

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2008 - 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Robin Andrews, Clerk/Treasurer Eilene Morris (Attorney Fitzsimmons-absent-having a baby!)

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

MOTION to approve treasurer's report made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Andrews. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #3, Water Abstract #3, Sewer Abstract #3, Library Abstract #3, T&A Abstract #3, Summit Heights Abstract #3, Summit Lake Abstract #3) made by Trustee Andrews, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

PUBLIC REQUESTS

Brian Wheeler questioned a new local law (amendment to the Curfew Law) because of the inability to enforce it. He also felt that the Sheriff's Department and the State Police do not keep the Philmont Police in "the loop". He noted that the drug activity is getting much worse in the village and specifically on Main Street next to the Library. He cited two instances of retaliation when people spoke to police about the situation. He would like to see more done to stop the progression of drugs in the Village.

Sarah Wheeler noted that the curfew law has been hard to enforce. As an employee of Stewarts, she has been asked not to serve those in violation of the law however there are not usually police on duty to deal with the offenders. She noted that the Sheriff's Dept and State Police do not want to deal with the complaints, so it makes it difficult to follow through after refusing to serve the "underage" customer after the curfew time.

Jim Brady stated that he attended the DSS meeting regarding the possible purchase of the old Ockawamick School. He noted that part of the discussion was to sell the Albert E. Tripp Senior Center in Philmont. He suggested that the Mayor contact Columbia County regarding the situation.

There was more discussion regarding the lack of cooperation/communication between the Sheriff's Department and the Philmont Police. The Mayor noted that this is not a new development, however cannot seem to get any answers as to why it continues.

CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT: The Village Office will be closed on Monday, September 1, 2008 due to the Labor Day holiday. Also, water turn-off letters were mailed today. Water turn-off is scheduled for Thursday, September 11th for those who do not pay their April 2008 water/sewer bill.

DPW/WATER/SEWER REPORTS: Reports were given by Trustee Johnson. Copies of all are available in the Village Office for review.

LIBRARY REPORT: Report was given by Director Karen Garafalo. A copy is available in the Village Office for review. She noted that the Library now has new hours and will now be closed on Tuesdays.

POLICE REPORT: There was no one available from the department.

MAIN STREET COMMITTEE: Report was given by Robin Andrews. Noted everyone was still recovering from Community Day and were considering changing the date next year because of the heat. They are also working on the upcoming Pumpkin Walk.

(NO COMP. PLAN REPORT)

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT: Report given by Trustee Andrews. Director Matt Perry has started a book club and the youth programs are continuing and will be run by “family resources”. The movie program was not too successful and was discontinued however movies will continue to be shown at the Library. She asked that the Director provide a regular monthly report in the future.

MAYOR SPEED: Report upon returning from a week’s vacation he called NYS DOT to see why the cross walks have not been painted yet...and offered to paint them. He is awaiting an answer. He met in Chatham with representatives from other surrounding villages about a possible local bus run to Chatham and/or Valatie. The possibility of funding was discussed and all is still in the planning stages. He also attended a meeting with Summit Heights’ representatives, Attorney Fitzsimmons and those trustees that were able to attend regarding minor changes and felt that all went well. He promised to look into the drug situation next to the Library (across from Stewarts) with a goal of getting the problem resolved.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: Reported that he was also away on vacation, and upon his return did some fireworks research. Forest Lake is in good shape...no problems. He also noted that a “garbage issue” has been resolved.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: Reported that the Rescue Squad is not buying the American Legion building and will pursue other alternatives.

TRUSTEE ANDREWS: Reported that she was “dunked” for Community Day. She also reported that kids are damaging the Tea House at the Village Green Park (which is now owned by the Village) and the police are working on the situation. She requested that the DPW clean up the area and the broken tiles as it is a safety issue. Sally Baker suggested that the village put yellow tape around the area to discourage kids. Trustee Johnson did not agree with this and felt tape or a mesh fence would be offensive and did

not want to “yellow tape” everything in the village. Trustee Andrews also noted that Philmont Ventures’ contract stated that certain “bench marks” were to be met within a year of the execution of the contract. Attorney Fitzsimmons will be consulted regarding the specifics of the contract.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: He discussed the water tank repair work but noted that the water tank is unable to be turned off so that it can be re-sealed. It will be discussed further.

He also agreed to bring the mayor a piece of plywood so that he can complete the repair of the foosball table that he started.

CORRESPONDENCE – LIST PROVIDED TO THE AUDIENCE

(Prior to Motions and Resolutions)...

Sally Baker asked that the Mayor continue as Chair for the Main Street Program Streetscape Committee... (Mayor agreed).

Ms. Baker also offered insight into what PB Inc. would like to accomplish. She suggested hiring technical assistance from outside the village which Trustee Johnson strongly disagreed with. He wanted the people living in the area to have more involvement in the decision making. Sally noted that technical assistance of a professional nature is necessary to focus on the agencies that she must deal with for funding. Trustee Johnson continued to stress that the people that live in the target area should be the ones to determine what happens in that area not someone from outside the village. The Mayor suggested that the issue be discussed at length at a future date.

Sally Baker also noted that PB Inc. would be circulating residential surveys about buildings and building conditions in the village. She distributed a sample of the survey to the board and noted the surveys will be available around the village.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to accept the resignation of Delores Gallagher as Community Center co-director effective July 31, 2008 made by Trustee Johnson, 2nd by Trustee Andrews. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

2. **MOTION** to take action against delinquent water/sewer users for those still owing the April, 2008 water/sewer bill (turn-off list was provided to the village board) made by Trustee Andrews, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

3. **MOTION** to reappoint Mathew Perry as a member of the Philmont Library Board for a five-year term to end September, 2013 made by Trustee Sagal, 2nd by Trustee Andrews. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

4. **MOTION** to appoint Renee Maxwell as part-time Library Substitute made by Trustee Andrews, 2nd by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
5. **MOTION** to reschedule the October board meeting from Monday, October 13th to Tuesday, October 14th due to the Columbus Day Holiday made by Trustee Sagal 2nd by Trustee by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
6. **MOTION** to support an LDC Grant Application to Hudson River Valley Greenway for funding for planning/development of the open-space at Summit Heights made by Trustee Johnson, 2nd by Trustee Andrews. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Trustee Johnson brought up the boiler repair situation. Both Trustee Johnson and Trustee Sagal have gathered information. (It was noted that the old circulators *were* used-not new ones). It will be discussed and the information that has been gathered will be reviewed.

Brian Wheeler reported that the floor drains are once again backing up. (the board felt that it was due to the unusually large amount of rain in recent weeks).

NEW BUSINESS: (None)

MOTION to adjourn in *memory of Dorothy Mossman* (a moment of silence was observed) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Robin Andrews. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris
Clerk/Treasurer
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT