

**REGULAR BOARD**  
**FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

These are the proceedings of the Regular Board meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Gouverneur held Tuesday, evening, on February 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Court Room of the Municipal Building.

**ROLL CALL:   PRESENT:**

Mayor Ronald McDougall  
Trustee Charles Newvine  
Trustee Nelson Lawrence-absent  
Trustee Shelly Simons-Washburn  
Trustee Richard Wood

Clerk/Treasurer, Barbara Finnie  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, Kristina Ayen  
Superintendent of Public Works, Terry Simmons  
Chief of Police, Laurina Greenhill  
Code Enforcement Officer, Michael McQuade-absent  
Recreation Director, Casey Canell  
Village Attorney, Henry Leader-absent

Trustee Newvine made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2017 regular Board meeting. Trustee Wood seconded the motion and it was carried.

Gouverneur Fire Department Chief Tom Conklin gave an update to the board.

Recognition was given to Barry Gale with 50 years of service with the Gouverneur Fire Department. A special Citation was read by Mayor McDougall from Governor Cuomo along with a clock presented from the Village of Gouverneur.

Mark Devers of the Gouverneur Rescue Squad was present to give the board an update.

Mayor Ronald McDougall gave the Board an update on what has been going on at the County level.

Jason Pfothauer from the St. Lawrence County Planning Department gave a presentation to the Board regarding the County's role on permit applications and Zoning Laws. Jason stated that they can work with the Village on updating the current Zoning Law.

Mayor McDougall read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY'S APPLICATION  
FOR FUNDS UNDER THE DEC URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM  
TO CONDUCT TREE INVENTORY**

**Whereas**, the Village of Gouverneur is graced by numerous trees which provide significant benefits of shade, reduction of heat concentration, improved air quality, erosion control, and beauty; and

**Whereas**, a variety of trees of unknown number or species are present on public and private land within the Village, and

**Whereas**, native ash trees, which NYS DEC estimates to make up approx. 7% - 10% of overall tree cover, and up to 25% of tree cover in urbanized areas, are faced with eventual demise from the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an invasive insect that has already killed over 100 million ash trees in an area comprising 22 states and two Canadian provinces; and

**Whereas**, ash trees, when killed by the EAB are subject to a phenomenon of "catastrophic collapse", which means that they can unexpectedly fall apart, causing damage to surrounding infrastructure or buildings, and posing significant risk to passers-by and liability for the Village; and

**Whereas**, St. Lawrence County is writing an application on behalf of the St. Lawrence County Emerald Ash Borer Task Force to the NYS DEC Urban Forestry Program for funds in order to develop a process that will enable citizen scientists and other volunteers, under the guidance of certified arborists, to conduct inventories of trees on public land in villages and hamlets across St. Lawrence County; and

**Whereas**, the Village of Gouverneur will be one of the initial sites for this inventory process to be used,

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED** by the Village of Gouverneur that the Mayor and Board support the application by St. Lawrence County for funds under the Urban Forestry Program, and

**It is Further Resolved** that, in the event that this grant application is successful, the Village of Gouverneur will work with the St. Lawrence County Emerald Ash Borer Task Force to develop and implement the tree inventory process within the Village.

Motion made by Trustee Newvine, seconded by Trustee Simons-Washburn and carried.

Mayor McDougall read the following resolution:

**HOLDING HARMLESS  
THE COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE  
FOR PROVIDING SERVICE  
FOR VILLAGE OF GOUVERNEUR**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Gouverneur is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, shoulder widening, signage, road stripping, blasting and other routine maintenance activities to the Village, and

**WHEREAS**, both the Village of Gouverneur and the County of St. Lawrence are desirous of promoting partnering efforts for the safety of the traveling public in St. Lawrence County, and

**WHEREAS**, in this joint cooperative endeavor, the Village of Gouverneur and the County of St. Lawrence desires to be reimbursed for their expenditures, and

**WHEREAS**, the Village is aware that the County may incur liability in the providing of the services and wished to indemnify the County in this regard,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village of Gouverneur hereby agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County of St. Lawrence from and against liability, loss, damage, claim or action resulting from the work performed by St. Lawrence County Department of Highways. The Village of Gouverneur does not indemnify and hold harmless the County for any liability, loss, damage, claim, or action which arises during the actual performance of services by the St. Lawrence County Department of Highways. Said St. Lawrence County Department of Highways and the County of St. Lawrence assumes the liability for losses, damages and claims for the actual physical performance of the work, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following request for General Liability (GL) coverage is as follows:

General Liability Insurance

On an "Occurrence" basis, with the following limits:

\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence

\$3,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Products Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Personal Injury

\$ 50,000 Fire Damage Legal Liability

\$ 5,000 Medical Payment Expense

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that St. Lawrence County shall be an additional insured on the GL Policy, via ISO endorsement CG 2026.

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

Trustee Wood made motion to appoint Bruce Hotaling as the Chief Waste Water Treatment Operator. Trustee Newvine seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to table action on writing off a Community Development Loan until further talking with legal counsel. Trustee Wood seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mayor McDougall read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT  
WITH WCP CONSULTANTS FOR  
PREPARATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT FUNDING**

**RESOLVED**, the Mayor is authorized to execute a contract with WCP Consultants for preparation of an application for federal grant funding and administrative services required to complete all activities under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Compensation for those services will be made in the form of specified lump sum fees and hourly billing rates plus expenses where applicable.

Motion made by Trustee Newvine, seconded by Trustee Wood and carried.

Mayor McDougall read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT  
WITH WCP CONSULTANTS  
FOR APPLICATION PREPARATION  
AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT  
UNDER THE NEW YORK MAIN STREET PROGRAM**

**RESOLVED**, the Mayor is authorized to execute a contract with WCP Consultants for preparation of an application for state grant funding and administrative services required to complete all activities under the New York Main Street Program. Compensation for those services will be made in the form of specified lump sum fees and hourly billing rates plus expenses where applicable.

Motion made by Trustee Newvine, seconded by Trustee Simons-Washburn and carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to schedule a public hearing for March 21, 2017 at 6:45 p.m. on a CDBG grant application. Trustee Wood seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Wood made a motion to schedule a public hearing for March 21, 2017 at 6:50 p.m. on a Main Street grant application. Trustee Newvine seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to schedule a water/sewer workshop meeting for March 6, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Trustee Wood seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to authorize the Mayor to submit a letter of support to the Department of Health on behalf of the Gouverneur Fire Department supporting their request to become First Responders. Trustee Simons-Washburn seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to enter into an emergency shared service agreement with the NYS DOT for four years. Trustee Wood seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to authorize FP Kane to do an emergency repair on the Corner of Austin and Clinton Street. Trustee Wood seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mayor McDougall gave the Department Heads the opportunity to report to the Board and the public on the monthly activities in their department.

Trustee Newvine made a motion authorize payment of the February 2017 audited bills in the amount of: General Fund – \$57,445.13, Electric Fund - \$3,155.55, Water Fund - \$28,064.96, Sewer Fund - \$26,339.37, Capital Projects - \$108,129.04, Community Development - \$31,737.34 and Trust - \$3,202.50. Trustee Simons-Washburn seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mayor McDougall read the following Announcements:

St. Lawrence County Mayor's Meeting will be held on March 2, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gouverneur Community Center.

Public Hearings will be held on March 21, 2017 at 6:45 p.m. and 6:50 p.m.

The next scheduled Regular Village Board Meeting will be held on March 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Effective November 15, 2016 thru April 15, 2017 there will be a parking ban on all village streets between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

This is a reminder to all residents, merchants and landowners to please remove the snow from all sidewalks in a timely basis in order to protect our pedestrians.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:55 p.m. Trustee Simons-Washburn seconded the motion and it was carried.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barbara A. Jones". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

VILLAGE CLERK