The Town Board of the Town of Trenton held a Meeting at the Trenton Municipal Center, 8520 Old Poland Road, Barneveld, New York. Supervisor Godfrey called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Present were: Councilmen Michael Bennison, Eric Taylor, Chris Crumb, Jim Farr and Town Clerk, Rachel Bunker. Also present: James Fruscella, Laura Fruscella, Linda Parker and Patricia A. Robinson.

I. Meeting called to order by Supervisor Godfrey at 7:03 pm

II. Privilege of the Floor

Jim and Laura Fruscella – Asked that money be put in the budget for the Village Park. She believes it has to be done before the budget is made. Godfrey asked Jim what the new committee was going to be because that would be the way to go; to put it under that committee to get it started. The new committee was going to be approved, they just need to come up with a dollar figure. Godfrey said the town will give the committee money and they can decide how to use it. Laura asked when Godfrey needed the dollar amount by and Godfrey advised that they are putting the budget together now, so by the end of September.

The committee will be voted on at the September 11th meeting and if there is a number by that time they will consider it.

The other issue the Fruscella's have is the Rural Ministry. Total 890+ people that were taken care of last year with the Christmas Basket Program. They do have money promised from MaryAnn Buttonshon. He has talked to Smullen and Griffo but not a lot of response. Godfrey advised that they budgeted $3600 to give to them. Godfrey said the best way the Town can help is on a yearly basis and suggested they call Dave Buck for help.

Scholarships – Linda Parker and Patricia Robinson from the Scholarship Foundation Committee were at the meeting. Godfrey passed out information on the Mildred Usher and Howard Thomas Scholarships and the names that were put in by the committee. They asked for the rules for the scholarships. At the last meeting Godfrey wrote Jackie Mann in because he noticed that she was the only person that was not awarded a scholarship by the committee. The issue was that this young lady had graduated from a 4 year school, was now a teacher and was pursuing her Master's Degree. Some on the Committee felt she did not qualify. Godfrey spoke to Allison from the Community Foundation, who said she agreed that the scholarship is not restricted to undergraduate students and she would be eligible. Godfrey advised that if they want to tighten up the requirements, they would have to go back to the Community Foundation. Discussion ensued and next year the Scholarship Committee will work closely with the Board when deciding on awarding scholarships.

III. Resolutions:

A. Miner Property – 112-114 Mappa Ave., Barneveld. Godfrey provided board members with a letter that Ken wrote regarding the Miner Property. The old Post Office Bldg. is half on Miner's property and half is on Pachura's property. The property line from the building next to the Shadowbox is owned by someone out of Cold Brook and that property line cuts down through the middle of Miner's building. We are looking for an approval to move forward so Kate can submit these violations to Mr. Miner with a certain amount of time for his response.

If he doesn't respond within the time frame, we will move forward with a court date. Godfrey asked for a Motion to move forward with the complaint for this building. Farr made motion to move forward, seconded by Bennison.

Roll Call – Stephen Godfrey, aye
Michael Bennison, aye
Christopher Crumb, aye
James Farr, aye
Eric Taylor, aye.

B. Local Law Written Notification of Defects Notice of Public Hearing - This came about because of our liability insurance. It's more of a protective law for us. There is a state law but this applies more toward towns. Kate explained the law as Local Law #1, 2024. Under the NYS Town Law there is already a provision that requires prior written notice before a defect in a road can lead to liability for a town. For example she said, suppose I'm driving down a town road and go into a big pothole and it pops the tire right off my car and does damage. I won't be able to get any money out of the town unless the town already had prior written notice that there was that big pothole in the road. This law is kind of an expansion of the law already enforced throughout the state in the town law. It was something that one of the insurance companies asked us to do. What Kate put together is actually verbatim from a model local law that was provided by the Tug Hill Commission.

Kate advised tonight you will be introducing the Local Law and calling for a Public Hearing to be held at your first meeting in September. Crumb made motion to move forward with Local Law #1, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

Taylor made motion to move forward with a Public Hearing for September 11, 2024 at 6:30 for Local Law #1, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

C. Purchase Plow for Buildings and Grounds - Rich wants another plow because he's selling the 2019 with the plow on it. Bennison made motion to purchase the plow, seconded by Crumb,. 5 ayes.

D. APRA Funds for the Ambulance – Godfrey hasn't sent out the agreements. He ran them by Kate, who said they look good. Star Ambulance is to buy equipment with the $15,000 in funds. Godfrey said Bob Whitehead is fine with that. Taylor made Resolution to approve the agreement for the ambulance, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

E. ARPA Funds – Fire District – Taylor made motion for $40,000.00 for the Fire District, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

F. One Group Insurance Premium Increase – A little less than a month ago Godfrey received an email message from the carrier, Trident, which said they were cutting us off as of September 1st. Godfrey called Julie Herb who is the representative of One Group, discussed it with her and she was aware of it at the same time that Godfrey was. She said she would go out and try to find another carrier. At that point, Audrey and Steve got everything together including lists of all our properties, all our equipment, highway, grounds, etc. and based on what One Group

had listed, it wasn't even close to what we have. Bottom line is Travelers didn't want to take us on, and other companies didn't want to take us on either. Trident said they would look at it again with all the additions. We have about a $65,000 premium with them now. The new premium is going to be $100,000 for them to continue on. Godfrey talked with Julie but she is limited with what she can do with Trident. Kate advised that because the date is so close we are going to have to take on that burden of the $100,000 and search for a new company. As of tomorrow we will start that. It takes weeks because we have to supply so much information. The good thing is Audrey has gotten everything together that wasn't put together and now we have everything so we can send the information they might need and the process will go smoother. Godfrey needs a resolution tonight to spend the new premium.

Taylor made motion to approve the new rate with Trident and One Group of $100,000 seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

G. Clerk's Office – We had a complaint brought to our attention from Mr. Green. Apparently in 2021 and 2022 he got outrageous water bills and we went through and looked at his account. He paid $69.00 every month and then January 2021 his bill was $750.00. Mr. Green went to Joe and said this is obviously an error, that he couldn't have used this amount of water. We went through all his records and told him we would refund him. Doesn't need to be voted on, Rachel just wanted to make sure the board was aware. Mr. Green is getting a refund of $736.00.

Jim Farr requested a copy of the flow charts from the water operator that were given to him earlier in the year. Rachel said to either call or email Taylor and Farr said he would do it.

H. Priority Issues:

A. Trenton Falls Scenic Trails - Will be open October 5th and 6th. Hopefully the weather will be good. Godfrey might need help from one or two to cover, depending on whether he will be in town or not.

B. Swim Beach and Playground – Everything went well. Didn't lose any money, no major injuries. There was a good crew and Godfrey believes they will get a lot of the lifeguards back. Hochel had an article that they taught 2,000 new swimmers in the state. We did 200 on our own between the town and those from Holland Patent School.

C. Budget – Godfrey will start working on the budget next week. If anyone has any ideas on where they need to look at, let him know. Still waiting on the money from the High School.

D. Pachura Property – Was on the auction block and now it's not. Godfrey had a discussion with the Commissioner of Finance. According to Kate he would have had to pay in full to get it off the auction block ,but Godfrey is not so sure.

E. Dave Buck ARPA Funds - Dave sent Godfrey an inviting him to the County Legislature Fundraiser, but email has been down so Godfrey never received his email. His second email was there might be some county money from ARPA that they are willing to share. Godfrey went and took a picture of the pavilion in Prospect at the ballfield because we were thinking of

using some money toward that. As a second choice, he got pricing on the speed signs for $12,000 or $13,000.

VIII. Communications:

Next meeting September 11, 2024

Taylor made motion to adjourn the Board Meeting, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.
Meeting Adjourned 8:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel I. Bunker
Town Clerk