

**Village Board Meeting
March 2, 2009, 7:00pm
Village Municipal Center**

Attendance: Village Board: Mayor Jay Niles, Deputy Mayor Gordon Smith, Trustees Brian LaRose, Dean Hyatt and Frank Caruso.

Village Key Staff: Superintendent of Public Works Dan Williams, Police Chief Ernest Bassett, Village Attorney Michael Martin, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Denise Davies, Clerk-Treasurer Rick Roberts.

Press: Matthew Rice, *The Granville Sentinel*

Others: Mr. Michael Gray, Director, Washington County Youth Bureau

Mayor Niles called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Ratify Meeting Minutes: Trustee LaRose moved that the Meeting Minutes of February 2nd be accepted as circulated to the Board. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Deputy Mayor Smith moved the approval of the minutes of the February 12th meeting as circulated. Trustee LaRose seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports: The Board received the following monthly reports: Water (3 samples, all satisfactory), Police Dept., Village Court, and Acting Village Justice. Deputy Mayor Smith moved acceptance of the reports as submitted. Trustee LaRose seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Appropriations: The following claims were submitted to the Board of Trustees:

General Fund: \$63,154.63
Water Fund: \$6,556.73
Sewer Fund: \$17,857.97
Skatepark Fund: \$126.89
Unaudited Vouchers: \$126.00

Total: \$87,822.12

Trustee Caruso moved payment of the claims as submitted. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Budget Transfer: The Clerk-Treasurer circulated a memo to the Board recommending the following budget transfers in connection with the funding of the above appropriations:

<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<u>General Fund</u>			
A51104	DPW Cont. Exp.	+\$6,200.00	Inc. Salt, Commodity Costs
A19104	Insurance Premiums	-\$1,200.00	Ins. Premiums < Budgeted
A2303	Snow Removal	+\$5,000.00	Snow removal trending > Bdgt
A95509	Capital Projects	+\$700.00	Slight over-run assoc. with Rail Trail
A97127	Interest, Mun. Bldg.	+\$25.00	Interest pymt. slightly > Budget
A2115	Planning Board Fees	+\$275.00	Fees Rec'd to Date > Budget
A2590	Building Permit Fees	+\$225.00	" " " " " "
A90158	Police/Fire Ret't	-\$225.00	Ret't pymt. slightly < Budget
<u>Water Fund</u>			
F83304	Purification	+\$1,300.00	Chemical Costs > Budgeted
F83404	Water Dept. Cont. Exp.	+\$2,200.00	Increased Commodity Costs
F2142	Unmetered Water Rents	+\$3,500.00	Billing Totals > Budgeted Amt.
<u>Sewer Fund</u>			
G81304	Sewer Dept. Cont. Exp.	+\$13,000.00	Increased Fuel, Commodity Costs
G95509	Capital Projects	-\$7,500.00	CP > Budgeted Amt. to date
G2120	Unmetered Sewer Rents	+\$3,500.00	Sewer Rent Collection > Budget
G90108	NYS Retirement	-\$2,000.00	Ret't Payment was < Budgeted Amt.

Trustee LaRose moved approval of the transfers per the Clerk-Treasurer's recommendations. Trustee Caruso seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Granville Community Service Day—Washington County Youth Bureau: Mayor Niles advised that he had met with Town Supervisor Rodger Hurley, Washington County Youth Bureau Director Michael Gray and Superintendent of Public Works Dan Williams several weeks ago to discuss a Community Service Day for Granville. The Mayor then introduced Mr. Gray and thanked him for the County's willingness to participate in this program. Mr. Gray stated that Saturday, April 25th had been selected as the date (rain or shine) for Granville Community Service Day. The goals associated with this program will evolve around several grant applications that the County Youth Commission has submitted, but projects to be completed will likely include the planting of trees along the river in proximity to the Park that has been established through the Revitalization Committee (MRRC), the construction of picnic tables for said Park, assistance with spring clean-up at the Little League Complex, Veterans' Park, and other activities including sweeping sidewalks, etc. Mr. Gray advised that he had approached the President of the Chamber of Commerce in regards to utilizing a Main St. store front for promotional purposes for this event. Mr. Gray has already coordinated with the Granville Leo Club (20+ volunteers) and the FFA. In addition, the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and

Cub Scouts will be solicited. The goal will be to achieve participation from 75-100 youth, who will be complimented by 6-8 staff members from the County to coordinate their activities. Certificates will be provided to all participants, and a picnic lunch will be served at the end of the program at the Little League field. Color flyers were distributed by Mr. Gray to the Board and a supply was also provided for the Village Clerk's Office. Mr. Gray will be speaking with Mr. Wheeler at GCS in an effort to coordinate additional participation amongst the student body. Mr. Gray reiterated that this event will be held "rain or shine". Following a brief period of discussion, the Mayor thanked Mr. Gray for his time and he exited the Meeting.

Property Exchange—Telescope Casual Furniture/Evergreen Slate (Rails to Trails): Mayor Niles reviewed an e-mail received from Bruce Rathbun at Telescope pertaining to several proposed property exchanges relating to the Rail Trail. Telescope proposes two exchanges with Evergreen Slate Co. Inc. and a transfer of a portion of the resulting parcel to NYS to create a straight trail which will bypass both company's properties and provide unrestricted access to the Town's portion of the trail to the south. Upon consultation with the Village Attorney, Trustee Hyatt moved that this matter be referred to the Village Planning Board, with the waiver of the customary fees associated with the applications for said exchanges. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Planning Board will place this matter on the agenda for its March 23rd Meeting.

Set Tentative Budget—Schedule Public Hearing: Mayor Niles advised that only one minor change had been made to the Village Budget since last Meeting—given that the County has advised of a slightly higher figure for transfer exempt relevies, this allowed for the restoration of funding for grant writing. In addition, a small downward adjustment was made to Bingo Commissions as the K of C has discontinued their weekly games for 2009. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Caruso moved the acceptance of the Mayor's recommended budget, as amended, as the tentative budget for the General Fund for the 2009-10 fiscal year. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The tax increase associated with the tentative budget remains at 2.95%. The Board then commenced a period of extended discussion relating to the Water and Sewer Budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. Following the discussion period, Trustee Caruso moved acceptance of the Mayor's recommendations as circulated as the tentative budgets for these funds. Trustee LaRose seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Water Fund budget proposes an increase of approximately \$15 per residential unit per year, while the Sewer Fund proposes an increase of approximately \$18 per residential unit. A Resolution containing the increases for all classes of property (commercial, industrial, etc.) will be circulated prior to the April 6th Meeting. Trustee LaRose moved that the Village Clerk be authorized to advertise for a Public Hearing on Monday, April 6th at 7:00pm concerning the 2009-10 Tentative Budget as proposed. Trustee Caruso seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Review Election Calendar: The Clerk-Treasurer circulated a memo to the Board reviewing the upcoming elections here at the Municipal Center. The Village Election will be held on March 18th from Noon-9:00pm. We are all set with Election Inspectors

(4) and Custodians (2)—all have confirmed. The Village Clerk's Office will remain open until the conclusion of the Election (9:15-9:30 pm) on March 18th as the Village Clerk is the Election Officer. The Special Congressional Election will be held on March 31st from 6:00am-9:00pm. The Town/County handles the inspectors and custodians for this race. The Clerk's Office will be open normal hours (8:30am-4:30pm) on the 31st as the County serves as the authority for questions/concerns relating to State & Federal elections.

Approve Fire Company Budget/New Member: Mayor Niles advised that he and Trustee Hyatt had attended a recent meeting at the Granville Engine & Hose Co. #1 in order to discuss several procedural issues with the Company. The Company Trustees supplied the Village with their annual budget, which was circulated to the Village Board. The Company also has a potential new member that they would like to have approved by the Village Board. Trustee Hyatt moved acceptance of Matthew Kelly's application for membership. Deputy Mayor Smith seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Niles also advised that the Company would be taking delivery of a new Fire Truck on Saturday, and he commended the membership for their hard work in fund raising and planning relating to the new apparatus. The truck—which costs in the range of \$250K—is the first new tanker for the company in some 20-25 years, and thus it represents a source of pride and good morale for the entire department. The Mayor plans to be in attendance for the Company's unveiling/demonstration on Saturday and he encouraged any Board Members who have time to stop in and preview the truck at their pleasure.

2009 Summer Concert Series Update: The Village Clerk provided an update to the Board relating to the upcoming Concert Series. The Village has received confirmations from all but four acts to date, and the Clerk is in the process of firming up the fireworks display and chicken barbeques with the Fire Department. Scheduling changes will also need to be reviewed and approved by LARAC. The hope is to have everything completed for the April 6th meeting so that the sign for the Park and posters/flyers can be ordered. The Clerk reported a total budget of \$15,875, which will be funded through the Village Budget (\$15K) and 50-50 raffles/donations from local businesses.

Request for Use of Veterans' Park—Adirondack Cowgirls: Mayor Niles advised of the receipt of a written request from the Adirondack Cowgirls relating to the use of the Veterans' Park for pony rides in conjunction with the Town-wide Yard Sale on May 16th. Following a brief period of discussion, Deputy Mayor Smith moved approval of the request as submitted, providing that provisions are made to assure that the parking lot is restored to its original condition following its usage. Trustee Caruso seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Request for Coin Drop—Granville Youth Football: Mayor Niles advised of receipt of correspondence from the Granville Youth Football Program requesting a coin drop during the month of July. Following a brief period of discussion, Trustee Caruso moved that the request be approved for July 11th or 18th at the pleasure of the program. Trustee LaRose seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Mayor advised that this

was the sixth coin drop for 2009, and thus the calendar is full. Unless we have a cancellation, no further coin drops can be scheduled per Village Ordinance.

Mayor's Reports: The Mayor updated the Board in the progress with the following issues:

- A. Rails to Trails Pedestrian Bridge—The Mayor reported that he had spoken recently with NYS Parks Regional Director Alane Ball-Chinian concerning the funding for the replacement bridge for the Rail Trail. Ms. Chinian advised that the funding for the bridge had been included in the legislative package as distributed for the NYS Budget. The Mayor then followed up to Assemblyman Tony Jordan, and Mr. Jordan suggested personal letters to NYS Senator Betty Little and himself to assure that the appropriation remains in the budget. The Mayor advised that he would forward this information to Bill McIntyre from the Snowmobile Club. Ms. Chinian indicated to the Mayor that this project represents a priority item for the Department of Parks and Recreation.
- B. Granville Partnership for Economic Development (GPED): Mayor Niles asked Trustee LaRose for a report on the 2009 “Jump Start” Seminar. Trustee LaRose indicated that the February 25th event had been well-attended and it emphasized many of the positives associated with doing business in and around Granville. Topics of discussion included place building, recreational opportunities, and advertising/promotion of existing programs. The event was held in the GCS Auditorium and numerous examples of the technological innovations available to students were displayed in impressive fashion. These services are also available to outside sources upon request. Trustee LaRose reported that NYS Assemblyman Tony Jordan was the keynote speaker, and he discussed how the towns along the “Route 22 corridor” needed to work together through these challenging times to build on one another’s strengths. Todd Shimkas, President and CEO of the Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce also gave a high-energy presentation emphasizing the positives of local networking within the region. Mr. Shimkas also reiterated that the ARCC could be another conduit to “get the word out” concerning successful local programs. Attendance numbered about 50, and Trustee LaRose feels that the program was quite well-received.
- C. Set Meeting Date to Discuss Hydraulic Study Results: Mayor Niles advised that Milan Jackson from Lamont Engineers has requested a meeting with Supt. Dan Williams and all interested Board Members concerning the options various presented through the Hydraulic Study—specifically, Mr. Jackson would like to clarify which options should be included in the current Capital Project pertaining to the Water Treatment Plant Upgrades. Several choices of dates were offered, and following a period of discussion, the Board reached a consensus to meet at 4:00pm on March 11th here at the Village Municipal Center.
- D. Report Concerning Meals from Mayors Program: The Mayor advised that he had been approached by the “Washington County Cares” program in relation to a

program where Mayors will deliver meals to local Senior Citizens. The date for the distribution of meals is Friday, March 14th. The Mayor has indicated that he will participate in this program and he expects that 15-20 constituents will receive meals on this date.

Mayor Niles opened the Meeting to the Public at 8:20pm.

The Mayor advised that he had received written approval from the Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) concerning the plans for Phase II of the WWTP Upgrades. This project should proceed to bid in early spring with construction in the late summer-fall.

Trustee Hyatt inquired as to how things were progressing with the Senior Shuttle. Mayor Niles commented that the Shuttle is averaging 90-100 trips per month. The Mayor also provided the following information: The shuttle is operating M-W-F from 10:00am-2:00pm. A budget has been put in place by the Committee managing the Shuttle's operation. The Shuttle is accepting Medicaid referrals through Washington County. A substitute driver has been added to cover for vacation/sick leaves and allow for continuous service. A separate bank account has been established to handle the Shuttle's funds and to allow payroll transfers. Additional efforts are being made to expand this service and to "reach out" to additional riders. The DPW is handling vehicle maintenance (gas, cleaning, etc.). Deputy Mayor Smith thanked Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Denise Davies for her efforts in putting the various systems in place for the Shuttle. He stated that 50% of riders are using the shuttle for trips to retail outlets, and thus additional donations will be sought from these applications. The Deputy Mayor also noted that additional promotional ideas are being sought for the Shuttle. He hopes that a future date can be scheduled with Senator Little for the Village/Town to express their appreciation and for a photo opportunity.

Trustee Caruso expressed some concerns relating to for-profit vendors operating in Veterans' Park. The Board discussed this matter for an extended period. Trustee Hyatt will Chair a Committee charged with formulating a draft policy for consideration at the April Board of Trustees Meeting.

Trustee LaRose inquired if it was permissible for residents to park on Village Sidewalks. Chief Bassett advised that this practice was prohibited by Village Ordinance; he added that the Department would respond promptly to any complaints received concerning such violations.

Several Trustees commented that the new School Speed Zone in proximity to Potter Avenue seems to be working well—speeds seem to have come down, promoting greater pedestrian safety in this area.

There was no further public comment.

Trustee LaRose made a motion to convene an Executive Session at 8:35pm to consider the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Caruso seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Village Attorney and Police Chief accompanied the Board into Executive Session.

Chief Bassett exited the Executive Session at 8:45pm.

Trustee LaRose moved that the Board return to Regular Session at 9:10pm. Trustee Caruso seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Smith moved the hiring of Marc Morrill as a lateral transfer into the Granville Police Department, with salary as per the present contract, i.e. one year experience, "with certification". Trustee LaRose seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Trustee LaRose moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:10pm. Trustee Caruso seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard H. Roberts
Village Clerk-Treasurer