

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2011**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

These are the proceedings of the Regular Board meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Gouverneur held Tuesday, evening, on September 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Municipal Building.

**ROLL CALL:   PRESENT:**

Mayor Dorothy Vorce  
Trustee George Harder  
Trustee Carl Petitto  
Trustee Charles Newvine  
Trustee Roger LaPierre

Deputy Village Clerk, Kristina Ayen  
Deputy Treasurer, Barbara Finnie  
Superintendent of Public Works, Michael Moroz  
Chief of Police, David Whitton  
Code Enforcement Officer, Michael McQuade  
Recreation Director, Casey Canell

Trustee Newvine made a motion to approve August board meeting minutes. Trustee Petitto seconded the motion and it was carried.

**New Business**

Trustee Newvine made a motion to adopt a Tobacco Free Policy for all Recreation Parks in the Village of Gouverneur. Trustee Petitto seconded the motion and it was carried.

**VILLAGE OF GOUVERNEUR**  
**RECREATION TOBACCO-FREE POLICY**

The Recreation Commission of Gouverneur hereby finds and declares as follows:

**Tobacco use causes death and disease and continues to be an urgent public health challenge, as evidenced by the following:**

- Tobacco-related illness is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, accounting for about 443,000 deaths each year;
- In New York State there are 25,500 deaths every year from causes attributable to smoking; and
- Tobacco use can cause chronic lung disease, coronary heart disease, and stroke, in addition to cancer of the lungs, larynx, esophagus and mouth;

**Secondhand smoke has been repeatedly identified as a health hazard, as evidenced by the following:**

- The U.S. Surgeon General concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke;
  - Secondhand smoke exposure causes as many as 300,000 children in the United States to suffer from lower respiratory tract infections, such as pneumonia and bronchitis, exacerbates childhood asthma, and increases the risk of acute, chronic, middle ear infection in children;
  - Secondhand smoke has been designated as a known human carcinogen by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Public Health Service's National Toxicology Report;
  - The 2006 U.S. Surgeon General Report on Involuntary Exposure to Secondhand Smoke concludes that even brief exposure to secondhand smoke may increase the severity of asthma attacks and lower respiratory tract infections, especially in children, and have adverse effects on the heart; and
  - Secondhand smoke is responsible for approximately 47,400 deaths among nonsmokers each year in the United States;
- Smokeless tobacco is not a safe alternative to smoking and also causes death and disease, as evidenced by the following;
- Smokeless tobacco use causes leukoplakia, a disease causes white patches to form in the user's mouth that can become cancerous;
  - Smokeless tobacco products are known to cause, lung, larynx, esophageal, and oral cancer; and
  - The regular use of snuff doubles the user's risk of cardiovascular disease and death;

**Exposure to secondhand smoke anywhere has negative health impacts, and exposure to secondhand smoke occurs at significant levels outdoors, as evidenced by the following:**

- Irritation from second hand smoke begins at levels as low as 4 micrograms per cubic meter, and in some outdoor situations this level can be found as far away as 13 feet from the burning cigarette;
  - To be completely free from exposure to secondhand smoke in outdoor places, a person may have to move nearly 25 feet away from the source of smoke, about the width of a two lane road; and
  - A 2006 study by the California Air Resources Board found that at typical outdoor locations, persons may be exposed to tobacco smoke levels as high as indoor secondhand smoke concentrations;
- Cigarette butts are a major and persistent source of litter, as evidenced by the following ;
- Over two billion cigarette butts are discarded every day worldwide, and Americans alone discard more than 175 million pounds of cigarette butts every year;
  - Cigarette filter have been found in the stomachs of fish, birds, and other animals that mistake them for food, thus swallowing harmful plastic and toxic chemicals; and
  - Cigarette filters and plastic wraps from cigarette packages are not biodegradable and cigarette related waste discarded in parks, along sidewalks, and in street gutter make

their way through storm drains into creeks and rivers leaking dangerous chemicals into our watershed;

**Cigarette butts pose a health threat to young children, as evidenced by the following;**

- In 2004, American poison control centers received nearly 8,000 reports of children poisoned by the ingestion of cigarettes, cigarette butts, and other tobacco products; and

- Children who ingest cigarette butts can experience vomiting, nausea, lethargy, and gagging;

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Children are currently unprotected from tobacco smoke in outdoor areas where they are likely to be present, such as our beaches, parks and playgrounds;

Each day more than 4,000 youth nationwide try smoking for the first time, and another 2,000 youth become regular daily smokers;

Creating tobacco free zones in certain public spaces where children and adults are likely to congregate, and/or where persons cannot readily escape from exposure to tobacco smoke, will protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of our community;

**NOW THEREFORE, tobacco use is not allowed in Gouverneur Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreation areas. It is the intent of the Recreation Commission of Gouverneur, in enacting this policy, to provide for the public health, safety, and welfare by protecting the public and the environment from tobacco-related litter; by discouraging the inherently dangerous behavior of tobacco use around non-tobacco users, especially children; by protecting the public from exposure to secondhand smoke where they play, exercise, and relax; by reducing the potential for children to wrongly associate tobacco use with a healthy lifestyle; and by affirming and promoting a healthy environment in the around our recreational areas.**

Trustee Harder made a motion to allow Recreation Director Casey Canell to move ahead with the Health Initiative grant which will include an ice rink and ice skates. Trustee LaPierre made a motion and it was carried.

Trustee Harder made a motion to authorize the appointment of Dominique Tarkenton as a Year-Round Recreation Attendant-Part-time. Trustee Petitto seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to adopt a Workplace Violence Prevention Policy & Incident Reporting for the Department of Public Works. A copy of said policy will be kept in the Department of Public Works. Trustee Petitto seconded a motion and it was carried.

RESOLUTION  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

WHEREAS, the Massena International Airport has the potential to attract thousands of our Canadian neighbors to utilize its services, and

WHEREAS, getting the influx of thousands of people creates the potential for creating business for St. Lawrence and Franklin counties, and an increase in sales tax revenue, which will affect everyone in a positive manner, and

WHEREAS, the existing runway at Massena International Airport is not long enough to accommodate commercial jet service,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Gouverneur Board of Trustees does hereby support the Town of Massena in its efforts to extend the runway to accommodate commercial jet service.

Trustee Petitto made a motion to approve the above resolution. Trustee Newvine seconded the motion and it was carried.

A discussion was conducted regarding the request that DOT wanted the board to schedule a day for their public hearing on the proposed Main Street project. The board picked October 5, 2011, from 3-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. and also the board scheduled a Special Board meeting on October 19, 2011 at 4:30 to meet with the DOT representatives to discuss the boards concerns with regards to this project.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Village of Gouverneur is committed to upgrading the East Side Water System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor Dorothy Vorce is authorized to sign the application and \$200,000 grant agreement with the Northern Border Regional Commission.

Trustee LaPierre made a motion to approve the above resolution. Trustee Petitto seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Petitto made a motion to not do the energy savings project National Grid proposed. Trustee Harder seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mayor Vorce informed the Board that the Main Street trees will be trimmed at a cost of \$1,800.00.

Halloween will be October 31, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to authorize a BAN in the amount not to exceed \$550,000 for the Electric Plant Repairs. Trustee Harder seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the Small Cities 2008 Budget Modification and Change Order. Trustee LaPierre seconded the motion and it was carried. Trustee Harder was opposed. Trustee Petitto commented that there needs to be more communication between board meetings.

Trustee Petitto made a motion to approve the appointment of Anthony Pastizzo to fill Jeffrey Spellicy's unexpired term on the Zoning Board. Trustee LaPierre seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion authorize payment of the September 2011 audited bills in the amount of: General Fund - \$174,666.47, Community Development - \$296,199.61, Electric Fund - \$1,449.32, Water Fund - \$33,758.06, Sewer Fund - \$47,142.41, NYS Home Program - \$22,842.92, H-Capital Projects - \$114,418.04, UDAG Fund - \$45.00. Trustee Harder seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Petitto made a motion to authorize the placement of a banner a couple of time throughout the year across the highway to support our soldiers. Trustee LaPierre seconded the motion and it was carried.

### **Announcements**

**The next scheduled Village Board Meeting will be held on October 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**

Trustee Newvine made a motion to go into executive session regarding a contractual and legal matter. Trustee Petitto seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mayor Vorce announced the following motion made during the executive session:

Trustee Harder made a motion to sign the Gouverneur Police Association Contract. Trustee Petitto seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Harder made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting. Trustee LaPierre seconded the motion and it was carried.

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**VILLAGE CLERK**