

**VILLAGE OF PERRY
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

A Regular Board Meeting of the Village of Perry was held at the Village Hall, 46 North Main Street, Perry, New York at 7:30 pm on the 5th day of February 2024.

PRESENT:	Rick Hauser	Mayor
	Dariel Draper	Trustee
	Arlene Lapiana	Trustee
	Ernie Lawrence	Trustee
ALSO PRESENT:	Samantha Marcy	Administrator
	Christina Slusser	Village Clerk
GUESTS:	Lorraine Sturm	Perry Herald

Mayor Hauser called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from the last regular board meeting on January 16, 2024 was made by Trustee Lawrence and seconded by Mayor Hauser. The motion was carried by Mayor Hauser, Trustee Lawrence, and Trustee Lapiana voting aye. Trustee Draper was not present to vote.

2024-2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION – VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Village Administrator, Sam Marcy, presented the draft budget including an overview summary, summary of revenues and expenditures for general, water, and sewer, additional requests for consideration, and detailed revenue and expenditures to date compared to the 2023-2024 adopted budget. ARPA funds received, spent, allocated, and remaining are listed. Estimated tax rates were given based on the total levy and equalization rate. There are some additional requests that do not fit into the budget currently and are listed by department to be considered. The general fund has a rough increase of \$30,000 but a decrease in taxes.

The water fund has an increase of \$17,000 and includes contingency to be used on unplanned expenses.

The sewer fund includes \$73,000 in contingency. Another potential project is the need to upgrade the outfall/baffle box. The administrator recommends building up the sewer fund reserve to avoid a potential sewer rate increase for these necessary expenses.

Mayor Hauser made a motion to schedule a special budget workshop next Monday, the 12th, at 7:00 pm which was seconded by Trustee Lapiana and carried with all voting aye. A public notice will be published in the Perry Herald.

RESOLUTION APPROVING PERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY REQUEST

WHEREAS, the Office Committee has reviewed the request from the Perry Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the Perry Public Library is requesting to reserve the Village Hall Assembly Room on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 for an event; and

WHEREAS, the Office Committee is suggesting waiving fees for the usage of Assembly Room; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Perry Board hereby accepts the Perry Public Library's request and waiving fees for the usage of the Assembly Room at the Village Hall.

Trustee Lawrence made a motion to adopt the resolution approving the Perry Public Library request to use the assembly room space and waiving the usage fee. This motion was seconded by Trustee Lapiana and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPROVING PERRY ELEMENTARY INCLUSION COMMITTEE REQUEST

WHEREAS, the Parks Committee has reviewed the request from the Perry Elementary Inclusion Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Perry Elementary Inclusion Committee are requesting to reserve the Village Park loop and South Pavilion on Saturday, May 4, 2024 for a Walk for Inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Committee is suggesting waiving fees for the usage of the park loop and pavilion; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Perry Board hereby accepts the Perry Elementary Inclusion Committee's request and waiving fees for the usage of the park and pavilion.

Trustee Lapiana made a motion to approve the resolution approving the Perry Elementary Inclusion Committee request which was seconded by Trustee Lawrence and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER, HAYDEN LANGLESS

WHEREAS, Chief Grover has determined the need for an additional part-time Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, Chief Grover is requesting the hiring of Mr. Hayden Langless as a Part-Time Police Officer for the Village of Perry; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Perry Board of Trustees hereby approves the hiring of Mr. Hayden Langless as a part-time Police Officer with a starting hourly rate of \$24.14 pending Wyoming County Civil Service approval and satisfactory background checks.

Trustee Lapiana made a motion to appoint part time police officer Hayden Langless at \$24.14 per hour pending satisfactory background checks which was seconded by Trustee Draper and carried with all voting aye.

RESOLUTION APPOINTING TREE BOARD MEMBER, JOEL BOUCHARD

WHEREAS, Tree Board Chairperson Dan Zerbe is requesting the appointment of Joel Bouchard to fill an unexpired term on the Tree Board; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Perry Board of Trustees hereby appoints Mr. Joel Bouchard to the Tree Board to the unexpired term ending March 31, 2024.

Trustee Lawrence made a motion to appoint Joal Bouchard to the Tree Board through 3/31/2024 which was seconded by Trustee Lapiana and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPROVING PROPOSAL FROM KEOUGH RECORDS MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR GRANT WRITING SERVICES FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT FUND GRANTS

WHEREAS, Keough Records Management Services has provided a proposal for grant writing services for the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) Grants; and

WHEREAS, the fee to prepare and file the application would be \$780.00; and

WHEREAS, the potential grant would fund up to \$75,000 for records inventory and disaster planning; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees hereby approves the proposal from Keough Records Management Services in an amount of \$780.00.

The office committee discussed the proposal from Brian Keough and recommends applying for a records management grant. Trustee Lapiana made a motion to adopt the resolution approving proposal from Keough Records Management Services for grant writing services for the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund Grants which was seconded by Trustee Lawrence and carried with all voting aye.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING POLICY OF WAIVING BASE RATE CHARGES FOR VACANT UNITS

WHEREAS, the Public Works Committee has been reviewing the Policy of Waiving Base Rates Charges for Vacant Units; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Statement reads as follows: “The purpose of this policy is to provide a waiver for property owners of multi-unit housing with vacant unit(s) that do not have the option of shutting off the water supply to the property to prevent base rates charges for inactive units”; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Committee is recommending the approval of the Policy of Waiving Base Rates Charges for Vacant Units; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Perry Village Board of Trustees hereby approves the Policy of Waiving Base Rate Charges for Vacant Units effective February 5, 2024.

This policy gives an option to property owners who have units that they do not plan on renting. The fee helps cover the cost of administering the program. The owner will sign a waiver vowing in a legal document not to rent the space or bypass or remove the meter or lock and to coordinate any changes with the village. The policy is meant to save owners money and be fair with the village’s goals. Trustee Lapiana made a motion to adopt the resolution to wave base rate charges for vacant units which was seconded by Trustee Lawrence and carried with all voting aye. Mayor Hauser advised that letters be sent to residents who have asked about this as an option.

RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW ENTITLED “ENACTING A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 466-A OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW” OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF PERRY

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Perry is considering a Local Law that would provide an exemption of ten percent (10%) of assessed value of property owned by volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board would like to hear from residents about the proposed Local Law; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of the Village of Perry hereby establishes a public hearing for the proposed Local Law to be held on February 20, 2024 at 8:00 pm at the Perry Village Hall located at 46 North Main Street Perry, NY 14530; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Village Clerk is directed to provide notice of said public hearing.

The county recently passed a similar local law. This proposed local law for the village would allow a 10% exemption for village properties owned by volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers with a goal to incentivize and reward such service. More information on other local municipalities who have approved such a law was requested. The law will need to be adopted by March 1st to hit the next tax roll. Trustee Lapiana made a motion to adopt the resolution setting a public hearing on a proposed local law entitled “Enacting a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-A of the Real Property Tax Law” of the Village Code of the Village of Perry. This motion was seconded by Trustee Draper and carried unanimously.

CLERK/DEPUTY TREASURER REPORT

FY 2023-2024

Abstract # 17

Vouchers # 1269 - 1365

General Fund	\$ 59,052.79
Special Grant Fund	\$ 240.00
Water Fund	\$ 11,350.07
Sewer Fund	\$ 8,555.98
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 4,267.50
Trust & Agency	\$ 1,277.15
Silver Lake Watershed Commission	\$ 398.99
<hr/> Total	<hr/> \$ 85,142.48

Vouchers were audited by Trustee Lapiana. Motion to approve payment of abstract #17 in the amount of \$85,142.48 was made by Trustee Draper, seconded by Trustee Lawrence, and carried with all voting aye.

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nothing to report.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Nothing to report.

At 8:15 pm, Mayor Hauser made a motion to enter executive session to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law and 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 of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Draper seconded the motion and it was carried with all voting aye.

At 8:50 pm, Mayor Hauser made a motion to exit the executive session which was seconded by Trustee Draper and carried with all voting aye.

At 8:52 pm, motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Draper, seconded by Trustee Lapiana, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Slusser, Village Clerk