

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2007

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MOTION to approve minutes of the previous meeting made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #10, Water Abstract #10, Sewer Abstract #10, Library Abstract #10, T&A Abstract #10, Ellsworth St. Abstract #21, Building Maintenance Abstract #5, Building Renovations Abstract #1) made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Lester Davala requested a street sign for "Block Street". Supt. Michael Scheller will provide the sign.

Matthew Perry inquired about the sign moratorium that is now in effect as he wishes to put a sign up at 149 Main Street where he will be opening a business. It was suggested that he wait for the moratorium to expire (in April) and pursue his sign request at that time.

John Blaauw (Philmont Fire Company) asked if the Attorney had any information regarding the validity of the Rescue Squad being housed at the Fire House. The attorney made reference to legal opinions, however, none were exactly on point and suggested requesting a formal opinion from the State Comptroller's Office. It will be discussed further at the workshop meeting.

Marian Davala requested an answer for a request for a street light on Eagle Street. The Mayor noted that Mr. Haywood was told that the expense to the taxpayers did not warrant one street light, so it was decided that the request would not be honored.

Lester Davala asked about the progress on the DPW proposed garage site. Trustee Johnson noted that progress is being made but at a slow, cautious pace. Mr. Davala also asked about the Summit Lake Project. Trustee Johnson replied that the project is ongoing and will be completed when weather permits.

CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT:

Water turn off notices were distributed by the Police Department on March 1st. Turn-off took place on March 8th. One property was eligible and will need to have the shut-off dug up before the service can be terminated. One vacant property was eligible for turn-off however was already voluntarily turned off when it was vacated.

The Village Office and DPW Departments will be closed on Friday, April 6th – Good Friday – The office will re-open on Monday, April 9th at 8:00 AM.

Thanks to Mayor Speed we have received notice that the Friends of the Library will be receiving a \$2500 grant from the Hudson River Bank and Trust Foundation and the Philmont Little League is awaiting word on their grant application for \$2500.

DPW/WA/SW REPORTS:

Reports given by Supt. Michael Scheller. Copies are available in the Village Office for review. Noted that the reservoir soil was tested and was all silt. He will show the results to Mr. Weigelt to see if this is a material he would be interested in. Also Mr. Davala asked about a beaver problem. The police noted that a “nuisance” permit can be requested to kill the beavers. Trustee Johnson reminded him that the problem was not on village property (property is owned by Mr. Hamilton) and the remedy/permit would have to be sought by Mr. Hamilton. Supt. Scheller also agreed to provide a street sign for Block Street.

POLICE REPORT:

Report was given by OIC Doyle. He also answered questions from Mr. Davala regarding the new phone system installed recently for the Police Department.

LIBRARY REPORT:

Given by Mayor Speed. Library Director Karen Garafalo was absent. A copy of the report is available in the Village Office for review.

MAIN STREET COMMITTEE:

Report was given by Robin Andrews. Reported on a change in dates for their meeting. She noted that the Community Day date was set for July 21st and the Philmont Run will be held on June 2nd as a Philmont Hearth fund raiser. She also reported that the committee is trying to decide whether to hold the Historical House and Garden Tour on Memorial Day weekend or as part of Community Day. At this point, Mayor Speed requested that Robin, as Main Street Committee Chairperson, compile what she would consider helpful modifications to the sign section of the zoning law. It was requested that she report back to the Village Board at the next meeting.

PHILMONT BEAUTIFICATION INC:

Report given by Sally Baker. She gave an update on the grants received by her organization and an accounting of the funds. She is now preparing for Phase II “NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal NY Main Street Program” (See Motion #4). A copy of the report is available in the village office for review

MAYOR SPEED:

Noted that he enjoyed his Aruba vacation but missed the village, and called to check in often. He noted that the survey of the Library property revealed that a much larger piece of property is owned by the Village than originally thought. He also reported that he has been working with Doug regarding the NIMS program. He also proudly announced that his wife, Winnie, won first prize for her “Four-Alarm Chili” in the Chili Cook-off Contest.

TRUSTEE CROPPER:

Reported that he has been working with Mr. Needham on an updated Emergency Management Plan for the village and expects the draft will be completed soon.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON:

Met with the Electrician regarding power at the Village Green. He is waiting for a letter of consent from the owners of the property. Jeff Bancroft will be contacting them for the necessary information. He also noted that the generator set-up at the Philmont American Legion has been completed and the Legion is now an official disaster shelter (the clerk was asked to write a “thank-you” letter to the American Legion for their cooperation in the effort to create a safe haven for village residents in the event of a disaster). He also thanked the police for their assistance during the recent snow storm.

ATTORNEY ROBERT FITZSIMMONS:

Reported that he was working on ongoing projects. He also reported on the legal opinions he was able to find regarding the validity of housing the Rescue Squad in the Fire House. It will be discussed further at the regular meeting with representatives of each organization. Lester Davala asked what the status was of the legal issues relating to the Casivant property on 52 Block Street since the property has recently been sold. It was noted that court cases were decided in favor of the village.

CORRESPONDENCE – LIST WAS PROVIDED TO THE AUDIENCE.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to adopt the National Incident Management System (full copy attached to original minutes) made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
2. **MOTION** to reappoint Charles Edwin Hoag Jr. Esq. as Acting Village Justice for the Village of Philmont for one year with his term ending March 31, 2008 made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
3. **MOTION** to hold the Annual Organizational Meeting and the Annual Budget Hearing on Monday, April 2, 2007 at 6:30 PM at the Village Hall made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
4. **MOTION** of support for Philmont Beautification Inc. to submit a proposal for funding to the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal NY Main Street Program – Phase II – which (if received) will be used for renovations of existing facades, commercial spaces and low-income housing units located along Main Street made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
5. **MOTION** to approve expenses of \$8,520.18 from the Building Maintenance Reserve Account to cover work done at the proposed DPW building site made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
6. **MOTION** to approve expending \$5,945.00 to cover the balance of the Library Building debt service payment made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Johnson noted that he received a call regarding marking the fire hydrants during the winter and cleaning the snow away from fire hydrants. He noted that he did not realize the extent of DPW responsibility for these items, and that it was his fault that these tasks were not done. He will make sure that these items are handled in the future. He noted that all available fire hydrant markers were installed.

Sally Baker thanked everyone for their support of PB Inc. and is looking forward to future projects within the community and welcomes input from residents. She also spoke about the need to occupy store fronts and to keep the buildings from running down again after being refurbished by grant funds.

Mayor Speed noted that Matt Perry will be opening a web type business at 149 Main Street and wished him well.

Mayor Speed requested that the Clerk read an article to the audience about “neighborhoods as they used to be”. After the nostalgic article was read, the Mayor reflected on what the article should mean to all of us. He asked that the residents of the village continue to support our local businesses so the village can remain as a “neighborhood”.

Trustee Johnson noted that a tentative agreement has been reached between Sam Wright and Building Inspector Stanley Koloski regarding the demolition of the Ellsworth Street property which has been discussed at previous meetings.

OIC Vernon Doyle thanked the present board for their unending support of the Police Department and praised Mayor Speed for his efforts in securing grants for much of the updated equipment that the Police Department has been able to obtain recently. He noted that the board members have played a big part in the growth of the department. He also reported that they have secured a grant for a new radio system and also that several of his officers are NIMS certified. He also thanked Trustee Cropper for his efforts in developing a “new and improved” Emergency Preparedness Plan which will make everyone’s job easier in the event of a disaster.

With no further business to come before the board, Mayor Speed asked for a moment of silence and requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of *Gloria Lamont* and *Althea Race*.

MOTION to adjourn in the memory of *Gloria Lamont* and *Althea Race* was made by Trustee Cropper and seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris
Clerk/Treasurer
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT