

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2007 (Due To Columbus Day Holiday)

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Robin Andrews, Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons, Clerk/Treasurer Eilene Morris

MOTION to approve minutes of the previous meeting with the following corrections:

Motion #3 from September, 2007 minutes should read "Library Director salary increases from \$12.50/hour to \$13.50/hour". ALSO...At the request of Trustee Andrews, add to her meetings attended: "Library Board", "Signage" and "LDC" and remove "Streetscape" as there was no meeting. Motion to approve minutes (with the above changes) made by Trustee Andrews, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Cropper, seconded 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) made by Trustee Andrews, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

-----OPEN BIDS FOR FUEL OIL AND SERVICE-----

One (1) bid received from Montague Oil as follows: \$2.4935/gallon and \$40.00/hour service.

MOTION to accept the bid of Montague Oil made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Anthony Simmons asked that clarification be made regarding the procedure for hunting at Forest Lake. The present motion...made November, 2006...specifies that only 4 hunters will be allowed passes at one time, however it does not specify how long the passes can be held by an individual. Trustee Cropper suggested that the village employees could have permanent access to Forest Lake, while residents would need to get a key and pass card...but specified no time limit for the key and pass card. Mr. Simmons objected to this noting he felt the village employees should not be given special privileges beyond what the residents are offered. He felt that everyone should be subject to the same rules. After much discussion regarding a workable solution the following motion was made:

MOTION to allow six (6) village residents/village employees (at one time) to hunt at Forest Lake on a rotating "2 (two) days on and 2 (two) days off schedule". Eligibility will be on a first come, first serve basis and requests may be taken up to one week in advance of the desired date of use. This motion will be effective from October 5th through January 5th each year. Keys and card passes will be issued through the Village Office. One key and one card pass will be needed for each individual. Motion made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. 3 AYES, 1 NAY (Trustee Johnson).

Christopher Hoppe noted that paving and excavation work was being done on private property at the Summit Heights Development by village employees. He indicated that he, too, would like his driveway paved if it was going to be the practice of the village to do work on private property. The Mayor will investigate the claim.

Brian Wheeler complained about the problem of drug dealers and other "low lifes" behaving badly in the area of Main Street. There are unacceptable items being left on the sidewalks and he fears for his children. He has made calls to the area police agencies with as much information as he can gather. Vern noted that they are constantly working on the problem and suggested that Mr. Wheeler also complain to his landlord about his personal situation. The Mayor asked for more police presence on Main Street with an eye towards the drug situation. Mr. Simmons commended the Philmont Police

Department on doing a fine job. The Mayor also suggested that people get involved and report suspicious behavior to the police.

Matt Perry complained about the noticeable increase of garbage on Main Street. Trustee Johnson will have the DPW police Main Street on a regular basis and pick up the garbage.

Anthony Simmons asked that the area around the DPW building on Eagle Street be cleaned up. He noted that the grass hasn't been cut in a long time and the area needs to be cleaned up. Trustee Johnson will handle the request.

Fire Chief Jose Ortiz reported that sewage is backing up downstairs in the drain and also there is an odor in the drinking fountain upstairs when the kitchen sink water is turned on.

The problem will be referred to the DPW.

Bruce Olson noted concern about parking on Rock Street. He felt that the Street is too narrow to park and noted there were not any "no parking" signs there. The board will review the situation and determine a course of action.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

On-going projects. Noted that a public hearing will be set for the October 24th Workshop Meeting to extend the Signage Moratorium. Also reported that all plans for the Summit Heights development have been finalized and funds have been paid to the village.

CLERK/TREASURER REPORT:

- The Village Office will be closed on Tuesday, November 6th for Election Day and Monday, November 11th for Veteran's Day.
- Reminder that there will be no garbage pick-up on Election Day (Tuesday, November 6th). Weekly garbage pick-up will be Wednesday, November 7th
- Three water services were turned off for non-payment (one for a twice-returned check). Two have since been turned back on after payment was received.
- Water/Sewer bills were mailed on October 1st and are due without penalty through October 31st.
- Leaf pick-up will start soon and a notice will be put in the newspaper and on the bulletin board with the dates.

DPW/WA/SW REPORTS:

Reports given by Trustee Johnson. Copies are available in the Village Office for review. A special thanks to Louis Lamont and the Town of Claverack crew for their help with mowing.

POLICE REPORT:

Report given by OIC Vernon Doyle. A copy is available in the Village Office for review. He introduced William Michaels as a newly appointed part-time police officer.

LIBRARY REPORT:

Report given by *Interim* Library Director Karen Garafalo. A copy is available in the Village Office for review. The Mayor thanked her for her help with a community service situation.

MAIN ST. COMM-COMP. PLAN COMM.-LDC COMM. REPORTS:

Reports given by Jeffrey Bancroft. Copies are available in the Village Office for review.

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT:

Report given by Director Cathy McDarby. A copy is available in the Village Office for review. Noted that the Christmas Caroling date will be December 16th and also noted that she needs the kitchen insulated before real cold weather arrives to avoid freeze-ups.

MAYOR SPEED'S REPORT:

Reported he had attended a meeting regarding Summit Heights finalization, and a meeting with prospective buyers of the Hilltop Hotel property. He also attended a function at Kozel's Restaurant sponsored by Morris & Associates Engineering Firm with Trustee Johnson, Clerk Morris and Attorney Fitzsimmons. He noted that at this function Trustee Johnson may have made some headway with the reservoir clean-up situation.

TRUSTEE SAGAL'S REPORT:

Reported that she has been working on the signage law revamp and it is progressing and should be completed soon. An outline was given to the board members and attorney for their review. (Public hearing will be held 10/24/07)

TRUSTEE CROPPER'S REPORT:

Reported that he has been making regular visits to Forest Lake and it appears that visitors to the lake are picking up after themselves as all was clean. He also noted that the Emergency Management Plan will soon be completed. He is also checking on the upper reservoir. He inquired as to the outcome of the Postal Home Delivery request. It was determined that the decision was up to each individual post office.

TRUSTEE ANDREWS' REPORT:

Reported that she has been working on the Newsletter to go out with water/sewer bills. She also called to get a price on a sign for the Philmont Community Center. She checked on the crosswalks with DOT which were suppose to be scheduled for fall. She also worked with Jeff Bancroft on a list of the rolls and responsibilities of Boards and Committees. She reported that she has also worked with Trustee Sagal on Signage.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON:

(No Report)

CORRESPONDENCE LIST – PROVIDED FOR THE AUDIENCE

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

1. **MOTION** to set Tuesday, March 18, 2008 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 2:00 noon and 9:00 pm for the purpose of electing:

TWO TRUSTEES FOR TWO YEARS EACH

(There will be no registration due to motion made April 2007 to adopt the Columbia County Board of Elections registration list and eliminate the village registration day) made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

2. **MOTION** to accept the resignation of Paul Calcagno from the Philmont Police Department made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

3. **MOTION** to appoint William R. Michaels as a part-time police officer with the Philmont Police Department made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

4. **MOTION** to accept the recommendations of the selection committee for improvements to the village property through funding of the Streetscape Grant acquired by PB Inc. (two Victorian benches and a bike rack for the Library, two benches for the front of the Village Office and a Victorian bench and plantings for the paved patio at the small Main Street park). PB Inc. will purchase the items and donate them to the Village. Motion made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

5. **MOTION** to accept the resignation of Paula Johnson as a member of the LDC Board made (with regret) by Trustee Andrews, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

6. **MOTION** to open the Summit Heights Operations Account to fund legal and engineering expenses related to the project with and original deposit of \$73,800.00 made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

7. **MOTION** to pay necessary legal and engineering expenses related to the Summit Heights Project from the Summit Heights Operations Account made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

8. **MOTION** to transfer \$2500.00 from the Library Equipment account to the Library Contractual account (within the same fund) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Andrews. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

(ALSO...See **MOTION** regarding Forest Lake Hunting under “Public Requests”)

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

Matt Perry asked the board to review what areas of the Town of Claverack budget are supported by Village of Philmont tax payers.

Sally Baker thanked Mayor Speed for his input during the meeting with prospective buyers of the Hilltop Hotel property.

Trustee Johnson asked if the board wished to lower the water level at the reservoir again this year. All were in agreement.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting in memory of **Russell Robertson** (past Mayor) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris

Clerk/Treasurer

VILLAGE OF PHILMONT