



VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
243 MAIN STREET, JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790
www.villageofjc.com

Village Board

Gregory Deemie, Mayor
Deputy Mayor Clark Giblin Trustee Martin Meaney
Trustee Benjamin Reynolds Trustee John Walker

Minutes of a Work Session of the Johnson City Village Board held at 5:30pm on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 in the Municipal Building, 243 Main Street, Johnson City

Present: Gregory Deemie, Mayor
 Clark Giblin, Deputy Mayor
 Martin Meaney, Trustee
 Benjamin Reynolds, Trustee
 John Walker, Trustee

Absent: None

Also Present: Cheryl Sacco, Legal Counsel
 Cindy Kennerup, Clerk/Treasurer
 Daria Golazeski

Mayor Deemie called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Deemie discussed the Agenda and resolutions:

Daria Golazeski, Town of Union discussed

179 Floral Ave

- Eyesore of the street.
- The owner is deceased and they have been trying to contact the daughter regarding the estate. Building was unsecure and people were squatting. Has not gone to the County for foreclosure.
- Taxes in January 2018 were paid before he died.
- Grass has been cut a couple times by Town of Union contractor.

Attorney Sacco confirmed notices were posted at every known address. Going to secure the building, mow grass and clean up the yard.

254 Grand Ave/175 Hudson St

- Owned by an LLC. When the property went into foreclosure the County allowed them to retain the property for \$29,000. The County does not have updated contact information. If it

was let to go to foreclosure it would have been a better situation. They tried to get them into Court, they failed to appear and the lawyer representing them no longer represents them. Tried emails, phone, and service. There are broken windows on the back of the building. We need to make sure buildings are secure. Neighborhood and code are very upset with the buildings.

Attorney Sacco states they are looking to sell to non-profits, but properties are not suitable for anyone to live in.

Trustee Giblin asked if we can have someone from the County come and discuss this property. Mayor responded they have discussed the property situation and they are supposed to let us know before they go to auction so we can acquire the property.

Discussion between Mayor Deemie, Village Board and Attorney Sacco regarding foreclosure properties.

100 Grand Ave

- Ms. Golazeski stated they were talking to lawyer who works for company that owns the house that was foreclosed on. Taking them back to court because they are not getting a response.

Shopping Cart Law

- Mayor Deemie stated we are revamping the law due to Chief Dodge's recommendations. They cannot do anything unless they see someone taking the shopping cart off the property.

Doug Matthews, Eric Webb, head of construction, Dave Dimmock, Marketing and Cathy Connerton, CEO of JFM Real Estate discussed the Sears building in the Oakdale Mall and a project they would like the Board to look regarding a pilot program. A couple different options:

- Bulk storage for university
- Storage mall

They did not think these were good options for the future of the mall.

The Board, Mayor Deemie and Attorney Sacco discussed the following:

- Discussed Village Collection of school taxes
 - Attorney Sacco will research and see if the Village needs to collect school tax and if we can bill the school
- SRO – liability, insurance, retirement, MOU would have to be approved. Chief Dodge will come into next meeting to discuss.
- Pool/Spray Park – overall costs
- Broad Street – One way street, BMTS traffic study
- “Block the Box” – Attorney Sacco will look at laws regarding this
- Account Clerk Position

- Code research
- Willow Street lot – parking
- Floral Park Fence
- Department head meetings

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1

A motion to enter executive session at 6:03 pm to discuss proposed sale or lease of real property acquisition of/or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit the executive session at 6:44 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Reynolds. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

A motion to enter executive session at 7:16 pm to discuss personnel in the Fire Department was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Meaney. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit the executive session at 7:17 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #3

A motion to enter executive session at 7:17 pm to discuss proposed/pending litigation was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit the executive session at 7:19 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #4

A motion to enter executive session at 7:19 pm to discuss proposed sale or lease of real property acquisition of/or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Meaney. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit the executive session at 7:28 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:29 pm.

Cindy Kennerup
Village Clerk/Treasurer

CK/kc

Recordings of the Village Board meetings and work sessions
are available for review through the Village Clerk/Treasurer's Office.

1. Why are we buying pallets of concrete from Home Depot? PO #SEB20060. This was bought out of miscellaneous tools because both of the bills were due to emergency jobs. The larger bill (\$317.40) was from the end of last fiscal year and was purchased on 5/1/19. Miscellaneous tools had the only blanket order available at Home Depot at the time. Crews were repairing multiple catch basins on Harry L. Dr. and ran out of mortar mix. For some reason this Home depot bill was not received and did not get paid last fiscal year. The second home depot bill was for an emergency storm sewer collapse repair on Reynolds Rd. (We did not have time to go through the purchase request).

2. Why do we need a \$1,000.00 plus paper shredder from staples when we pay a company to shred documents for the courts? The court was in great need of a large shredder because there is confidential information that needs to be shredded daily. Also we used the company to get rid of files that we could no longer store and by law we can get rid of because the past administration NEVER took care of doing any of that there was an extreme amount so using the company was the best way to get rid of the large volume. Cheryl

3. I asked this question a couple of weeks ago and did not get a response. Why do we have portable toilets at Floral Park? We spent \$322. Plus \$150. To repair vandalism. We are renting restrooms at Floral Park because with the pool being closed the park is unattended. We did not want to open the restrooms up because they get vandalized constantly. Kim is currently looking into reduced costs at other companies.

Respectfully Submitted
Trustee Walker

1) Why is cement and mortar for \$345.80 in the sewer department coming out of miscellaneous tools? SEE#1 ABOVE

2) Why is \$33.98 for clothing listed as optical reimbursement on PO#20-00268? Clothing/optical is the same thing for the AFSCME contract, this was for reimbursement of contact lenses.

3) What is CUSI in the water department for? CUSI is the name of the water program that is currently being used.

4) Why are we purchasing 5 new fire hydrants and valves for? Are these replacement hydrants? Did we not purchase multiple hydrants recently? When the budget was done we went from \$30,000 to \$12,000 for the JC hydrant program. We are continually replacing valves and hydrants in the Village. Normally we purchase 12 hydrants.

5) Do the eyeglass and cell phone reimbursements follow the same income tax rules as the clothing allowances? No, IRS rule is if it is under \$600 no 1099 or W2 notification is required.

6) What happened to the old weed Wacker and blower in the parks? Weed whackers replaced old weed whackers. Blower is to have multiple blowers (mowing crews are split and doing multiple parks/properties simultaneously and blowers are needed at each park and or property).

7) What was purchased from Applied Industrial Technologies for \$2488.28 in the police department? What is a motor to conserve energy on continuous use? The motor purchased runs the HVAC exhaust fan for the entire justice building. The old one was the 17 year old original motor and it quit working. This caused the building to be constantly pressurized and the HVAC system to not work properly.

8) Who is receiving \$650.00 for clothing in streets? The contract states paid after submitting a voucher. This is for Director of Services, Robert Bennett. Management he gets a lump sum clothing allowance payment of \$650 at the beginning of each fiscal year.

9) What happened to the diesel spill bucket? The DEC performed an inspection of our fuel system and it was found that due to a cracked manhole and casting over the diesel spill bucket it did not pass federal inspection. We hired Frances Smith and Sons to replace it and repaired and/or rectified all other violations. Upon completion of repairs we sent verification of repairs to the DEC inspector and he cleared us of all violations.

10) Why are we paying Grey Goose Graphics to update the Villages web site? It would be more cost effective to have this done in house. This is a waste of taxpayer money. Grey Goose maintains the Website – if we do not pay them we cannot get our website updated.

11) Why are we renting portable restrooms for Floral Park? With no pool at Floral and the pool house closed. The park is open; therefore we had to get a port-a-john for the park.

12) Why are we purchasing a strip cut shredder for \$1999.00 in the courts when we are paying for shredding services? Same as #2 above

13) Why do we have to prepay Pyramid \$90.00 per hour? All other services are paid after we use them. When we do the prepaid blocks of time we do not get charged for travel time.

14) Does Joe Murcko have a PSA? Civil service demanded that Joe have a civil service title. He was then given the existing title and the board at the time did resolutions and placed in Joe's file that authorized payroll to give Joe the same benefits that are in the ASU contract; eye care was Resolution 2013-192.

15) Why are transactions with Auto Plus from the police department that occurred in April showing up late again? According to Phil, there was only one invoice from them for the month of April and it was a credit. Phil said that he submits the invoices when he receives them. We are not intentionally holding back any invoices for late payments.

16) Was the drug enforcement vehicle included in the vehicles line of the police department's budget? Was it purchased on a state bid? No it was not. I secured a grant for this vehicle from the DA's office. Unfortunately, the engine went on our 2003 Ford Explorer prior to the grant check coming in from the county. Because of this, we bought a used SUV out of drug seizure to replace it and the grant money will be used to reimburse the drug seizure account when we get it. The vehicle was not bought on state bid because it was used. It was however purchased according to procurement policy as it was the lowest priced vehicle of its model we could find within a reasonable distance.

17) Do we ever reuse existing equipment from the police vehicles that are coming off the line? If we are not maybe we should be exploring this so we may possibly save some if not all of a \$12,500 expense for lights and sirens. Yes, we always reuse everything that we can from previous vehicles. When components are at the end of their useful life cycle, or when they are obsolete and we can no longer get parts for them, buying new makes sense. Even if we were able to reuse every component, we still wouldn't begin to be able to save all of the \$12,500 expense because a significant portion of that expense is for labor to run the wiring and install everything on the new car. Also included in that amount is the cost of striping and lettering the new cars.

I hope that the board realizes that I consistently strive to stretch our budget dollars as far I can. I also consistently look to find the best value possible, not just the cheapest price. I would never purchase new equipment just for the sake of having new equipment. We have in the past, and still do, buy used/remanufactured equipment when it represents the best value. Past examples would be things like traffic signal controllers, narco vehicles, Tasers, computer components, furniture, car radios, pallet racking, ladders, mics, and portable radios. I would be willing to bet that there aren't many other departments in this county buying anything used. If they need something, they just go buy it new and pass the expense on to the taxpayers. I think you would be hard pressed to find another department head that tries as hard as I do to spend the taxpayer's money in the most responsible way.

18) Why was the \$18.00 for parking for training for the courts not submitted with a training request form? This training is mandatory yearly court clerk training and they went to the local one so as to not incur any cost to the village except it cost to park for the day. They car pooled except for 1 employee who lives closer to the training site than work. They stated they were not aware that they needed to submit a request for travel if there was no cost for the training.

19) Why are all the Magistrates meeting the responsibility of the Village when the Justice works for the town as well? Since becoming Village Justice I have submitted my meals for the association dinners thru the Village. This is the way I have always done it. It never crossed my mind to submit some thru the Town but I will start a rotation between the Town and Village when I attend. Judge Thomas

20) What is the ACT tax program? This is the Allen Tunnel Communication Tax program which we use for Village taxes.

I respectfully request that the following be removed from the bills:

- 1) \$27.00 for the magistrates meeting a Scotts Oquaga Lake.
- 2) New York State Society of Municipal Finance Officers dues \$40.00.

I respectfully request that these questions and comments are included in the minutes of the July 16, 2019 work session.

Thank you,
Trustee Meaney

1. What are the EFC documents that were prepared and submitted re: the \$1485 to a financial advisor (JSTP)? Fiscal Advisors is the over-seeing agency that reviews all of the claims for Johnson City and Binghamton from Ed Crumb and then submits them to EFC for payment. This was our bill for Proj JSP 03-06 Req's # 11-19.

2. Why do cell phone bills ranging from \$35 - \$350. Are they billed by usage? Would prepaid phones be more cost effective? Cell phone prices range from \$35 (\$34.99) - \$350 depending on how many phones we are paying for in each department and what type of phone. Smart phones base cost is \$34.99/mo. + taxes and fees. The Mayor and the Department heads have smart phones. The other employees have basic flip phones and those cost \$14.99/mo. + taxes and fees.

Mayor	\$34.99/mo. + taxes/fees
Central Garage:	\$29.98/mo. + taxes/fees
2 Mechanics	\$14.99/mo.
Refuse:	\$34.99/mo. + taxes/fees
Foreman-Dick	
Sewer:	\$49.98/mo. + taxes/fees
Foreman: Terry	\$34.99/mo.
4 flip phones	\$14.99/mo.
Streets:	\$81.97/mo. + taxes/fees
Bob	\$34.99/mo.
Mike	\$34.99/mo.
Shelf: extra phone	\$11.99/mo.
Lowest cost for phone for standby use	
Water:	\$339.91/mo.+ taxes/fees
Water Superintendent	\$ 34.99/mo.
11 flip phones	\$14.99/mo. \$164.89/mo.
3 MiFi	\$40.01/mo. \$120.03/mo.*
SCADA Alarm	\$ 20.00/mo.

*On the next bill charges will reflect two MiFi lines disconnected. Besides next bill charges for MiFi's being prorated, charge will be \$40.01 in following months (instead of \$120.01). Regards, Kim R. Cunningham

07162019 ABSTRACT QUESTIONS

3. What is the Water Dept. using rented storage pods for? **The water Department storage building is under construction. They store parts, tools and equipment in them. This has been going on since the garage was demolished last fall. Estimated completion of the new garage/storage building is for August.**

4. What happened on Reynolds Rd that caused the need for emergency repairs on the pump? **The rebuild of this pump was necessary to pump water from Reynolds pump station to Deyo Hill tank during the rehabilitation of the Reynolds Rd. tank project. The Reynolds tank has been empty for a few weeks now.**

I respectfully request that these questions and comments are included in the minutes of the July 16, 2019 work session.

Thank you,
Trustee Reynolds