VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
243 MAIN STREET, JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790
www.villageofjc.com

Village Board

Gregory Deemie, Mayor
Bruce King, Deputy Mayor

Richard Balles, Trustee   Martin Meaney, Trustee   John Walker, Trustee

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**Minutes of the Village of Johnson City Special Meeting held on
Thursday, November 16, 2017 in the Municipal Building, 243 Main Street, Johnson City**

Present:	Gregory Deemie, Mayor
	Bruce King, Deputy Mayor
	Richard Balles, Trustee
	Martin Meaney, Trustee
	John Walker, Trustee
Absent:	None
Also Present:	Cheryl Sacco, Legal Counsel
	Cindy Kennerup, Clerk/Treasurer
	Police Chief Brent Dodge
	Andrew Holbert
	Chris Waters

Mayor Deemie called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, led the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the fire exits.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #2017-194

A motion to authorize village treasurer to forward the 2017-2018 unpaid Village Real Property Taxes (levied on June 1, 2017) to the Broome County Commissioner of Finance in the amounts

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of: Real Property Taxes: $622,141.11, Interest & Penalties: $49,771.34, Late Mail Fees $340.00 for a total amount of $672,252.45 was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee King.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Meaney, King, Balles, Walker, Deemie)   **Nays** – 0   **Absent** - 0

Discussion:

− Mr. Holbert asked if he could live stream the meetings. From here forward if he is at the meeting he will be streaming the meetings to the Johnson City Democrats Facebook page. The Mayor researched this and talked to both Coughlin & Gerhart and NYCOM. Section 103 Any meeting of a public body that is open to the public shall be open for photograph, broadcast, webcast, or otherwise recorded or transmitted by audio or video means as used herein the term broadcast shall also include transmitted by cable. We can't deny that from being done. We will make sure it is announced at every meeting here forward or will post a sign as to that the meeting is being livestreamed.

Trustee King is concerned about people talking at the meetings and giving their street address. The Mayor stated that we will look into whether they need to give their address. We want them to feel comfortable about addressing the Board.

− Trustee Meaney asked what prompted Andrew to want to livestream. Andrew said he has wanted to do it ever since he started campaigning. If he was elected he wanted to do it for the Village. He will aim the video towards the board, not towards individuals.
− The Mayor said we will look into the Village doing it for ourselves and putting it on the Village website.

Trustee Walker called for this special meeting because of the upcoming meeting with Senator Akshar on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 to discuss ideas or questions for the Senator and to discuss how to proceed. The Mayor wants to forward the questions to Senator Akshar so he can research the items before he comes.

− Trustee Walker inquired about receiving the information from his email last week. Bob sent an email to him, but did he send it to whole board? The Mayor thinks the email was sent to everyone. The Mayor explains that in regards to money being spent, the school has to spend money within the confines of their property. They have help with infrastructure and water lines that are going to their property and being replaced. He does not know if Bob has a cost breakdown.

Trustee Walker saw Senator Akshar at the spiedie fest and communicated to him that the Village of Johnson City needs help and we haven't gotten anything from the state. Trustee Walker said Senator Akshar told him the Village needs to come to him and ask. The Mayor explained that he and Bob had a sit-down with Senator Akshar and gave him a breakdown of the Village's projects. We can discuss that with him on Tuesday. Mayor Deemie stated that he sent a note to the board that they were going to meet with Senator Akshar. Trustee Meaney and Trustee Walker want to be made aware of any meeting so they are kept apprised.

After the BU meeting, Trustee Walker asked Harvey Senger about helping Johnson City and that we have spent a lot of money in and around the area of the school. He responded , I was under the impression that Johnson City hasn't spent a dime which is not true. The Village has spent money on Arch Street, Faatz Alley and Baldwin Street. We sat down and talked to him. Trustee Walker wants figures so we can ask him for help in doing all this. Although beneficial to taxpayers can't afford putting out all this money to have this school here. We have some money the governor is doling out.

The Mayor explains the DRI -

- Next couple meetings Joe Moody is going to discuss $20 million and what we need to do on our end for that. May be some matching, may not. The Mayor needs to set up meeting to find out what we need to do to get money. We don't have knowledge because the process is just starting. The starting point is DRI (Downtown Revitalization Initiative). We are looking at a lot of the project proposals. We need to keep Senator, Assemblywoman and Joe Moody and Bergman in the loop. When all this does hit we need to be ready to go. They have an idea of how to go forward because they are already working on Endicott.
- A Steering Committee was set up by the County and the county is funding. The Steering Committee has been working on this. It includes people from real estate, hospital, Frank Evangelisti. The Village of Johnson City has been brought in because we are ground zero. Dai Korba, Mayor Deemie and Tom Sheredy are JC people that are on the committee.
- The $20 million is part of a whole plan going forward. The Mayor got a list from Dai about what they talked about at the last meeting and the costs. He will get a copy to the Board and get them up to speed. Trustee King suggests every work session they touch on it. The Board will discuss projects and possible costs. Financial and grant funding will need to be voted on. Assemblywoman Lupardo and Senator Akshar can help push these through. First Public meeting is where they took the ideas from and they are working on the marketing end and videos. It will be going fast and furious.

Trustee Balles ideas and discussion –

- FEMA reimbursement – got a copy from Tom Johnson back through 2011. There is over $1 million in FEMA money we didn't get because FEMA cut money from projects. Can Senator Akshar look into this? The Mayor explains that is federal money, but we can ask.
- Grant money for park improvements – Johnson City gazebo, American Legion sidewalk to WWII monument. Trustee Balles spoke to Senator Akshar and he said to put it on the list to look at.
- There is even some veteran's money out there we can look into.
- Aim funding has not increased in years. Johnson City got $180,000, Endicott - $312,000, Binghamton - $9.2 million, Norwich – $1.08 million, Town of Union - $305,000. How do they come up with these numbers? Is there a formula they use to come up with these numbers? It should be equal.

- Gross Receipts Tax – NYCOM is very vigilant about trying to change this. It should be amended that cities and villages have the same maximum rate. Cities- Buffalo, Rochester and Yonkers get 3-4% on their Gross Receipts Tax and Villages get 1%. Can the Senator look into this also?

If you have any other ideas or questions for Senator Akshar, send the Mayor an email.

Trustee King Discussion –

- When we get sewer plant up and running, if we don't do something about infiltration of water at the combined sewers when we have a heavy rainfall we will go over again. I am looking for some kind of assistance for the village and all users to help them get out there and do more separation projects. We have a lot that need to be split yet. The Mayor stated that according to Bob we don't, we are at about 70% separated in the Village. We are in the process of TVing everything per the regulations, we have to do so many miles per year to make sure we don't have the infiltration. $200,000-$400,000 for a couple blocks. If we can look to get funding to get it done quicker.

ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm.