Board of Trustees Village of Black River, New York



Agenda
Regular Meeting
September 9, 2024

- Call to order.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of minutes of the 8/5/24 regular meeting & the 9/4/24 special meeting
- Public Comment.
- Police Department Report.
- Code Enforcement Report & review of related correspondence.
- Clerk-Treasurer's Report.
- Superintendent's Report.

Correspondence Received:

A) James Rodrigues

B) Sarah Trick

C) Jonathan Gaines

Re: AT&T Cell Tower

Re: MS4 Permit Compliance

Re: Fire Department Membership

<u>Correspondence Sent:</u>

New Business:

Unfinished Business:

- -Reports from Standing Committees.
- -Reports from Special Meetings.
- -Authorize payment of bills; adjournment.

Village of Black River Board of Trustees Regular Meeting August 5, 2024



Mayor Leonard called the regular meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor David Leonard

Trustee Bonnie Proven

Trustee David Daily

Trustee Corey Decillis

Clerk-Treasurer Abigail Simpson

Superintendent Les Williams

Police Chief Steve Wood

Excused:

Trustee Randy Lake

Code Enforcement Officer Terry Ault

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Trustee Daily to approve the minutes of the 7/1/24 regular meeting and the 7/9/24 public hearing. The motion was carried.

Public Comment:

Resident Lee Carpenter made the board aware of a Sewer Board meeting being held in the meeting room Monday August 12th at 4:30PM and requested that someone be here to unlock the doors and added appreciation for Kristin William's and all she has done in her time with the village. He also added that the pickleball and newly paved streets look great and thanked the Department of Public Works for their work.

Resident Lee Carpenter brought forth the village getting a digital speed sign on LeRay Street to limit the speeding.

Resident Francis Dishaw raised concern about meetings within board members happening outside of meeting hours. If this continues, it will be turned into the NYS Ethics Board.

Resident Francis Dishaw questioned why the Department of Public Works is hiring from the outside and not internally. Hiring an individual to work with no prior experience raises concern about the water system and how this could affect the village.

Resident Francis Dishaw raised concern around board members being ignored and their opinions not being respected.

Resident Gary McCullouch stated that he would like to see special meetings or meeting changes be broadcasted through the IRIS notification system.

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Historian William Reichard stated his concern about going door to door and the insurance or waiver needed to do so. It was recommended to him that he forms a committee and makes the village aware of who the committee members are.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Trustee Daily to allow William Reichard to form a Historical Committee. The motion was carried.

Resident Melissa Liversedge came to talk about and have the board approve the "Connecting the Blocks" party that will be held at the Maple Street Park on September 14th starting at 12pm.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Mayor Leonard to approve the "Connecting the Blocks" party. The motion was carried.

<u>Police Department Report:</u> Police Chief Wood stated that he has been working with new hire, Heath Rupert, training and he is on the road. He worked 120 hours last month with a 9-hour DWI patrol on July 4th. While he was on patrol his Mobile Data Terminal stopped working, the Town of LeRay was able to have that replaced quickly saving the village that cost. Police Chief Wood stated that Stop DWI will be giving the village \$3000 and that will begin Labor Day.

<u>Clerk-Treasurer Report:</u> Clerk-Treasurer Simpson stated that they have enough children to be able to go to Water Safari for summer recreation. The two recreation assistants came and spoke on how the year is going and gave a wish list for next year's program.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Williams stated that the pickle ball court is open but seeing little use. Superintendent Williams stated that the standard operating procedures went to the Department of Health and rural water came in to inspect. The inspection letter came and they would like to see an auto chlorine monitor installed. Superintendent Williams stated the meters for Rutland have been ordered and we are waiting to see if we are assisting with the cost. The Department of Public Works had the school kids from Habitat for Humanity working with them for four days. The Department of Public Works did 39 loads worth of brush pickup after the wind storm. Superintendent Williams stated that Nytric Electric replaced the power box at the tank and started work at the Maple Street pump station. It was determined that the generator is not properly wired and they are going to put a quote together for the cost to repair. Superintendent Williams stated that the paving is complete, the town of LeRay helped us \$10,000 under budget. The DPW is working on cleanup, West Carthage came in to assist with their Vac for drains which helped save on cost to rent one. Superintendent Williams stated that D&N Tank is going to start this week at the reservoir. Superintendent Williams stated that DPW employee Paige hurt his back doing trash removal, a report has been filed. Superintendent Williams mentioned the planning board has a resident that has been talking about opening the road to change lines, the

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board agrees that the resident would be responsible to repair the road. Superintendent Williams and the DPW put out some letters regarding recycling not being clean and recycling being found in the garbage pickup. These services could be abolished if we do not comply.

<u>Correspondence Received:</u> The board reviewed a letter from NYS Department of Health regarding the Public Water Inspection. Superintendent Williams mentioned starting dual sampling. The board received and reviewed the resignation letter from Deputy-Clerk, Tarra Benson.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Trustee Daily to accept Tarra Benson's resignation letter. The motion was carried.

The board discussed getting the Deputy-Clerk position advertised as soon as possible with \$17 to \$20 per hour being the pay range. The board received and reviewed a considerations and concerns letter received from Clerk-Treasurer Willaims. The board also received and reviewed a letter from Planning Board member Stafford regarding planning board attendance. He is requesting that Planning Board member Hoering resigns from the board.

A motion was made by Mayor Leonard, seconded by Trustee Decillis to send a letter to Planning Board member Hoering asking for him to resign. The motion was carried.

<u>New Business:</u> The board discussed interviews for the superintendent position. They interviewed two individuals and one the them withdrew after the interview. They discussed keeping Superintendent Williams on as the water operator for a couple hours per week to get the new hire through his probation period.

A motion was made by Trustee Daily, seconded by Trustee Proven to hire Eric Nier as the new Superintendent. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Mayor Leonard to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, that the following abstracts of audited voucher be approved: interim abstract dated 7/10/24 in the amount of \$36,014.39 (General Fund: \$16,977.81 Water Fund: \$1,425.73 Sewer Fund: \$17,610.85), interim abstract dated 7/29/24 in the amount of \$23,344.63 (General Fund: \$21,728.73 Water Fund: \$1615.90), and regular monthly abstract dated 8/5/24 in the amount of \$250,922.91 (General Fund: \$247,583.19 Water Fund: \$2472.72 Sewer Fund: \$867.00). The motion was put to a vote as follows:

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Mayor Leonard Yes
Trustee Decillis Yes
Trustee Proven Yes
Trustee Daily Yes
Trustee Lake Absent

The motion was carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A motion was made by Mayor Leonard, seconded by Trustee Decillis to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Simpson Clerk-Treasurer

Village of Black River Board of Trustees Special Meeting September 4, 2024



Mayor Leonard called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Absent:

Mayor David Leonard Trustee David Daily Trustee Corey Decillis Trustee Randy Lake Trustee Bonnie Proven

The Board was present to discuss having a company come in and perform an audit. Clerk-Treasurer Simpson has reached out to Bowers and Company for a quote and is waiting to get that back. The purpose of this audit would be to separate the resignation of Clerk-Treasurer Williams and the start of new Clerk-Treasurer Simpson and to help get the books up to date.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Trustee Lake to enter into executive session to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal or a particular person or corporation. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Mayor Leonard to exit out of executive session to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal or a particular person or corporation. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Trustee Daily to hire Tricia Beutel at \$20 per hour as a consultant. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Decillis, seconded by Mayor Leonard to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Simpson Clerk Treasurer