

Village of Oriskany

708 Utica Street/P. O. Box 904
Oriskany, New York 13424
315-736-3512
clerk@oriskany.org

Oriskany Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2022

The Village of Oriskany Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 in the back room of Oriskany Masonic Lodge #799 at 701 Utica St., Oriskany, NY to provide enough space for social distancing.

In attendance were Mayor Clifford O'Connor, Jr.; Trustees John Kasprzyk, Sean Fortnam, and Christopher Burtch; Village Treasurer Peggy Nugent; Village Clerk Alexis Albright, and Street Superintendent Brian Moulton.

A scheduled hearing began at 6:45 pm for Local Law #1 of 2022 “to allow the Village of Oriskany to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing 2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law 3-c.” There were no questions or comments on the legislation. The mayor closed the hearing at 7:00 pm.

During or after the hearing, the following attendees arrived: Sgt. Mike Colangelo representing the Oriskany Police Dept.; Fire Chief Jeff Burkhart, Codes Enforcement Officer George Farley, and Village Attorney Steve Deery.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:01 p.m.

The following reports were submitted:

Report	Motion	Second	Result
Minutes	Trustee Kasprzyk	Trustee Fortnam	Approved
Treasurer's Report	Trustee Burtch	Trustee Kasprzyk	Approved
Police	Trustee Kasprzyk	Trustee Burtch	Approved
Fire	Trustee Burtch	Trustee Fortnam	Approved
Museum	Trustee Kasprzyk	Trustee Burtch	Approved
Codes	Trustee Fortnam	Trustee Kasprzyk	Approved

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The mayor then addressed the trustees and department heads. Fire Chief Burkhart discussed the need for new airpacks if the FEMA grant doesn't come through. The department will soon be down to six viable air tanks for interior firefighting due compliance/regulations standards. Assemblywoman Buttonschon's office has also been contacted regarding grant opportunities. The airbottles alone are about \$900 each. The department would like to also replace the breathing apparatus which are over ten years old. The chief said mixing and matching old equipment can present a hazard if the firefighter has to stop to think about which version they're using during an active call. Long term, the fire department would like to establish a reserve fund to work up to large expenses like this.

The fire department was out and about tonight shoveling snow from fire hydrants. Residents are reminded to please shovel the hydrants nearest their property so they are clear in the event of an emergency. The Chief then asked about snow removal behind the firehouse. The lot is leased by the Fire Company. In consultation with the village attorney, it was decided that the village could snow plow the area in question, which helps provide parking for volunteers during calls.

Sgt. Colangelo asked to send Officer Buley to Senator Griff's bail reform press conference the following day. This was deemed acceptable.

DPW and Codes departments both said things were running good.

Trustee Burtch submitted a membership change for the fire department. Tyler McCorduck would move from associate member to active member. Burtch reported that the fire department meeting had revolved mostly around the air packs and suggested we reach out to other local representatives about possible funding options.

Trustees Fortnam had no new business.

Trustee Kasprzyk discussed the library renovations. The new windows and carpet have been installed (still waiting on the new rear exit door). The shelves have been rearranged to meet ADA compliance for shelf distance. When the weather breaks, the electric car charging station will be installed in the parking lot. The library will host a Gala fundraiser on February 26, 2022 at 6 pm.

The meeting then opened for public comment. There was no public comment or police reform questions.

Moving on to old business, Trustee Kasprzyk motioned to pass Local Law #1 of 2022 regarding the tax levy limit. Seconded by Trustee Fortnam. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Oriskany Creek Commission will meet again next Tuesday and will hopefully be formally organized soon. The commission is looking for project ideas, like bank reshoring, to start soon.

The solar moratorium was brought up again. NYS will now review/approve installations over 200 acres. Attorney Deery was asked to look into it. Trustee Burtch motioned to table the topic, seconded by Trustee Kasprzyk. All in favor. Motion carried.

Proceeding to new business, the fire department membership change was already discussed. No additional new business.

Vouchers were signed. Trustee Kasprzyk made a motion to close the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Trustee Fortnam seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Oriskany Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis W. Albright
Oriskany Village Clerk
March 7, 2022