# The Village of Nelsonville Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

**Monday, December 18, 2023**

The Village of Nelsonville Board of Trustees met at 7:30pm, on Monday, December 18, 2023, for their regular meeting, with Mayor Winward presiding, and Trustees Biro, Campanile, Moroney and Zhynovitch present.

**Pledge to the Flag**

Mayor Winward opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Vouchers**

Abstract #7 in the amount of $52,188.19 was audited and ordered paid by a motion from Trustee Biro, seconded by Trustee Moroney, motion carried all in favor.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of November 20, 2023 meeting were approved by a motion from Trustee Zhynovitch, seconded by Trustee Biro, motion carried all in favor.

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**Reports**

Clerk Harris

Village of Nelsonville

Treasurer's Report

30-Nov-23

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GENERAL FUND

Previous Balance $384,442.92

Receipts:

Total $6,185.40

Disbursements:

Total $32,439.95

Current Balance $358,188.37

Checking Account $358,188.37

Savings Account $125,677.94

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TOTAL $483,866.31

Mayor Winward

Mayor Winward acknowledged the loss of a Haldane senior and Nelsonville resident, Vlad Saban over the weekend. She expressed sympathy on behalf of the board for his family and friends who are grieving, and stated that the board hopes for the strong recovery of Theresa Timmons, another Haldane student, who was also in the car accident. She stated that if anyone needs resources to process this event, Haldane has provided some. The Philipstown HUB is also available.

# The mayor gave updates on the December 17-18 storm:

* The Secor St. drain clogged again and flooded over the roadway around 5AM. A resident called 911 but the responders were not able to clear it. Ultimately, another resident was able to open it. Mayor Winward was in contact with the State DOT ahead of and after the storm, stating they did check on the drain several times, before, during and after the storm. She stated they were not, however, present during the hours from 3AM – 6AM, when the worst of the storm hit.
* Private road Wendalls Way, off of Wood Avenue and Gatehouse Road, is currently submerged, and the Town is assessing/assisting to pump to allow residents to get to their homes and allow emergency services through if necessary.
* The stream behind the toll house on Main Street came within a foot of flooding, but it did not. The yard did take on some water.
* Marc and the street maintenance crew had done a very good job of clearing the streets of leaves at the end of the season, which really helped keep the drains clear ahead of this storm.

Mayor Winward reported that Deputy County Executive Jim Burpoe and a new inter-governmental staffer, Jennifer Caruso, came to Nelsonville to meet with her last week. She stated that it was a meet and greet to see if the County could assist the Village with anything. The mayor discussed the storm damage and potential sewer system costs, advocated for shared sales tax, and brought up the heavy truck issue on Peekskill Road, which is County Route 16.

The mayor gave an update on the Rockledge cell tower. This is the case where the homeowners of the private road sued Homeland Towers, Verizon and ATT to prevent the companies from disturbing the private ROW access by digging under the road with electric cables, etc. The judge agreed, but did not say they cannot go over the roadway/ or properties with permission. The Village attorneys and the Building Inspector are reviewing whether this reopens the application or not.

Trustee Moroney

Trustee Moroney reported on the following:

* He and Mayor Winward attended a Town of Philipstown board meeting, to request that the Recycling Center on Lane Gate accept yard debris on Saturdays.
* Potholes on Village streets have been filled.
* Two more winter parking spaces will be created on Adam’s Avenue once the lines are painted.

**New Business**

Court Audit Resolution

Trustee Campanile stated that he conducted the annual audit of the Justice Court, and found no discrepancies. He gave some recommendations to the clerk and assistant clerk. Mayor Winward then read the resolution.

Resolution Acknowledging Court Record Audit

WHEREAS Trustee Campanile, acting solely in his individual/personal capacity as Trustee of the Village of Nelsonville, and not acting or serving in any professional capacity, conducted an audit of the Nelsonville Justice Court for the fiscal year ending in 2023; and

WHEREAS Trustee Campanile found no irregularities in the documentation; and

WHEREAS There were findings of an overage in the Justice Court account, predating the current Court Clerks. Trustee Campanile's recommendation is to turn the funds over to the Office of the New York State Comptroller; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Nelsonville approves Trustee Campanile's findings; and

Upon motion by Trustee Moroney, seconded by Trustee Biro, enacted all in favor, the Village Board of Trustees acknowledges that the audit of the Justice Court records for the fiscal year ending in 2023, was conducted by Trustee Campanile.

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Village Clerk of the Village of Nelsonville, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution and minutes now on file in the office of said Village Clerk, which was adopted by Board of Trustees of the Village of Nelsonville on the 18th day of December, and that the same is a true and correct copy of said original resolution and the whole thereof.

**Old Business**

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July 9-10th Storm Restoration Updates

Mayor Winward stated that the Village was able to get the temporary topcoat of pavement on the long stretch of Healy Road that was washed out from the July storm, just before the winter and before this latest storm. She stated that she meets weekly with FEMA and DHSES, the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the state. She stated there has been initial debris removal and temporary work, that the Village has moved on to the approval for reimbursement stage with FEMA. She stated that there is still a long way to go on the permanent work, and the engineers have given estimates for the in-kind and hazard mitigation work that will be proposed for FEMA to approve, with Healy Road being the biggest project. Estimates are around $500,000, with FEMA covering 75%. The mayor stated that she will ask the state to help with the remaining 25%, as well as utilize ARPA funding and the Village fund balance if necessary.

NYS DOT Speed Reduction Permits

Trustee Zhynovitch gave a brief recap of the proposed speed reduction measures, which include solar powered flashing beacons at the two crosswalks, and two solar powered radar speed signs. She stated that since we are using the same approved devices that both Beacon and Fishkill use, she is hopeful that once the DOT gets the permit package it will move things along. Mayor Winward stated that these items will be funded through ARPA. The mayor then read the three resolutions from the permit package.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Village of Nelsonville agrees to the attached PERM 1 Undertaking Agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons in two crosswalks and two radar speed signs;

WHEREAS, The Village agrees to all of the terms and conditions of the attached PERM 1 Undertaking Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, pursuant to such agreement, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nelsonville hereby approves this PERM 1 Undertaking Agreement, and hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute such Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to take all actions

necessary for the Village to act in accordance with its obligations and/or rights under such

Agreement.

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all members voting as follows:

Mayor Winward Aye

Trustee Biro Aye

Trustee Campanile Aye

Trustee Moroney Aye

Trustee Zhynovitch Aye

Certification

I, Melissa Harris, the duly qualified Village Clerk of the Village of Nelsonville, Putnam

County, New York, do hereby certify that attached hereto is a true and correct copy of the

extract from the minutes of a Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of

Nelsonville, held on December 18, 2023 and that the Resolution set forth herein is a true and

correct copy of the Resolution of the Board of Trustees of said Village adopted at said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that pursuant to section 103 of the Public Officers Law (Open

Meetings Law), said meeting was open to the general public.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the said Village on

this 18th day of December, 2023.

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Melissa Harris

Village Clerk

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Village of Nelsonville seeks to install solar-powered Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons with push buttons at two existing crosswalks at the intersectionsof Route 301 & Pearl Street and at Route 301 and Peekskill Road to make it safer for pedestrians to cross the road;

WHEREAS, Route 301/Main Street is a State highway and the village must have the approval of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to install appropriate additional signage in the right-of-way and that the Village agrees to the maintenance, repair and energizing of cross walk systems at the village’s own expense;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, pursuant to such agreement, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nelsonville hereby approves this Agreement for Maintenance, Repair and Energizing of Cross Walk Systems, and hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute such Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to take all actions

necessary for the Village to act in accordance with its obligations and/or rights under such

Agreement.

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all members voting as follows:

Mayor Winward Aye

Trustee Biro Aye

Trustee Campanile Aye

Trustee Moroney Aye

Trustee Zhynovitch Aye

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Melissa Harris

Village Clerk

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Village of Nelsonville seeks to install two solar-powered radar speed signs to remind drivers to drive below the speed limit on Route 301/Main Street in the Village of Nelsonville;

WHEREAS, Route 301/Main Street is a State highway and the village must have the approval of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to install appropriate additional signage in the right-of-way and that the Village agrees to the maintenance, repair and energizing of the radar speed signs at the village’s own expense;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, pursuant to such agreement, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Nelsonville hereby approves this Agreement for Maintenance, Repair and Energizing of the radar speed signs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to take all actions

necessary for the Village to act in accordance with its obligations and/or rights under such

Agreement.

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all members voting as follows:

Mayor Winward Aye

Trustee Biro Aye

Trustee Campanile Aye

Trustee Moroney Aye

Trustee Zhynovitch Aye

Certification

I, Melissa Harris, the duly qualified Village Clerk of the Village of Nelsonville, Putnam

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Melissa Harris

Village Clerk

Sewer Feasibility Study summary with Labella Associates

Mayor Winward stated that at November’s regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Joe Fusillo of Labella gave a presentation. She stated that the study came in higher than expected, and that Village income thresholds are too high for most grants. The mayor went over the three options for the sewer, and stated that the grinder option is less expensive than gravity fed. The mayor stated that she found some small edits but is hoping to get the study on the website as soon as possible. The board will have an opportunity to review the final study, and it will be tabled to a future board meeting.

Fjord Trail Updates

Mayor Winward stated that she sits on the Visitation Data Committee and the Steering Committee. She stated that the HHFT did not consult the affected governments along the trail before announcing that they would be assigning representatives to the Data Committee. She stated that the committee has met very often, but that not a lot has been accomplished. She stated that it took a long time for the HHFT to accept the edits that the committee was asked to make to the Independent Consultant RFP and then it took a while for a firm to actually bid. Only one firm bid at first, and another round of RFP went out, with two bidders. The committee selected BFJ Planning because they can work with a Principal, they are smaller and more local and seemed more independent from the HHFT or NYS Parks. The committee has had the opportunity to catch the consultant up on all of the concerns. The mayor stated that all were made aware by the Trail that the purpose of the Data Committee and the independent consultant was not to come up with new data to study or different routes, only to review what had already been planned. She stated there is a limit to the Committee’s ability to have an actual changing impact on the proposed trail, and that it is clear that the only preferred route by the HHFT is to start in Cold Spring from Dockside Park. She stated that the three municipalities also meet monthly with Parks and HHFT leadership for updates.

There was some discussion among the board members, with Trustee Campanile stating what he believes will be the three ways Nelsonville will be affected by the Trail; Nelsonville’s trails, parking and quality of life. Mayor Winward shared her concerns, among them being the attraction of new visitors rather than alleviating current visitation. The mayor then opened the floor for public comment.

**Open to the Floor**

The public directed comments and questions at the board regarding the Fjord Trail. There was also a comment regarding the bridge on the Blue Trail in the Nelsonville Woods

**Adjournment**

Upon motion of Trustee Moroney, seconded by Trustee Campanile, enacted all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm.

Respectfully presented,

Melissa Harris

Village Clerk