

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2010

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Laurence Ostrander, Attorney Anthony Buono, Clerk/Treasurer Eilene Morris.

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 Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #6, Water Abstract #6, Sewer Abstract #6, Library Abstract #6, T&A Abstract #6, Summit Lake Abstract #6, Summit Heights Abstract #4) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Brian Wheeler thanked Trustee Cropper for his work on getting (some) village residents free mail boxes (noted he would like to have the money he paid for his mailbox in the past – refunded). He also questioned why it seems that all the funds received by grants go towards Main Street properties. The Mayor explained that the funding was received by a private source and the Village had no hand in these grants. Trustee Sagal noted that the funding was “set up” to accommodate Main Street Revitalization.

Mr. Wheeler also felt that the Village did nothing to prevent Stewarts or the Philmont Rescue Squad from leaving. The Mayor replied that he did write Stewarts and spoke with their representatives regarding the closing. He was told that it was “written in stone” and the store would be closing. He also noted that he felt that the Rescue Squad going out was a situation they created and again, it is a private business, not a village owned enterprise. He noted that times are tuff and rents are high and it will be hard to entice businesses to come to the village. He did say that he received a call from someone that is interested in purchasing the Stewarts building and the old Sacred Heart Church hall.

Mrs. Jones (Richardson's Hall resident) reported that the traffic was still not stopping at the crosswalks. Trustee Ostrander noted that a person must be in the crosswalk (not just on the sidewalk) before a car needs to stop. Also he suggested that people use common sense and look both ways before crossing the street.

ATTORNEY BUONO:

Reported that Hillsdale and Claverack have signed the outside fire district contracts. He also gave a progress report on Columbia County foreclosures within the village.

CLERK/TREASURER MORRIS:

Reported that the Village Office will be closed on Thursday, November 11th for Veteran's Day and on Thursday and Friday November 25th and 26th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Water turn-off notices went out today to 40 accounts still owing their July 2010 water/sewer bills. Water turn-off is scheduled for December 8, 2010.

POLICE REPORT:

Report was given by OIC Doyle. He noted that they are still working on the “broken window” case (village office). He was asked how many tickets were given for “going through the cross walks” and he noted two. He will continue to watch the area.

LIBRARY REPORT:

(Provided by Director Garafalo) Trustee Sagal read the report. A copy is available in the Village Office for review. She provided statistical charts for the board's review. She reported on “brick” fund raising sales and the installation of outdoor cameras. She also noted that the bike rack has been brought back and installed. She announced that the Fall Book Sale will begin on Thursday November 11th and will run through Sunday, November 14th. A bake sale will be held on that Saturday. She also noted that Local 111 is having a voting promotion during the month

of November. Linda and Max will be dividing \$1000 among the non-profits in Philmont according to the number of votes received. She also reported that the American Legion will be using the Cultural Center this month for their annual oratorical contest. She also announced an exhibit of Victor Milin photographs.

TOWN OF CLAVERACK/COUNTY OF COLUMBIA REPORT:

(Provided by Supervisor Andrews) Trustee Sagal gave the report. A progress report was given on the Town of Claverack budget. She also reported on the preservation of Shaw Bridge. It was also asked that anyone interested in assisting at the Mellenville Union Cemetery to please contact them. They are in need of volunteers and donations. She also reported on the progress of the proposed new Pine Haven Nursing Home. They continue to work on design and layout as well as cost options.

MAYOR SPEED:

He has handled complaints through the month. Also dealt with the broken window situation in the village office by calling the glass man, the police and the insurance company. He met with S&F Communications regarding installing surveillance cameras around the village and went on a trip to Catskill to view the system in action. He has also been dealing with the closing of Stewarts and the closing of the Philmont Rescue Squad.

TRUSTEE CROPPER:

Reported on the Post Office Box situation. He noted that anyone living within ¼ mile of the post office is entitled to a free box. There was some question as to how they would measure the ¼ mile distance.

He also noted that he attended a SHIPO Seminar (Historic Landmarks).

He listened to citizen's concerns and also attended a Community Day meeting (Community Day is scheduled for 07/09/2011 and the Gun Club will continue to do the fireworks and the Car Club will once again be participating.

He noted that the Eagle Scout is working on his project. He has been checking on Forest Lake and all is fine. The gate will be locked next Friday for hunting season. He also judged costumes for the Philmont Fire Company Halloween party.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON:

(DPW/WA/SW)

Report was given by Trustee Johnson. Copies are available in the Village Office for review. He also noted that the last leaf pick-up has not yet been set as the leaves are still falling.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:

Traveled to Catskill to view the security system and was impressed with the set-up. He also attended the workshop and met with the Fire Company. He gave a report for the Fire Company provided by Fire Chief Vernon Higgins.

TRUSTEE SAGAL:

Reported that the new "Village Green" sign is up and now includes the labyrinth. She also reported the vandalism at the Village Hall by calling 911. She was at the rescue squad "official closing" this morning and is going over the dissolution process with their attorney. It was noted that the fire hydrant from the street to the fire house is either turned off or broken. Trustee Johnson will let Mike know.

Trustee Sagal also attended the Community Day meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST – MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to enforce the water turn-off law with turn-off scheduled for December 8, 2010 at noon for those still owing their July 2010 water/sewer bill made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

- 2 **MOTION** to accept the resignation of Alexis Beck from the Zone 14 Police Academy effective immediately made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Trustee Johnson reported that he met with Morris Associates regarding the proposed new DPW building and discussed drawings etc. and getting ready to go out for bid. He discussed the electrical, heating, building plans, concrete work, doors etc noting that the DPW will be doing much of the work. The bids will go out with all the extras and after getting bids back, if it is determined that they are too high or out of our price range, then the plans will exclude items that are to be deemed not vital.

He noted that it will be a 3 bay or 5 bay building. If it becomes necessary to bond, he would like to have it on the ballot for the upcoming March 15th Election.

NEW BUSINESS: None

MOTION to adjourn in memory of all Veterans made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper.

ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris
Clerk/Treasurer