

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE VILLAGE OF BATH
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2014**

This meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bath was held on the 18th day of August 2014 at the Volunteer Fire Department located at 50 E. Morris St., Bath, NY 14810. This meeting was called to order by Mayor William von Hagn at 5:35 p.m.

Present:

Mayor:	William von Hagn	BEGWS Director:	Guy Hallgren
Deputy Mayor/Trustee:	Jeanne Glass	Street Superintendent:	Jeff Muller
Trustee:	Mike Sweet	Fire Chief:	Dave Dowdle
Trustee:	Mike McNally	Clerk/Treasurer:	Jacqueline Shroyer
Trustee:	Mark Bardeen	Attorney:	Patrick McAllister
Police Chief:	David Rouse	Code Enforcement:	Ralph Senese

Public Hearing:

Local Law #8 – Multiple Dwellings:

Public hearing was open at 5:35 p.m.

No discussion was made.

Motion made by Trustee Bardeen, seconded by Trustee Sweet to close the public hearing at 5:36 p.m. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Adjourn Regular Meeting/Executive Session:

Motion made by Trustee Glass, seconded by Trustee Sweet to go into executive session for personnel matters. Also included in the executive session were Nathan Alderman and Richard Joki from Steuben County Personnel Office. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Return to Regular Session:

Motion made by Trustee Bardeen, seconded by Trustee Sweet to regular session at 6:00 p.m. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Regular Meeting:

Appointments:

Matthew Benesh (Vice President) – Housing Authority:

Motion made by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Bardeen to approve the reappointment of Matthew Benesh to the Housing Authority for a three year term. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Maureen Fisher – Housing Authority:

Motion made by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Sweet to approve the reappointment of Maureen Fisher to the Housing Authority for a three year term. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Visitors:

Dennis Oliver – Bath American Legion Riders Presentation:

Dennis Oliver wanted to honor the Bath Police Department for all services they have performed for the Bath American Legion Riders, especially for their Veterans Day Program. He also presented a certificate to Chief of Police, David Rouse.

BEGWS Presentation:

Guy Hallgren gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade that has to be done to meet New York State Standards.

Sherriff Cole/DA Baker:

The Sherriff's Department wanted to discuss what is going on in Steuben County with the Drug problems and the new Drug Enforcement taking place in the county. They are asking everyone to get involved and if they see drug activity to call the drug hotline at 1-844-drug-tip.

Audit of Bills:

Motion made by Trustee Glass, seconded by Trustee Sweet to approve the payment of the Village bills in the amount of \$344,426.88 plus \$750.00 from Northeast Property Preservation for lawn clean up. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Department Head Reports:

Dave Rouse, Police Chief:

Chief of Police, David Rouse, announced his retirement to the public, which will be effective October 26, 2014.

Inspections on garbage trucks and taxi cabs will take place at the end of August.

New Business:

Cohen Law Group:

Motion made by Trustee Bardeen, seconded by Trustee Sweet to table this until the next board meeting when they have time to look the agreement over. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Set up Public Hearing Date – Amending Zoning Law:

Motion made by Trustee Glass, seconded by Trustee Sweet to set up the public hearing to amend the zoning law on September 15, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Coin Machine Warranty:

Motion made by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Glass to table this until the next board meeting. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

McAllister Agreement:

Motion made by Trustee Sweet, seconded by Trustee Glass to approve the agreement for attorney services for June 1, 2014 and ending on May 31, 2015 for Patrick McAllister. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Police Officer Resignation:

Motion made by Trustee Sweet, seconded by Trustee Glass to approve the resignation from Sergeant Anthony Sanford effective August 28, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Trustee McNally opposed and the motion was carried.

Local Law 8 – Multiple Dwellings:

Motion made by Trustee Glass, seconded by Trustee Sweet to approve Local Law 8 extending the temporary moratorium on multiple dwellings. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Budget Discussion:

Staffing of the police department was discussed with the public. Mayor informed the public we are trying to cut \$175,000 from budget as that is the fund balance budgeted to use for this fiscal year. Prior to discussion, the mayor read off some ground rules to keep the discussion in order.

The following are a few ideas the public came up with to cut expense/bring in revenue to keep the police department fully staffed.

- Street lights move to BEGWS Expense/ Lighting district.
- We have to make the place safer if we want to bring in revenue to the village.
- Stop holding fund raisers for things like signs to be placed in the village.
- If we reduce police officers, then crime will increase.
- Cut the blacktop budget for the street department for one year.
- Our issues are not only drugs, but we are the county seat and have the VA.
- Get tax exempt properties to pay their share.
- Reassessment of properties.
- Look into Federal impact money from the VA.
- Think of the officer's safety.
- Look at cost of insurance if we reduce the police force, it may increase.
- Create a room tax.
- Use tax.
- If cut police department, foot patrols will decrease.

Sergeant Taft informed the public that the officers were here on their own time, even though they are in uniform. He thanked the public for their support. Sergeant Taft discussed different avenues to raise money, for instance, room tax, use tax, or lighting district. He stated the fiscal stress level of the village is at 16%. He also wanted to let everyone know not only do they assist residents; they also assist the ambulance on several calls.

Adjourn Regular Meeting/Executive Session:

Motion made by Trustee Glass, seconded by Trustee Sweet to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bath at 8:54 p.m. to go into executive session for personnel purposes. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Return to Regular Session:

Motion made by Trustee Bardeen, seconded by Trustee Glass to return to regular session at 10:20 p.m. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Police Staffing:

Motion made by Trustee Sweet, seconded by Trustee Glass to eliminate the filled position for investigator and have that person move to road patrol. A time frame, to be established by the Chief of Police and the Mayor, will be put into place for that person to tie up any current workloads. Trustee McNally was opposed and the motion was carried.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Trustee Glass, seconded by Trustee Sweet to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:29 p.m. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jacqueline Shroyer
Clerk/Treasurer