

VILLAGE OF EARLVILLE

Regular Monthly Meeting
Village Hall

January 13, 2015
7:00 PM

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NOTICE: Pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law § 104-1, notice of this meeting was given to the media at least seven days in advance and the same posted on December 10, 2014.

Tonight's meeting minute notes: All votes by the Village of Earlville Board of Trustees (herein "Board" or "Village Board") 5-0 are to be read as "aye" votes from Village of Earlville Board of Trustees members Corey, Hayes, Moore and Piliero. The "Village Office" is the Village of Earlville Municipal Office located at 8 North Main Street. The "Planning Board" means the Village of Earlville Planning Board.

Mayor William Excell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present was Trustees Margaret Corey, Gerald Hayes, Henry Moore and Daniel Piliero. Also present was Village Clerk-Treasurer Kelly Beach, members of the Town of Hamilton Board, Village of Hamilton, members of SOMAC, Fire Chief John Fontaine and 3 members of the public.

Motion #1-1.13.2015

On a motion by Moore, seconded by Corey, the Meeting Minutes from the December 9, 2014 Regular Board Meeting was approved unanimously 4-0.

Motion #2-1.13.2015

On a motion by Moore, seconded by Corey, Abstract 767 General Fund Vouchers totaling \$28,315.46 were approved unanimously, 4-0.

MOTION # 3-1.13.2015

On a motion by Moore, seconded by Corey, Abstract 768 Water Fund Vouchers totaling \$4,465.55 were approved unanimously, 4-0.

MOTION #4-1-3-2015

On a motion by Moore, seconded by Corey, Abstract 769 Trust & Agency Vouchers totaling \$1,914.81 were approved unanimously, 4-0.

TOWN COUNCILMAN REPORT

No Town Councilman report.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Hayes did not attend the January 8th Fire Company meeting, however he did an update from the Fire Company's Meeting Minutes. The Fire Chief discussed removing the fire hydrant across from Small Town Auto since it was not working or marked as out of service. After a brief discussion regarding the hydrant not working, Mayor Excell stated he will talk to DPW in the morning about putting something over the hydrant; he did not want the hydrant removed. There will be a Pancake Breakfast on February 14, 2015 At the Fire House; Mayor Excell approved the engine to be stored at DPW Garage on that day. The Fire Company has mailed out the annual donation letters. Hayes has nothing to report on the Opera House or the seniors. The Town of Hamilton is looking into buying a building to be used for the Town Hall. The Town will be having a Public Hearing regarding the proposed Ambulance District on January 21, 2015.

Trustee Corey reported that the Events Committee has been discussing Winterfest; which will be held on February 14th this year. The Red Cross would like to have a FREE Citizens Preparedness Training Session in the Village; would the Village be interested in being involved with this?

Trustee Moore had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Town of Hamilton is attempting to form an Ambulance District which would include Town of Hamilton residents that reside within the Village of Earlville and the Village of Hamilton. Mayor Excell stated that he has talked to a lot of people regarding this, and he is in agreement with forming a District, however he does not live within the Town of Hamilton jurisdiction, therefore it would not affect him. When asked if the Village did not go along with forming a district, who would supply the Village with emergency ambulance services? Excell explained that the village would have to start its own district and tax all residents within the Village. Excell explained that as Mayor, his first concern is safety for Village residents, not so much the cost of the safety. Trustee Piliero stated that it is his personal opinion that paid professional staff may be necessary to keep SOMAC up and running. Trustee Moore asked about a tentative dollar amount of the increase it would have on the Town of Hamilton residents; it was suggested that roughly there may be an increase in Town taxes of \$1.03 per thousand. However, it was stated that there is no annual amount based on an arbitrary figure; this will minimize tax increase in the long run. The goal would be to get more volunteers (drivers) to save money.

The Town of Hamilton will host a Public Meeting on January 21, 2015 regarding a new tax district to be set up for this. One member of the public stated that fund raising would be an alternative way to fund SOMAC; there are several organizations in Hamilton that raise money every year. Mayor Excell asked how he planned to get volunteers to do the fund raising, that volunteers that will stay active are hard to find. Piliero asked about the management of SOMAC, stating there was no sense in putting money in if mismanagement is still occurring. A SOMAC rep advised that a new director of operations starts next week and the Board is working on fixing any continuing problems. Trustee Hayes confirmed with Mayor Miller that all 3 municipalities must approve the new tax district before it can go into effect. Trustee Moore asked when the town needed to have the Village of Earlville Board give approval for the Town to move ahead. They would like approval tonight to start the process.

Mrs. Todd stated that she supports SOMAC and understands the need for the service they supply; however, she would like to know how the budget figure supplied was determined. Was it based on past history? She is interested in past costs and revenue; it would be helpful if they had some historical numbers. SOMAC representatives asked her to contact them via e-mail and they would be happy to provide historic budget figures to her. Question was asked why SOMAC is no longer providing transfers since that would generate a large amount of revenue - it was explained that the town residents decided SOMAC should not do transfers because it takes the ambulance out of the area for long periods of time, thereby leaving the Town Residents with no service. However, that could change on a yearly basis based on resident's needs. Mrs. Todd again asked about budget numbers- If Lebanon decided to contract with SOMC, would the price per thousand would be lower? The response to this was yes, the cost per thousand would decrease. It was noted that the ambulance is not part of the fire district contract, if you were to compare calls of the Fire Department to ambulance calls, is significantly higher, which affects the cost of an ambulance service. Todd asked if there would be an elective board created. SOMAC is open to that idea, but legally he is not sure that SOMAC needs to change the current Board. Excell stated he feels as long as there is a board put together by the Town of Hamilton that represents the tax payers; there should be no need for an elective SOMAC Board.

In other New Business, the Clerk-Treasurer explained that an e-mail had been received from the Susquehanna River Basin Commission advising that the groundwater withdrawal application expires in May of 2019. They stated that it may take some time to gather the data required to determine whether aquifer testing will be needed so it would be best to start working on this as soon as possible. Brian Skidmore from Barton and Loguidice was contacted to verify if his firm handled situations like this. After doing some research, Brian responded that his engineer should be able to handle this and he would get back to me on a dollar figure, he is suggesting because of the extent of the project that the cost and work be spread out over the next three budget years.

An e-mail was received from Goldstein and Sue Reymers regarding a Municipal Solar Power project that the Madison County Planning Board has been working on. Scott Ingmire is heading the project; he will be contacted to gather more information on the project.

OLD BUSINESS

Forms were received from the Farmer's Market Nutritional Program that Mrs. Peirce from Vital Vittles, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to addressing local food issues, had asked the Village to participate in. This program will allow the program approved vendors to participate in accepting coupons, vouchers and SNAP as forms of payment. The program has its own regulations as well as requiring participating Farmer's Markets to have their own rules and regulations in effect. Currently, the Village Farmers Market does not have formal rules established; therefore Ms. Fuller has come up with a rough draft of rules and regulations based on surrounding Farmers Markets. Board Members will review and discuss said rules at the February 10th Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT


No public comment.

EXECUTIVE

No Executive Session.

With nothing further to discuss, Trustee Moore then ended the meeting by a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:06, seconded by Trustee Corey, and carried 3-0.

"I certify this document is a true and accurate description of the regular board meeting of the governing board of the Village of Earlville January 13, 2015."


Kelly Beach
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Earlville

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