



## VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

243 MAIN STREET, JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790

[www.villageofjc.com](http://www.villageofjc.com)

### Village Board

Gregory Deemie, Mayor

Deputy Mayor Clark Giblin     Trustee Martin Meaney

Trustee Benjamin Reynolds     Trustee John Walker

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### **Minutes of a Work Session of the Johnson City Village Board held at 5:00pm on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 via Zoom Video Conference**

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

Absent:             None

Also Present: Cheryl Sacco, Legal Counsel  
                        Cindy Kennerup, Clerk/Treasurer  
                        Thomas Johnson, Deputy Treasurer  
                        Robert Bennett, Director of Public Services

Mayor Deemie called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m and read the Executive Order 202.1 regarding virtual meetings.

Mayor Deemie took roll call and confirmed there is a quorum for the meeting.

Mayor Deemie stated Binghamton University Harvey Stenger will be virtually attending the meeting on May 5, 2020 at 5:00pm to discuss their projects in Johnson City.

Trustee Walker explained the planning and zoning boards held special meetings for the United Health Services project because if they did not get the bonding in by a certain date the cost would have gone up substantially.

Mayor Deemie affirmed UHS has gone through the Planning and Zoning process, but they are at a standstill with everything is going on.

Mayor Deemie discussed:

- Governor's regional openings coming in the next weeks
- Hospitals are at an ok level with PPEs
- COVID-19 testing at Wegmans

- low level symptomatic testing
  - People are asked to do a virtual visit with physicians
- Concern from municipalities regarding keeping up with the parks and getting ready for the season.
  - Bring on people to keep up with grass, mowing, etc
  - Personnel and how people are running things
- Trustee Meaney reaching out regarding fire district
  - At this time with COVID-19 he has not reached out yet

Trustee Giblin gave an update regarding insurance proposals

- The proposals were all completed today
- He will review and have emails to the board by the end of the week so they can hold interviews with the brokers in the near future.
- He has three quotes, but is certain because the one is so far out of ballpark from others, they will not entertain an interview.

Mayor Deemie gave updates on the following:

- 19 Avenue B
- 154 Grand Ave - paperwork in process
- Friendly's has closed doors for foreseeable future and are closed until further notice and unsure whether they will reopen
- Sales tax check came in higher than anticipated

Robert Bennett, Director of Public Services spoke regarding sewer rents:

Tom and Bob came up with numbers using 3 different ways to calculate amounts.

In order to balance the budget, we need to increase the minimum to \$60 and \$7.25/100 for anything over 1,000.

Mayor Deemie, Mr. Bennett, Tom Johnson and the Board discussed sewer rates in regard to:

- comparison options
- increase in rates
- major users
- staying on top of the numbers/billing

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

- Agenda and resolutions
- State of Emergency
- It is a state requirement to have a public hearing to change sewer rates.
- Sewer rents to go to \$55 and \$7.25 beginning on 7/2020 billing

Trustee Walker questioned:

- Coughlin & Gerhart bill for 30 Avenue C?

Mayor Deemie responded it is the building next to 19 Avenue B.

- Amendments to the Delta Documents?

Attorney Sacco responded there were two amendments. One had to do with the 00 documents done live at the board meeting and the other may have had to do with heating/cooling.

- What is the small wireless facilities bill?

Attorney Sacco stated there was a major change in legislation

- Repaired an international truck in the Police Department?

Trustee Meaney responded it was for the SWAT truck and is being reimbursed by the dealer.

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

- Treasurer Cindy Kennerup gave amendments to Resolution #2020-83
- Resolution #2020-84. Mayor Deemie confirmed if their work is not satisfactory, they will redo the work at their cost.
- Resolution #2020-85 – Trustee Meaney stated he spoke with the Town of Union Assessor and he said its worth \$1,000 to someone coming off the street to purchase, not sure it is buildable because of the frontage and it may have flood issue. Attorney Sacco stated it is beneficial to the project and the Village. Trustee Meaney and Trustee Walker expressed that it is not beneficial to the taxpayer.

Trustee Meaney questioned the following:

- He was contacted by a resident wondering why Dai Korba was still the contact on the website for grants?

Mayor Deemie will check into it and get it changed.

- How does the sign fall under park alienation? If it's our sign it's OK? Code states no signs but asked if we could change the code. How is it alienation if we have a sign there now that is taking up the same amount of space? Trustee Meaney stated he is just looking to get a sign in there that doesn't cost any money.

Mayor Deemie responded because it is on public property, it is a park. The sign there now is our sign. The LED sign would be owned by a business and they would place it on Village property. Per code we are not allowed to do offsite advertising, but we could change the code. However, if you do change the code you are setting a precedence so people could have signs all over and that is not allowed at this point.

Attorney Sacco stated the sign will contain advertising for off-site businesses incorporating money which is not a park function. Directional signs and other signs that directly relate to the park, add to it and the use of it are not parkland alienation. Letting someone put a sign for off-site businesses to generate money on parkland would be alienation. To replace the parkland, you would have to get state legislation.

Trustee Meaney asked about the signs at the Little League field.

Attorney Sacco will look into it and see if temporary signs at the Little League and softball fields constitutes parkland alienation. She will look into if the temporary signs are legal.

Mayor Deemie and the Board discussed the desk clerk in the police department. Mayor Deemie confirmed it is not in the budget.

Trustee Walker confirmed when voting on the budget they are also voting on the bonding.

Treasurer Cindy Kennerup and Mayor Deemie affirmed they are voting to move forward.

Trustee Meaney and Mayor Deemie discussed Gross Receipt Tax

- Make sure non-profits are paying appropriately
- UHS/Binghamton University/school district
- Mayor Deemie will look into this
- Funding

The fee charged for online payments is 3%. The Village does not get any of the fee. It is the cost for having the service.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION #1**

A motion to enter executive session at 5:47 pm for legal advice was made by Trustee Reynolds and seconded by Trustee Walker. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit executive session at 5:55 pm was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Walker. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION #2**

A motion to enter executive session at 6:26 pm to discuss the contract within the police department 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 executive session at 6:30 pm was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Reynolds. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:34 pm.

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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.

04212020 ABSTRACT QUESTIONS

1) What happened to the iPad in the sewer department?

**The screen cracked and they had to have it replaced.**

2) Why was truck #9 from the water department towed to Syracuse? **Yes, it was due to transmission issues that Tracey Road equipment could not fix the problem . Penn Detroit in Syracuse is the nearest Allison Transmission specialist and fixed the issue. The truck was stuck in limp mode, requiring the tow to Syracuse.**

3) Will the school be reimbursing the village for the SRO's business cards? **No. This is a very minor cost that was a bit of an afterthought therefore it was not built into the agreement with the school.**

4) In the C&G bill, on 1/30/20 we were charged for camera use by the little league and on 3/20/20 we were charged for a notice of claim. Can we get a more detailed explanation of these charges? **Mayor Deemie – responded that he had been contacted by Andrew Holbert asking if the LL could setup a camera to live stream the games. He reached out to legal in regards to any regulations or concerns we may need to be aware of.**

**Legal advised: On the Notices of Claims, it was regarding two related matters: Rozzoni and Mueller. Both involved alleged personal injuries from a balcony to a fire escape at 265 Main St. It is expected that neither matter will proceed to litigation against the Village, but only time will tell.**

**I was contacted by the Village to ask about livestreaming cameras at the little league park. The Little League was looking for the village to approve and sign off. My advice was sought on the issue.**

5) Pyramid invoice #105756 dated 3/20/20, how do we go over by \$427.50 when we prepay? Why should we prepay \$900.00 if we are billed for services after they are rendered? **It is to our benefit to have a pre-paid contract thereby saving on travel costs and locks us in on rate charges. If the services rendered end up being over our pre-paid contract that is when we get charged for overages. With Covid-19 Pyramid has had to do several unordinary things for us in keeping our servers safe.**

6) Why are we supplying the bailiff a uniform if it is not contractual? **He is part time and has no contract. When he was first hired 4 years ago, a Security Budget line was created for such things as supplies, equipment, and uniforms. When the position was created by me, I wanted the Bailiff in a soft uniform and the Village purchased his first set of uniforms. This will be his 1<sup>st</sup> replacements of shirt and pants since he started.**

7) In the courts envelopes and folders were printed by Village Printing. Are they less expensive than Broome County? **Printing by the Court since I have been Judge has been done by Jerry's printing on Reynolds Road. He is in the process of retiring and he recommended Village Printing for our Case File Folders. Jerry provided them with the set-up. The window envelopes have always been printed, as far as I know, by Village Printing. I did not realize that the County provided printing. This is our 1<sup>st</sup> re-order since 2017.**

I respectfully request that these questions and comments are attached to the work session minutes.

Thank you,

Trustee Meaney