

**Regular Meeting  
Of the Board of Trustees  
Of the Village of Bergen at  
7:00pm on December 9<sup>th</sup> 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Barclay at 7:00pm with the following present:

Trustee Donovan  
Trustee Fedele  
Trustee VanEenwyk

Trustee Cooper was absent

Also present were: Village Administrator Cortney Gale, and Ken Kuter.

**Approval of Bills**

A motion to approve the bills was made by Trustee Fedele and seconded by Trustee Donovan. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 12<sup>th</sup> 2015 was made by Trustee VanEenwyk and seconded by Trustee Fedele. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote:

**Mayor's Report**

**Tree Lighting**

- The annual Tree Lighting Celebration was a great success with close to 400 people participating in the event. A huge thank you to the village staff, the fire department (the trucks were decorated with holiday lights), Mr. and Mrs. Claus (Tim and Bev Donovan), members of the singing silhouettes and elementary band, Northwoods Alpaca, Bergen School of the Arts, the Underground, Bonduelle USA for the trees, and the 18 groups that decorated the trees

**Park Committee/Tree Board**

- The committee met on Dec 2, Lynn Wilkins has joined as a new member of the committee and tree board have reviewed and updated the Goals section of the Parks Master Plan. The updated document will be presented to the village board at the next meeting for approval.
- I am continuing to work on the Tree City application for 2015, the submission deadline is Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Summer Recreation Program –Still waiting for the application for funding of our program for 2016 from the Genesee County Youth Bureau and will complete the application when it is received.

**CPC**

- We had another “marathon (4 hour) Comprehensive Plan Committee meeting on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>; we discussed goals and recommendations to be included in the updated document on downtown revitalization, economic development, land use, natural resources, farmland and agriculture, parks and recreation, government and community services, and the overall format of the document. The next meeting is scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>.

**BBCA**

- Meetings will be held at business locations as much as possible, the Nov 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at Pivot Acupuncture and Physical Therapy; officers were voted on, there was a tour of the expanded facility. The next meeting will be at the Rose Garden in January.

### **Meetings**

- On Nov 17, Courtney, Joe C and I met with Chris Suozzi and Rachael Tabelski of GCEDC and John Hamor and ---- of Four Corners Energy to discuss strategies to secure an increase of our electric allotment, and to discuss options of solar power. We will be meeting with the MEUA executive board to secure their support.
- I met with Pastor Michael Merry of the Bergen Presbyterian Church to discuss youth recreational efforts in the community.
- I received a call from a resident on Gates St concerning drainage on his property; clearing of the “ditch” had been done by the village, Gary and I went over to check the property. Planning board meeting was postponed at the request of the applicant for the carwash project.

## **Administrator's**

### **Electric**

- Electric bills are due tomorrow, December 10<sup>th</sup>. There were no shut offs this month.
- The Mayor, Joe Chimino and I met with Chris Suozzi and Rachael Tabelski from the GCEDC as well as John Hamor and Andrea McMasters of Four Corners Energy to discuss our plan to increase our hydro allotment. We also discussed solar power opportunities for the Village and the current inability for residents to use solar power in our system and the possibility of changing our contract with NYMPA to allow it.
- Due to the outlaying of funds for the Appletree Acres infrastructure improvements and Bonduelle not paying their bills on time the electric fund has had cash flow issues. Now that the plant is shut down we should be fine until the spring. I am working with our accountant Bob Fox and will discuss the situation with Plant Manager Jim Newcomb.

### **Office**

- With the end of the calendar year approaching we have started gathering information for W-2s and 1099s, and State and Federal reports.
- Quarterly Sales Tax was paid today. Sales Tax is paid on some electric payments.
- It is nearly time to begin budget meetings. I have been working on the budget periodically throughout the year. In early January Gary and I will meet to discuss projects and distribution of man-hours in the three funds.
- The first round of HEAP payments were received last week. The payments really help decrease the number of customers on our shutoff list.
- We're sending out Christmas Cards, if there is someone you'd like us to send one to please let me know.

### **Sewer**

- Unpaid taxes and sewer arrears were sent to the county for collection last month in the amount of \$15,745.92. We will be paid in full by the county.
- Tim Randall from our insurance company, NYMIR, is coming for a meeting at the sewer plant on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. He wants to go over our process and get a better idea of how it works so they can make a decision regarding our claim.

### **Miscellaneous**

- The Tree Lighting Ceremony was the biggest we've ever had. The small trees decorated by the community were a big hit! Many more groups are looking to participate next year. There are pictures on the Village website and Facebook page.
- The annual safety meeting has been postponed until a time to be determined in January.

- I have two vacation days left to use so I am taking off December 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. I am not traveling so I will be around if needed.
- The office will be closed on December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> as well as December 31<sup>st</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>.

### DPW Supervisor's Report

#### **DPW**

- The Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony was this past Friday, this went well and there was a very large turnout. Generally, we have been preparing for the winter months and are all set.
- Leaves and wood debris pickup is complete but due to the weather we are still picking up some stragglers. The area at the WWTP for leaves and wood debris has been regarded and now functions and looks much better.
- Hartland Park under the trees has been mulched with the tub grinding mulch, there is still some grading to be done but this area is much more aesthetically pleasing as well.

#### **WWTP**

- All is well at the waste water treatment plant. Phosphorous treatment has started and we are awaiting lab results as we fine tune the process to meet new May 1, 2016 treatment parameters.
- There is a scheduled meeting for January 5<sup>th</sup> with Eric Wies from Clark Patterson Lee to work on another grant application and review the flow monitoring/infiltration data.
- Eric and CPL will also be in the Village next week working with our staff mapping the sewer system.

#### **Electric**

- The Lineman completed installation of 50 transformers for the year. Tree trimming is ongoing.

### CEO/ZEO

Number of Inspections	13
Number of Building Permits issued	2
Number of Building CO/CC Issued	3
Number of Zoning Complaints filed	1
Number of Fire Inspections	1

- Permit for occupancy was approved for 15 North Lake Avenue to operate retail sales and meditation.
- I was contacted by the new owner of 26 North Lake Avenue, I completed a walk thru pointing out some area's that will need to be addressed before they would be able to operate and open their retail speed shop parts supply store.
- Sent out Notice and order to Remedy after many attempts to have the owner of 17 North Lake repair the partial collapse of the outside rear brick wall.
- Issue with stagnant water behind 19 & 21 North Lake. Do not believe it is septic leakage, more likely water is from dumping of mop buckets.
- Received two permits for sandwich board signs. Referring to Local Law #1 of 2010 one request was denied. Suggest changing the law to aid merchants on side streets.

### Historian

The month with a bang for me. I was able to complete the Fischer Drug Store display and on Friday November 6<sup>th</sup> I presented it to Dick Fisher for some fine tuning. That Saturday was History Day at GCC and I displayed the new boards at the daylong event. The following Thursday night, November 12<sup>th</sup> I presented it to the Village Board.

I have collecting some objects from Jenny Starowitz, Donna Pringle for our windows. At some time in the future they will be placed in the Museum. I have had further emails from Tim Munger in Minnesota and mailed an old photo copy to him of his grandparents store interior. We will compare notes after he receives it.

I spent time with Dick Seely, twice, this month. I am trying to pick his brain for old stories about bergen, before it is too late.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

None

### **Trustee Concerns**

**Trustee Donovan** asked if we could talk to the Sherriff's department about watching for tractor-trailers on Rochester Street when they are in town. He suggested that programmable thermostats be added to the Bergen Energy Efficiency Program. Trustee Donovan also asked if it was possible to add a question to the ballot of the Village elections in the springs to see if residents are in favor of splitting into two New Yorks. Mr. Gale stated that it couldn't be on the ballot but there could be a survey afterward.

### **New Business**

#### **Fire Department Member Approval**

A motion was made by Trustee VanEenwyk and seconded by Trustee Fedele to approve Robert MacConnell, Leah Miller, Brian Ireland, Joshua Phelps, and Andrew Magin as members of the Bergen Fire Department. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **Vacant Property Registration Ordinance Discussion**

Mayor Barclay presented the Board information regarding a local law that would require the registration of vacant properties. The board will review the information and there will be further discussion at the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **Resolution 13 of 2015 – Local Transportation Funding**

##### RESOLUTION 13 of 2015

##### Village of Bergen

##### Local Transportation Funding

**Whereas**, a reliable transportation infrastructure is vital for the safety of New York's travelling public and its economy; and

**Whereas**, 85 percent of New York's roads and bridges are maintained by local governments; and

**Whereas**, despite well-timed and targeted preventative maintenance treatments, the age and condition of many of our locally-owned transportation assets means that they are beyond preservation and in need of much more costly rehabilitation and reconstruction; and

Whereas, estimates by the State Comptroller, DOT and independent studies show a large portion of road mileage is deteriorating and many bridges in the state are rated structurally deficient and functionally obsolete; and

**Whereas**, the State Comptroller estimates that there will be \$89 billion in unmet local infrastructure needs over the next 20 years; and

**Whereas**, the New York State Association of Town Superintendents of Highways commissioned its own fifteen year analysis that indicates an annual funding gap of \$1.3 billion for the local system (excluding NYC) alone; and

**Whereas**, funding for our local system has been far short of what is needed and we've fallen further and further behind in maintaining the vast and aging transportation infrastructure over this long period with severe consequences for conditions ratings; and

**Whereas**, the New York State Consolidated Local Street and Highway Program (CHIPS) provides essential funding for every municipality in the state and is part of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) capital program; and

**Whereas**, in the early 1990's the Governor and Legislature created the Dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund (DHBTF) to pay for the NYSDOT capital program and the Dedicated Mass Transit Trust Fund (DMTTF) to assist with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and other transit systems' capital programs; and

**Whereas**, when the DHBTF was created, it was agreed that the NYSDOT and MTA five-year capital programs would be similar in size and would be negotiated concurrently; and

**Whereas**, through 2005-09, both five-year capital programs were similar in size and adopted within months of each other; and

**Whereas**, in 2010 the Executive and Legislature broke traditional parity and enacted a five-year capital program for the MTA but not the DOT; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED**, that the Village of Bergen calls upon the Governor and the state Legislature to make additional state funding and resources available at levels that accurately reflect the critical needs of local roads and bridges; and increase CHIPS funding in the 2016-17 state budget; and BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, that the Village of Bergen calls upon the Governor, and members of the state Legislature to fully fund and submit a new NYSDOT five-year transportation capital plan; and BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, that the Village of Bergen calls upon the Governor and members of the state Legislature to recognize the equality of roads, bridges and transit by restoring funding equality between the MTA and NYSDOT five-year programs and by voting on the plans simultaneously.

A motion was made by Trustee Donovan and seconded by Trustee Fedele to approve the resolution. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

### **Old Business**

None

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Trustee Fedele and seconded by Trustee VanEenwyk to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale  
Village Administrator