

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY held on
January 25, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Woolbright.

Present: Mayor Woolbright, Trustee Fitzpatrick, Trustee Kormos, Trustee Shaw, Village Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Smith, Attorney Ferradino

15 Members of the public observed via Zoom.

1) Call to order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Public Hearing on Resolution #21-01 Resolution to change Village election date

Mayor Woolbright opened the public hearing at 7:01pm

The Mayor noted that this resolution is subject to permissive referendum and read the resolution aloud.

Mayor Woolbright stated that some of the advantages of a County run Village election include saving money, people can pass petitions in October rather than February and terms would start in January rather than April, allowing the office holders to fully participate in the budget process.

Trustee Kormos noted that if the County runs the Village elections, voters can take advantage of early voting.

Frank Rossi Jr. of 63B Saratoga Avenue asked how the County would list nonpartisan lines on the ballot.

Mayor Woolbright said he will look into it.

Rory O'Connor, 90 Grove Street stated he is torn on this issue and asked if early voting is allowed, would it be controlled by the Village and the Village Clerk if the County runs the election. Mr. O'Connor noted that Trustee Kormos was shaking her head no, and so he doesn't think it would be a good idea based on everything that happened in the previous election.

Mr. O'Connor continued, noting that the loss of ability to verify and control early voting and absentee ballots concerns him greatly.

Keith Lewis of 38 East High Street is thrilled at the prospect of moving the election to November and wants to be sure we have truth being distributed about election security.

Mr. Lewis stated the Village Clerk is fantastic and does an amazing job but would like the County to run the election in November as it would help more people to know about it.

Ben Baskin, 60 Ballston Avenue supports the move to November and feels it would increase voter turnout but is concerned national elections getting attention may overrun the Village election.

Trustee Kormos noted that the 2023 election will not be a national election.

Mayor Woolbright asked Clerk O'Connor to reach out to the Board of Elections and ask them how nonpartisan elections would be handled on a general election ballot.

There was no more public comment.

The Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:16pm.

4) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the minutes of 01/11/21 be approved.

Ayes All

5) Mayor Announcements:

- i) The Saratoga Center for Rehab will cease operations and lay off their employees. Layoffs will begin 1/29 and be completed by 2/15. Mayor Woolbright will be reaching out to the property owners to inquire about their long term plan for the facility.
 - ii) New York State tax law was changed last year, requiring the Comptroller to withhold local sales tax from Counties to deposit into a fund for distressed hospitals and nursing homes. That law delayed the withholdings for 2020 until January of 2021 and those withholdings will be withheld on 2/4. After that, it will be withheld quarterly.
- Mayor Woolbright asked Treasurer Smith to investigate further with the County to see how this will affect the Village's share of sales tax.
- iii) Water bills will be mailed out 1/29 and are due back by 2/22.
 - iv) NYS sent back our Local Law on water/sewer, wanting the date changed to 2021. Attorney Ferradino will determine if any action needs to be taken other than having her change the date and sending it back in.

6) Old Business:

Mayor Woolbright brought up the possibility of postponing the vote on the resolution until the next meeting due to having a question during the public hearing that they couldn't answer and since this won't go on the ballot unless somebody does petitions.

Trustee Kormos asked if there would be enough time for it to be printed on the ballot.

Mayor Woolbright said we have to wait potentially 60 days if petitions are presented to pass a public vote.

The Board discussed time sensitivity and not wanting to hold a special election.

Clerk O'Connor noted that the ballots will be printed in Schenectady and will possibly need several weeks' time.

Trustee Shaw suggested voting tonight and reversing the vote next time if needed.

Motion made by Trustee Fitzpatrick, seconded by Trustee Shaw, that Resolution #21-01 be approved. (Resolution attached)

Ayes All

7) New Business:

- i) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Raymond, that the attached budget transfers be approved.

Ayes All

- ii) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Fitzpatrick, that the following be appointed as Election Inspectors for the 3/16/21 Village election.

William Hollner	Melody Babcock	Ellie Dillon	John Carollo
William Jurscak	William Rezey	Sharon Shields	Dawn Kavanaugh

Ayes All

!!!) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Fitzpatrick, to ratify the Mayor's appointment of Paul Dunkelbarger to fill the remainder of a 1-year term as Planning Board Alternate, ending in 2021.

Ayes All

8) Consent Agenda 2021 Expenditures:

Motion made by Trustee Shaw, seconded by Trustee Kormos, that:

Union Fire Co. #2 be authorized to expend the amount of \$8,385.00 for turnout gear. (A3412.2)
Union Fire Co. #2 be authorized to expend the amount of \$3,067.57 for repairs to ETA 14-3. (A3412.4)
The Village be authorized to expend the amount of \$1,284.25 for postage for the water/sewer bills. (A8340.4.5, G8120.4.5)

Ayes All

9) Trustee Liaison Reports:

Trustee Kormos noted that the Park and Tree Board met and discussed the tree grant. Requirements must be filled before doing a contract with the DEC. Once they have a signed contract, the Park and Tree Board can move forward with an RFP for a consultant.
Trustee Kormos is working with the Fire Dept. on resubmitting a FEMA assistance to firefighters grant and is also working with Chazen on a grant for sewer pipe cameras.

10) Other Business:

i) Mayor Woolbright stated that the Board will have a working session to go over several local law revisions.
The working session, at which there will be no votes or business, was set for Tuesday, February 2 at 7:00pm via ZOOM. The meeting will be open to the public.
Budget meetings will begin in the middle of February.
The Clerk will advertise the meeting.

ii) Mayor Woolbright read the resolution regarding the infrastructure grant (resolution #21-02).
Trustee Kormos will get the shared amount to the Treasurer.

Motion made by Trustee Shaw, seconded by Trustee Kormos that Resolution #21-02 be approved. (Resolution attached)

Trustee Kormos-yes	Trustee Fitzpatrick-yes	Trustee Shaw-yes	Mayor Woolbright-yes
Motion Passed			

Trustee Fitzpatrick asked if the skating rink would be operating.

Mayor Woolbright answered that the school has agreed to do what was needed for the insurance situation and gave the ok to construct the ice.

The rules for social distancing have been worked out.

Mayor Woolbright noted that the school has expressed hesitation about the rink in the future, so an area at BACC is being examined as a possible alternative for future years.

11) Public Comment:

Ray Otten, 16 Middlebrook Avenue spoke about the Covid vaccine shortage and advised eligible people to try to get an appointment wherever they can.

Rory O’Connor of 90 Grove Street expressed his frustration regarding the vaccine situation and thanked Mr. Otten for his input.

12) Adjournment:

Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Fitzpatrick that the Vouchers No. 21-01156 to 21-01392 be audited and the meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.

General Fund	\$94,805.00
Water Fund	-----
Sewer Relevy	428.08
Library Fund	4,873.32
Trust & Agency	<u>1,676.78</u>
Total	\$101,783.18

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,



Teri L. O'Connor
Village Clerk

RESOLUTION # 21-01 adopted January 20, 2021

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE VILLAGE

ELECTION DATE

Motion by: Fitzpatrick

Seconded: Shaw

Vote: Mayor Woolbright - (aye/no) Trustee Shaw - (aye/no) Trustee Fitzpatrick (aye/no)

Trustee Kormos - (aye/no) Trustee Raymond - (aye/no)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15-104(1)(a) of the New York State Election Law, the Village of Ballston Spa currently holds elections every other year on the third Tuesday of March, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ballston Spa can save the cost and administration of these elections by resolving that (i) Ballston Spa Village elections shall be conducted by the board of elections and (ii) be held on the same day as the general election, which is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, and

WHEREAS, holding Village elections on the same date as the general elections may result in increased voter turn-out, particularly during Presidential years or other major elections, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15-104(1)(c) of the New York State Election Law, the Village Board of Trustees may, by resolution subject to permissive referendum, resolve that (i) village elections shall be conducted by the board of elections and (ii) village elections shall occur on the day of the general election, which is currently the first Tuesday in November, and

WHEREAS, consistent with the requirements of Section 15-104(1)(c) of the New York State Election Law for adopting such a resolution, the Village of Ballston Spa is wholly in Saratoga County,

NOW THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED, that all Ballston Spa Village elections, including for Trustee, Justice and Mayor, shall be conducted by the board of elections, and it is further

RESOLVED, that all Ballston Spa Village elections shall occur on the same day of the general election, which is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the board of elections shall commence conducting Village elections, and

elections shall be held on the same day as the general election, subject to permissive referendum pursuant

The Village of Ballston Spa, Saratoga County, New York
Resolution No. (2021-02): Engineering Planning Grant Application
Action: Submission of a grant application and commitment to provide matching funds.

Motion by: Shaw Seconded: Kormos

Vote: Mayor Woolbright - aye/no Trustee Fitzpatrick - aye/no

Trustee Kormos - aye/no Trustee Raymond - aye/no Trustee Shaw - aye/no

A RESOLUTION authorizing the submittal of a state grant application by the Village of Ballston Spa and the subsequent appropriation of Village funds for an Engineering Planning Grant to study sources of infiltration and inflow in the Village's sanitary sewer collection system.

WHEREAS, the Village believes itself to be qualified, and is willing and able to carry out all activities described in the state grant application with the assistance of a qualified consultant; and,

WHEREAS, in this action the Village Board has declared its intent to conduct the Engineering Planning Grant project described in the application with the assistance of a qualified consultant; and,

WHEREAS, in this action the Village Board will, upon an award and acceptance of the grant, agree to the terms of the grant and commit the required matching funds;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS BY THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK:

THAT THE Village Board of the Village of Ballston Spa requests the funds and assistance available from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation under the Engineering Planning Grant program and will comply with state rules for the program, and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES the submission of the grant application and supporting documents, and

HEREBY AUTHORIZES the commitment of matching funds upon an award and acceptance of the grant.

WHEREUPON, this Resolution was declared adopted by the Village Board of the Village of Ballston Spa at its regular business meeting on January 25, 2021.