

Mayor Julie Robinson called the meeting to order at 600PM with the Pledge to the flag.

**Attendance** Mayor Julie Robinson  
Trustees- Bruce Widrick-excused  
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 Village Garage.

**Guests**

None

**Public Comment**

None

**Treasurer's Report**

The treasurers report was read, Trustee Richardson made a **motion** to accept the treasurers report, Trustee Nortz seconded, adopted-Aye 3 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.

General Fund #2	vouchers 7 to 25C for \$4,858.53
General Fund #2 A	vouchers 25 to 27 for \$1,947.26
General Fund #2 AA	vouchers 28 to 32 for \$1,700.11
General Fund #2 BB	vouchers 33 to 39 for \$3,370.74
Water Fund #2	vouchers 7 to 13 for \$2,174.62
Sewer Fund #2	vouchers 13 to 18 for \$970.33
Sewer Fund #2 A	vouchers 19 to 21 for \$1,779.05

All water invoices have been sent but 6, the meters have not been read for these 6 meters.

The Annual Update Document has been filed with the state.

**Clerk Report**

Clerk Ashline read a letter received from the Lewis County Board of Elections stating if our village plans on a proposition for the November 2021 elections, we must have the information in to them by August 2, 2021.

A **motion** by Trustee Nortz seconded by Trustee Richardson to approve the minutes after two corrections are made. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **Maintenance Report**

Mitch reported that Jason Carroll, owner of Paverite, has estimated the paving job in front of the village garage at \$15-20,000 and the village owned parking lot beside the library \$15-20,000. This is just for paving. This estimate does not include any prep work such as digging, grading or stone.

Mitch will talk to Al Shaw, Superintendent of Highways for the Town of Croghan, to see if the town will assist in prepping for paving.

It was decided, since CHIP funds can be used for in front of the village garage as it is a part of the Park Drive, we will go ahead and complete that paving job. **Motion** by Trustee Richardson and seconded by Trustee Bush all in favor to complete paving job in front of the village garage.

It was decided to hold off with paving the parking lot beside the library for a year. Trustee Nortz will contact the library and ask if they will assist in getting estimates for the parking lot as it is utilized by them for next year.

There is an old tree by the library that is shedding its needles and branches onto the old fire hall owned by Ron Wolff. It also is old and looks like it will eventually fall onto the library causing more damage. Mitch obtained an estimate from Eager Beaver Tree Service for \$1,000-1,200. Mitch was told to contact Virkler's Tree Service for a second quote.

Gleason's from Harrisville were to come and scope the line from the state DI in. They were unable to make it in this time frame. Mitch will contact them to set up another date.

It was decided by a **motion** from Trustee Nortz and seconded by trustee Bush, all in favor, to proceed in rerouting the two village owned storm drains located in front of the post office to the state-owned DI on State Route 812, located in front of Monnat and Nortz garage. Mitch will proceed in the most economical way possible not to exceed \$5,000. If it exceeds \$5,000 the board will revisit the subject. By rerouting these drains, the village will no longer be "tied into" the drain line that is privately owned by several landowners within the village with Bruce Tabolt being one of them.

We have not heard any updates from Edward Mothersell, regarding his opening a laundry mat in his building. Ed was to get information as to the water capacity of washers to be installed so it could be determined whether a bigger septic tank would be needed at his business.

The chlorine analyzer was installed on Tuesday July 6,2021. The day after the analyzer was installed by Koester, the village residents experienced low water pressure. After consultation with Koester, it was determined that a wire was disconnected or was loose which caused the pumps to quit and not pump water into the tanks.

Charlene questioned why the alarms did not go off to indicate that there was an issue at the water plant. Mitch thinks that they forgot to hook the alarms back up after installing the analyzer.

Mitch reported that they have been installing the cameras that Trustee Bush purchased. There has been some activity at the park that should not be going on so cameras have been purchased to catch the culprits and have them prosecuted.

Mitch states that there are about 5 more cameras to be installed and then they can hook them up.

The sewer numbers are getting better since Pate's skimmed the top media off and more weeds have been cleared.

Mitch reports that the front tires on the side by side are getting bad. He priced new tires at All Seasons Power in Lowville at \$65 each. He was told to purchase the tires and get them installed.

Claude Curley from New York State Department of Health has inspected the sewer and water treatment plants and has stated that we are doing a great job. He is especially happy to see that we are starting to upgrade our systems. The pool passed its inspection.

### **Mayor's Report**

The ARPA funding was discussed. Charlene has filed the paperwork to get the funding and it has been accepted. Charlene states that we are to receive \$60,675.

The board discussed using the money in several different ways. Some of the ideas we are not sure if they are allowable expenditures under this grant. Mitch will be getting an official estimate for a control panel up at the water plant. Mitch has previously reported that this item was approximately \$30,000. This is one of the ideas of where to spend the ARPA grant.

Trustee Nortz would like to verify if we could use the money towards the playground project. She will get clarification regarding this.

The village has been given app. \$5,000 grant from the walkability study that we did. It was discussed to purchase park benches. Trustee Bush will purchase/order 4 brown benches that will have the name Croghan on them like Lowville's.

Trustee Richardson would like to see signs in the middle of the crosswalks in town and will investigate pricing and feasibility through the NYSDOT.

The NYS law concerning the legalized use and sale of marijuana was discussed. The board needs to decide whether to opt in/out of the law. The village board must decide whether to allow the dispensing/sale of marijuana within village limits or to prohibit it. This decision must be made to the state by December 31, 2021.

It was decided a public hearing will be needed before deciding on this matter. The public hearing has been scheduled for August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 6 PM at the Croghan Fire department on Fire Hall Street.

It was reported by Liz Jones that she has ordered the needed safety supplies requested by Charlotte Schweitzer, head lifeguard, at the village swimming pool. The amount spent is approximately \$400. Trustee Nortz will contact Tracy Boliver, head of the Croghan Recreation Park Committee to seek reimbursement as they receive money from the Croghan Lions Club for such things.

Charlene reported the scoreboard at the park needs repair as there are several lights out. Mitch states there are 3 bulbs out and last year when he priced the bulbs, they were about \$800. Since the bulbs seem to be becoming obsolete for our scoreboard, Trustee Richardson will look into the cost of an updated scoreboard. Mitch will look up the price of replacement bulbs.

Verizon Cell Tower update is as follows. Mayor Robinson has reported that the Woodwards are selling their home on the Croghan Reservoir Road. Mr. and Mrs. Woodward have been concerned about the cell tower going up and causing health concerns because of its closeness to their property.

Verizon has responded to the letter Attorney McArdle penned to them by stating that they would be willing to move to the alternative site the board has requested, as long as the village pays for, they cost they have already incurred. This amount was stated at \$60,000. The village does not have \$60,000 to pay Verizon for this change in the site. It was discussed that the village give up on the alternative site and revisit the original site and request from Verizon the assurance that they use propane instead of diesel for any generators that will be on the site. This would potentially eliminate one of the concerns the board had regarding toxic spills into our water system.

It was also stated that the board no longer want to log off the water reservoir and to keep any clearing of land to the site of the cell tower. Verizon will be asked to go back to the original plan where they will have their site cleared by their people. Charlene and Trustee Widrick will contact Lyndaker's Logging to discuss this change of plans.

Mayor Robinson will call Attorney McArdle and ask about repercussions if the board agrees to the original cell tower site. Repercussions if there was a contamination of our water system by the cell tower installment and any other unforeseen incident. Will Verizon have any liability at that point?

Mayor Robinson will also be contacting Steve Wilkerson a hydro geologist and resource protector to start on implementing/writing up a water protection plan.

LED light project was discussed. Mayor Robinson states that we need to obtain a letter of credit to proceed with the project. A **motion** by Trustee Richardson seconded by Trustee Bush all in favor was made to obtain a letter of credit from the Carthage Savings and Loan with a pledge of \$33,300.00 with signatures being Mayor Julie Robinson, Clerk Dawn Ashline, Deputy Clerk Liz Jones or Treasurer Charlene Moser.

Mayor Robinson also stated that after talking to a representative from National Grid, she was told that the village will need to be insured for \$1,000,000 above the \$4,000,000 the village already has for coverage. Trustee Nortz disagreed that we would need that coverage as NYPA was to cover that in the plan.

Mayor Robinson will contact National Grid again and seek more information. Trustee Nortz will contact NYPA for clarification regarding this request for extra insurance.

Oswegatchie Camp contacted Mayor Robinson via email asking if the village would have a community project that their camp kids could do. The board discussed having these 10-12 people sweep and pull weeds down both sides of State Route 812. This will be scheduled for August 19-20, 2021.

Trustee Richardson has gotten several prices for a new computer. County purchase \$795, Amazon \$749, Staples \$829 and \$629 Best Buy. Charlene will check with Staples to see if we could get a lower price with our Staples card. If the price is not as low and/or they do not have what we need in stock, Trustee Bush will purchase the new computer through Best Buy if the price is still lower and they have what we need.

### **Trustee Report**

Trustee Nortz was asked if she had ordered the new playground equipment for Phase One of the playground project. Trustee Nortz has not ordered the new equipment from Superior Recreational Products. Charlene gave Trustee Nortz a purchase order so that she can order the equipment. Charlene requested that Trustee Nortz obtain a W9 for the treasurer's records.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12PM by a **motion** by Trustee Bush, seconded by Trustee Nortz. All in favor. Motion carried.