

VILLAGE OF ELBRIDGE  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
May 3, 2021

	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>T &amp; A</u>	<u>CAP FUNDS</u>
Bal 2/28/2021	538510.64	614740.18	5110.82	0.00
March Receipts	<u>54898.62</u>	<u>13588.42</u>	<u>26513.97</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total	593409.26	628328.60	31624.79	0.00
March Disb	<u>28014.83</u>	<u>19938.11</u>	<u>20017.34</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Bal 3/31/2021	565394.43	608390.49	11607.45	0.00

These balances HAVE been confirmed by bank statements.

**Regular Meeting, Monday, May 3, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Village of Elbridge Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Offices, 210 West Main Street. Trustees present were Murray, Ely and Harris with Mayor DeCola presiding. Clerk-Treasurer Caron was also present. Trustee DeMarco was absent.

Resident/Budget Officer Frederick Weisskopf and Resident Robert Surdam were present.

Alan Chelnitsky; Southern Hill Preservation Corp. and Taylor Bottar, Barton & Loguidice were also present.

Mayor DeCola led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor DeCola recognized Mr. Surdam, who presented the Board with a copy of a check dated March 22, 2018 for \$800.00. He is asking the Village for reimbursement for a water heater. Mr. Surdam left at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Chelnitsky; Executive Director of Southern Hill Preservation Corp. presented the Board with information regarding the nonprofit corporation that provides home improvement services for low to moderate income residents in its service areas. He would like to expand their service area into the Village of Elbridge and is requesting a resolution of support. The Town of Elbridge adopted a resolution of support on February 25, 2021. Mr. Chelnitsky stated that the Village would have no other responsibilities, however advertising the program on the Village website would be helpful. Board Members have no objections, but will review the information and prepare a resolution for their next meeting.

Mr. Chelnitsky left at 7:14 p.m.

Mayor DeCola recognized Taylor Bottar; Barton & Loguidice who was present to give the Board an update regarding the Joint Water System Improvement Project. He stated that the committee is still meeting monthly and presented Board Members with copies of meeting notes. The BAN process is complete and the delivery of funds is expected May 12, 2021. Surveyors have been working in Elbridge the past two months. The committee is reviewing pipe material options and the costs associated with that. They are working on a new pump station on Hamilton Road. The Village of Jordan has scheduled a public information meeting on June 14, 2021. Mr. Bottar will attend the August 2, 2021 meeting to provide a project update.

Mr. Bottar left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

A motion was offered by Trustee Murray, seconded by Trustee Ely, and carried to forgo the reading of the minutes from the last regular meeting on April 5, 2021.

The minutes of the last regular meeting on April 5, 2021 were accepted on a motion made by Trustee Ely, seconded by Trustee Harris and carried.

**Reports of Officers and Committees –**

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report and approved it on a motion made by Trustee Ely, seconded by Trustee Murray and carried.

Trustee Harris presented the Code Enforcement Report for April who moved for its acceptance, seconded by Trustee Ely and carried.

There was no Public Works Report.

Trustee Murray presented the Historian's Report who moved for its acceptance, seconded by Trustee Ely and carried.

The Village of Jordan has returned an executed five year Addendum to Water Rate Agreement for January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2025 for the sum of 5.6 cents per 100 cubic feet of water used.

Trustee Ely offered a motion, seconded by Trustee Harris, and carried authorizing the Mayor to execute the 2021-2025 Addendum to Water Rate Agreement with the Village of Jordan.

**New Business**

Mayor DeCola read the following resolution to Levy Tax and Authorize Execution of the Tax Warrant.

A resolution levying the total taxes and other charges extended and levied against each parcel of real property shown on the roll prepared and verified by the Town Assessor on July 1, 2020, subject to reduction of special franchise assessments, court orders and removal of exemptions, for our Fiscal Year 2021-2022, was offered by Trustee Ely, and seconded by Trustee Murray, WHEREAS, a budget hearing was held on April 5, 2021 and the budget was finalized and adopted on April 5, 2021, be it RESOLVED, that there be levied and assessed against the real property of the Village of Elbridge a tax rate of \$3.29 per thousand of assessed valuation and other charges (i.e., unpaid water rents, unpaid fire inspection fees, and omitted taxes) for village government purposes for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; and be it further RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Clerk shall execute the Tax Warrant on or before May 19, which warrant shall expire on November 1, following the levy of the tax. Upon roll call vote each voted as follows: Mayor DeCola, Yes; Trustee Harris, Yes; Trustee DeMarco, Absent; Trustee Murray, Yes; Trustee Ely, Yes. The question of the resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

A motion was offered by Trustee Ely, seconded by Trustee Murray, and carried authorizing Clerk-Treasurer Caron to pay bills through year-end on Abstract #13.

There was some discussion regarding New York State Cannabis Legislation. The Village has until December 31, 2021 to pass a local law to opt-out of allowing retail dispensaries or on-site establishments to locate within its boundaries. The Board will revisit the issue at their next meeting.

**Old Business**

The Board of Trustees will hold a Special Meeting/Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to take and hear comments relating to Chapter 48 ANIMALS; specifically Section 48.3 K pertaining to seeking general public comment on whether the Village should consider to amend the Village Code which currently prohibits any yard or pen for keeping of chickens. The Clerk will publish and post notice.

The Board of Trustees will hold a Special Meeting to discuss garbage removal on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. The Clerk will publish and post notice.

The General Election is on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Mayor DeCola, Trustee DeMarco and Trustee Ely's terms are ending.

A motion was offered by Trustee Harris, seconded by Trustee Ely, and carried, after obtaining additional quotes, to accept AJ Sealing's quote of \$11,950 to apply sealant to the parking lots at the Village Hall, State Police, Fire House and Seymour Lofft Park.

Fred Weisskopf left at 8:26 p.m.

Mayor DeCola proposed summer hours for the Board's approval.

Monday, May 31, 2021 through Friday, September 3, 2021  
Village Office: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday  
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Friday  
DPW: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday  
8:00 a.m. – noon Friday

This is for this year only. The Board will revisit next year.  
The Clerks will publish notice and post on office door and website.

Trustee Harris offered a motion, seconded by Trustee Murray, and carried to approve summer hours as proposed.

The Village has received 2 high severity and 2 moderate severity recommendations from NYMIR following their Annual Risk Inspection. The Board will review and remedy.

Mayor DeCola was not able to present the annual sexual harassment training as planned. He will prepare for a future meeting.

May 3, 2021 Village Board Meeting Cont.

The Board discussed the Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade. Trustee Murray would like to hold both the ceremony and parade as in previous years. Those attending will be responsible for themselves to practice social distancing. No programs will be handed out and no candy will be tossed. Trustee Harris will see if two wagons are available for Officials.

The Board agreed to proceed with the Memorial Day Ceremony at Elbridge Elementary School at 10:30 a.m. followed by a parade to Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Trustee DeMarco joined the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Two trees in front of the Village hall have been removed. One was interfering with the flag pole and the other was diseased.

Fire Chief Paul Czarnecki arrived at 9:11 p.m.

Chief Czarnecki presented the Fire Department Report for April. Trustee Ely moved for its acceptance, seconded by Trustee Murray and carried unanimously.

Chief Czarnecki reported that several people attended their open house for RecruitNY.

Crossing Guard Jeanine Nolte has resigned. The Board is looking for an individual to fill the position.

After review of the bills by the Board of Trustees, a motion was offered by Trustee Ely, seconded by Trustee Harris, and carried unanimously, to approve payment of May Abstract 12, in the amount of \$25,478.47 for General Fund Vouchers A335-A361, Checks 14314 – 14340 and \$12,135.43 for Water Fund Vouchers F180-F191, Checks 5173 – 5184.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m. on a motion made by Trustee Ely, seconded by Trustee Murray and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee M. Caron  
Clerk-Treasurer

Special Meeting/Public Hearing, Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Notice having been given to the Eagle Observer for publication on May 12<sup>th</sup> and having posted the same, a Special Meeting of the Village of Elbridge Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 210 West Main Street. Trustees present were Harris, Murray and Ely with Mayor DeCola presiding. Clerk-Treasurer Caron and Deputy Clerk Landers were also present. Trustee DeMarco was absent.

Planning Board Chairman Dennis Pelmear, Planning Board Member Tim Mitchell and residents Ron and Laura Fesko were present.

A motion was offered by Trustee Ely, seconded by Trustee Harris, and carried to open the Public Hearing to take and hear comments relating to Chapter 48 ANIMALS; specifically Section 48.3 K pertaining to and seeking general public comment on whether the Village should consider to amend the Village Code which currently prohibits any yard or pen for keeping of chickens.

The legal notice was published in the May 12th issue of the Eagle News Press-Observer.

Trustee DeMarco joined the meeting at 7:04 p.m.  
Resident Margo Spain arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor DeCola recognized Laura Fesko who is opposed to allowing chickens in the village. Two of her neighbors have chickens. They should have known they are not allowed. Their pens/coops obstruct her view and the smell is offensive. She believes it de-values housing in the area. She questioned whether this action is cost effective. Should the Village spend taxpayer monies for lawyer fees and costs associated with amending the code. If the Board decides to allow, she suggested that the home owner be required to own a two acre parcel. She is afraid that the village will be overrun with chickens.

Ron Fesko is also opposed and said he is afraid that the Board will be setting a precedent if they amend the code every time a resident pleads ignorance of the law. It is the resident's responsibility to verify if chickens are allowed. His neighbor's chickens make a lot of noise.

Mayor DeCola stated that he has spoken with several assessors and realtors who have said that allowing chickens does not affect assessment or de-value property.

Planning Board Chairman Pelmear stated that it's the Planning Board's job to make recommendations to the Village Board of Trustees. The Planning Board has held open meetings and he prepared a Power Point presentation with information gathered from several Onondaga County Municipalities and Cornell Cooperative Extension throughout this process. The Planning Board has proposed an exemption to allow chickens. Residents would have to submit a Special Use Application and come before the Village Board of Trustees for approval.

Ron Fesko stated that chickens are prone to disease. They attract predators. He has seen fox in the area. He has also seen pest control at his neighbor's homes. He feels that the Village has done a poor job of enforcing the code.

Special Meeting/Public Hearing, Wednesday, May 19, 2021 cont.

Trustee Ely spoke about lack of a Code Enforcement Officer for a time. He stated that Code Enforcement Officer Tanner has been trying to catch up. He is enforcing the codes and is very timely about getting back to people.

Margo Spain said that it is nice to have your own eggs. She is not opposed and feels that if people are responsible and don't offend their neighbors it should be allowed, but doesn't think it can happen in the Village of Elbridge.

Mayor DeCola asked if anyone present wished to speak in favor of amending Village Code to allow the keeping of chickens; there was no one.

All who wished to be heard were heard.

Mrs. Spain left at 7:43 p.m.

Mr. And Mrs. Fesko left the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

The hearing was closed at 7:48 p.m. on a motion made by Trustee DeMarco, seconded by Trustee Harris, and carried unanimously.

Board Members discussed the issue. They will make a decision at their next regularly scheduled meeting on June 7, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. on a motion made by Trustee DeMarco, seconded by Trustee Ely, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee M. Caron  
Clerk-Treasurer

Special Meeting, Wednesday, May 26, 2021

Notice having been given to the Eagle Observer for publication on May 19<sup>th</sup> and having posted the same, a Special Meeting of the Village of Elbridge Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:35 p.m. at the Village Hall, 210 West Main Street. Trustees present were Ely, Harris and Murray with Mayor DeCola presiding. Trustee DeMarco and Clerk-Treasurer Caron were absent.

Residents present were Budget Officer Fred Weisskopf and Roland "Skip" Gassler.

Steve Morgan; Dependable Disposal was also in attendance via phone.

Board Members discussed garbage and recyclables collection and disposal and a possible special assessment tax.

A motion was offered by Mayor DeCola, seconded by Trustee Ely and carried to amend DPW summer hours previously proposed and approved on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to be 6:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Wednesday, 6:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Thursday and 7:30 a.m. – noon on Friday.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m. on a motion made by Trustee Harris, seconded by Trustee Ely, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher A. DeCola  
Mayor