A meeting of the Stratton Village Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday January 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm CT at the Village Clerk’s Office. Notice of the meeting was posted and availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice. A poster of the “Open Meetings Act” was clearly visible on the office wall, and Chairwoman P. McDonald directed the attention of those present to the poster. All proceedings hereafter shown occurred while the meeting was in session. Present: Chairwoman P. McDonald, Trustee F. Priddy, Trustee J. McDonald, Trustee T. Jones, Trustee J. Richardson, Superintendent K. League, Clerk T. Hedrick, Michael Hoback with AMGL, David Blau with Miller & Associates, Jeff Tidyman with Engineering International, Janet Felt and Julie Bernt with the Library Board and members of the public: Richard Lozano, Anthony Ruiz, Myra Meredith, Francis Grimm and Shelby Kircher.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

OPEN FORUM:

Clerk Hedrick informed the board that interested parties from ISS where inquiring about purchasing the old bank security equipment on the Village Office building. Trustee Priddy mentioned that if we did remove the equipment it should probably go to a local museum.

Motion by T. Jones and second by J. McDonald to approve the previous minutes, treasurers’ report and claims. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Scarber street project was discussed by David Blau. Completion has been confirmed and the discussion of liquidated damages was discussed. Blau informed the board that this process is usually completed when there has been a monetary impact to the Village. Motion by F. Priddy and second by J. McDonald to sign certificate of substantial completion and submit full payment to the company BSB for the work completed on the Scarber street project. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion carried.

Jeff Tidyman with Engineering International reviewed the changes made to the proposed Library and Village Office building. He mentioned that using the Library craft area as a multi-use area for the board meetings allowed to cut cost in many other areas due to the lower capacity limit of the building. The parking lot and sidewalk was also reduced. Tidyman stated that these changes should put us back within the Village budget for the project. Tidyman also mentioned that he has had several companies requesting information to bid the project. Bids will be accepted and opened the week prior to the February board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

David Blau reviewed the Consultant Agreement with Miller & Associates for the wastewater improvements project. Motion made by T. Jones and seconded by J. Richardson to approve Professional Service Consultant Agreement for 19WW001. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by F. Priddy and seconded by T. Jones to approve Miller and Associates Construction Management Services contract for 19WW001. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion carried.

Michael Hoback with Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway & Luth gave a summary of the audit findings to the board. Hoback spoke about the need to increase rates for water and trash. He informed the board that the cash reserves for replacement equipment needing to be higher as well as the unrestricted funds in the general fund.

A complaint regarding customer water readings was addressed. There have been inconsistencies regarding the meter readings on accounts and the usage being charged. Clerk Hedrick has spoken with the complainant and the current situation has been resolved. Superintendent League stated that several water meters need replaced or repaired in order to get a correct reading on them. League stated that he would be looking into getting a grant in order to help with the cost of replacements.

A complaint regarding engine brakes and vehicles exceeding the speed limit on the highway through town was discussed. Richard Lozano voiced his concern regarding his family members crossing the street. The Village will look into grants or other ideas for a radar sign or flashing lights for the crosswalk to help deter speeding in this area.

Superintendent League discussed a lineman apprenticeship program that is available that NMPP will reimburse 100%. There are also safety meetings that will be offered in the area. It is a four year program and the employees will then be certified journeymen. Chairman P. McDonald agreed that any training that will educate and advance our employees is a good idea, and is worth the time when the cost of the training is being reimbursed. Superintendent League will look into more information and himself and the Assistant Superintendent will start the training.

It was noted that the SWPPD Contract will expire in May of 2022. Notice deadlines where reviewed. Discussion was held regarding looking into other options available to the Village. Motion made by J. Richardson and second by J. McDonald to give notice to SWPPD regarding intent to terminate Power and Energy Purchase Contract. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion carried.

Annual Project Status & Compliance Report for CDBG grant 17HO33085 was reviewed by the board.

Performance Review- Risk Analysis Compliance Checklist was reviewed. Motion made by J. McDonald and seconded by T. Jones to approve the Performance Review and Risk Analysis for 17HO33085. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by F. Priddy and seconded by J. McDonald to approve General Admin Draw Down #6 for 17HO33085. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion carried.

Housing Program Income Report was reviewed. Motion made by J. McDonald and second by T. Jones to approve and sign the Housing Program Income Report. Roll call: Unanimous Ayes. Motion carried.

Streets, Alleys, & Landfill Committee Report: Nothing new to report.

Electricity Committee Report: A committee meeting with SWPPD was held earlier this month. We will receive a statement credit each month for this year due to surplus reserves.

Water & Sewer Committee Report: Nothing new to report.

Finance Committee Report: Nothing new to report.

Health & Welfare Committee Report: There was a complaint regarding nuisance properties. More information is needed before further actions can be taken.

Park & Recreation Committee Report: Nothing new to report.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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Peggy McDonald, Chairperson

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Tara Hedrick, Village Clerk

The next regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday February 18, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Village Office.