

PRESENT: Mayor Laureen Tackman, Trustees John Scatena, Trevor Maughan, and Eric Cartier. Absent: Trustee Robin Wilson Also present, Heidi Tompkins from the Tug Hill Commission and , and Dan Lewis.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mayor Tackman at 6:30 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

**TUGHILL REPORT:** Heidi Tompkins gave the following report:

Happy 2024!

Announcements have gone out for the 2024 Tug Hill Local Government Conference, scheduled for May 1 – 2 at Turning Stone Casino. I have extra copies of the program description and registration information, and the form is also available on the Tug Hill website at <https://tughill.org/local-government-conference-registration> ,

Descriptions in detail of program offerings are available at:

<https://tughill.org/local-government-conference-presentations/>

The North Shore economic resiliency and recovery study continues to move forward. The next steering committee meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 17 (next Wednesday) at 7:00 p.m. at the West Monroe town hall, 46 County Route 11, West Monroe.

The next community meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of A.A. Cole Elementary School in Constantia.

One of the consensus items from the most recent NorCOG meeting on the economic study was additional community outreach via the community survey. In response, we increased outreach in several ways. Paper surveys were distributed at all NorCOG member municipal buildings, and at the Central Square library and the North Shore Coffee and Tea Company in Bernhards Bay, and through the Greater Oneida Lake Chamber of Commerce to its members. I collected the surveys and collection boxes on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, and delivered the paper copies to Tug Hill on Thursday, January 4 for processing, and these will be incorporated into the previously received community survey and business survey results.

The traffic study proposal for the Route 49 corridor, extending from the west side of Central Square to east of I-81 was submitted by the deadline required. Thanks again to the village of Cleveland for its letter of support for the study.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dan Lewis wanted to know how long the water debt repayment will take, and the Mayor replied 30 years. She also told him that there is a Federally mandated lead line service replacement that will be forthcoming in the next 10 years that the village will have to undertake. Discussion followed on the water project and Mr. Lewis wanted to know why this happening. The Mayor replied this project has been in the works for years and this was mandated by the Oswego County Health Department. She stated we are all in the same boat. Legislator Reehil asked why Village residents will pay on their tax bill and the Mayor and Clerk responded it was a more effective way to collect the debt payment as the bulk of residents pay their taxes in June.

**PAY BILLS:** Mayor Tackman made a motion to pay January abstract #8, vouchers #386-426 for \$33,607.09, the treasurer's report and the Highlander pay app #16 for \$55,826.98 second by Trustee Wilson, all in favor.

**DPW REPORT:** Shaun House submitted the following report read by Mayor Tackman:

**Highway**

Plowed / salted 10 times.

Cleaned highway garage.

Fixed pipe on Martin Road.

Our highway truck is still in a wrecked state after being hit by a car, we are waiting on insurance inspection.

Dump trailer was damaged in accident insurance adjuster has looked at that.

**Sewer**

Changes 7 grinder pumps / reported to a total of 11 pump calls.

Had to switch power for pump at 15 Clay to 88 Bridge due to fire.

Rural water /sewer was on site for inspection of plant.

All sampling completed and passed.

End of the year water withdrawal report completed.

2024 sludge hauling permit completed.

We lost a EQ pump due to mechanical failure we will need to replace this in the near future Cost is approximately 4000dollars we will install it.

**Water**

Two water shut offs completed.

All sampling completed now x2 due to system size change from class C to 2B.

All fire hydrants on rt 49 serviced bolts replaced when needed / thread grease on caps. We will continue this as weather permits.

End of the year water number's submitted to the Dec 42 million for 2023 up from 2022.

39 million used this was in part from the water project wrapping up and lots of main flushing. And a few small leaks in Oneida county area that have been fixed.

David continues to work on 120 Water.

(lead copper service line study) which is mandatory he is spending several hours a day on this and is doing a great job this is a huge task.

Tyler will attend his class D water class in mid January then all 3 operators will be fully certified with 2B, C and D Licenses.

Thank you for your continued support. Mayor Tackman discussed the previously mentioned lead line replacement mandate with the inventory portion needing to be completed by October of 2024 and then 15% replaced annually till completed or by 2034. The water mains are down the center of most of our roads and we will have to utilize CHIPS monies to repair. We are working with 120 Water to accomplish this task and seeking grant funding as well. The DEC has mandated water metering by 2033 and we will seek grants for this as well. We are also forming a committee to work with Rural Water on a sewer asset management program.

**LEGISLATOR'S COMMENTS:** Legislator Reehil provided the board with a foreclosure list for the County which includes several properties in the Village and the Town. He stated 25% of the county tax bill is for Medicaid. The equalization rate is 65% this year. He echoed the Mayors sentiments that the unfunded mandates keep coming.

At 6:55pm, Mayor Tackman made a motion to adjourn, second by Trustee Scatena, all in favor.