

MINUTES OF JOINT VILLAGE AND TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 28, 2021

AT 7:00 PM

PERSONS PRESENT

TOWN BOARD

Supervisor, Merilee Walker
Councilperson, Martha Blair
Councilperson, Mike Hillier
Councilperson, James Forrester
Councilperson, Randall Morris

RECORDING CLERK Kaytlyn Hall

VILLAGE BOARD

Mayor, Jack Morgan
Trustee, Darren Snyder
Trustee, Bill McTarnagan
Trustee, Mel Allen
Trustee, Don Wilcox

RECORDING CLERK LeRoy Wood

PERSONNEL

Deputy Village Clerk, Tammy
McCallum

Police Chief, Ryan Dale

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by both Supervisor Walker and Mayor Morgan.

Roll call was taken by Town and Village Clerks with all councilmembers and trustees present.

All persons stood for the pledge of allegiance.

A. Police Department Strategies

Chief Dale addressed both boards to explain the current situation the Nunda Police Department is facing with increasing shift coverage. Chief Dale stated the following: There has been much change in policing over the past few years and I am open to ideas to promote public safety, discuss bail reform, and drug activity in the community. These are not just problems in our community, but statewide.

There are five areas of concern:

Police Reform - mending police relations between law enforcement and the community-creating more community interrelations.

Bail Reform – Alleged suspects are being arraigned and then released. Repeat offenders are creating more work.

Discovery Law – additional time needing to be allocated to preserving evidence and then presenting said evidence in court.

MINUTES OF JOINT VILLAGE AND TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 28, 2021

AT 7:00 PM

General Crime Rates

Drug Activity – sales and usage are increasing at an alarming rate, arrests are at an all-time high, and types of hardcore drugs; cocaine, fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine. These are staying within the community rather than just passing through.

Chief Dale introduced some options for the Town and Village to review and have discussion to help our community.

Chief Dale's ideas for introducing a full-time officer into our Police Department are:

- a) Option #1 – Full time Officer position: This option would create a full-time position for an officer to become ingrained in the community and effectively handle proper follow ups and create consistency for the Nunda residents. This option also gives the Nunda Police Department the ability to “retain” long term officers. One full-time officer working would increase hours of service per day from 8 hours to 10-12 hours per day, ultimately increasing coverage hours by 2-4 hours depending on the shift. Part-time officers would be additional coverage for Friday and Saturday nights as well as events, details and grant funded hours.
- b) Option #2 – Increase Patrol Services Budget – Part time: This option would increase the Police Services budget and would require increasing “badge spots” and several part-time officers would need to be hired to accommodate the increase in coverage hours. Hiring more part-time officers would be difficult as the availability of part-time officers are extremely limited in our area. A large budget increase in uniforms, duty gear, firearms, ballistic vests, training, etc. would be required to accommodate the increase in officers needed to conduct extra hours of service.

Community concern has risen as people are moving into our community that are not familiar to our local residents. Chief Dale feels that this is happening because our department has less hours which also gives the potential for increased crime rates. Chief Dale stated that crimes are consistently increasing and the level of crime is getting worse and happening more often.

Notes of discussion also introduced were Livingston County Sheriff's Office and New York State Police call numbers to our jurisdiction.

Chief Dale stated the Nunda PD covers 16x's the area of next largest sized PD. There was some discussion on having police working while school is in session and when school is over at the end of classes, this would be a beneficial to the community.

Councilperson Hillier asked what hours would we expect a full-time officer on?

Chief Dale said that we would see where the call volume is. Potentially would start at 2:00PM. Starting too early (for example 8:00AM) could cause a loss in four plus hours of calls of service.

MINUTES OF JOINT VILLAGE AND TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 28, 2021

AT 7:00 PM

Councilmember Mike Hillier stated overnight coverage is needed. People know when an officer goes on and off duty and two major instances have happened after 2:00AM.

Chief Dale agreed. Chief Dale suggested flexible hours to offset the start and end times when an officer is on duty.

Councilperson Forrester stated he is concerned about coverage and stated that he feels if one department were to respond to the same calls or repeat calls then the outcome from the matter would be better. Instead, we have multiple agencies responding to the repeat concerns.

Chief Dale also stated he wants his department to be proactive versus reactive. Foot patrol would be integrated but need to prioritize calls.

Councilmember Forrester stated we need to look at growing the force and being able to pay for it.

Councilperson Blair stated that overnights would be good and hopefully we can keep someone to do that.

Councilperson Morris stated we need to mix it up, don't have a set schedule.

Chief Dale stated there could be a full-time police officer option where an officer could build rapport with the community. Two Village Local Laws-Property Maintenance and Nuisance Laws will help curb some of our concerns.

Chief Dale stated we have done a great job over the past three years in working with the police commissioners to build up the department and infrastructure.

Mayor Morgan asked at what point do we know that what we are going to do, is working?

Councilperson Hillier responded by stating that the reduction in crime rate could take six months to a year, having someone on duty would decrease crime rates.

Supervisor Walker stated that the Town's budget season is approaching so we need to start figuring out what we can do now.

Chief Dale stated that switching to a full-time department would give us more opportunities for grant money.

Chief Dale asked if there were any suggestions or options? If a full-time police officer were to be considered they would need to have good community relations and be the right fit.

Councilperson Forrester asked if everyone was in agreeance to move forward on creating a full-time officer position?

The Town Board and Village Trustees agreed.

MINUTES OF JOINT VILLAGE AND TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 28, 2021

AT 7:00 PM

Motion was made to move forward on creating a local full-time officer position in the Nunda Police Department. Motion was made by Councilperson Forrester, seconded by Councilperson Hillier and carried 5-0.

Chief Dale thanked both Boards for allowing him to present his Police Department Reports and options for future possibilities to be considered.

Both Boards thank Chief Dale for his presentation.

B. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Letchworth Gateway

Mayor Morgan asked Administrator Wood to present the MOU to the Town Board and explain the initiative. Letchworth Gateway Villages is an initiative that provides opportunity to collaborate with multiple municipalities and other organizations to help promote, market and work together to increase traffic and increase economic development for these communities while identifying and maximizing our local assets. This initiative works with local, state and federal grant projects in this process. The purpose of the Letchworth Gateway Villages is to foster long-term economic and environmental vitality through cross-municipal, cross-country collaboration efforts like sustainable tourism development that will benefit all participants through a myriad of initiatives. The commitment is \$3,500 annually for three years as this will then be measured on the benefits to our specific communities. The Village and Town at one time discussed splitting the cost as both municipalities would benefit from this marketing effort.

Motion was made was made to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with Letchworth Gateway Villages Municipal Collaboration & Genesee Valley Geotourism Initiative with the Village of Nunda while splitting the annual cost of \$3,500 while committing the Town of Nunda \$1,750 for their share in promoting and marketing our community that should increase our economic development and preserve our environmental vitality. Motion was made by Councilmember Hillier seconded by Councilmember Forrester and carried 5-0.

C. Joint Town/Village Zoning Law

Supervisor Walker discussed the most recent action of the Planning Board and inquired about the most recent update to our Joint Town/Village Zoning Law. The local law was adopted in late 2016. Updates to this law should be considered.

Councilmember Forrester mentioned to Comprehensive Plan and the status.

Mayor Morgan stated the Village support of the Planning Board and their efforts in pursuing this task.

Councilmember Forrester asked about community participation in this process and the concern at which the length/time line it will take to complete.

D. Water Extension on Creek Road

MINUTES OF JOINT VILLAGE AND TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 28, 2021

AT 7:00 PM

Discussion on extending the water lines on Creek Road in the Town of Nunda took place in providing an additional customer to the village while costs of this project would be at the expense of the homeowner asking to tap into the water infrastructure.

Motion was made for the Town of Nunda to approve Jeremy Blair, located at 9045 Creek Road, in the Town of Nunda to tap into the Village of Nunda's water infrastructure at his own expense and as the Village of Nunda can allow extending its water line/services. Motion was made by Councilmember Hillier, seconded by Councilmember Morris and carried 5-0.

E. Lawson Property Update

Supervisor Walker asked the Village of Nunda if they could provide an update to the land acquisitions of the Lawson Properties (3). Mayor Morgan asked Administrator Wood to provide the update.

1. Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for the asking price of \$300,000 for three (3) properties that will increase the municipalities source water protection area will be on July 29, 2021.
2. Closing on the BAN and securing funding will be available at the end of the second week in August 2021.
3. Final sale of the properties could be as early as the end of August 2021 or early September 2021.

Other metrics to this discussion was an agreement that was set in place in April 1989 between the Town of Nunda and the Village of Nunda. This agreement was on the premise of water and sewer services to Town residents as provided by the Village over a forty (40) year period. In 1995, an amendment to the original agreement removed some clauses and added a tax abatement to some Village owned properties located in the Town to offset some of the services the Village was providing to include assuming all maintenance costs for water and sewer districts within the Town of Nunda and therefore be the responsibility of the Village of Nunda. The tax abatement in the amendment was for a twenty-five (25) year time period. This time period has since expired.

Administrator Wood asked each board if they would wish to have another amendment written to the original agreement or to have this be a separate stand-alone item and create a Board action (board resolution) to be presented, reviewed, discussed and eventually be adopted by both boards to continue with the Village responsibilities to the water and sewer districts located in the Town of Nunda and a tax abatement on some of the Village owned properties.

Both Boards agreed to keep this a separate issue from the original forty (40) year agreement and asked Administrator Wood to present at the next regularly schedules Board Meetings (both Town and Village) a resolution for review and discussion.

MINUTES OF JOINT VILLAGE AND TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 28, 2021

AT 7:00 PM

Adjournment

Jointly Supervisor Walker and Mayor Morgan thanked all who were in attendance.

Being that there was no further business, motion was made to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilperson Forrester, seconded by Mike Hillier and carried 5-0.

Meeting ended at 8:44 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

KAYTLYN HALL
NUNDA TOWN CLERK