**The Village of Nelsonville Board of Trustees, met at 7:30 pm, on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at their regularly scheduled meeting via Zoom, with Mayor Bowman presiding, Trustees Maloney, Moroney, Winward and Zhynovitch present.**

**Pledge to the Flag**

Trustee Winward opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Vouchers**

Abstract #9, in the amount of $14,979.80 was audited and ordered paid by a motion from Trustee Moroney, seconded by Trustee Zhynovitch, enacted all in favor.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the January meeting were approved by a motion from Trustee Zhynovitch, seconded by Trustee Moroney, enacted all in favor.

**Correspondence**

The clerk summarized the following correspondence:

* Putnam County Executive re: partnering with municipalities in APRA related projects

Trustee Winward stated that the Town of Philipstown and the Village of Cold Spring are currently going over ideas. She stated that Mayor Foley of the Village of Cold Spring reported to her that a drain in the Nelsonville woods overflows during heavy rains, creating issues for residents of Cedar Street. Trustee Winward stated that this is a potential use of county funds, and can be discussed further.

Mayor Bowman stated that a sewer system for the Village could be an item we can ask the county for assistance with.

**Reports**

Trustee Winward reported that she attended a meeting with a representative from Governor Hochul’s office, along with Mayor Foley of the Village of Cold Spring and Supervisor Van Tassel of the Town of Philipstown. Trustee Winward stated that it was good to have an opportunity to voice concerns, and that this could be a good resource.

Mayor Bowman reported that he was informed by the attorney that the Village is no longer a party to any direct legal action involving the cell tower.

**Old Business**

Mayor’s Monarch Pledge

Mayor Bowman stated that the Village’s pledge was confirmed, and that we have already met two of the three requirements.

Independent Audit

Trustee Winward gave an overview of the reasons to conduct an independent audit every three years as best practice. Internal audits are conducted yearly, but this would be more comprehensive. Due to rising costs, the price has gone up and the quote to conduct an audit for the fiscal year 2020-2021 is $7,000. Upon motion by Trustee Moroney, seconded by Trustee Winward, enacted all in favor, the proposal to conduct an independent audit by the EFPR Group was approved.

Approve Fee Schedule Update – Inclusion of STR Fees

Mayor Bowman summarized the Short Term Rental fees to be included in the Fee Schedule. Upon motion by Trustee Winward, seconded by Trustee Maroney, enacted all in favor, the updated Fee Schedule was adopted.

**New Business**

General Code Update

Bill Bujarski, Building Inspector and CEO, gave a brief overview of the need for a code updated. The clerk stated the cost from the proposal that was sent from General Code. There was discussion among the board members about the cost, and perhaps finding less expensive alternatives. Mayor Bowman suggested a committee should be formed to research the matter further.

Procurement Policy

Trustee Winward stated that the Procurement Policy is reviewed annually. She stated it is not up to date in our online code, but it is up to date from when the state requirements were amended in 2012. She stated that section 3 may need to be updated next year and thresholds may need to be reevaluated.

Delinquent Taxes

Upon motion by Trustee Moroney, seconded by Trustee Zhynovitch, enacted all in favor, the delinquent tax roll was approved to be sent to the to the Putnam County Commissioner of Finance in the amount of $10,584.67.

Review of Current Budget

Trustee Winward stated that the budget needs to be adopted by May 1, 2022, and listed possible dates of the proposed budget workshops and hearing as follows:

* March 9 workshop dedicated to the budget.
* March 21 regular meeting – approval of tentative budget
* April 13 workshop as potential Budget Hearing date
* April 18 regular meeting – adoption of final budget

Mayor Bowman and the Trustees agreed upon the dates, with the understanding that more workshops may be added as needed.

Trustee Winward gave an overview of the budget process, and reviewed the current budget as well as description of each line item. She and the clerk with begin working on a draft budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

**Open to Floor**

Mayor Bowman allowed questions from the floor.

Heidi Wendell suggested a volunteer committee be formed to update the Village Code. She also suggested the Village look into solar panels to subsidize energy costs, and stated that her residence is currently solarized and her costs are now minimal. She suggested a committee be formed for that as well, and offered to serve on that committee as well, along with a monetary contribution toward solarizing the Village Hall if allowed. Finally, Ms. Wendell asked if there was a budget line item for planting in the woods. Mayor Bowman stated that it would be taken into account during the budget process. Mayor Bowman also stated that he thinks solar panels are an excellent idea, and that there will be further discussion among the Board.

Mary Lou Caccetta stated her concerns about sidewalks not being cleared of snow and ice by some residents. Bill Bujarksi stated that letters have been sent to those residents.

**Adjournment**

Upon motion of Trustee Winward, seconded by Trustee Moroney, enacted all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Respectfully presented,

Melissa Harris

Village Clerk