**Village of Marathon Board of Trustees**

Meeting on February 5, 2025

The regular meeting of the Village of Marathon Board of Trustees held at the Village Office, was called to order by Mayor Scott Chamberlin, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Trustee Canfield, Trustee Light, Deputy Mayor Fralick, and Trustee Dann; also present was Clerk/Treasurer Padbury.

Motion made by Trustee Light and seconded by Deputy Mayor Fralick to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2025, meeting.

Mayor Chamberlin received an email dated 12/18/24 from Ella Diiorio (Cortland County Housing Authority) concerning a red light flashing on the sewer lift station located at 37 Galatia St, which was handed out to Board members. Mayor Chamberlin called Ella after getting the email and left a message to call him. He never received a call back, so he called her on 1/30/25 they discussed the issue, and Ella informed the mayor that a new pump had been purchased and installed. The Village is not taking responsibility for the pump station.

WWTP Upgrade

President Trump has frozen all federal funding opportunities. This may affect the Molinaro grant that was awarded last year, because the 2024 federal budget has not been passed. Mayor Chamberlin called Hal Mcabe who is now working in Congressman Josh Riley’s office in Binghamton. Mr. Mcabe feels that with the current situation the Village will not receive the $1.25M in grant funds. Hal M. will talk to Congressman Riley about our grant and set up a meeting with the Congressman and Mayor Chamberlin.

The Village will only be able to complete Phase 1 of the WWTP Upgrade, at this time until we get more funding.

Jordan finally met with Mike Ryan concerning his Water Certification.

The Board discussed the proposal MAVAC presented at the last meeting. Trustee Fralick asked “How many Village residents were transported by MAVAC compared to other communities?” Mayor Chamberlin stated that 1 in 4 were non-town residents. Mayor Chamberlin is suggesting that if we help with the cost of the sewer line going to their building, they could offer a discount to Village residents.

NYPA is asking their board for a rate increase from $12.88/megawatt hour to $33.05/megawatt hour over four years. Jim Stoke, president of MEUA, is asking the municipalities in their membership to support MEUA in fighting the rate increase. Mr. Stokes asked the board to pass a resolution protesting the rate increase and send a letter to the NYPA Board.

Motion made by Trustee Canfield, seconded by Trustee Dann to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-1**

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION**

**TO THE PREFERENCE POWER RATE PROPOSAL**

**OF THE NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS,** the New York Power Authority (“NYPA”) has proposed a dramatic increase in the rates charged to its preference power customers as outlined in the December 2024 NYPA Preliminary Staff Report and pursuant to the Notice filed by NYPA under SAPA, the New York State Administrative Procedures Act, on December 31, 2024, and

**WHEREAS,** the Village of Marathon , a member of the Municipal Electric Utilities Association of New York State (“MEUA”) and a preference power customer of NYPA, is entitled under federal law to be provided with electricity from the Niagara Power Project to be delivered by NYPA at the “lowest rates reasonably possible”, and

**WHEREAS,** the MEUA has voiced its significant concerns with both the magnitude of these increases and the methodology used in their calculation, and

**WHEREAS,** the governing board of the Village of Marathon deems it likely that NYPA’s proposal to increase hydropower rates will have an adverse impact on our community, with particular risk to low-income residents and businesses already struggling economically to survive in an unfriendly New York State business environment.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Village of Marathon Board of Trustees of the Village of Marathon that NYPA is hereby requested and encouraged to re-examine the magnitude of its proposed rate increase, with particular emphasis on its requested profit percentage and its rapidly increasing administrative and general costs and its operation and maintenance expenses.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon the roll call, the vote was as follows:

Roll call vote: Robin Light, Aye; Ralph Canfield, Aye; Rosemarie Fralick, Aye; Heather Dann, Aye; Scott Chamberlin, Aye: 4 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Approved.

The Village board approved the mayor to send a letter to the NYPA Board of Trustees asking the Board to reconsider the rate increase.

MEUA President Jim Stokes reached out to the mayor about the Quarterly News & View publication. Mr. Stokes would like to feature the Village of Marathon in the next publication. Mayor Chamberlin asked if there was a volunteer to write the article. Heather Dann gladly accepted the task.

Motion made by Trustee Light, seconded by Trustee Dann to approve Innovative Playground to go forward with the playground inspection. Motion approved; All in favor.

Motion made by Trustee Canfield, seconded by Trustee Light to approve the bills as submitted for payment totaling $179,309.68. Motion approved: All in favor.

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| **Fund** | **Voucher No.** | **Amount** |
| General | 397-409 | $25,308.94 |
| Electric | 338-344 | $115,458.72 |
| Water | 126-130 | $3,610.48 |
| Sewer | 246-254 | $6,788.46 |
| Consumer Deposit | 42-44 | $300 |
| T&A | 16 | $14,511.63 |
| Civic Center | 39 | $492.95 |
| Capital Projects | 1-9 | $12,838.50 |

Motion made by Trustee Canfield, seconded by Trustee Dann to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Padbury

Clerk/Treasurer

Village of Marathon