

Village of Oriskany

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Oriskany Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2020

The Village of Oriskany Board of Trustees met by teleconference on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 by provision of Executive Order 202.1. This meeting was hosted with Google Meet, providing web and toll free phone access to the public.

In attendance were Mayor Clifford O'Connor, Jr.; Trustees John Kasprzyk, Sean Fortnam, and Paul Rieben; Village Treasurer Peggy Nugent; Village Clerk Alexis Albright; Police Chief Richard Zabek; and Highway Superintendent Brian Moulton. Resident in attendance was Derek Larson. Absent: Trustee Christopher Burtch; Fire Chief Jeff Burkhart.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and was called to order by Mayor O'Connor. A statement was read outlining the pandemic exceptions to the Open Meeting Law and all participants were notified that the call would be recorded for the public record.

A moment of silence was given for the untimely passing of Assistant Fire Chief Charles L. "Bud" Koss II who died on July 7, 2020. Mayor O'Connor commended the ceremony the fire department held today.

The minutes for the meeting of June 9, 2020 were submitted by Clerk Alexis Albright. Trustee Rieben asked about the Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes. Alexis will make copies of the zoning minutes for the Trustees. Trustee Rieben motioned to approve the board of trustee minutes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Kasprzyk. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was submitted. Peggy noted that road work is being done through CHIPS money. The July check for sales tax revenue had not yet been received from the county. Trustee Kasprzyk motioned to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fortnam. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Police Chief's report was submitted. Trustee Fortnam motioned to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Trustee Kasprzyk. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Fire Chief's report was submitted. Motion to approve was made by Trustee Rieben, motion seconded by Trustee Fortnam. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Museum Curator's report was submitted. The museum is now open by appointment. Trustee Kasprzyk motioned to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Trustee Rieben.

The Code Enforcement Officer's report was submitted. Trustee Kasprzyk motioned to approve the report. Trustee Fortnam seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The floor was opened to resident Derek Larson for new business. Mr. Larson of 1205 Utica Street is seeking permission to cut the curb to have his driveway redirected away from his neighbor's property line. The board approved the curb cut with the recommendation that sod be used to prevent soil erosion where the old curb cut was or that the new apron be angled to account for it. The clerk will send a letter to this effect authorizing the cut.

The mayor next addressed each trustee and department head. Police Chief Zabek asked to renew the five year Intermunicipal Joint Services agreement with Whitesboro Police Department, which provides understanding on things like insurance and shared equipment. There would be no changes to the existing agreement. Motion to renew the agreement was made by Trustee Kasprzyk, seconded by Trustee Fortnam. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Rieben stated that he will meet with the village justice and contact Trustee Burtsch about the annual court audit. Trustee Rieben thanked the highway department and the village police for their assistance with Asst. Chief Koss' memorial service. Efforts started at 4:30 am.

Trustee Fortnam had nothing new to report. Trustee Kasprzyk mentioned two dogs that have been interfering with traffic and passerby on Elm St. A letter was also submitted to the board regarding these dogs. A copy of the local leash law will be sent to the owner.

Fire Chief Burkhart was absent due to services for Asst. Chief Koss.

Highway Superintendent Brian Moulton reported that the oil and stone treatment for Utica St, Charlotte St., Miller St., etc. was completed and the roads look good. There may be money left from CHIPS, possibly enough to oil and stone the Oklahoma/Elm neighborhood and the Dexter/Denbeigh neighborhood. Lansing and Marino Streets have not been treated because of the pending demolition for the collapsed mill building. Supt. Moulton requested the clerk send a thank you letter to the Whitestown Highway Dept. for their assistance with the paving.

The FEMA application for the damage from the Halloween 2019 Flood is still in progress. Supt. Moulton also requested permission to transfer the Skyhawk gun barrels from storage into the Oriskany Museum collection. Permission was granted. He also asked for permission to purchase a set of ~\$300 hedge trimmers in lieu of contracting for the landscaping in Trinkaus Park, which would be an overall savings. The purchase was approved.

The Oriskany Museum is now open for scheduled tours. The air conditioner stopped working over Independence Day weekend but has been repaired. The annual yard sale will not be held in Trinkaus Park.

The meeting was opened to public comment. No comments (beyond the approved curb cut, see above). There was no old business to discuss.

Proceeding to new business, the additional paving was discussed but it can't be a penny over the CHIPS grant.

A complaint was made regarding driveway access on Manor Lane. A definitive answer will have to be arrived upon. Attorney Deery and the minutes will be consulted.

Supt. Moulton and Curator Albright asked about the highway department helping construct a bottle bin for the continuous bottle drive at the museum. There were no objections.

Albright also asked about changing providers for the Oriskany village website. She proposed switching to a more modern web host called Wix, which would be a savings of about 60% while providing more features and easier updates. The web address would be shortened to oriskany.org if the existing URL cannot be obtained from the current webhost. Trustee Fortnam motioned to upgrade the website as recommended. This was seconded by Trustee Kasprzyk. All in favor. Motion carried.

A zoning board meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 28 at 6:00 pm in the back room of the Masonic Lodge at 701 Utica Street to discuss a variance for a shed at 109 Ridge Road.

Vouchers were approved for payment by two trustees prior to the teleconference. Trustee Kasprzyk motioned to close the meeting. Trustee Rieben seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Oriskany Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Location (physical or digital) will be decided by August 1, accounting for state guidelines.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis W. Albright
Oriskany Village Clerk
August 10, 2020

July 14, 2020