

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MEDINA HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 11, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER.

Present: Deputy Mayor Marguerite Sherman

Trustees Timothy Elliott, Jessica Marciano, and Diana Baker

Superintendent of Public Works Jason Watts, Police Chief Todd Draper

Attorney Matthew Brooks

Excused: Mayor Michael Sidari and Code Enforcement Officer Daniel Gardner

Deputy Mayor Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Deputy Mayor Sherman said the New York State Conference of Mayors had circulated an email requesting NYCOM members to sign a letter urging State leaders to increase Municipal Aid in the 2024-25 budget. NYCOM believes it is essential to the vitality of our communities and the quality of life for the residents to make New York State safer, stronger and more affordable.

A motion was made by Trustee Elliott and seconded by Trustee Marciano,

Whereas, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State; and

Whereas, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

Whereas, New York's local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals; and

Whereas, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during that same period; and

Whereas, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and

Whereas, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and

Whereas, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

Whereas, the Governor's 2024-25 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and

Whereas, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Village of Medina urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

Mayor Sidari is authorized to sign the New York Conference of Mayors letter urging Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

All ayes
Motion carried.

Trustee Marciano said NYSERDA has designated a \$5,000.00 grant to the Village of Medina earned as part of the Clean Energy Communities.

A motion was made by Trustee Baker and seconded by Trustee Marciano. Mayor Sidari is authorized to submit a letter to NYSERDA as a letter of commitment for our application to receive the \$5,000.00 designation grant earned as part of the Clean Energy Communities.

All ayes
Motion carried.

The naming of the three streets located in the Medina Business Park was tabled. Deputy Mayor Sherman asked that each board member bring their top three choices to the next meeting.

The Police Report Management System was discussed. The matter was tabled until a formal request was received from Orleans County.

Police Chief Draper requested to set up a date to conduct an interview to fill the Police Lieutenant position. The available dates for the board members to be present are March 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. or March 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Deputy Mayor Sherman said she would contact Mayor Sidari to solidify a date.

Deputy Mayor Sherman introduced Rollin Hellner and Tom Snyder who have obtained permission from the United Way to take over the Medina car show that is held in the canal basin on Friday evenings throughout the summer as the United Way is no longer interested in running the event. Mr. Hellner outlined moving the location of the venue from the canal basin to the Senior Citizen Parking lot. He said with the New York Forward project coming up, the canal basin would not be able to be utilized. He also requested to move the Super Cruise from a Wednesday to a Friday, with an August 30th, 2024, planned date. He would like to continue to hold the Super Cruise on Main Street. Deputy Mayor Sherman said it hasn't been held on a Friday as that is a busy night for downtown businesses. Mr. Hellner said they would be freeing up a lot of spots on those nights by having it moved to the Senior Citizen Center. He said the Senior Citizen lot would need to be cleared by 4:00 or 4:15 p.m. for the cars to begin lining up. Mr. Snyder said they are not interested in forcing the seniors out. Deputy Mayor Sherman said the library also hosts movie night on Fridays. She also said they looked a few years ago changing the location to the Senior Citizen Center and there isn't enough room to house

eighty to one hundred cars. She asked how it would be different now. Mr. Hellner said he would be opening the lot at the Walsh Tap Room which would hold at least forty additional spots for cars. Deputy Mayor Sherman asked about the patrons who would want to come down to view the cars and asked about rest room facilities. Mr. Hellner said he would provide a port a potty at no cost to the Village and that he would also offer the restrooms at the Walsh Tap Room. Trustee Elliott said he was happy that the event would still be occurring. Mr. Snyder said there would be a learning curve moving the event to a different location. Mr. Hellner said they would be willing to adjust as feedback is received. Deputy Mayor Sherman asked if there would still be a DJ at the event. Mr. Hellner said he was looking for a DJ and that they could use the Walsh electric at no charge to the Village of Medina. Trustee Marciano asked what would be done for insurance coverage. Attorney Matt Brooks said the coverage is a minimum of one million dollars listing the Village of Medina as an additional insured. Mr. Hellner said he would ensure the appropriate coverage is in place. The matter was tabled until the business meeting to be held on March 25, 2024.

Deputy Mayor Sherman said Mayor Sidari and Trustee Marciano were working on finding funding to place an All-Inclusive Playground at State Street Park. They were checking with the Rochester Area Foundation, T-Mobile Grant, and the Ralph Wilson Foundation. The approximate cost of the playground is \$492,321.00 and it would be done if it was fully funded. Trustee Marciano said she would not be opposed to a no cost share. Deputy Mayor Sherman said there could be savings if the Village did some of the site work and she also noted Mayor Sidari will continue to work on this project after his term ends.

Deputy Mayor Sherman said Trustee Baker and Trustee Marciano would be traveling to Albany on March 20, 2024, to attend Local Government Day to continue efforts to speak with Senator Ortt and Assemblyman Hawley requesting more AIM Funding and additional needs of the Village.

Trustee Baker updated the board on the Restore New York Grant. She said the deadline to submit a letter of intent was March 25, 2024. She said she was working on a list of vacant and abandoned properties before officially submitting a letter of intent.

Trustee Marciano updated the board on the Northern Border Regional Commission Grant. She said playgrounds may fall under this and there is a March 22, 2024, deadline.

Trustee Elliott updated the board on the Brownfield Grant. He said he emailed a State Representative in charge of the Brownfield Grant and was waiting for a response.

Deputy Mayor Sherman read a request from the owner of the property located at 3825 Bates Road in Medina. Ms. Amy Baker is requesting to tap into the Village of Medina's sewer system. This property is located outside the Village of Medina. Superintendent Watts said if the board was considering allowing an outside Village resident to tap into the Village sewer system, we may want to consider having the property annexed into the Village. He requested input from Attorney Brooks. Trustee Marciano said we should get out of the habit of giving services away without having the property annexed into the Village. Attorney Brooks said in the past, the Village was very strict when it came to annexation and providing services. Deputy Mayor Sherman tabled the matter and would request that Mayor Sidari contact the property owner.

Police Chief Draper said he would have his report prepared for the business meeting. He also asked for a moment of silence for the recent in the line of duty death. He said members of his department would be in attendance.

Superintendent Watts said he would be looking to build t-boxes for the disc golf course. He said a large tree had fallen on Elizabeth Street and landed on a vehicle and house.

Deputy Mayor Sherman asked if there were any public comments.

Mr. John Pratt addressed the board stating he is a participant of the weekly car cruise and said people come for the ambiance in the canal basin, the water and the shade trees. He said it was his understanding that the canal basin is for everyone and not just business owners. Trustee Elliott said he was glad Mr. Hellner had stepped up to take over the cruise.

A motion was made by Trustee Marciano and seconded by Trustee Baker. The meeting is moved into executive session at 8:01 p.m. to discuss a contractual matter.

All ayes
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Marciano and seconded by Trustee Elliott. The meeting is reconvened at 8:42 p.m.

All ayes
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Elliott and seconded by Trustee Marciano. The attorney contract between the Village of Medina and Matthew Brooks is accepted as distributed. Mayor Sidari is authorized to sign the agreement.

All ayes
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Baker and seconded by Trustee Elliott. The meeting is adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

All ayes
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jada A. Burgess
Clerk-Treasurer