

Pursuant to Village Law 4-400, the Mayor **MAY** vote on any matter but **MUST** vote in the event of a tie.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
AVON VILLAGE BOARD
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025
6:00 PM; VILLAGE HALL**

I. ATTENDANCE

Robert Hayes, Mayor
Amanda Hoffmann, Deputy Mayor
Ashley Freeman-Comeau, Trustee
Thomas Cushing, Trustee
Patrick McCormick, Trustee

STAFF

Timothy Ferrara, Senior Officer
Kenneth Farrell, DPW Superintendent
David Piampiano, Fire Chief
Christine Quinlan, Treasurer
Gary Margiotta, Deputy Village Clerk

GUESTS

George B. Brown	342 Genesee Street
Kitty Bressington	509 Collins Street
Robert Westfall	207 Genesee Street
Allison Hayes	154 North Avenue
Marty Herkimer	3 Carriage Lane
Cindy Kellen	23 Clinton Street
William and Diane Montague	159 High Street
Barbara Charity	241 Commerce Drive
Atty. James Campbell	Lima
Brian Shannon	333 River Street

II. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS & MANUAL/ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann moved for approval of the vouchers and manual/electronic payments as follows:

A000	General Fund	30,901.03
C000	Schedule C Fund	55,658.58
F000	Water fund	5,645.90
G000	Sewer Fund	11,352.81
HH44	Stormwater Projects	724.50
HH69	5 Arch Bridge	22,490.30
HH81	Master Meter Kraft	60,633.80
Total		187,406.92

Seconded by Trustee Cushing. Voting in favor were: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann and Trustees Comeau, Cushing and McCormick.

CARRIED, 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: Mayor Hayes moved to amend the grant resolution verbiage, as provided by Quinlan in the minutes of January 9, 2025, with an hourly rate for professional services from the MRB Group not to exceed \$4,000.00. Trustee Comeau moved for approval of the minutes, as amended, seconded by Trustee Cushing. Voting in favor were: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann and Trustees: Comeau, Cushing and McCormick. Voting against were: none.

CARRIED, 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

IV. APPROVAL OF CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE REQUESTS

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann moved for approval for: Ken Farrell, Chad Bailey, Kirk Vanderbilt, Sam Rugg, Nicholas Kubinski and Riley Stella to attend the Western New York Water Works Conference at Genesee Community College in Batavia February 19 at a cost of \$35 per employee.

Additionally, Deputy Mayor Hoffmann moved for approval for Farrell, Bailey, Vanderbilt and Stella to attend the Finger Lakes Water Works Conference in Canandaigua February 4 also at a cost of \$35 per employee. Seconded by Trustee Cushing. Voting in favor were: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann and Trustees: Comeau, Cushing and McCormick. Voting against were: none.

CARRIED, 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

V. APPROVAL OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT by-laws & close public hearing

Discussion:

Under Section V: Membership Entrance Requirements; Paragraph H. Disciplinary Action, George Brown of 342 Genesee Street sought to clarify, if a written complaint were filed against a member of the Fire Department and that member desired legal representation, that representation should be at their own expense, shouldn't it?

Under Section III: Fire Department Planning Committee, Mayor Hayes underscored the Committee would have no legal power but would act in an advisory capacity only.

On a clerical note, Brown pointed out the public hearing notice referred to *Chapter 69* – Fire Department Rules and Regulations, while the hand-out indicated *Chapter 67*, wouldn't the correct chapter number be 69? Brown asked.

Under Section VII: Line & Non-line Officer Positions: Terms of office, qualifications and number of positions; C. Qualifications for Appointed Staff Positions, Brown pointed out 4. **Medical Officer** simply stated define qualifications but listed none.

There should be qualifications listed, Chief Piampiano agreed. Revising the rules and regulations had begun before his time as Chief so, he hadn't had any input on the qualifications.

Could the rules and regulations be adopted then any modifications deemed necessary be done later as amendments? Brown asked. And, if so, could those amendments be by resolution rather than local law?

Brown continued, in the verbiage for PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2025 (on the rules and regulations), the fourth paragraph used the word "*proscribed,*" shouldn't the word be "*prescribed?*"

Finally, under Section XII: Changes and Amendments, Brown simply felt the language was inconsistent.

MOTION TO KEEP THE HEARING OPEN: Mayor Hayes suggested leaving the public hearing open, giving them the opportunity to address the amendments that had been brought up. Trustee McCormick moved to leave the hearing open, seconded by Trustee Cushing. Voting in favor were: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann and Trustees: Freeman-Comeau, Cushing and McCormick. Voting against were: none.

CARRIED, 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

VI. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

A. Public Works – Superintendent Kenneth Farrell

DPW Activity: the Department of Public Works (DPW) crew had finished taking down the holiday lights and began picking up brush – including Christmas trees, Farrell began. The crew had also salted four times and plowed twice, he added. They’d cleaned the shop, serviced equipment and hauled manure.

WWTP Activity: daily operations continued, Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) workers had mixed sludge, serviced influent pumps and met with Trojan UV manufacturers (disinfection equipment) regarding connecting with a streaming app.

Water Treatment Plant Activity: the crew had replaced a curb stop water shut off at the Methodist Church, fixed a water leak at 244 River Street and repaired another water leak at 226 Genesee Street – that one just happening today.

Water workers had also met with Donald Roblee, whose daughter taught at Avon Central Elementary School. Roblee had taken photos of the lake, pump house, filtration plant and tanks as well as the water leak on Genesee Street for a February class water presentation for third and fourth graders.

Driving Park Activity: the barn should be emptied out by Saturday, February 1. Five stalls still had some odds and ends in them. Farrell said they’d give the owners 10-to-14 days to remove things.

Responding to a question from Trustees, Farrell said the Village’s salt supply was good. Vendors were still delivering to municipalities. The Town did have an abundant supply so they could get a truckload from them in a pinch if need be.

B. Police Department – Tim Ferrara, Senior Officer

Since December 23, the Department had had 164 calls for service, Ferrara began. Ambulance calls had jumped up because of the weather, they’d had 16 calls, a good increase there, he told Trustees.

Moving on, Ferrara said the Department had had :

- 10 alarm calls
- 119 traffic stops
- 2 penal law arrests
- 5 vehicle and traffic arrests
- 1 warrant arrest

The Department, Ferrara also reported, had also responded to four deer/car accidents on Rochester Street between Star Headlight and Gray Metal.

They had had two body camera demonstrations with Flower City Communications of Rochester and Digital Ally. Taser training hadn’t been completed, Ferrara remarked. The Department’s ammunition order, from AmChar Wholesale in Rochester, had been held-up. Ferrara was hoping for a quick turnaround.

Grant Activity: Ferrara said he and Treasurer Quinlan had submitted a grant application to the State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for five radar units and would be submitting an application for a fingerprint system as well.

Recent hire, full-time Police Officer Matt Tetreault had gone for an interview with the State Police and was expected to be leaving the Department in March.

C. Fire Department – David Piampiano, Chief

The Department has had 11 calls to date this year, Piampiano began. They had had 223 EMS vs. Fire last year – that total in Avon’s 3-square-mile village. Additionally, the Department had had 27 mutual aid calls last year.

The Department’s general election of officers was scheduled for Thursday, April 3. According to their rules and regulations Captains and Lieutenants should have their letters of intent in by February 2, but if the Village Board didn’t act on the local law to amend the Department’s rules and regulation until February 6 – should the Department just continue on with their process? Piampiano wondered.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann moved to approve the Fire Department’s Rules and Regulations and by laws with amendments discussed at the meeting. Seconded by Trustee McCormick. Voting in favor were: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann and Trustees: Comeau, Cushing and McCormick. Voting against were: none.

CARRIED, 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

D. Treasurer’s Report – Christine Quinlan

Trail Town Grant Webinar: Quinlan and Kelley Tonra of the Village’s Parks Commission sat in on a Trail Town grant webinar Tuesday, January 14. Grants from \$3,000 to 15,000 will be awarded March 28 and can be used to:

- promote place-making efforts
- improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists
- implement community-driven projects that prioritize active transportation alternatives for cyclists and pedestrians

The Village didn’t have a specific project in mind at this point, Quinlan remarked.

Moving on, Quinlan told Trustees the quarterly IRS and NYS tax reports had been filed.

Farrell and she had completed quotes for the Clean Energy Communities grant application. The quotes involved small energy efficiencies at Village Hall, according to Quinlan.

New York State Parks had approved a time extension for the Village’s Five Arch Bridge project, Quinlan noted.

On the Village’s solar project, Quinlan said an Investment Grade Audit was being completed by Centrica. The project was currently under application review by National Grid. Centrica’s final IGA presentation to the Village Board would be by the end of April, according to the Treasurer.

Finally, Quinlan told Trustees she was working on benefit enrollments, W2’s and 1099’s.

VII. JOINT MEETING WITH AVON TOWN BOARD, 7:00 PM

Arriving were: David LeFeber, Supervisor
 Thomas Mairs, Deputy Supervisor
 Councilman Malachy Coyne
 Councilman Paul Drozdziel
 Councilman James Harrington
 Atty. James Campbell

School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

There had been much discussion on the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program and Supervisor LeFeber said he'd met with School Superintendent Ryan P. Pacatte. The Town wouldn't continue with the current agreement once it expired; \$10,000 for half-a-year would close out the contract June 30, the Supervisor asserted.

The contract covered the school year, September 24 through June 25, at a \$20,000 contribution from the Town, Quinlan said.

\$10,000 was the appropriate payment, Atty. Campbell contended.

It sounds like we owe the \$20,000, Councilman Coyne countered.

MOTION: The Town Board moved to confirm the \$20,000 amount. Voting in favor were: Supervisor LeFeber, Deputy Supervisor Mairs and Councilmen: Coyne, Drozdziel and Harrington. Voting against were: none.

CARRIED, 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

**VIII. PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
 7:30 PM**

TRIPHAMMER WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

MRB GROUP, Engineering, Architecture & Municipal Planning Co., Rochester, NY

William Davis, Water Resources Engineering Director
 Corey Hurley, Associate Engineer II

Will Wadsworth, Geneseo Town Supervisor, and Larry Levey, Geneseo Town Highway Superintendent, joined the meeting along with a dozen residents from Triphammer and Pole Bridge Roads. Attending were:

Will Wadsworth	Geneseo
Larry Levey	Geneseo
Lorie Banker	Triphammer Road, Geneseo
Elaine Shengulette	Triphammer Road, Geneseo
David & Shirley Espersen	5081 Triphammer Road
Denise and Tim Banker	Triphammer Road, Geneseo
Gary Christenson	5091 Triphammer Road
Gary Kone	5095 Triphammer Road
Vicki Bishop	2936 Pole Bridge Road
Nicole Flora	2938 Pole Bridge Road
Joyce & Michael Faville	5183 Triphammer Road, Geneseo

A. Background: The Triphammer watermain was installed approximately 100 years ago. The Village of Avon owned the line, and it had served Town of Avon and Town of Geneseo residents. The Village replaced the line about 1986, but the new line didn't take in all the residents who had been served by the old line so, the Village couldn't abandon the old line.

Because of its age, the Village has been forced to repair numerous leaks in the old line. A project had been proposed to construct a new watermain for Geneseo Town and Avon Town residents and to abandon the old line. Town of Geneseo Water District 7 would be created. Town of Avon residents served by the new main would be considered out-of-district users.

B. Project Description: Approximately 14,500-feet of 8-inch line would be laid on Triphammer (south side), Pole Bridge, North and Elm Roads. Fire hydrants would go in about every 600-feet. The line would be laid within highway rights-of-way. Each existing home would receive water service. Temporary or permanent easements might be necessary to contend with obstacles.

Under the project's Alternative #5 the old watermain would be abandoned which would reduce water loss and maintenance costs. Abandoning the old line would also remove a potential health risk from contamination. Having the Village and Town of Avon cooperating with the Town of Geneseo improved the chances for grant funding.

Providing fire protection (hydrants) on Triphammer and Pole Bridge Roads would reduce homeowners insurance costs. The new line would also loop "dead" lines on Elm and North Roads in the Town of Geneseo's District #6.

C. Costs: The Triphammer watermain replacement had been estimated at \$2,907,000 with 22 district and out-of-district users on the line.

If grant funding were received, the annual residential cost would be \$840 (\$440 for the purchase of 50,000 gallons of water and \$400 for debt service).

If grant funding were not received, the annual residential cost would be \$9,036 (\$440 for the purchase of 50,000 gallons of water and \$8,596 for debt service).

D. Next Steps/Timeframe: The Local Government Efficiency (LGE) grant application was due at noon the following day.

MRB, the Village of Avon and the Towns of Avon and Geneseo would have to:

- Prepare the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)
- Prepare the map, plan and report and form the proposed water district
- Finalize an inter-municipal agreement between the Village and Town of Avon and the Town of Geneseo
- Complete the bond resolution
- Pursue additional grant funding and project financing
- Complete the project design and obtain agency approvals
- Complete the project and commission a new water system
- Abandon the old water transmission main

Triphammer, Pole Bridge North and Elm Road residents had been dealing with the water situation for 40 years, Gary Kone of 5095 Triphammer Road said. No one there would disagree with the need to do it.

The Triphammer watermain replacement would connect with Town of Geneseo Water District #6, Davis said. A number of agricultural parcels would be included. Town of Avon residents would be served by the Town of Geneseo water district.

The new line would increase water pressure to Triphammer Road households and would loop Elm and North Roads; lines serving residents on those roads dead ended now, Davis noted.

It would take two years for the project to be planned and implemented, Davis added.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann moved for adjournment at 8:35 PM, seconded by Trustee Freeman-Comeau. Voting in favor were: Deputy Mayor Hoffmann and Trustees: Comeau, Cushing and McCormick. Voting against were: none.

CARRIED, 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

Gary Margiotta
Deputy Clerk