

A Regular Meeting of the Village of Potsdam Board of Trustees was held on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 6:00 P.M., in the Civic Center Board Room, Park Street, Potsdam, New York.

PRESENT: Mayor Tischler  
Trustees Warr, Tirion, & Lee

ALSO PRESENT: Lori S. Queor, Village Clerk/Registrar  
Georgine Scott, Deputy Clerk/Registrar  
Mark Murray, Police Chief  
Trey Smutz, Recreation Director  
Greg Thompson, Village Administrator

Mayor Tischler opened the meeting at 6:00 P.M., pointed out the exits on the North and East Walls and advised that the board room has the capacity for 109 people.

The Mayor then stated that all members were present with the exception of Trustee Jacobs-Wilke.

The Mayor then stated that the following sets of minutes had been submitted for Board acceptance:

January 3, 2023                      Regular Meeting                      6:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Trustee Lee and Seconded by Trustee Tirion to accept the minutes as submitted. All Were in Favor – None Opposed – Motion Carried.

Mayor's comments: We have had a few storms and another one is supposed to happen Wednesday/Thursday this week with 3-5 and then 5-8 inches of snow and the DPW will do the best they can. Covid is still out there so be careful, be safe and be smart.

Trustee's Comments:

Trustee Warr – World University Games were awesome, I went to several contests and they were all great. Volunteers all got a lot of great swag and it was great seeing all the teams walking around town in the jackets.

Trustee Tirion – World University Games were very exciting, team USA won silver in men's hockey and I am glad the Zamboni got fixed in time and was up and running. Spoke with Eric York about the new website last week and he indicated he should be done the end of February and will make a beta version available the two weeks Clarkson is on spring break. He will take comments and incorporate them and then will go live.

Trustee Lee – FISU Games were great and it was wonderful seeing the students everywhere. Everyone was personable and friendly and the businesses downtown were busy which was good.

Administrator's Comments: Administrator Greg Thompson provided the board with a written report that is on file with the Village Clerk. He then went over his report with the Board.

Public Comment:

Liberty Stanavage of 605 Swan Street spoke regarding the Village's water bills/rates. She stated that she has lived at Swan for ten years and the past couple years the bills have spiked ridiculously. She stated that she has deep concerns about the current calculation.

Hans Beck of Meadow East spoke regarding the Village's water bills/rates. He stated that the landlord is saying that the tenants at Meadow East will have to cover his costs retroactively for the spiked water bills. He stated that his contract with Meadow East states the landlord is responsible for water. Mr. Beck further stated that since living there he has seen 2 landlords and 7 different managers for the property. He then said that he would like the village to take action and not allow the landlord to pass the retroactive costs on to them as it is not in their contract to pay them.

Lauren Jackson-Beck, (Han's wife) then spoke regarding the Village's water bills/rates. She stated that the landlord is threatening to make them each pay \$1,200 for the retroactive water bills. She also stated that the rentals in the village are run down and dilapidated and it is a shame. She stated that the village needs more oversight over the landlords.

New Business:

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution approving the partial expenditures for the month of January 2023 in the amount of \$107,312.74 chargeable to the following funds:

General Fund	\$ 43,710.92
Water Fund	8,592.42
Sewer Fund	36,063.12
Hydro Fund	1,670.00
Trust & Agency Fund	1,652.00
Recreation Fund	1,196.92
Trash Fund	<u>14,427.36</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 107,312.74</u>

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution approving the additional expenditures for the month of December 2022 in the amount of \$840,525.93 chargeable to the following funds:

General Fund	\$ 541,113.46
Water Fund	85,961.56
Sewer Fund	82,689.59
Hydro Fund	980.93
Trash Fund	79.78

Trust & Agency Fund	3,570.72
Payroll Fund	108,836.97
Recreation Fund	17,092.92
Community Development Funds	<u>200.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 840,525.93</u>

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution authorizing the Treasurer to pay the following invoice:

TO: Roemer Wallens Gold & Mineaux in the amount of \$2,000 for retainer for labor relations services for January 2023.

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution as follows:

Whereas, the Village of Potsdam is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, signage, road stripping, blasting and other routine maintenance activities to the village, and

Whereas, both the Village of Potsdam 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 Potsdam 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 wishes to indemnify the county in this regard,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Village of Potsdam will indemnify and hold harmless the County, their officers, directors, partners, representatives, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, liens, judgments, damages, losses and expenses, including legal fees and all court costs and liability (including statutory liability) arising in whole or in part and in any manner from injury and/or death of person or damage to or loss of any property relating to or arising out of any negligent or intentional acts and/or omissions of the Village of Potsdam or any of it directors, officers, employees, contractors, representatives, or agents.

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.

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution authorizing the mayor to execute and affix the village seal to the contract between the Village of Potsdam and the Town of Potsdam whereby the Town of Potsdam agrees to pay the Village of Potsdam the sum of \$18,000 for assisting the village in maintaining its museum and the Village of Potsdam hereby agrees to accept said sum and agrees that said facility shall be open to the residents of the Town of Potsdam during the calendar year 2023.

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and affix the village seal to an agreement with the Town of Potsdam and the Potsdam Fire Department wherein the Town of Potsdam agrees to pay to the Potsdam Fire Department the sum of \$135,400 in consideration of the furnishing of fire protection for the entire Town of Potsdam, excluding the incorporated Villages of Potsdam and Norwood, for the period from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution approving the appointment of Brendan J. Tischler to the position of Heavy Equipment Operator at the Village's Department of Public Works effective January 17, 2023 at the hourly rate of \$24.89.

Ayes 3 (Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee) Nays 0

Abstentions 1 (Mayor Tischler)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution awarding the bid for the following surplus Village owned properties:

5 Mechanic Street (Tax Map #64.058-6-15.2) to Lelia Thurston for her bid of \$501.00

Riverside Drive (Tax Map #64.050-5-24) to Brendan J. Tischler for his bid of \$101.00.

NOTE: These were the only bids received.

Ayes 3 (Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee) Nays 0

Abstentions 1 (Mayor Tischler)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution approving the Mayor's appointment of Georgine Scott as Village Clerk/Registrar in Training, effective January 30, 2023 at an annual salary of \$53,500.

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution approving the Mayor's Appointment of Johanna Kastner, 539 County Route 59, Potsdam to the position of Deputy Clerk/Deputy Registrar effective January 30, 2023 to fill the unexpired term of Georgine Scott. Salary to be \$43,500.

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion\_ Seconded a resolution authorizing the Treasurer to pay the Following Invoice:

TO: The Law Firm of Frank W Miller in the amount of \$345.42 for Legal Services for December 2022.

Ayes 4 (Mayor Tischler) Nays 0  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Trustee Lee Moved and Trustee Tirion Seconded a resolution to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Village of Potsdam Board of Trustees of January 23, 2023, at 6:26 p.m.

Ayes 4

(Mayor Tischler)  
(Trustee Warr, Tirion & Lee)

Nays 0

Respectfully submitted,

Lori S. Queor  
Village Clerk