

Village of Woodstock
Board of Trustees Meeting
April 12, 2022
6:30 pm
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Seton McIlroy, Jeffrey Kahn, Brenda Blakeman, Bill Corson, Gabe DeLeon, Fire Chief David Green, Nikki Nourse, Jill Davies, Patrick Fultz, Tess Hunter, Susan Ford, Scott Smith, Beth Finlayson, Ray Bourgeois, Police Chief Robbie Blish, Don Wheeler, Jon Spector, Matt Frates, Mary Riley

A. Call to order

1. Chair McIlroy called the Trustees meeting of April 12, 2022, to order at 6:30 pm.

B. Citizen comments – none

C. Additions to & deletions from posted agenda

1. Deletion – Use of library lot
2. Additions
 - a. Request to add a green up banner on the Green
 - b. Covered Bridges Half Marathon permit

D. Manager's report

1. General report – none
2. Financial report
 - a. Discussed financial report.

E. Police Chief's report

1. Chief Blish introduced their newest officer, Matt Frates. He just graduated from the level 2 academy. Officer Frates is a Woodstock native. He is going to finish up his training in the next couple of months. Hopefully before June he will be able to be solo. He is doing at least 160 hours of field training with Sargent Swanson and Officer Holmes. They are excited to have him on board. They participated in a distracted driving campaign this week. April is Distracted Driving Month. They wrote 12 tickets during 10 hours of enforcement.

F. Permits

1. Use of the Green permits
 - a. Senior Banners on the Green
 - b. Woodstock Alumni Parade – Woodstock High School Alumni Association

Motion: by Mr. Kahn to approve the use of the Green permits for Senior Banners on the Green and Woodstock Alumni Parade as submitted.

Seconded: by Mr. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

G. Old business

1. Discussion of Financial Committee

- a. Ms. Davies stated that she has been a part of the Capital Budget Committee that worked for the Town. They brought in a process of how a capital budget plan could be formed. There are more things that could be done by a committee to help with the budgeting process. They are suggesting that it is a combined Village and Town effort.

2. Short Term Rental Discussion

- a. Chief Green stated that last year due to covid they did not get many permits. He hit the streets and knocked on doors and talked to people to find out why they were not getting short term rental permits from people on the Airbnb websites. Most people were not doing it because of covid. Some people had converted to doing long term rentals. He watched cars and took a look. Overall people seemed to be honest. A lot of people have told me they like the long term versus the short term and they may not switch back. There have been a couple of people who went to the zoning board and requested to become a bed and breakfast rather than a short term rental. B&Bs do not have to comply with short term rental processes. They have to meet certain requirements, however.

H. New business

1. Emerald Ash Borer Funding

- a. Mr. Wheeler stated that Peter Butler won the bid to do the inoculation of the ash trees. He is scheduled to start around May 1st to do those. There are 45 key trees in the Village that are right along Pleasant Street, Elm Street, and Central Street that are scheduled to be done. There is probably going to be extra money to do a few other trees around the Village. They will be doing a minimum of 45 trees.
- b. Mr. Kahn stated that they were working together with Ms. Davies, their Trustee of Public Funds, because they do not have the funds to do this in May. They have some funds put aside for the next budget.
- c. Mr. Wheeler stated that it will be just under \$8,000 for those trees.
- d. Ms. Davies stated that last time they looked at two funds that could contribute to this. They could come up with \$9,500.
- e. Mr. Wheeler stated that with more money they could inoculate more trees. There are more trees in the Village that were not on this initial list that could be done.

Motion: by Mr. Kahn to approve the use of \$7,000 from the Whitcomb fund be used to inoculate ash trees.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

2. Agreement to accept voter's minor increase to FY23 budget

Motion: by Mr. Kahn to accept the voter's minor increase of \$50 to the FY23 budget.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

3. Woodstock Dog Club – request to donate bench – tabled.

4. Discussion of use of Library lot – deleted.

5. ARPA Motion

Motion: by Mr. Kahn to make a one time irrevocable decision to elect the standard allowance approach for the ARPA award the amount of \$256,478.54 to spend on the provision of government services throughout the period of performance of the grant.

Seconded: by Mr. Corson.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

6. Food truck/food on the Green for summer

- a. Chair McIlroy stated that they have more visitors than they have places to eat. It is a negative impact on the town. Last year, they allowed food trucks or food stands on the Green on Sundays and Mondays when a lot of the restaurants are closed.
- b. The Trustees agreed to allow food trucks and food vendors on the Green Friday through Monday due to there not being many places to eat for lunch.

7. Sandwich boards in front of stores.

- a. Ms. Blakeman stated that since covid came about they allowed people to have sandwich boards in the downtown area. She has had a lot of people say that they really like them. She believes it helps to bring in business. She does not see why they cannot continue to do it. Maybe they could allow them Monday through Friday when there is not as many people on the streets.
- b. Mr. Kahn stated that they put this into effect because of covid and fears that businesses were suffering. He had to physically move a number of them constantly out of the walkway. He thinks the need has gone away.

8. Appointment of Steven Bauer as Interim Zoning Administrator

Motion: by Mr. Kahn to appoint Steven Bauer as Interim Zoning Administrator.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

I. Other business – none.

J. Approval of minutes

1. 2/4/22 minutes

2. 2/11/22 minutes

3. 2/21/22 minutes

a. Page 1 – Chair

4. 3/8/22 minutes

5. 3/24/22 minutes

a. Municipal appointments – Kahn

Motion: by Mr. Kahn to approve the minutes for 2/4/22, 2/11/22, 2/21/22, 3/8/22, and 3/24/22 with the two corrections as noted above.

Seconded: by Ms. McIlroy.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

K. Adjournment

Motion: by Mr. Corson to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Seconded: by Ms. Blakeman.

Discussion: none.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nikki Nourse*