

March 11, 2024, 6:43 pm. Municipal Building 8 E Main St  
Monthly Minutes

**Present:** Mayor William Peeler (via Zoom)  
Deputy Mayor Tim Healey  
Trustees Lynn Dumar, Scott Sprague  
Clerk Treasurer Christine Kearns  
Street & Water Commissioner Christopher Weaver  
Public Bob Klim- FFJWWT Sewer Board Member, Kathy South –  
AFLAC, Charlene Deming AFLAC, Sal Riggi, Olivia Linart  
– FFCS Student, Tonya Bogenschutz

**Mayor Peeler Called Meeting to Order and salute to the flag at 6:43 pm**

All written Department Reports were distributed in the board packet of materials.

**Correspondence**

- 2/12 NYCOM – Annual Membership Dues Statement
- 2/12 Lamont Engineers – Merger with Smith Engineering & Architecture
- 2/14 UniFirst – Price Adjustment
- 2/15 NYS Department of Health – 2024 Water Quality Monitoring
- 2/20 Charter Communications – Franchise Fee Payment
- 3/1 FF Central School – Cemetery St. Sidewalk
- 3/1 NYS DEC – Wastewater Treatment Plant & Influent Pump Station Improvements Project

**Motion** by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Sprague with all in favor to approve the February 12, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes.

**Motion** by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Dumar with all in favor to approve the correction to the January 8, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes as follows:

Change:

“Motion by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Sprague with Trustee Healey, Trustee Dumar and Trustee Sprague in favor to approve the December 11, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes, Mayor Peeler abstained.”

To:

“Motion by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Sprague with Trustee Healey, Trustee Dumar and Trustee Sprague in favor to approve the December 14, 2023, Special Meeting minutes, Mayor Peeler abstained.”

**Resolution #6-2024 Resolution Requesting Increased AIM Funding**

Offered by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Healey

**Whereas**, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State; and

**Whereas**, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders, which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

**Whereas**, New York’s local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals; and

**Whereas**, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during that same period; and

**Whereas**, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and

**Whereas**, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and

**Whereas**, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

**Whereas**, the Governor’s 2024-25 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and

**Whereas**, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York;

**Now, therefore**, be it resolved that the Village of Fonda urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

*A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator Breslin, Assemblymember Smullen, and the New York State Conference of Mayors.*

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows.

Official	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Trustee, Lynn Dumar	X			
Trustee, Scott Sprague	X			
Trustee, Timothy Healey	X			
Mayor, William Peeler	X			

**Resolution #7-2024 Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials**  
 Offered by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Dumar

WHEREAS, the regular monthly meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Fonda was convened in public session at the Municipal Building, 8 E. Main Street, Fonda, County of Montgomery, State of New York, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March, 2024 at 6:30p.m.;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Fonda, Location code 40433, hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the time keeping system or the record of activities(ROA) maintained and submitted by these members to the clerk of this body:

Name	SSN	NYSLRS ID	Title	Term	Std Work Day	ROA Result	Pay
Scott Sprague Quarterly	*****	*****	Trustee	4/1/22 – 3/31/26	6	1.65	

The resolution was put to vote and adopted as follows:

Roll Call Name	Aye	Nay	Abstained	Absent
Mayor Peeler	X			
Trustee Dumar	X			
Trustee Healey	X			
Trustee Sprague			X	

**Public** – Kathy South and Charlene Deming from AFLAC did a presentation regarding possible products for employees and left the meeting at 7:03 pm; Sal Riggi mentioned that Frothingham Library will be holding an 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary open house on April 12, 2024, Tonya Bogenschutz inquired about the Cemetery St. sidewalk project.

**Mayor Report** – Discussed the grant process and money that comes from senators and congressmen (Members Money), Village is requesting funding from the Members Money for the following:

- School Sidewalk Construction – Village funds to date \$50,000.00, requesting \$175,000.
- Waste Water Plant Repairs – requesting \$13.3 million.
- Flood Mitigation – Broadway Creek - requesting \$3.8 million.
- Waterfront Construction – Village continued funding of \$200,000, requesting \$300,000.
- Reservoir Repair and Compliance – requesting \$1.6 million.

Olivia Linart, FFCS Participation in Government student asked Mayor Peeler which project would be the most important. Mayor Peeler stated that on a risk scale #1 would be the wastewater plant, #2 flood mitigation, #3 waterfront construction, #4 reservoir repair and compliance and #5 school sidewalk.

**Mayor Report (cont.)** – Stated he would be back in town for the election on March 19<sup>th</sup> and to attend the parking lot meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, looking to change the parking rates from \$6 to \$8 during the races and \$10 during the fair or possibly \$10 for both. Discussing the possibility of a seasonal parking pass during the races, having credit card capabilities for paying for parking, placing an ATM at the park and vending machines at the park. Election coming up on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, polls open 12:00 – 9:00 pm.

**Street & Water Commissioner Report** – Written report distributed to Board; On February 28 & 29 there were high winds, water plant lost power, generator was started, must have been a power surge and the VFD and a motor burned out, claim has been put in to the insurance company, started reading meters for April billing, were able to get 184 remote readings in approximately 1 hour 10 minutes, would like money included in the budget for more meters and MIUs, had a kick-off meeting with EPA regarding help with lead line inventory.

**Motion** by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Dumar with all in favor to authorize Town of Mohawk Highway Supervisor Bill Holvig to put the paving material for the boat launch area out to bid.

**Audit of Bills** pre-approved, Motion by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Dumar with all in favor

	General	Water	Sewer	Total
Pay #38 2/16	2,494.78	2,344.75	69.37	4,908.90
ss med eft 2/16	190.85	179.37	5.30	375.52
Pay #39 2/23	2,689.67	2,194.65	69.37	4,953.69
ss med eft 2/23	205.76	167.89	5.30	378.95
Frontier		131.98		131.98
Charter Comm	94.99			94.99
National Grid		578.47		578.47
CDPHP	2,061.66	2,061.66		4,123.32

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Elan Financial (NBT CC)	106.99			106.99
Pay #40 3/1	2,408.47	2,225.48	69.37	4,703.32
ss med eft 3/1	184.25	170.25	5.31	359.81
National Grid	1,005.83	1,055.22		2,061.05
Charter Comm	369.95			369.95
Pay #41 3/8	2,368.81	2,225.48	69.37	4,663.66
ss med eft 3/8	181.21	170.25	5.31	356.77

**Abstract #10** Motion by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Sprague with all in favor

General	Water	Sewer	Total
10,539.18	5,297.51	61,277.38	77,114.07

**Clerk Treasurer Report** – Written report distributed to Board.

**Building and Fire Code Officer Report** – Written report distributed to Board. Trustee Dumar asked when the barbershop will be having its grand opening, Code Officer Waddle didn't know yet. Mayor Peeler stated he just received an email that it would be April 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am.

**Trustee Reports** – None

**Sewer Plant Report** – Written report distributed to Board.

Remaining Public left the meeting 8:37 pm

**Motion** by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Healey with all in favor to enter executive session for reasons of litigation at 8:37 pm. Sewer Board Member Bob Klim was asked to stay.

**Motion** by Mayor Peeler, Second by Trustee Dumar with all in favor to exit executive session at 9:35 pm.

**Actions per Executive Session** – None

**Next meeting(s)**

- Special Meeting/Public Hearing: Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 6:30 pm
- Organizational Meeting: Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6:00 pm
- Regular Monthly Meeting: Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6:30 pm

**Adjournment** Motion by Mayor Peeler, seconded by Trustee Dumar with all in favor at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Kearns  
Clerk Treasurer