Village Board Meeting

Village of Fishkill

1095 Main Street

Fishkill, NY 12524

January 21, 2025

Mayor opens meeting at 6:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Martin, Trustee Ruggiero, Trustee Machado, Pam Ruyack Village Clerk

Absent: Trustee Forlano, Trustee Hughes

Mayor entertains motion to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2025 meeting. So moved Trustee Forlano, seconded Trustee Ruggiero, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, carried.

Abstracts:

 Capital Water Well Field $9,625.00

 General $28,623.59

 Trust & Agency $525.50

 Sewer $18,887.52

 Water $5401.82

Mayor entertains motion to appoint Trustee Ruggiero as 2nd signature to sign for the Deputy for tonight on the abstracts. So moved, Trustee Machado, seconded Trustee Ruggiero, discussion, non, all in favor, aye, carried.

Mayor entertains motion to accept the abstracts as read, so moved Trustee Ruggiero, seconded Trustee Machado, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, carried.

MAYORS COMMENTS:

Mayor congratulates employees Shane Ryan and Mark McHugh for earning their water operator certificates. I am very proud of them for continuing their education. They are doing a wonderful job for us.

Mayor states that she attended the Mayor’s and Supervisors Meeting. The County is paying for two ambulances and a fly car to help out municipalities with ambulance service. They have already been in the Village. This is only provided to municipalities that already have their service.

Mayor reports an update on the Safe Streets Grant. Greg from Sarah Browns office is putting together the agreement for us. The draft agreements are due on February 14 which we will be submitting.

The Dutchess County Transportation Council will be joining us at our March 3, 2025 meeting to give an overview of the rail trail study and present some preliminary design ideas.

The New York Blood Center’s blood supply is dangerously low. They would appreciate any donors. They are located on Route 9 by the Red Line Diner.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Attorney – Greg Supple reports the Bond Resolution is going according to plan.

Building – Submitted and on File

Fire – Not submitted

Justice – Submitted and on File

Police – Submitted and on File

Water/Sewer – Submitted and on File

Clerk/Treasurer – Submitted and on File

Ambulance – Submitted and on File

Planning/Zoning – Hans reports there will be a public hearing for Rapalje Rd – flood zone. After the meeting on February 20 there will be a training session. ZBA is invited (Gini will notify them). He would like to thank the water department for their prompt attention regarding a water problem he had.

AGENDA:

Mayor Martin presented the owners of the Tomato Café with a proclamation congratulating them on celebrating their 15th Anniversary.

Ray Williams from the Hudson Valley Rugby Club discussed the field conditions last season at Sarah Taylor Park and asked what they could do to help. He stated that they have seed that they would like to put down. They will work with Paul and Mark to get that done. They asked permission to put up goal posts that were given to them. They are extremely lightweight. They also stated that they have partnered with Rugby NY to incorporate rugby in our local schools. They presented us with a signed rugby ball as appreciation.

Building Inspector Nick Woerner discussed the revised building fees schedule. The fees have not been updated since 2012. As per the discussion, he will make the changes.

Mayor Martin entertains a motion to adopt the proposed building fee schedule with changes as discussed, so moved Trustee Machado, seconded Trustee Ruggiero, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, carried.

Mayor and Building Inspector Nick discuss Merritt Blvd. Mayor states that Merritt Blvd is our largest source of complaints in the Village. In the pilot agreement for the Gap it was specified that the Village of Fishkill would be responsible for Merritt Blvd. from the Rt. 9 to the entrance to the gap. Mayor states that she has met with 3 County Executives, Senators, Assemblymen and Congressmen in an attempt to look for some assistance in paying for this. It is a very large amount for a very small Village to come up with. The road is mostly used by trucks and employees of the Gap. We have been working hard to find funding for this. We are working with the Dutchess County Transportation Council and trying to get this classified so we can get Federal Funding. Building Inspector Nick states that the Dutchess County Transportation Council is accepting applications for 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program. TIP Capital Program is part of the 5 year federally funded program that the county submits to the federal government to utilize funds. There is no guarantees for this money but we do meet some of the criteria. Our goal is to get this submitted.

Mayor entertains a motion for a resolution in support of an application to the Dutchess County Transportation Council for the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program otherwise known as the TIP Capital Program. So moved, Trustee Machado, seconded Trustee Ruggiero, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, carried.

Mayor reports that the Water/Sewer rates have not been updated since February of 2021. Building Inspector Nick prepared a recommendation with the help and assistance of Stephanie, Gini, Paul and Greg who gathered data. This recommendation is where the water/sewer rates should head in the near future so that brings us up to the level of other municipalities, replenishing reserves and prepares for any upgrades and improvements that we may need in the future. Table to next meeting.

Mayor discussed the Hotel Room Tax. We received an email from Councilman Wyre from the Town of Fishkill. The Town board is entertaining instituting a hotel room tax on the hotels in the town. The hotels in the Village are across the street from the hotels in the Town so we should at least consider this. Most other municipalities in the County have this hotel tax. This would be a good source of revenue. If we were to be interested we would have to pass a resolution and it has to be for home rule. We would need help from Assemblyman Beephan and Senator Rolison because there is a timing mechanism in which this would have to be passed. Table to next meeting.

Trustee Machado states there is no signage saying local deliveries only anywhere. We will need to check with Glen on this. She reports that FASNY is promoting a recruitment drive. We will make sure Brandon and Danny get the information.

Motion to adjourn, so moved Trustee Ruggiero, second Trustee Machado, discussion, none, all in favor, aye, carried. 7:35 pm

Pam Ruyack

Village Clerk