

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Richard Donovan, Mayor
William Brazill, Trustee
Ronald Cronk, Trustee
John Champagne, Trustee
Eric Christensen, Trustee
Thomas Petterelli, DPW Superintendent
Janet Stanley, Justice
Richard J. Greene, Codes Enforcement Officer
Chief Pat Flannery
Koagel & Vincentini
Minoa Library

EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

Steven Primo, Attorney
Keith Brandis, Paramedic Supervisor
Town of Manlius
Village of Fayetteville
Donna DeSiato, Superintendent ESM School District
Manlius Historical Society
John Regan

VILLAGE OF MINOA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MARCH 7, 2011

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Minoa was held at the Municipal Building in the Village Board Room, 240 N. Main St, on March 7, 2011.

PRESENT: Mayor Donovan
Trustee Brazill
Trustee Christensen
Trustee Cronk
Clerk/Treasurer Snider
Attendant Michael Macko

ABSENT: Trustee Champagne and Attorney Steven Primo

ALSO PRESENT: Thomas Petterelli, Michael Macko, Joseph Paul, John Barattini, Don Lough, Jeremy Erard, Jess Brown, David VanMarter, Matt McGarrity, Steph McGarrity, DJ Goodson, Ed Cook, Jr., Josh Cook, Dennis Erard, Walt McGarrity, and John Sears

Mayor Donovan opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Trustee Brazill.

MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 7, 2011 A motion was made by Trustee Christensen and seconded by Trustee Brazill to accept the minutes of the February 7, 2011 Village Board Meeting as recorded. All in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 22, 2011 A motion was made by Trustee Brazill and seconded by Trustee Cronk to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2011 Village Board Meeting as recorded. All in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING / MARCH 2, 2011 A motion was made by Trustee Cronk and seconded by Trustee Brazill accepting the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 2, 2011 as recorded. All in favor. Motion carried.

PERMISSION FOR TOWN OF MANLIUS POLICE TO HOLD A DROP OFF DRUGS DAY A motion was made by Trustee Cronk and seconded by Trustee Brazill giving permission to the Town of Manlius Police Department to hold a Drop Off Drugs Day at the Municipal Building on Saturday, April 30, 2011. All in favor. Motion carried.

ONONDAGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS / POLLING PLACE AGREEMENT Tabled – Mayor Donovan to speak with the Onondaga County Board of Elections.

2011 OCRRA'S EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP A motion was made by Trustee Brazill and seconded by Trustee Christensen approving the Village of Minoa's participation in the 2011 OCRRA's Earth Day Clean-Up scheduled for April 29 & 30, 2011. All in favor. Motion carried.

RFP AMUBLANCE SERVICES RESPONSES Mayor Donovan reported that the following RFP's were received in no particular order and were still being reviewed:

- EAVES
- WAVES
- Eastern Ontario Emergency Services
- NAVAC
- Village of Fayetteville
- TLC
- Rural Metro

Mayor Donovan said the RFP's were an ongoing study in connection with the budget and the Town wide Emergency Services Fire and Ambulance Study. He said no decision would be made for at least a month and would take some time to review the proposals and compare against the study.

AMBULANCE Nothing to report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ***CHANGE IN MINOA FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP STATUS***
A motion was made by Trustee Christensen and seconded by Trustee Brazill approving the change in membership status for David Houde from Active to Resigned. All in favor. Motion carried.

JEROME FIRE EQUIPMENT / AMKUS MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT
A motion was made by Trustee Brazill and seconded by Trustee Cronk authorizing the Amkus Maintenance Agreement through Jerome Fire Equipment for one year in the amount of \$1,866.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

DPW Nothing to report.

CERF Nothing to report.

WWTF Nothing to report.

TRUSTEES' REPORT Trustee Christensen had nothing to report.

Trustee Cronk said he attended the NYCOM Legislative Meeting in Albany, NY and said they picked up a lot of good information that would be useful for the Village of Minoa.

Trustee Brazill said the CRC meeting has been rescheduled for March 29, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at Pine Grove Middle School. He said it had previously been postponed due to bad weather.

MAYOR'S REPORT Mayor Donovan said he attended the NYCOM Legislative Meeting in Albany, NY and the news out of Albany was not good. He said it would be a tough year financially and expects next year to be worse. Mayor Donovan said he met with Senator David Valesky and Assemblyman Don Miller to discuss unfunded mandates. He said the state of New York is unofficially bankrupt and they were not willing to discuss the issues. Mayor Donovan said it is up to the villages to solve their own financial problems and doesn't foresee any support from Albany.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT Absent

AUDIT CLAIMS A motion was made by Trustee Cronk and seconded by Trustee Brazill that claims on Abstract # 19 in the amounts of General Fund - \$50,781.09 (Vouchers 819-860) and Sewer Fund – \$5,653.03 (Vouchers 287-304) for a total of \$56,434.12 be audited and paid. All in favor. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – JANUARY 2011 A motion was made by Trustee Christensen and seconded by Trustee Brazill to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2011 as recorded. All in favor. Motion carried.

TRANSFERS OF APPROPRIATIONS / RATIFY PRIOR APPROVAL A motion was made by Trustee Brazill and seconded by Trustee Cronk ratifying the prior approval of the requested transfer of appropriations in the General Fund and the Sewer Fund attached hereto as Schedule "A". All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS John Barattini asked when the Board was going to review the received RFPs and Mayor Donovan said they were opened late that afternoon. He said it would take some time to review the RFPs, as they are not apples to apples and reminded the audience that they are not bids, but request for proposals that include numerous alternatives. Mayor Donovan said there have been many different suggestions received on how they would manage the Ambulance Department and nothing would be done until the Board had a chance to review the town Fire and Emergency Services Study RFP. Mayor Donovan said there was no requirement to accept or take action on the town RFP and there is no requirement to accept or take action on the RFPs received for Ambulance service. Mayor Donovan said the option is still there are to

keep the Ambulance Department in-house, but the Board is faced with a shortfall in the budget due to the loss of sales tax revenue and it is the Board's responsibility to do a proper cost analysis. Mayor Donovan said the New York State Retirement is up 45% and with the loss of sales tax revenue; this has resulted in a \$350,000 deficit to the 2011-2012 budget.

Mayor Donovan said the Board met on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 for a Budget Workshop and at the end of the meeting the Board was responsible for still needing to reduce the budget by \$280,000 to avoid cutting into the General Fund Balance, which is the savings account. He said they still have considerable amount of work to do before the budget can be presented.

John Barattini said that Trustee Brazill met with the Fire Department and Trustee Brazill said that the Ambulance Department was self-sufficient. Trustee Brazill said he did not say that the Ambulance Department was self-sufficient and was misunderstood.

John Barattini asked if the board had applied for any FEMA Safer Grant funding for ambulance and fire services. Mayor Donovan said they have not applied for any funding and thanked him for the information. Clerk/Treasurer Snider asked Mr. Barattini to forward her the website information.

Mayor Donovan said the revenues for the Ambulance Department are approximately \$250,000 per year and the expenses are approximately \$700,000. Mayor Donovan said there is a fire protection contract with the Town of Manlius and the taxpayers bear the brunt of the expenses regardless if they use the ambulance service or not. He said his concern, which they cannot control, is the ambulance is repeatedly called outside of Onondaga County and into different towns. Mayor Donovan said he does not have a problem with responding throughout the Town of Manlius and E. Syracuse, because they reciprocate services. Trustee Brazill confirmed that numerous calls are for mutual aid to the Town of DeWitt and the Town of Sullivan.

Mayor Donovan said he is in charge of looking out for the taxpayers of the Village of Minoa and it is his responsibility to look at all options. Mayor Donovan said that just because they are looking at options does not mean they are intent on outsourcing the Ambulance Department.

John Barattini asked if we could increase the costs of the calls outside of the Fire Protection District and Mayor Donovan said that as a municipality we are limited to what we can charge for ambulance calls. Mayor Donovan said there has been difficulty receiving payment as the insurance companies are now sending money directly to the patients and not to the billing company. He said that Medicare and Medicaid will only pay a certain amount and the village has no control over what we receive.

Sharon Romer asked if it was a possibility to speak with fire control to limit the calls to within the Fire Protection District and Mayor Donovan said that 911 blows out the closest ambulance and Minoa is the closest ambulance service to the Town of Sullivan.

John Barattini asked if the ambulance revenue was enough to cover the 23% of the Village of

Minoa's responsibility. Clerk/Treasurer Snider said the revenues reduce the expenses and then the remaining expenditures are split 77/23 with the Town of Manlius for the Fire Protection and EMS Contract based on assessed property value. She said the revenues and expenses are recognized in the General Fund.

David VanMarter asked what the affect would be on the Fire Department if the Ambulance Department was eliminated, specifically gasoline and utilities. Mayor Donovan said the RFP is set up so that there would be no change and/or an improvement in the ambulance service. He said that if they outsource the Ambulance Department, the company that provides the services would be required to keep a minimum of one ambulance in-house at the Municipal Building. Mayor Donovan said all issues would be addressed and conversations will be held with the Fire Chief and the Fire Department.

Stephanie McGarrity asked if the village had considered turning the Ambulance Department over to the Fire Department and said that Al Tompkins has been in conversation with Trustee Brazill to take over the Ambulance Department. Trustee Brazill said that he has spoken Al Tompkins about the possibility of forming an ambulance corps, but there have not been any discussions regarding the Fire Department taking over the Ambulance Department. Mayor Donovan said that historically previous mayors have discussed whether the village should be in the ambulance and they have stuck with the department throughout the years. Mayor Donovan said that there is a New York State law from the 1920s that does not allow volunteer firefighters to receive compensation for their jobs and that would include medical billing for ambulance calls. Mayor Donovan said he does not see a town wide ambulance corps happening and the Village of Minoa needs to operate the Ambulance Department to the best of their ability while keeping expenses down. Mayor Donovan said he does not want to be pessimistic, but is trying to be realistic and recognizes that the next couple of years will be tough financially for the Village of Minoa.

Sharon Romer said she is concerned that the elderly who are on fixed incomes will have a difficult time paying the higher ambulance bills from commercial ambulance companies. Mayor Donovan said that utilizing an outside ambulance company means that the fees are user based and relieves the responsibility of the taxpayer. He said the Board is faced with a possible large tax increase to cover the budget and they are reviewing all options. Mayor Donovan said their goal is to keep tax increases to a minimum and that County Executive Joanie Mahoney lowered the County taxes for village residents and basically created a tax shift to the villages. Mayor Donovan said there are no easy answers; no decision has been made regarding the ambulance service and he foresees it to be a long process. Mayor Donovan said the process is a necessity and they will be as fair as possible. He said that he recognizes this is an uncomfortable process for the employees and encourages them to see him in his office to discuss their concerns. Mayor Donovan said this is not just a statewide or a local municipal problem; this is a problem that is affecting companies across New York State.

John Barattini said that he and his fellow employees were frustrated to learn of the RFP by hearing about it on the news, neighboring villages and from other ambulance agencies. He said he wished the Mayor and the Board had discuss their concerns with the department so

that they could come up with cost-saving techniques and ideas to help save the department. Mayor Donovan said that he had repeatedly discussed the financial problems and concerns throughout the union negotiating process and the RFP should not come as a surprise. Mayor Donovan said this is a cost analysis process and the Ambulance Department needed to be reviewed. Mr. Barattini said he believed that they had all agreed on the contract in good faith and then he heard that at the budget workshop a lot of the costs were blamed on the union negotiations. He said the union should not be blamed because the process was expensive. Mayor Donovan said that nobody blamed the union for the high expenses, but he had to make the Board aware of the high legal expenses, approximately \$11,500, associated with the negotiation process.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Christensen and seconded by Trustee Cronk that the Village Board Meeting be adjourned at 7:45 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne M. Snider

Suzanne M. Snider

Village Clerk/Treasurer

PER BOARD RESOLUTION:
AS OF:

3/7/2011
1/31/2011

AGENDA ITEM

TRANSFER IN APPROPRIATIONS GENERAL FUND					
FROM ACCOUNT	TITLE	AMOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	TITLE	AMOUNT
A1990.4	Contingency Account	\$ 6,000.00	A1620.40	Building - Miscellaneous Contractual	\$ 6,000.00
A1990.4	Contingency Account	\$ 1,000.00	A3520.4	Animal Control - Contractual Exp	\$ 1,000.00
A4540.49	Ambulance - Multirmed Commissions	\$ 2,000.00	A4540.16	Ambulance - Driver Messenger PT	\$ 2,000.00
A4540.20	Ambulance - Equipment	\$ 1,000.00	A4540.23	Ambulance - Training Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
A4540.46	Ambulance - Medical Training	\$ 2,000.00	A4540.43	Ambulance - Vehicle Repairs	\$ 2,000.00
A4540.46	Ambulance - Medical Training	\$ 2,000.00	A4540.44	Ambulance - Radio Repairs & Svce	\$ 2,000.00
A1990.4	Contingency Account	\$ 2,500.00	A5010.12	Street Administration - Part Time Pay	\$ 2,500.00
A9010.80	State Retirement	\$ 8,000.00	A9050.8	Unemployment Insurance	\$ 8,000.00

TRANSFER IN APPROPRIATIONS SEWER FUND					
FROM ACCOUNT	TITLE	AMOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	TITLE	AMOUNT
G1990.4	Contingency Account	\$ 10,000.00	G8120.43	Sanitary Sewers - Infrastructure Repairs	\$ 10,000.00
G8130.20	Sewage Treatment - Equipment	\$ 600.00	G8130.12	Sewage Treatment - Summer Help	\$ 600.00

SCHEDULE "A "