

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2006

(Day later due to Columbus Day Holiday)

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Joseph Krein, Douglas Cropper, Clerk/Treasurer Eilene Morris (Attorney Fitzsimmons absent)

MOTION to approve the minutes of the previous meeting made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Krein. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Krein, 2nd by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #5, Water Abstract #5, Sewer Abstract #5, Library Abstract #5, T&A Abstract #5, Summit Lake Abstract #2) made by Trustee Sagal, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

OIL BIDS OPENED:

(Note- HESS CORPORATION declined to bid)

MONTAGUE OIL - \$2.2240/gallon + \$40.00/hour labor.

MOTION to accept the bid of MONTAGUE OIL as provider for fuel oil and service.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Matt Perry inquired about the recycling. Trustee Cropper said he contacted the county and they have agreed to pick up the dumpster as necessary. He feels that significant headway has been made regarding the problem. Mr. Perry also asked about the Community Center site visit he requested. Trustee Krein will handle the request and noted that the water issue has to be completed and the hot water heater needs to be purchased and installed. He said the bathrooms would not be ready for the Pumpkin Walk.

Lester Davala asked about the graffiti problem around the village (problem areas were mentioned – Church Street, the Memorial Field, Hilltop Hotel Etc.). The Mayor will speak to the police again about the problem. The Mayor noted that he has received complaints about tires and debris near the ball field (by the Rote residence) and said the area has become a gathering place for the kids. There was also a problem behind the old Schemerhorn warehouse (now owned by the Yoors family). The Building Department is working on that issue. It was decided that the village is responsible for cleaning up the

graffiti at the ball field and the owners of the other properties are responsible for those clean-ups. The Mayor preferred to find the offenders and have them repaint the areas.

CLERK/TREASURER REPORT

- The Village Office will be closed November 7th for Election Day and November 10th for Veteran's Day.
- Water/Sewer bills were mailed September 29th and will be accepted without penalty through October 31st without penalty.
- Garbage pick-up will be held on Wednesday, November 8th instead of Tuesday, November 7th due to General Elections.

DPW/WATER/SEWER REPORTS

Reports given by Supt. Michael Scheller. Copies are available in the Village office for review.

LIBRARY REPORT

Report given by Library director Karen Garafalo. She also reported on the "Restaurant Crawl" scheduled for Saturday November 4th. More information will be forthcoming.

MAYOR SPEED'S REPORT

Reported that he has handled a few complaints. He also received a letter signed by eight residents of Maple Avenue requesting that their sidewalks be fixed. Supt. Scheller is awaiting a "driveway decision" from an owner in that area and will get to the sidewalk as soon as possible (maybe early spring). The Mayor also noted that he is dealing with a water problem at the Bolevice property. He has also discussed issues with the police department and the building department. He reported that he has been invited to the 50th anniversary of the Philmont Rotary. He will have a proclamation in the newspaper (see end of these minutes) and will present the group with a certificate at their dinner. He also asked if anyone knew the location of a "swamp swimming pool" which was pictured in the local newspaper. He has tried to locate it but cannot. He requests that anyone who might know where it is to please contact him...he feels it is an unhealthy situation.

TRUSTEE CROPPER'S REPORT

He has dealt with the recycle problem. He has been checking Forest Lake and all is fine. He noted that he has a contact person regarding developing an Emergency Management Plan when the board feels they are ready to pursue it. He expressed concern about the Upper Reservoir Dam (privately owned). Trustee Johnson noted that the owner has plans to address the situation. Trustee Cropper noted if the dam were to break it would probably affect the Taconic State Parkway which would be a State situation.

TRUSTEE SAGAL'S REPORT

Reported that she assisted Hawthorn Valley School in connecting with the Village. The students have donated their time throughout the village. Lester Davala questioned a poster that is located at the school advertising many areas in Columbia County (but not Philmont). Trustee Sagal will look into the situation. Ken Hussey noted that he was the person responsible for getting signs put up on the Taconic Parkway and was thanked by the Board. At this time he (Mr. Hussey) asked about the reservoir drawdown. Trustee Johnson noted that the Village would probably draw it down themselves as they have received no assistance from DEC. It was noted that a drawdown will freeze many of the weeds out (not water chestnuts). It was mentioned that dredging would be an extreme financial burden. Mr. Hussey was concerned about mosquitoes as well as appearance. He noted that his patrons could not eat on the porch because of the mosquito problem. He also noted that it would probably take a grant to afford to clean it up.

TRUSTEE KREIN'S REPORT

He reported that he has been working on completing the Community Center. He is also following up on a garbage complaint at the Gellert property on Main Street. Trustee Cropper noted that there would be a public hearing before the Planning Board on the Gellert property on October 18th and suggested that those with a problem in that area should attend that hearing. Ken Hussey asked Trustee Krein if he would be interested in a stove he would be willing to donate to the Community Center. Mr. Krein accepted his gracious offer (as long as it fits in the space) and thanked him. Trustee Krein also reported on the two proposed crosswalks on Main Street (one by Richardson's Hall and one by the Tripp Center). Some suggested that crosswalks be put across Maple Avenue from Key Bank to the Church and on Summit Street from Louie's Barber to Local 111. The Board will consider the suggestion. All agreed that the village is starting to look very attractive. It was also noted that catch basins on Main Street need to be cleaned out. Supt. Scheller said he had contacted NYS DOT regarding the problem but no one ever followed through.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON'S REPORT

Noted that he would need to get the surveyor involved in the "dump property" again as the Engineer has some questions for him. There were no objections from the board. Also, Sam Wright wants the board to "forgive" the time limit (one year) for replacing the building he purchased on Ellsworth Street with one of the same size (it does not meet current zoning regulations). The board will consider rethinking the zoning issue in regards to situations such as this. Trustee Sagal suggested that the issue be discussed with the attorney. Matt Perry suggested the board use the "eminent domain" law to solve some of the "land lord" problems in the Village. He offered that the board could use "code issues" as their reason for the process. Trustee Johnson also reported that Supt. Scheller suggested that he "make" his own road sand this year by sifting dirt from Preusser Road. He said it would be a cost saving measure, however they would need to rent the "sand sifter" from Sam Wright.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS' REPORT

(Attorney Absent) Clerk Morris read the report. A copy is available in the Village Office for review. He reported on: Logging Contract, LOSAP, Church Land Swap, Building Code Law, Summit Heights Litigation.

MAIN STREET COMMITTEE (No Report)

All were reminded that the Pumpkin Walk will be held on October 28th at 4:00 PM. Police assistance is requested.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to transfer from the General Fund to the Summit Lake Account the amount of \$4000 as appropriated in the budget made by Trustee Sagal, 2nd from Trustee Cropper. **ALL AYES, NO NAYS.**
2. **MOTION** to support the building of an addition (21 ft x 42 ft room, new entry and stairs to the second floor) to the Philmont Library building made by Trustee Sagal, 2nd by Trustee Krein. **ALL AYES, NO NAYS.**
3. **MOTION** to appoint Harry Smith as an alternate to the Philmont Planning Board as recommended by Planning Chairperson Charles Nichols made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. **ALL AYES, NO NAYS.**
4. **MOTION** to set March 20, 2007 as the date of the General Village Election to be held at the Village of Philmont Hall on Main Street and Maple Avenue between the hours of 12:00 noon and 9:00 PM for the purpose of electing **TWO TRUSTEES FOR TWO YEARS EACH** and **ONE MAYOR FOR TWO YEARS.** (There will be no registration day due to motion made April, 2006 to adopt the Columbia County Board of Elections registration list and eliminate the village registration day. Motion made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Krein. **ALL AYES, NO NAYS.**
5. **MOTION** to adopt a resolution setting up a *Special Election* on December 12, 2006 from noon to 9:00 PM in the Philmont Village Hall located at Main Street/Maple Avenue for qualified voters to decide on a proposed Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the benefit of volunteer firefighters made by Trustee Sagal, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. **ALL AYES, NO NAYS.** (A copy of this full resolution attached to these minutes).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Johnson asked whether the village would be responsible for a new voting machine. It was noted that NYS has not yet determined what type of machine will be mandated, nor has any information been passed down to the municipalities.

Mr. Hoppe expressed concerned about the water and sewer lines being put in at Phase I at Summit Heights and touched on several problems (compaction, tee connections, non passable roads). Trustee Johnson will contact the engineer regarding the issues.

Fire Chief Ortiz reminded all that LOSAP meetings will be held on November 12th, November 29th and December 2nd. The public is encouraged to attend.

MOTION to adjourn made by Trustee Krein, 2nd by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

*(NOTE: The following proclamation in support of the Philmont Rotary Club's 50th Anniversary will be sent to the local paper...**PROCLAMATION...Philmont Rotary October 14, 2006...WHEREAS the Philmont Rotary has been an important and active part of our community for fifty (50) years...I, as the Mayor of the Village of Philmont, do hereby declare October 14, 2006 as Philmont Rotarian Day and ask that the residents of the village take a moment to give thanks for the dedicated service of this committed organization.)***

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris

Clerk/Treasurer

VILLAGE OF PHILMONT