

**VILLAGE OF HARRIMAN, NEW YORK**

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

**August 11, 2020**

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**6:45pm – Audit Bills**

**7:30pm – Regular Meeting**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**ROLL CALL**

Deputy Mayor Lou Medina, Trustee G. Bruce Chichester, Trustee Sandra Daly, Carol Schneider, Trustee, Village Clerk Jane Leake, Police Chief, Dan Henderson, DPW Superintendent, Kyle Livsey and Village Attorney, Dave Darwin

**ABSENT** Mayor Stephen Welle & Building Inspector, John Hagar

The Deputy Mayor asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Deputy Mayor asked if there are any changes or corrections to the minutes of July 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting?

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Schneider to accept the minutes of July 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

**AYE:** Trustee Chichester

Trustee Daly

Deputy Medina

Trustee Schneider

**NAY:**

NONE

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

This evening's bills were audited:

Trust & Agency	\$	1,165.04
General Fund	\$	31,792.59
Water Fund	\$	37,595.51

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Zoning Board of Appeals – September 2, 2020

Village Board – September 8, 2020

Planning Board – September 21, 2020

- Village still continues with our pickup of brush on a weekly basis. We ask that you put it at the edge of your property not on a sidewalk or in the street. There was an additional collection this week due to the storm.
- Although Village Hall is remaining closed to the public, employees are here between the hours of 8-3pm to take your calls. Email addresses are listed on the website. There is a lockbox outside the door where you can come in the evenings if you should want to drop off bills or other correspondence. The box is emptied on a regular basis. The Court is staffed sporadically right now, but they can be reached at 782-6853 or by email at [villageofharrimancourt@villageofharriman.org](mailto:villageofharrimancourt@villageofharriman.org) and that information is also listed on the website.
- Once again, we are doing the Annual School Supply Drive. Our goal is to help in the aid of schools and supplies and help children in our community. This is especially important with the pandemic and different protocols that the school Administrators have to put in place requiring individual personal supplies and no sharing of school supplies. Donations can be dropped off at the Village Hall Monday through Friday, 8am – 3pm where we have a labelled bin outside of Village Hall or at the Police Department at any time. We are working with the Monroe Woodbury School District to have donations distributed to children that need them most. Thank

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you very much to those who already have. We will be collecting donations up until August 21, 2020.

Trustee Chichester asked are face masks considered part of that, the ones that can be washable?

Deputy Mayor replied Marie can answer that best for us, but I don't see why not. She is heading this drive so you can touch base with her to see.

- Refuse and recycling collection scheduled for Labor Day week. There is no pickup on Monday, September 7, 2020. Refuse has changed. It is now Tuesday and Friday for the Harriman residents in the Town of Monroe. Recyclables has changed to Thursday.
- The Treasurer's AUD Report, which is the Annual Update Documentation that the Treasurer prepares and provides has been completed and distributed to the Board. I just want to thank Marie for completing this very large fiscal project that she does every year and so timely. It is a great undertaking that she does, and she does a fantastic job at it.
- Tropical Storm Isaias was quite a disappointment the response by O&R with the lack of communications for ETA's, etc. Mayor Welle is working with local officials to see how this will be reinvented in the future because it wasn't so much as how long it was, it is just not knowing any estimated times that it will be back on-line.

Chief Henderson stated their response was horrendous. We put in several calls that we are a priority and an emergency service building with no response. Five days two streets were closed down with no response. Thank God we had a generator on a grant that they were able to bring up to the Police Department. If we did not have that we would have been out of power for five straight days and it is an emergency service where people's lives are at risk. So, the Management, not the workers, of O&R should be held responsible for a terrible job they did. Mayor Welle is well aware of my feels about this.

DPW Superintendent replied I can attest to that. I had a line crew on the ground and within 45 minutes we had Nelson Trees there after the line crew had departed. They could have worked that line that night and they could have had that restored that night.

Deputy Mayor stated I would like to thank you guys for all that you did in helping with the cleaning during the outage.

Trustee Chichester responded I am sure this Board would offer support for the Mayor for his undertaken as well if he needs it.

Deputy Mayor replied Yes, and I have certainly said that to him as well. It was pretty awful but thank you to you and your guys for all that you did to get through it.

- Deputy Mayor stated we have a letter from the Village of Florida dated July 7, 2020 as follows:

Dear Mayor, Welle and Board Members, I would like to take this moment to say Thank You for offering your street sweeper and vacuuming out our large catch basins. Your operator Danny was very courteous and helpful. The Village of Harriman, Kenny and myself have had a great working relationship over the years and I hope that the new Highway Superintendent Kyle will continue to carry this relationship forward. We at the Village of Florida would like to take this opportunity to wish Kenny best of luck in his retirement and to thank the Village of Harriman for their shared services and for taking the time to help out the Village of Florida. Please feel free to reach out to me in the future should there be any need from us. Thank you again. Sincerely,  
Timothy Brunswick, DPW Supervisor Village of Florida

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- Deputy Mayor stated we had two Water Main Breaks this weekend and everything is under control right now. Kyle and his guys did a great job in getting through that. So, Thank you.
- 2 Maple Avenue – they were supposed to start demo this week. We are a little concerned about the demo team because when they were starting last week, they said they had trouble starting because there were wires on the house that were only cable TV and telephone cable. We simply removed the cables. It is a little concerning that that bothered them. The Mayor has received emails that they have been all cleared to go. So, the demo team is lining up a dumpster contract and we will be looking for movement this week.

**ADDITION**

7a) Water Account 632

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Treasurer Report – see attached report

DPW – see attached report Water Bills in the amount of \$387,499.20

Police Department – see attached report

Water Account Adjustments – see attached report

Court Reports – no reports

Building Department – see attached report

\$ 3840.00	Building Permits
\$ 300.00	Violation Searches
<u>\$ 50.00</u>	Periodic Inspection Fee
\$ 4190.00	<b>TOTAL</b>

Deputy Mayor stated as I mentioned we did receive the AUD for the Board to review.

**PARK REQUEST**

Khan – July 31, 2020 – 2-7pm

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to approve the pre-approved Park Request of July 31, 2020.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Chichester

**AYE:** Trustee Chichester  
Trustee Daly  
Deputy Medina  
Trustee Schneider

**NAY:**  
NONE

Smith/Moore – July 24, 2020 – Requesting Refund due to COVID

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Schneider to approve the Park Request refund of \$40.00.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Chichester

**AYE:** Trustee Chichester  
Trustee Daly  
Deputy Medina  
Trustee Schneider

**NAY:**  
NONE

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT**

Deputy Mayor stated this is a budget adjustment we received from the Treasurer. It is a second capital contribution from the Shops at Woodbury creating a new line as stated in the Treasurers memo dated August 7, 2020.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Chichester to adopt the budget adjustment as stated in the Treasurers memo of August 7, 2020.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Daly

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**AYE:** Trustee Chichester  
Trustee Daly  
Deputy Medina  
Trustee Schneider

**NAY:**  
NONE

**WATER ACCOUNT REQUESTS**

Account 256 Penalty Waiver Request – tabled to after all payments are received from payment plan that was agreed to

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to approve tabling the penalty waiver request until all payments have been made that were agreed to.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Chichester

**AYE:** Trustee Chichester  
Trustee Daly  
Deputy Medina  
Trustee Schneider

**NAY:**  
NONE

Account 632 – Penalty Waiver Request

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to approve a one-time only penalty waiver on Account 632.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Medina

**AYE:** Trustee Chichester  
Trustee Daly  
Deputy Medina  
Trustee Schneider

**NAY:**  
NONE

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

Attorney Darwin stated regarding the Heritage Trail Access we are waiting for the County Attorney to send us the Easement Agreement and Maintenance Agreement. I did reach out to Damien Brady the Assistant County Attorney who apologized for the delay. He said they are nearly complete, and we should have them shortly. I anticipate will have those in time to present to the Board at its next meeting to vote on approval. The Verizon Wireless Small Cell Lease – the Mayor asked me to take a look at what appears to be a name change of the applicant for the site plan review for the Town of Monroe ZBA, Area Variance Application. Our proposed lease was to be with Orange County Poughkeepsie Limited Partnership DBA Verizon Wireless that it was a limited partnership and has been dissolved by the General Partner. The General Partner is Verizon Wireless of East LP DBA Verizon Wireless. So, it is really the apparent entity that is now going to be the applicant in with whom you will be leasing the space to. It is not a big deal and I did look into it and I did ask their Attorney to provide legal representation that with this new entity is the successor interested and has the authority to entire into the lease and make the application.

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Jim Coleman – 4 Maple Avenue – regarding 2 Maple Avenue we have seen some activity which I am assuming is the demolition team. They were there a week or so ago and they posted signs about the asbestos removal and within a day or two later I saw that they had a couple of power generators and multiple poles that looked like little sensors, does anyone know? Does that monitor if there is any mold or asbestos? They posted signs on both sides of the building, which were swept away during the storm and from what I saw those signs had emergency numbers on it and that it was going from around this time until December 31, 2020. Does that mean they are going to have to come back and continuously monitor for maybe any asbestos in the air or air quality or is that the way the permit gets issued? There must have been around 6-8 that looked like microphone stands and these little wires and little tiny things hanging over the edge and they were all around the front of the property. I assumed monitoring air quality or if there is mold. The windows have been opened for around two year so a lot of rain and snow and everything else has gotten in there. We are just worried about when the demolition starts and our dogs that run in a fenced in backyard if asbestos and mold is going to be a problem.

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Deputy Mayor replied I don't know, but I will ask the Mayor and the Building Inspector, and someone will get back to you.

Mr. Coleman stated the Mayor has my email address.

Chief Henderson replied the asbestos has to be removed before they take the building down so I don't think you will have to worry about that. That has to happen and that is why they do all of that.

Trustee Chichester responded that is why we hire a firm to keep it on property and they take it down properly.

Jim Kelly, Oxford Lane – we just went through a bad storm and we are giving everybody praise and everything. A lot of people lost power and didn't get it back and you are saying how bad it is. Would it be so bad if we had power in this building and to open this as a cooling center for a lot of our seniors who possibility don't have power and it could be a serious situation for them. In Monroe, some people were on ventilators.

Chief Henderson replied we have Emergency Management Handbooks that cover a lot of that stuff. Right now, that would be obviously an issue bring anybody into an area like this. There would be places that they can be placed if they were out of power. Having this as a cooling during a COVID situation, obviously I don't think that would work well right now, unless you had a plan in place for that.

Mr. Kelly asked do people know about that plan that is out there?

Chief Henderson replied if there is somebody who does not have power and there is an elderly in there and they call us, the Police Department, we can make sure they get help if that is the issue. Always call us, we can call Adult Services. We can get them help or get them somewhere so that they are not going to be endanger. We don't want anybody dying from heat exhaustion.

Mr. Kelly stated I'm just saying we criticize others; O&R and I agree they did a terrible job and I think Senator Skoufis is going to get us better information. I also think we need to get better information to a lot of people who we don't even know that are in these homes. How many police do you have on duty in a situation like this?

Chief Henderson replied we usually put extra guys on, but also, we have to know about these people, right? If people have that situation, they have emergency numbers they can call, whether it is 911, the Police Department or whatever the case may be, but we don't know all the time exactly who is without power. We have an idea of what is going on working with DPW, but when you have an emergency like that we need phone calls, so we need people to call and get through and let us know what is going on. We can't just guess. We are not going to have an Orange County Emergency Management book in their house to know what we are doing outside the place. Maybe they can look it up online, but the fact of the matter is if there is an issue like that, we will help them out, they just need to call. No matter how many people we have on we can refer. We can use State Police, Monroe, and Woodbury. They will all come and help. We all work together.

Trustee Chichester stated for all the years that I have been here we have always tried to push out the telephone number for either the Village Hall and or the Police Department and when we got our website we put it on there. So, we have always been concerned about just the situation you are talking about. Let them call the Village Hall and Police Department when Village Hall is not opened, and help would be gotten depending on what kind of help is needed. That is what we have always pushed and certainly we want all our residents to be covered for whatever situation, but the Police do a good job in that regard. People have to understand sometimes they have to pick up the phone and call or a neighbor has to call for them.

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Mr. Kelly responded sometimes we don't know who the elderly are. Some of them don't even have phones. I'm being serious and they panic in situations.

Chief Henderson replied I put Operation Reassurance in place back in 2015 where seniors can have their name and number on file here and check in with the Police Department every single time. We put it out for the entire Village and most seniors do not want that. They don't want to be called and they don't want to be checked on. We had it in Goshen. We had 4 seniors who wanted to be checked on and we literally have 4,000. We do have that program in place. I implemented it after I got here, we put it out there and put it out during a Village Board meeting and unfortunately not one senior has come to us where we make a daily call to them to make sure they are okay. All that stuff is in place. If there is anyone you do know we are more then welcomed to get them started with Operation Reassurance.

Mr. Kelly stated I see some places put it in the Photo News. Not everyone is going to look at the Village of Harriman Bulletin. A lot of times you see Monroe puts out a little clip in the Photo News that these are the numbers you call in case of.

Chief Henderson responded Harriman is in there also. We have that in the Photo News. They have the Village Hall and the Village Police Department.

Mr. Kelly replied oh good.

Trustee Chichester stated it is in their where to call section of the Photo News. It is in there every week. But Jim your point is well taken. I understand what you are saying.

Deputy Mayor responded thanks Chief.

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to Enter into Executive Session for Attorney Client Privilege Items.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Schneider

**AYE:** Trustee Chichester

Trustee Daly

Deputy Medina

Trustee Schneider

**NAY:**

NONE

At this time, the Village Clerk was excused from the meeting.

The following was given by Mayor Welle:

Executive Session with David Darwin, Esq., and Mayor Welle on telephone.

**MOTION** was made by Deputy Mayor Medina to adjourn Executive Session and return to Regular Meeting.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Chichester

**ALL IN FAVOR**

**MOTION** was made by Trustee Daly to adjourn Regular meeting at 8:30pm.

**SECOND** was made by Trustee Schneider

**ALL IN FAVOR**

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Jane Leake, Village Clerk