



## VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY

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

### Village Board

Gregory Deemie, Mayor

Trustee Clark Giblin                      Trustee Martin Meaney  
Trustee Benjamin Reynolds          Trustee John Walker

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### **Minutes of a Work Session of the Johnson City Village Board held at 5:30pm on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 in the Municipal Building, 243 Main Street, Johnson City**

Present:            Gregory Deemie, Mayor  
                        Clark Giblin, Trustee  
                        Martin Meaney, Trustee  
                        Benjamin Reynolds, Trustee  
                        John Walker, Trustee

Absent:            None

Also Present:    Cheryl Sacco, Legal Counsel  
                        Cindy Kennerup, Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor Deemie called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION #1**

A motion to enter executive session at 5:31 pm to discuss legal advice was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Meaney. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit the executive session at 5:59 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

Darlene Leonard of the Senior Center discussed the following:

- Seniors Center programs offered:
  - 10 exercise/fitness classes, zumba and tai chi, line dancing, strength programs, etc.
  - Educational nutritional programs
  - Good mental and stable health
  - Daily meal program
    - \$3.50 for a complete meal. Food is provided by the County program. Keeps people healthily fed with at least one healthy meal per day.
- 8 Senior Centers in the county

- Guitar music 4 times a week. Started with four people, now there are 24.
- Thanks the Village of Johnson City for the yearly grant money and thanks the community for their donations as they run at a zero balance
- Fire Chief and Police Chief are invited to eat free especially on Tuesdays with their breakfast for lunch program. They make eggs, waffles, toast and hashbrowns.
- Thank you to the DPW for plowing their parking lot and doing things for them in the past.
- They are still trying to get a farmer's market at the Senior Center.
- Bus trips – sports, theater and overnight to NYC
- BINGO Monday nights

Mayor Deemie and the Trustees commend Darlene and the Senior Center on what they do for the community.

Dan Feduke, Chairman of the Plumbing Board and Miroslav Herzog, Plumbing Inspector discuss keeping the plumbing board and licensure within the Village.

- After working with a Master Plumber for five years you are eligible to take the test
- State, County, and Municipality Licenses
- Continuing Education classes every one to three years.

Mayor Deemie discussed current situation with the Plumbing Board.

- The Plumbing Board hasn't met for about a year. They did not have a full committee and the Village still functioned and things got done.
- There were reciprocal issues.
- Endicott did away with their Plumbing Board. Town of Union never had one. The Mayor is unsure what is going on with Binghamton
- Testing is a big issue.
  - Plumbers come in that want to take the test and the test is only given every six months and they cannot get a license without taking the test.
  - Everyone else has gone to prometrics – nationwide test
    - Dan's issue is that it is open book.
    - Mayor Deemie issue is that if you were in Buffalo and took the test, they should be capable of coming to Johnson City and getting a license because they have taken the same test.
      - Takes so long to get a license in Johnson City
      - Could become a legal concern because we are cutting guys off from getting work
      -

Trustee Meaney questioned why they haven't pressed the issue until now. Were unlicensed plumbers allowed to work in the Village?

Mayor Deemie responded not that we know of.

Trustee Walker confirmed the Board approves someone to work in the Village.

Mr. Feduke stated that their test is dated 1992. Today's standards they have the books and they correct the answers accordingly as they change. They haven't changed the test yet. There is no open book and no cell phones.

Mr. Herzog explained his viewpoint regarding knowledge, education of plumbers and protecting the public.

Mayor Deemie stated that the prometric testing is nationwide and our electrical board uses prometrics. There is no problems from them whatsoever with them getting licensed and working in the Village.

Trustee Meaney questioned the difference in criteria.

Mayor Deemie confirmed there are the same criteria for all of the boards.

Trustee Walker said the Board is important to review who is going to do work in the Village. He suggested:

- Doing away with our testing and going with prometrics
- Background checks for people coming to work in the Village.

Trustee Meaney questioned why the testing is only done every six months.

Mr. Feduke responded that when he came on Endicott did one every four months, we did one every four months. Endicott fell off then we had Binghamton and Johnson City.

Mayor Deemie stated we cut off all reciprocity because of the issue with Oneonta.

Trustee Meaney asked if we can offer the test more often.

Mr. Feduke responded not much is involved with giving a test. They meet every second Thursday.

Mayor Deemie thinks we should go with prometrics which everyone else is using. Dan thinks we could go with that, but wants to do a practical check on the person.

Discussion with Mayor Deemie, Mr. Feduke, the Board, Mr. Bennett and Attorney Sacco regarding permits plumbing licenses.

Mr. Bennett confirmed we don't issue permits unless someone has a license.

Trustee Meaney suggested Mr. Feduke come in with criteria and frequency of testing in the Village of Johnson City.

Mayor Deemie confirmed Mr. Feduke will come to the next meeting with ideas and thoughts.

Mayor Deemie, Attorney Sacco and the Board discussed the Agenda and Resolutions.

Attorney Sacco discussed the rezone and read the code and the department comments.

- The Board received it and referred it to the Planning Board, the staff recommended denial, Planning Board recommended approval.
- We referred it to Broome County and they recommended denial

Attorney Sacco read EAF Parts I, II, III and Mayor Deemie, the Board, Bob Bennett discussed the environmental impacts.

Trustee Walker and Trustee Meaney discuss the consistency in the Burns Street area.

Trustee Walker questions the procurement policy and would like all purchases of goods and services under \$20,000 to go to bid.

Attorney Sacco, Mayor Deemie, Ms. Kennerup and the Board discuss procurement policy.

Trustee Meaney questioned whether we are administering the grant agreements today and who is getting the money.

Mayor Deemie explained the grants and grant funding.

Mr. Bennett explained Resolutions 16 and 17 and the difference in the cost between the Nelson Road project and the Willow Street project.

Trustee asks whether Resolutions 16 went out to bid or if Shumaker was the only firm that was looked at. Mr. Bennett explained he talked to a couple other engineering firms, all costs were similar, but Shoemaker did New York Ave and they liked the way it was done.

Trustee Walker asked if this is the money from Senator Akshar. Mayor Deemie confirms it is for Willow Street, but he hasn't given it to us yet.

Trustee Meaney, Mayor Deemie and Mr. Bennett discuss the removal of the railroad tracks.

Mayor Deemie questioned Mr. Bennett about the Good Will Theater. Mr. Bennett explains the storm, sanitary sewer and drainage issues.

Mayor Deemie explained IDA is looking into Brownfield work and Assessment Coalition Grant. There is no cost to us. They want to do more studies on the brownfields and see what they can do to make them viable.

Trustee Walker asked how did that turn out over at the park?

Mr. Bennett confirmed Boland Park and that he hasn't heard from the DEC in quite a while. They got the samples back and there were some contaminants back. They weren't going to do anything until they did more investigating. May need more wells, exploratory digging. The initial sampling wells showed contamination. Trustee Giblin confirmed we hadn't heard anything since then? Mr. Bennett stated not since sometime between the holiday and when they called.

Trustee Meaney questioned what this is in regards to at Boland Park. DEC got some funding to investigate closed landfills that weren't official landfills and we have a couple of them. One is Boland Park with EJ and one is the parking lot area of Best Western/Raymour and Flanigan. We own Boland Park, so we have to take care of remediation. Boland Park is the only one that the Village of Johnson City is on the hook for.

With regard to Resolution #2019-19, Mayor Deemie explains that Mr. Shah bought the property and there was no water meter, but we didn't realize there was no water meter until Amanda finally got in there. He shouldn't have been billed the minimum because he had no meter. Mr. Bennett stated the building was condemned and they couldn't get into it. They couldn't get a reading from it and they didn't have a record of taking the meter out. Mr. Bennett confirms it is legitimate to waive this bill. Mayor Deemie confirms this is fair. Attorney Sacco states the billing cycles of July 1, 2016, October 1, 2016 and January 1, 2017 plus credit as a buyer at closing.

Trustee Walker asks what is minimum cost per billing cycle. Ms. Kennerup states \$268.

Travel Request from Chief Dodge for April, but they have to have things done ahead of time so they can get their rooms. It is for \$1,470. Does anyone have a problem with putting this on this agenda? Trustee Giblin and Trustee Meaney are fine with it. Trustee Walker asks if we are within budget on training. Mayor Deemie states yes.

Trustee Walker and Trustee Meaney question the detail of the minutes and would like them to include more detail including who brings up a topic or question. Attorney Sacco states that the minutes legally are not required to be verbatim nor do they have to be approved by the Board.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION #2**

A motion to enter executive session at 7:05 pm to discuss legal advice was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit the executive session at 7:23 pm was made by Trustee Meaney and seconded by Trustee Walker. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm.

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Cindy Kennerup  
Village Clerk/Treasurer

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Recordings of the Village Board meetings and work sessions  
are available for review through the Village Clerk/Treasurer's Office.