

Village of Oriskany

708 Utica Street/P. O. Box 904

Oriskany, New York 13424

315-736-3512

clerk@oriskany.org

Oriskany Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2020

The Village of Oriskany Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 in the back room of Oriskany Masonic Lodge #799 at 701 Utica St., Oriskany, NY to provide enough space for social distancing.

In attendance were Mayor Clifford O'Connor, Jr.; Trustees John Kasprzyk, Sean Fortnam, Christopher Burtch, and Paul Rieben; Village Treasurer Peggy Nugent; Village Clerk Alexis Albright; Police Officer Michael Colangelo; Street Superintendent Brian Moulton, Fire Chief Jeff Burkhart; Codes Enforcement Officer George Farley, and Village Attorney Steve Deery, Jr. Also in attendance were County Legislator Bob Koenig, Oriskany Planning Board Chairman Michael O'Donnell, and resident Diane James.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes for the meeting of September 8, 2020 were submitted by Clerk Alexis Albright. Trustee Burtch motioned to approve the minutes; Trustee Kasprzyk seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was submitted. The village has been receiving their county sales tax revenues monthly instead of quarterly, but they are arriving. Trustee Rieben motioned to approve the report as submitted, seconded by Trustee Fortnam. Motion carried.

The Police Chief's report was submitted. The new police car ordered last year has arrived and is nearly ready for service. Once it's marked, it will be ready to go. Trustee Kasprzyk motioned to approve the report, seconded by Trustee Burtch. Motion carried.

The Fire Chief's report was submitted. The mayor asked the chief to elaborate on the IAMRESPONDING app software that was mentioned in last month's report. The fire department uses the app for inter-department communications. The mayor and trustees may choose to get the same alerts regarding training dates, call types, etc. The firehouse and equipment is being prepared for winter. Trustee Rieben motioned to approve the report. Seconded by Trustee Burtch. Motion carried.

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The Museum Curator's report was submitted. The museum is currently open by appointment. Trustee Kasprzyk motioned to approve the report, seconded by Trustee Burtch. Motion carried.

The Code Enforcement Officer's report was submitted. Trustee Rieben motioned to approve the report, seconded by Trustee Kasprzyk. Motion carried.

The floor was opened to public comment. Finding none, the mayor next addressed each trustee and department head. Trustees Fortnam, Kasprzyk, and Burtch had no new business to report. Trustee Rieben had a number of matters to discuss. He was in contact with Ken Hadlin regarding the village's risk management assessment. This will take place on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Rieben will coordinate with the street and police departments. In other business, the fire department cancer coverage is due in January. Regarding Halloween, the fire department will be handing out candy, but the fire house will be closed. The Christmas in the Nettles committee will meet to decide what can or cannot be done this year. Trustee Rieben motioned to move forward with fireworks if permitted. Trustee Burtch seconded. All in favor.

It was brought to the board's attention that the sidewalk near 113 Oklahoma Ave was patched and "ramped" with asphalt. Given the heaving of the sidewalk, the patch will be permitted, but hopefully doesn't interfere with the sidewalk plow.

Street Superintendent Brian Moulton said that the department has begun its fall procedures. Trucks have been inspected. Holiday lights will be installed just before Thanksgiving, including five new ones purchased last year.

Police Chief Zabek stated that the officers went for their range qualifications on Saturday, October 3. All passed.

Chief Jeff Burkhart said that the Fire Department will be hosting a drive-thru dinner the last Sunday of every month from October through March. October's menu will be turkey and roast beef. The department will also start its mail fundraising campaign soon. Two out of three of the fire trucks were pump tested. The aerial truck won't be tested until repairs are complete.

County Legislator Bob Koenig addressed the group. He said that county sales tax revenues were better than forecasted. The county budget is slightly delayed, but should be passed on time. There will be changes but he doesn't think it will be "catastrophic." The legislature hopes to hold steady on property tax rates if possible.

The board then moved on to old business. Attorney Deery was consulted regarding the county's new solar tax credit policy. He spoke with Bill Schmidt and found that many municipalities are

hoping to suspend the legislation for one year and recommended passing a law for a moratorium.

In other business:

- The school resource officer contract with Oriskany Central Schools has been signed.
- The FEMA application for the Little League Field repairs is nearing completion.
- Oneida Herkimer Solid Waste will be contacted regarding the upcoming contract renewal.
- Clerk Albright is trying to renegotiate the village's phone and internet services to increase services for similar cost, or decrease costs. The process has been long and complicated.
- Halloween trick or treat will be from 5 to 8 pm on October 31. Participants should respect "no light, no knock" for any household that cannot participate.
- The Christmas in the Nettles Committee will meet soon.

Proceeding to new business, Gerry Enos has resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals. Trustee Burtch motioned to accept. Trustee Kasprzyk seconded the motion. All in favor.

Due to an error in title in the organization meeting paperwork, the board was asked to reappoint David W. Kozyra as Associate Justice. Trustee Burtch motioned to this effect, seconded by Trustee Rieben. All in favor. Motion carried.

The generator at the municipal building has been receiving monthly service calls since it was installed twelve years ago. The board was asked if additional information is available regarding the regular service requirements and the cost associated. Trustee Rieben volunteered to call the servicer.

Vouchers were signed. Trustee Burtch made a motion to close the meeting at 7:54 p.m. Trustee Fortnam seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Oriskany Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis W. Albright
Oriskany Village Clerk
November 9, 2020

October 13, 2020