

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

May 21, 2013

**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 May 21, 2013 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  
Trustee Roger LaPierre  
Trustee Shelly Simons-Washburn

Village Clerk/Treasurer, Jennifer Link  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, Barbara Finnie  
Superintendent of Public Works, Michael Moroz  
Chief of Police, Gordon Ayen  
Code Enforcement Officer, Michael McQuade  
Recreation Director, Casey Canell

Trustee Lawrence made a motion to approve April board meetings and public hearing minutes. Trustee Newvine seconded the motion and it was carried.

**New Business**

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE  
CONTINUED OPERATION OF  
ST LAWRENCE PSYCHIATRIC CENTER  
MAY 21, 2013**

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Office of Mental Health is proposing a reduction in the number of inpatient hospital beds, and

**WHEREAS**, the plan would include designating certain hospitals for closure, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center, located in Ogdensburg, New York provides a comprehensive range of residential programs including Children/Youth Services, Adult Services, and a Sex Offender Treatment Program, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center has a distinguished history of providing services to those in need from the North Country and throughout New York State for over 100 years, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Lawrence County has a long history of assisting the New York State by welcoming and caring for those being treated at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center is the only such facility in this part of the state, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center provides high quality care for residents of this region for whom travel and access to other facilities outside of this region would be a hardship, and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center employees approximately 500 people, and

**WHEREAS**, these employees reside in the North Country, make purchases here and support our local businesses, thereby contributing to the local economy and making our region a better place to live and raise a family, and

**WHEREAS**, in the past few years the General Motors plant in Massena, New York closed, putting over 500 people out of work, the Newton Falls Fine Paper Mill closed, leaving 100 people without jobs, the zinc and talc mines in Gouverneur area have greatly reduced their operations, costing over 200 jobs losses, and numerous cutback and layoffs at local hospitals and schools have further strained the North Country economy, placing an unprecedented demand on human health and social services in our region, and social services in our region, and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of jobs and payroll at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center would create an economic climate that will contribute even further to the need for the services that would be taken out of this area by the Center's closure or reduction of services, and

**WHEREAS**, the current condition of the over 500,000 square feet of vacant and deteriorating buildings that were formerly used by the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center is a clear indication that there is no market or reasonable expectation for the adaptive reuse of any additional buildings currently being used by the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center should they be closed, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED** that the City of Ogdensburg urges our regional elected to oppose any plan that would involve the closure or reduction in services of the St. Lawrence Psychiatric, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, United States Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, United States Congressman Owens, New York Senators Little, Griffo, and Ritchie and New York Assembly Member Duprey, Russell, Butler and Blankenbush.

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

Trustee Lawrence made a motion to authorize the outstanding water and sewer to be relieved on the June 2013 Village Taxes. Trustee Washburn seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee LaPierre made a motion to authorize \$2 second notice fee for the Village Taxes. Trustee Newvine seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee LaPierre made a motion to renew the Street Sweeper BAN in the amount of \$54,200. Trustee Washburn seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Washburn made a motion to hold a Special Board Meeting on May 31, 2013 at 8:00 am to authorize payment of year end bills and transfers. Trustee Newvine seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to authorize Mayor McDougall to sign the Clerical Association Contract. Trustee Lawrence seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Lawrence made a motion to accept with regret Isaiah Serviss's resignation from the Zoning Board. Trustee Newvine seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Lawrence made a motion authorize payment of the February 2013 audited bills in the amount of: General Fund - \$46,120.34, Water Fund - \$14,015.55, Community Development - \$2,120.00, Electric Fund - \$877.44, Sewer Fund - \$74,145.18, NYS Home Program - \$29,045.00, Capital Projects - \$23,091.11. Trustee LaPierre seconded the motion and it was carried.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. The next scheduled Village Board Meeting will be held on June 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**
- b. The Village Offices, the Department of Public Works will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2013 in observance of Memorial Day.**
- c. Summer Hours for the Village Clerk's Office during the months of June, July and August are Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**
- d. Memorial Day Parade – May 27, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. – Line up at Greg's Restaurant at 9:30 a.m.**

Trustee Lawrence made a motion to go into Executive Session regarding personnel/contractual. Trustee LaPierre seconded the motion and it was carried.

Trustee Newvine made a motion to reconvene the regular board meeting at 8:55 pm. Trustee LaPierre seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mayor McDougall announced that no motions were made in executive session.

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

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VILLAGE CLERK