

REGULAR MEETING OF THE HANCOCK VILLAGE BOARD,
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019 7:00 PM
HANCOCK VILLAGE HALL, 85 EAST FRONT STREET, HANCOCK, NEW YORK

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Eugene D. Morgan.

Roll call was taken by Clerk/Treasurer Falsetta.

Present: Mayor Eugene D. Morgan
Deputy Mayor Dawn Gotthardt
Trustee Charlene Caramore
Trustee Dorothy Picozzi
Trustee Shaun Shannon - Excused

Also Present: Phyllis Falsetta, Clerk/Treasurer
Robert McKertich, Attorney for the Village
Sally Zegers, Editor, Hancock Herald
See Attached List

A MOTION was made by Trustee Picozzi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, voted and carried to approve the January 14, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes. *2019-019
Minutes Approval*

A MOTION was made by Trustee Caramore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, voted and carried to approve the Abstract of Vouchers in the amount of \$30,647.79 *2019-020
Abstract Approval*

A MOTION was made by Trustee Caramore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, voted and carried to resolve the following: *2019-021
Resolution 1-2019
AIM Funding Restore*

**RESOLUTION 1 OF 2019
A RESOLUTION ASKING THAT AIM FUNDING BE RESTORED IN NEW
YORK STATE'S 2020 BUDGET**

Whereas, "Aid and Incentives for Municipal Funding" ("AIM") is essential to the Towns and Villages that receive such funding; and

Whereas, AIM is key state funding that Local Governments have relied upon for years, and

Whereas, AIM affects not just Local Governments but the communities that they are located in; and

Whereas, Governor Cuomo's proposed 2020 budget plan eliminates AIM funding for Local Governments that rely upon AIM funding for less than two (2) percent of their budgets, and

Whereas, it is believed that such a cut will save New York State \$60,000,000 in its budget but it will dramatically impact 1,328 of New York State's 1,465 Town and Villages, and

Whereas, many Local Governments are already struggling financially, especially those in Upstate; and

Whereas, Local Governments must create and pass budgets that navigate a number of difficult financial stressors that include, the New York State Tax Cap, increasing health insurance costs, high contribution rates for the New York State Retirement System, prevailing wage, competitive bidding and procurement obligations, the Wicks

Law, the Taylor Law, Worker’s Compensation, and a dedicated but often unionized and civil service protected work force; and

Whereas, in addressing its budget and its local levy, Local Governments must face limited avenues for revenue generation, limited economic development in its boundaries, Payments in Lieu of Taxes, an aging population often on limited incomes, a diminishing population, potential business opportunities that are fleeing high taxes and thus leaving New York State and often unpredictable sales tax distribution and/or generation; and

Whereas, the loss of AIM funding is magnified by those Local Governments which already have all or part of their budgets set; and therefore be it

Resolved, that the Village of Hancock and the Village Board of Trustees on behalf of its residents, recognizes the important role of AIM funding in Local Governments; and be it further

Resolved, that the Village of Hancock and its Village Board of Trustees enthusiastically encourages the New York State Governor, the New York State Assembly and the New York State Senate to consider the consequences of the proposed reduction of AIM funding for Local Governments and demands that such funding be replaced in the Budget; and be it

Resolved, that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Cuomo, Senator Fred Akshar, Senator Jen Metzger, Senator James Seward, Assemblyman Clifford Crouch, Assemblyman Brian Miller, Assemblyman Chris Tague, The Upstate New York Towns Association, the New York Association of Towns, New York Conference of Mayors and the Local News Media.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE:

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|-----------------------------|--------|
| Mayor Eugene D. Morgan | yes |
| Deputy Mayor Dawn Gotthardt | yes |
| Trustee Charlene Caramore | yes |
| Trustee Dorothy Picozzi | yes |
| Trustee Shaun Shannon | absent |

Revisions to the Delaware Engineering Water Project Contract were reviewed. Mayor Morgan was approved to sign the contract with revisions as presented based on A MOTION that was made at the January 14, 2019 meeting by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt and seconded by Trustee Caramore. The motion was voted and carried to approve the water project contract with Delaware Engineering with costs not to exceed \$527,700 without prior authorization pending legal review (Motion #2019-004).

A MOTION was made by Trustee Caramore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, voted and carried to resolve the following:

2019-022

Resolution 2-2019

Invasive Species Grant

RESOLUTION 2 OF 2019
ENDORSEMENT OF FRIENDS OF THE UPPER DELAWARE RIVER
INVASIVE SPECIES GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, Friends of the Upper Delaware River is applying to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for a project grant under the 2019 Invasive Species Grant Program - Terrestrial and Aquatic Invasive Species Research with a test plot to be located at Fireman’s Park, a site located within the territorial jurisdiction of this Board; and

WHEREAS, as a requirement of these programs, said 501(c)3 must obtain the “approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located”; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of the Village of Hancock, NY hereby does approve and endorse the application of Friends of the Upper Delaware River for a grant under the 2019 Invasive Species Grant Program for a project known as “Extent, Impacts and Treatment of Japanese Knotweed in Delaware Watershed Riparian Areas,” and located within this community.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Mayor Eugene D. Morgan | yes |
| Deputy Mayor Dawn Gotthardt | yes |
| Trustee Charlene Caramore | yes |
| Trustee Dorothy Picozzi | yes |
| Trustee Shaun Shannon | absent |

A MOTION was made by Trustee Picozzi, seconded by Trustee Caramore, voted and carried to adopt the Investment Policy. *2019-023*
Investment Policy Adoption

A MOTION was made by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, seconded by Trustee Picozzi, voted and carried to appoint Brenda Rood, Kevin Caramore and Patricia Morgan-Rosas to the 2019 Assessment Review Board. *2019-024*
Bd of Assessment Review
Appointments

A MOTION was made by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, seconded by Trustee Caramore, voted and carried to lift the current spending freeze with the department heads to use discretion when purchasing. *2019-025*
Spending Freeze Lift

Trustee Caramore brought to the table a request from the Hancock Gateway Tourism Counsel that the Village Board apply for a county bed tax grant to fund a festival that is tentatively scheduled for Labor Day weekend 2019. The Board’s participation was also requested. The grant is a matching funds grant which Friends of the Upper Delaware has graciously offered to pay on behalf of the village.

A MOTION was made by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, seconded by Trustee Picozzi, voted and carried to apply for a county bed tax grant to be used for a village festival with the matching funds in the amount of \$2,000 to be paid by Friends of the Upper Delaware. *2019-026*
Festival Grant Application

A MOTION was made by Trustee Caramore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, voted and carried to accept the unpaid 2018-2019 property taxes as delinquent. *2019-227*
2018-2019 Delinquent Taxes

A MOTION was made by Trustee Picozzi, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, voted and carried to begin foreclosure proceedings on 2016-2017 and any prior year unpaid property taxes. *2019-228*
Begin Foreclosure Proceedings

John Mason questioned the status of the purchased water meters and if they were purchased prior to the awarding of the Water Project Grant.

A MOTION was made by Deputy Mayor Gotthardt, seconded by Trustee Caramore, voted and carried at 7:38 P.M. to enter into executive session to discuss:

2019-029

Executive Session

- Matters which, if disclosed, will imperil the public safety
- Matters which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer
- Information regarding current or future investigations or prosecutions of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed
- Discussion proposed, pending or current litigation
- Collective negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law
- The medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation
- The preparation, grading, or administration of examinations
- The proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by the public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 8:41 P.M. with no action taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Phyllis Falsetta, Clerk/Treasurer