VILLAGE OF EARLVILLE

Regular Monthly Meeting — February14, 2012
Village Hall — 7:02 PM

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 the January 17, 2012.

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 Excell, Hayes, Moore and Taylor. 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 7:02 p.m. Board members present were Trustees Gerald Hayes, Thomas Taylor, Henry Moore and Margaret Corey. Also present were Village Clerk-Treasurer Kelly Beach, and 4 members of the public as well as Sherburne Councilman Ed Meyers and Hamilton Councilman Mr. Holcomb.

Abstract 657 as presented for Board approval included General Fund Vouchers #7024-7052 totaling the sum of $18,584.23. On a motion by Trustee Taylor, seconded by Trustee Moore and approved 4-0, Abstract 657 was approved for payment. Abstract 658 as presented for Board approval, included Water Fund Vouchers W19-W24 totaling $1,157.17 was approved on a motion by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Taylor, 4-0. Abstract 659 as presented for Board approval, included Capital Project Water Fund Vouchers CR61-CR62 totaling $27,990.05 was approved on a motion by Trustee Taylor, seconded by Trustee Moore, 4-0. Abstract 661 as presented for Board approval, included Trust & Agency Vouchers TA1-TA2 totaling the sum of $1,970.85 was approved on a motion by Hayes, seconded by Taylor, 4-0.

Meeting minutes for January 10, 2012 were approved on a motion by Corey, seconded by Taylor, 4-0. Meeting minutes from January 17th were approved; motioned by Moore, seconded by Taylor, 4-0.

In the Trustee reports, Hayes reported that he had spoke with Fire Trucks Plus out of California and the Tennessee Fire Dept that was previously interested in the fire truck is not on their records. California is willing to relist the Fire Truck and stated they will need a description of the truck as well as its capabilities and pictures of the truck. Trustee Hayes will send the requested information to California and monitor the progress of the listing and sale. Bill explained to the public that originally the village was supposed to get $40,000 trade in towards the new pumper; however that did not happen. Excell would like to leave it up to Hayes to be able to make a decision on what is a reasonable offer. On a motion by Taylor, seconded by Moore, 4-0 it was approved to allow Trustee Hayes to negotiate and accept a reasonable offer on the mentioned fire truck. On a different matter, Mayor Excell stated that he felt it was a good idea to let the DPW use the old 1581 fire dept truck for a water truck. On a motion by Hayes, seconded by Corey, carried 4-0 it was approved to transfer the 1581 Fire truck from the Fire Department to DPW for their use. Hayes reminded the Board that the Fire Department was still waiting for approval for the two newest members of the Fire Department. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Corey, seconded by Hayes 4-0 the newest Fire Dept members Preston Lessley and Heather Sherwood were approved. Hayes reported that the seniors are still meeting at the American Legion and plan on meeting there as long as they are able to. The seniors are still requesting the regularly budgeted senior funds. Mr. Holcomb questioned whether they are receiving funds from other municipalities? It was answered no. The Opera House is working on a new contract for 2012-2013. Hayes states that Wood Art is on display and it is amazing. Hayes suggests everyone should go to see the exhibit. It was reported that the Museum is working on a contract with the Village to secure funds for the next budget year.

Trustee Excell read a report from the CEO stating that not much is currently going on. Excell reported that the DPW has received many compliments that they are doing a good job on cleaning the sidewalks this winter. He reported that there was one complaint from a resident about snowplowing when it was not needed. Tucker and Ike have been busy installing new meters... roughly 28 new meters have already been installed.

Trustee Corey reported that the Event Committee's next meeting will be February 28th. The planned tractor pulls for the Earlville days were briefly discussed; everyone is very excited about the possibility of this new event.

Trustee Moore reported that there were no FOIL requests. Judge Hailston was rewarded roughly 80% of the grant that he applied for to renovate the court house; at this time he is not sure why the full 100% was not given, he believes they did not pay for the requested replacement windows.

Trustee Taylor had nothing to report.

In old business, Matt's requested Local Law was discussed again, Trustee Moore suggested it be sent to Village Attorney Getman to get his opinion on whether it is needed Trustee Hayes questioned whether the law is necessary. The Clerk will forward the law to William Getman for his legal opinion. It was decided that there would be a Budget Workshop held on Tuesday, January 21st at 7:30pm.

In new business, the Village Money Market Checking Account for the Water Fund needs to be closed and a regular Checking Account opened. Due to the fact that a money market account is limited to the number of transactions it is allowed each month, the Village has been hit with transaction fees in excess of $25.00. On a motion by Moore seconded by Taylor, 4-0 it was approved to close the Money Market Checking Account for the Water Fund and open a regular checking account for the Water Fund. The purpose of this is to save the Village the cost of excessive usage fees. Mayor Excell introduced some water issues; a resident went away for a month and came home to find that the water pipes had frozen and broke. 26,800 gallons of water had run into the home. The resident would like to know if village would cut some slack on the effected water bill. On a motion by Moore, seconded by Corey, 4-0 it was approved to bill the Landlord the full amount. He can then submit the bill to his Insurance Co to be reimbursed. Excell also reported that the DPW have found cases were residents and commercial users have tampered with meters. A few cases of cut wires were found, a case where a commercial user had installed a garden hose hook-up prior to the water meter was found as well as a case where a resident had installed new plumbing, bypassing the water meter all together. Attorney Getman was contacted and his advise was to put a statement in the newspaper letting residents know that tampering has been found and in the future there will be a fine of $500 plus prosecution if tampering or theft of services is found. On a motion by Moore seconded by Hayes, 4-0 it was approved to put a statement in the official newspaper advising of said fines and prosecution. The Board members would like to request that Attorney Getman write the letter that will be put into the newspaper. Excell also recommended that DPW inspect meters every 6 months, stating that the sooner the tampering/theft is found, the less money the Village will lose. Moore stated that he felt that any meters that are shut off for non payment should be checked regularly to make sure they remain off. Which means, he stressed, to go and physically look at the meters. Hayes suggested sending a letter to the residents asking them to correct the problem. A letter was read from the Chenango County Co-op Highway offering an Equipment Sharing Agreement. Excell tabled further discussion until next month so he could have an opportunity to talk with the DPW regarding the need for the equipment they are offering. On a motion by Taylor seconded by Hayes, 4-0 it was approved to send out certified letters to residents with open balances on water bills. The total amount of uncollected revenue for the January Water Bill is $20,153.65.

Excell stated that he would like Board members to attend the Sherburne & Hamilton Town meetings on a monthly basis. Trustee Corey stated she would attend the March 14th meeting for Sherburne while Hayes volunteered to attend the Hamilton meeting on March 8th. Sherburne Councilman Ed Meyer reports that the Town of Sherburne Board met last Wednesday. He reports that they are ready to sign the Franchise Agreement with Time Warner. There was a brief discussion regarding the Ethics Law, which Earlville has adopted. Meyers announced that their web site will be built and maintained by Rick Crowell. Meyer briefly discussed the building of a new intersection on Route 80 and Webb Rd. The Town of Hamilton councilman had a question regarding the award of the Judges grant. At this time Moore said that Judge Hailston is not sure why 100% of the grant money was not awarded. The Earlville Fire Departments 127th anniversary is coming up. The Town of Hamilton's Web Site is now up and running. Mr. Holcomb suggested that Board members use the resources of Sherburne and Hamilton to assist them with Water Bill questions, as they have both been in the service a long time. Bill discussed commercial rates...originally the landlord was supposed to pay the bill, and therefore they were making money on the water. Now however, landlords are making tenants pay for their water. Excell feels commercial rates should be charged only if the business is using the water for business or selling water (Laundromat or car

wash. Tenant houses where the tenants are paying the water bill should be charged as residential. Moore agrees that businesses that use water should be commercial. Excell made a motion that there be no commercial billing, that all billing should be solely residential. Hayes and Taylor voted no, and Moore and Corey abstained. Motion was denied. Mayor Excell pointed out that in observance of Presidents Day, the Village Office and the DPW would be closed Monday February 20, 2012

The floor was opened to the public for comment, with nothing being introduced.

With nothing further to discuss, Trustee Moore motioned to adjourn the Village of Earlville Board Meeting at 8:33pm, seconded by Trustee Corey, and carried 4-0.

"I certify this document is a true and accurate description of the regular board meeting of the governing board of the Village of Earlville on February 14, 2012."

Kelly Beach
Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Earlville

– Village Seal –