village Maintenance | Mitch Robinson |

The meeting was held at the Croghan Volunteer Fire Department.

Guests

Mick Lehman, Andrew Woodward and Michelle Woodward

Public Comment

Andrew Woodward spoke of his concerns regarding the Verizon cell tower to be erected on the Croghan Reservoir Road near the reservoir and his home. His concern was of the cancer-causing effects by being within a quarter mile range of the cell tower.

Mr. Woodward states that he and his wife already have medical conditions and they fear they would be worsened by having the cell tower so close to their home. Mr. Woodward has stated that he is not interested in halting the whole project, he just wants it built further away from his home.

The board discussed Mr. Woodward's concerns and decided to look into the matter further. The board suggested to Mr. Woodward to attend the Town of Croghan board meeting on Monday March 18th 6 PM. The Town of Croghan has already approved the erection of the cell tower so the board felt, Mr. Woodward should voice his concerns to that board also.

Mick Lehman, a village taxpayer and engineer from the firm of Bernier and Carr, agrees we should follow all the reports and studies regarding the safety/health issues that can happen regarding the cell tower placement.

Mr. Lehman suggested that the Village should be monitoring the clearing of the land. Mr. Lehman has concerns regarding potential hazards, example: a hydraulic line could leak and/ or break and contaminate our ground and/or water source. Another hazard could be digging too close to the water table line. Our water reservoir is crucial to the Village of Croghan and the Beaver Falls Water District and we should be careful of who we are have do the work and we should be protecting our water resources by monitoring the excavating of the land.

Mayor Robinson will call the Verizon representative, Thomas Irwin and voice the concerns of Mr. Woodward. She will ask what kind of power will be installed; in other words, 5G? Are there any studies regarding cancer? Would they consider moving the tower to a different location further from the Woodward home and or the Croghan reservoir?

Mayor Robinson and Maintenance Mitch Robinson will measure by GPS for distance from tower location to Woodward's home.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurers report was read, Trustee Bush made a motion to except the treasurers report, Trustee Nortz seconded, adopted-Aye-4 Widrick, Bush, Nortz, Richardson Nay-0. Motion approved

After review-Trustee Richardson made the motion, seconded by Trustee Nortz to pay the bills as presented and carried.

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| General Fund #10 | vouchers 166 to 178 fir \$9,685.70 |
| Water Fund #10v | vouchers 96 to 100 for \$4,955.15 |
| Water Fund #10A | vouchers 101 t0 103 for \$2,141.74 |
| Water Fund #10B | vouchers 104 to 112 for \$ \$5,460.26 |
| Sewer Fund #10 | vouchers 81 to 86 for \$4,655.17 |
| Sewer Fund #10A | vouchers 87 to 89 for \$2,139.13 |

Motion by Trustee Richardson , seconded by Trustee Bush to approve the necessary budget transfers.

General Fund

\$313 from A-1640.42 to A -1410.4
\$205 from A 1640.11 to A -1620.41
\$719 from A-5110.41 to A -1910.4

Water Fund

\$193 from F-8340.13 to F- 1910.4
\$98 from F-8340.13 to F-8330.12

Sewer Fund

\$82 from GH-8120.13 to G-1910.4
\$215 from G-8120.13 to G-8110.41

Clerk Report

A motion by Trustee Richardson seconded by Trustee Bush to approve the minutes. All in favor.

The following resolution was motioned to be accepted by Trustee Nortz and seconded by Trustee Richardson. All were in favor to the following:

Resolution #3-10-21
Records Retention and Disposition Schedule

Resolved, by the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Croghan that retention and *Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1)*, issued pursuant to Article 57-A it is hereby adopted for use by all officers and legally disposing of valueless records listed therein.

Further Resolved, that in accordance with article 57-A:

- (a) Only those records will be disposed of that are described in *Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local government records (LGS-1)*, after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;
- (b) Only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

The following proclamation was Motioned by Trustee Richardson seconded by Trustee Nortz, approved after all in favor.

Proclamation

Whereas , April is designated as the month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the Armed Forces community; and

Whereas, the month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome; and

Whereas, the month of the Military Child as part of the legacy left by former Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger, who established this Defense Department commemoration and 1986; and

Whereas, Military Children deal with separations, deployments, frequent moves and even their parent's injuries as part of the life they were born into or entered with their families; and

Whereas, Military Children move on an average of 10 times while growing up; these frequent moves, exposure to different cultures and languages and immersion in military customs are all common, life- defining experiences in the military child culture;

Whereas, the term "military brat" is a badge of pride worn by generations of kids who traveled the world with their parents, by with the knowledge that they have the strength to handle anything ;and

Whereas, military children often follow in the traditions of their parents and enter military service to defend our nation; and

Whereas, the strength and resiliency of the military child is inspirational to our nation;

NOW, Therefore Village of Croghan, in recognition of the importance of the Military Child and their contributions to our nation's strength and resilience, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2021 to be

THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

in the Village of Croghan, and encourage all citizens to direct their attention to the important role Military Children play in our armed forces community.

A letter will be sent to the author of this proclamation.

Maintenance Report

Mitch states that we are not compliant with our pH levels at the water plant. The new probe is working well.

The board needs to authorize Mitch to be a signator for the DMR. Mayor Julie Robinson can fill out a paper allowing Mitch to be signator.

The new generator that was installed at Water plant is working great.

Mitch and Pat have been fixing the snow blower because the bottom of it has been worn down. Some welding has been done. Mitch has ordered a new cutting edge for \$135 this should get another 2 to 3 years out of the blower. Mitch states that we need a new auger which is approximately \$1500, could we please put that in the 2021-22 budget?

We need to order new bases for the ballfield. The price would be approximately \$450-\$500. Charlene told Mitch to just order them as it is already in this year's (2020-21) budget.

Mitch was asked to please talk to the church and County league softball teams and inquire why they have not paid for the games played in the 2020 season.

There has been a leak in the ceiling of the Zamboni room and the warming room at the ice rink. Ward Daily has recommended putting steel on the ceiling it was discussed that drywall maybe good enough. Mitch was told to go ahead and fix the ceilings. There is \$1500 in the 2020-21 budget already for this project, the money must be used by May 31.

Mitch brought up that there is a holiday missing in the employee handbook, he has not signed the handbook because of this reason. Liz will update the book.

Mitch's sewer certification is not complete his application is in but not completed.

Charlene questioned Mitch as to what Rich and Becky Knight's billing number would be because their lot is a double lot. Mitch confirmed that it would be 55A.

Mitch would like to know if/ when he does online continuing education courses, can he do them from his home or does he have to do them at the garage? The board has agreed he could do these lessons at home.

Trustees Report

Some concerns of the taxpayers were brought up and the question was raised as to," what do we get for our taxes?" Keith feels that one of the things we could do for the taxpayers is to have a leaf pick up day. Keith has looked into purchasing of a leaf vacuum for an approximate value of \$3000.00.

Trustee Lloyd Richardson made the motion, Trustee Bruce Widrick seconded to put the cost of a leaf vacuum into the 2021-22 budget. We will try to use shared services with Lewis County by borrowing their leaf vacuum for spring cleanup in the village. If all goes well, we may purchase a leaf vacuum to have for any future village cleanup.

Trustee Bush has looked into security cameras for the ice rink and the village garage. The approximate total of the cost of the systems would be \$1000. Charlene will be adding that to the 2021-22 budget.

Trustee Richardson was asked if there will be any street projects within the Village this year. Trustee Richardson stated, after talking to the town's (Croghan and New Bremen) there are no street projects planned. Trustee Richardson will be getting a free quote for the resurfacing of the Village parking lot beside the library.

Trustee Richardson will be contacting the county to notify them of the bad shape of Convent Street and the need to get it repaired.

The board discussed the purchasing of propane and the cost per gallon versus owning our own tanks and calling in for fill ups opposed to automatic service fill ups. The discussion was tabled for more information. Mitch will run the numbers and bring the information back to the next meeting.

The Pratt Northam worker grant has been approved for 350 hours this is approximately \$4000 total. The worker will be a lifeguard.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Robinson brought up the idea of paying Pat Nortz, assistant public works, more money per hour. After discussion, it was decided that he received a raise this year already, by the minimum wage going up. It will be put in the budget for a raise next year. If minimum wage does not go up again by December 2021, the board will consider a raise at that time.

Mayor Robinson signed the Lyndaker Harvesting contract for cutting of the trees at the reservoir for the cell tower. In the future any projects of revenue will be put out for bid.

Mayor Robinson brought up the local property maintenance law and we will table this for next month.

Mayor Robinson is interested and putting up pet waste disposal stations around the village. Mayor Robinson had emailed the board with estimates of the cost of these stations. The bag dispenser stations cost approximately \$90 - \$127. A complete station was approximately \$229 each. The board has decided to order one bag dispenser station, a sign from the county stating what it is and if all goes well the board will decide later on whether to get more.

Tug Hill commission has stated that they could write the zoning laws for the Village of Croghan. The board discussed starting their own zoning board. They have decided to invite the Town of Croghan Zoning Board and the Town of New Bremen Zoning Board to a village board meeting to discuss inter municipal zoning laws.

Britney Davis from Lewis County Economic Development Agency would like to come to one of our board meetings to discuss development projects within the Village.

Liz Jones was excuse at 8:25 PM

Trustee Richardson was asked if we are going to be hiring students for summer help. The board discussed the pros and cons of hiring local youth. It was decided to put it in the budget to hire Summer workers. The board will decide at a later date whether to actually hire any summer help.

The budget was reviewed. The board discussed implementing a sidewalk replacement program. Mitch will call the Village of Lowville to get a copy of their program so the board can review this at a later time.

Mitch was excused at 9:11 PM

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20PM by a motion by Trustee Nortz, seconded by Trustee Richardson.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Ashline
Clerk