

**VILLAGE OF COPENHAGEN BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 24, 2021, 2021 6:35 PM  
@Village Hall

Mayor Mark Souva  
Trustee Benjamin Snyder  
Trustee Gerald Shambo  
Trustee Kim Vogt  
Trustee Shareef Stokely

**Attendance**

In Attendance: **CLERK:** Lori Wheeler **DPW:** David Potocki, Rich Ross **Via ZOOM:** Dustin Moyle, Julie Deveines, and Chief TJ Williams

**Meeting called To Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mayor Mark Souva.

Dustin Moyle of Central Rivers Power, LLC joined the meeting to discuss using the hydrant by the Hydro plant on Deer River Road. Mr. Moyle explained that he only needs 2000-2500 gallons of water for his project on July 28, 2021, and the following week. The Village Board told him that they have no way to monitor how much water comes out of the hydrant and suggested other ways to get potable water. Mr. Moyle said they could possibly use river water depending on the acidity of it. The Board asked if he could fill a truck with water from the Woodbattle Road Plant, depending on water levels, he could do that. Mr. Moyle agreed with this and is going to get in contact with the Village DPW department to set it up.

**Resolution 1-2021** A motion was made by Trustee Vogt and seconded by Trustee Snyder to allow Dustin Moyle of Central Rivers Power, LLC to get water from the Woodbattle Road plant for his project at the Hydro Plant on Deer River Road. Vote taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye

Trustee Snyder – Aye

Trustee Vogt – Aye

Trustee Shambo – Aye

Mayor Souva – Aye

All Ayes. Resolution adopted

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Trustee Shambo and was seconded by Trustee Stokely to approve the May 27, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes

Vote taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye

Trustee Snyder – Aye

Trustee Vogt – Aye

Trustee Shambo – Aye  
Mayor Souva – Aye  
All Ayes. Motion Carried

- **Clerk Report:** Clerk Wheeler gave the Board a brief summary of how much money was brought into the Village from June 1, 2021, thru June 24, 2021:  
Tax Collection: \$ 153,182.10 (\$45,924.58 was relieved sewer)  
Water Collection: \$39,934.30  
Sewer Collection: \$1,861.84
- **DPW Report:** The Board discussed the DPW report with DPW Dave Potocki and Rich Ross. DPW reported that on June 17, 2021, they were called to William Parker's residence located on Maiden Lane to fix a leak, water was bubbling out of the ground. On further inspection DPW found that the backing plate just needed to be repaired. DPW fixed it and the leak stopped.
- **Copenhagen Volunteer Fire Department:**  
The CVFD gave the Board an application for a new RAMS member – Alexander Harris for approval.  
Motion to approve the new RAMS member was made by Trustee Vogt and seconded by Trustee Shambo.

The Board also told Chief Williams that they would like the CVFD to take a firetruck to the Lewis County parade instead of taking the race car.

## New Business

- **Resolution 2-2021** was offered by Trustee Vogt and seconded by Trustee Stokely to appoint Clerk Lori Wheeler as Registrar for the Village of Copenhagen to be paid \$100 for the year and to appoint Prudence Greene as Deputy Registrar to be paid \$50 for the year. Vote was taken:  
Trustee Stokely – Aye  
Trustee Snyder – Aye  
Trustee Vogt – Aye  
Trustee Shambo – Aye  
Mayor Souva – Aye  
All Ayes. Resolution adopted
- Discussion was held about the culvert on Mill Street being plugged one side. DPW is going to ask Terry Groff if he would remove boulders so culvert could be cleaned out.
- Mike O'Connor who is on the Board of Directors of the Missing Link Snowmobile Club joined the meeting via Zoom to discuss the Village Board signing a letter that he provided to support Missing Link to receive a grant for a new trail groomer.

- Motion to sign letter of support to Missing Link Snowmobile Club was offered by Trustee Vogt and seconded by Trustee Snyder. Vote taken:  
Trustee Stokely – Aye  
Trustee Snyder – Aye  
Trustee Vogt – Aye  
Trustee Shambo – Aye  
Mayor Souva – Aye  
All Ayes. Motion Carried
- Clerk Wheeler presented the Board with 3 quotes that she received for replacing the broken air conditioning unit at the Village Office. She explained to the Board that every vendor that came to look at the air conditioning unit said that in the long run it would be more cost effective to replace both, furnace, and air conditioning unit as they were installed in 2007. Putting in a more efficient unit would save money. Clerk Wheeler agreed to contact vendors to get quotes for furnace also.
- Suit-Kote gave The Village Board a quote of \$40,408.95 to grind and pave Grove Street and Stoddard Street. Pat Mahar, Highway Superintendent from the Town of Denmark, said that he would help the Village with the culvert on Grove Street. No decision was made.
- Discussion was held on support from ANCA to do the audit of Village energy usage. Trustee Vogt explained that ANCA would be able to assist in collecting the information they needed from National Grid if the Village of Copenhagen would create an online account with National Grid and give ANCA access.
- A resolution was offered by Trustee Vogt and seconded by Trustee Stokely to have Mayor Souva to sign a resolution that DANC sent to the Village to be able to assist with the Main Street Grant Funding Application and other improvement projects, as follows:

**Resolution 3-2021**

Authorizing submission of an application for Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant Program through the 2021 New York State Consolidated Funding Application  
Whereas, state funding is available through the Consolidated Funding Application to support to advance the preparation of municipal comprehensive plans to establish land use policies which support smart growth and clean energy principles for the community; and  
Whereas, the Village of Copenhagen is eligible to apply for such funding to develop a comprehensive plan under the New York State Department of State guidelines; and  
Whereas, the Village of Copenhagen fully supports the proposed funding application; and  
Whereas, the Village of Copenhagen has asked the Development Authority of the North Country to submit an application on behalf of the Village; and  
Now, therefore, be it resolved, the Mayor is authorized to sign and submit on behalf of The Village of Copenhagen.

Vote Taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye  
Trustee Snyder – Aye  
Trustee Vogt – Aye  
Trustee Shambo – Aye  
Mayor Souva – Aye  
All Ayes. Resolution approved.

**Resolution 4 -2021** was offered by Trustee Shambo and seconded by Trustee Vogt to approve the Mayor to accept and sign for the bid acceptance of the 2012 Ford F350 Super Duty Dump Truck, vin number 1FDRF3D65CEBO9224, that was deemed excess equipment and put up for auction on Auctions International, with a minimum bid being no less than \$10,000.

Vote Taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye  
Trustee Snyder – Aye  
Trustee Vogt – Aye  
Trustee Shambo – Aye  
Mayor Souva – Aye  
All Ayes. Resolution approved.

- Mickey Dietrich informed the Board that 4 black bike racks that were ordered through BOCES in Glenfield are done. DPW Dave Potocki and Rich Ross will pick them up June 25, 2021.
- The Village Board received a letter from Devere Rumble asking that The Board ask the Copenhagen Volunteer Fire Department not have a boot drive on July 10, 2021, the day of the Lavender Festival. Mr. Rumble was concerned with the traffic congestion it caused and the safety of patrons/residents. Mayor Souva agreed to write the CVFD a letter.

**Resolution 5-2021** was offered by Trustee Vogt and seconded by Trustee Snyder approving Clerk Wheeler to dispose of Identity Guard Paper Shredder, Canon MP25DV Adding machine, Uniden Dect 6.0 Phone system, Cisco Linksys Router, Panasonic Phone System, Netgear FS105 Routers(2), Cobra Micro Talk-walkie talkie, Cell Phones: LG Stylo 2 (3 with charging cords), LG Cosmos 2(3 with charging cords), Motorola (1 with charging cord), LG Flip Phone (1 with charging cord).

Vote Taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye  
Trustee Snyder – Aye  
Trustee Vogt – Aye  
Trustee Shambo – Aye  
Mayor Souva – Aye  
All Ayes. Resolution approved.

**Resolution 6 -2021** Trustee Vogt motioned and Trustee Stokely seconded to adopt a resolution for the Village of Copenhagen to use LGS-1 Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records for records retention and disposal.

Vote Taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye

Trustee Snyder – Aye

Trustee Vogt – Aye

Trustee Shambo – Aye

Mayor Souva – Aye

All Ayes. Resolution adopted

- DPW Dave Potocki asked to deem a bucket, blower and forks left from the Kubota Tractor the Village no longer has as scrap. They are not in good enough condition to sell.

**Resolution 7-2021** Trustee Vogt motioned for and Trustee Shambo seconded the motion to adopt a resolution to dispose of a bucket, forks and blower that the Village no longer needs.

Vote Taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye

Trustee Snyder – Aye

Trustee Vogt – Aye

Trustee Shambo – Aye

Mayor Souva – Aye

All Ayes. Resolution approved

- Trustee Vogt presented the first draft of a Snow Removal Policy.
- Discussion was held on the search for a Property Maintenance person.
- Discussion was held on whether to pay a Powis Construction invoice for snow removal dated 12/10/2020 for \$6,380.00, that has not been paid at this time. There was concern whether to pay because the snow removal was done on February 29, 2020, and Village did not receive the invoice until ten months later and there was no written contract. Some of the Board felt that the invoice should be paid because there was no written contract and would like to resolve old business.

**Resolution 8 -2021** Trustee Vogt offered a resolution and seconded by Trustee Stokely as follows;

The Village of Copenhagen Board of Trustees authorize Clerk/Treasurer Lori Wheeler to pay the invoice dated 12/10/2020 in the amount of \$6,380.00 to Powis Construction, after she has reviewed the certified payroll for this claim that is to be submitted by Powis Construction and attached to the claim.

Vote Taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye

Trustee Snyder – No

Trustee Vogt – Aye

Trustee Shambo – Aye

Mayor Souva – Aye

All Ayes. Resolution approved.

- Discussion held as to setting up a credit card system to be able to take credit card payments. It was decided that Clerk/Treasurer Wheeler will look into that.
- Discussion was held on what to do with the broken phone booth next to Copenhagen Post Office.

**Resolution 9 -2021 Trustee** Vogt offered a resolution and Trustee Stokely seconded as follows; The Village of Copenhagen Board of Trustees authorize The Village of Copenhagen DPW Department, Dave Potocki and Rich Ross to remove the broken phone booth on Center Street next to the Copenhagen Post Office to be sold at a later date.

Vote Taken:

Trustee Stokely – Aye

Trustee Snyder – Aye

Trustee Vogt – Aye

Trustee Shambo – Aye

Mayor Souva – Aye

All Ayes. Resolution approved.

- Discussion held as to table the changing of locks by a locksmith due to the anticipated cost of replacing the furnace and air conditioning unit at the Village Hall.
- Trustee Shambo has asked three contractors to submit bids for the repair of the Gazebo. He is hoping to have them by the next meeting.
- Randy Nichols could not attend the Village of Copenhagen Board of Trustees meeting this month to discuss the Band Wagon building repair.
- Mayor Souva informed the Village Board that he has not heard back about the CHIPS money for paving.

### **Open Forum**

Julie Deveines joined via Zoom. Asked why the meeting was not held at Fire Hall and why it was not an open meeting? Mayor Souva explained to her that he did not know what the occupancy threshold was for the Village Hall to safely have an open meeting.

Mrs. Deveines also asked if any of the Village employees, Town of Denmark employees or Village board members ever discussed dissolving the Village of Copenhagen. Everyone answered no to her question.

Mrs. Deveines then asked how many employees the Village of Copenhagen has. Clerk/Treasurer Lori Wheeler told her there were four permanent employees. Mrs. Deveines then asked how many hours Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Sandra Jones was working a week. Clerk/Treasurer Wheeler told her approximately 12 hours.

Then Mrs. Deveines asked how many hours Clerk/Treasurer Wheeler was working a week and Clerk Treasurer Wheeler told her approximately 32 hours a week.

Former Mayor Ken Clarke joined via Zoom. Mr. Clarke was inquiring if the Village of Copenhagen had received Certified Payroll from Powis Construction for the invoice for snow removal from 12/10/2020. He informed the Board that the Village cannot pay Powis Construction without Certified Payroll. Powis Construction must legally pay prevailing wage at the time because Powis Construction would have been working for the Village of Copenhagen. Mr. Clarke said that he was Mayor at the time of this invoice and contacted the Village Attorney to get advice whether the Village of Copenhagen was responsible for paying the invoice. The Village Attorney suggested getting certified payroll and prevailing wage records before paying. Mr. Clarke feels that Powis Construction was taking advantage of the Village of Copenhagen because Mr. Clarke asked Mr. Powis to clean Snow of the sidewalks in front of the properties that Mr. Powis owned, which should have been Mr. Powis's responsibility. Mr. Clarke said he would follow up and wait until next meeting to see the outcome.

Mickey Dietrich joined via Zoom and informed the Board about a floating historical museum that he is involved in. He explained that their goal is to help promote the area. He is sending information to the Village of Copenhagen so other community members could join, if they wish.

## Approval for Claims and Bill Payment

The Board reviewed the bills, and a motion was made by Trustee Shambo and was seconded by Trustee Stokely to pay the bills that are listed on Abstract # 1. Vote taken: All in favor, motion carried.

Account	Voucher	Amount
General	1- 26	\$48,356.04
Water	1-10	\$1,999.50
Sewer	1-9	\$2712.55

A motion was made by Trustee Vogt and seconded by Trustee Stokely to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Vote taken: All in favor, motion carried.

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Mayor

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Clerk