

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2010 - 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Laurence Ostrander, Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons, 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 the Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #7, Water Abstract #7, Sewer Abstract #7, Library Abstract #7, T&A Abstract #7, Summit Lake Abstract #7, Building Maintenance Abstract #1) made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Brian Wheeler noted that people were still not stopping at crosswalks. He also inquired about the metal from the furnace installation. The Mayor said it was transferred to Mr. Carl per agreement.

Vernon Higgins thanked the building department for addressing the problem issues with a neighbor on his street. He requested that the police department address the situation of very noisy cars and tractors that these same neighbors continue to run up and down the street. The problems are starting to escalate with bogus accusations against him because of his involvement in complaints against them. He requests that the board come up with the solution for the noise problem. The Mayor will speak with the police department. Attorney Fitzsimmons noted that there may be state statutes that can be applied to the noise situation.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS:

Nothing to report. Noted that it has been fairly quiet.

CLERK/TREASURER MORRIS:

Reported that water turn-off took place on Wednesday, December 8th with one property being turned off and two more properties scheduled to be turned off once the service lines are located. She also said that meter readings will be taken for the January, 2011 water/sewer billing. Also, the Village Office will be closed on Friday, December 24th and Friday, December 31st for the holidays.

LIBRARY REPORT:

The report was given by Director Karen Garafalo (a copy is available in the village office for review). She reported that the local food coop will be using the center, that flower beds are complete and ready for soil and planting in the spring. She also reported that the "Story hour" has had low attendance and if it does not pick up in December, the January one will not be held. Also, a schedule of movies to be shown will be posted on the web site. She reported that the Victor Milin exhibit has been very popular. She also noted that "Soup Sales" will begin the first Wednesday in January and she is seeking soup makers.

Also, Local 111 held a voting promotion during November for patrons to select their favorite local non-profit organization and divided \$1000 between the winners. The Library received \$229.00 in the contest and will purchase a Nook (e-reader) with the money.

TOWN/COUNTY REPORT:

The report was given by Supervisor Andrews (a copy is available in the village office for review). She reported on increased Town of Claverack fees for dog licensing due to regulation changes. Also there are special meetings scheduled for Dec. 29th – 6:00 PM (end-of-year meeting) and Jan. 5th – 6:45 PM (organizational meeting – just prior to the regular board meeting). The workshop will be cancelled. Also the GAR (company doing the reassessment project) will have a special presentation meeting the week of February 7th for the town and village board members.

She also reported on the Columbia County Budget (no increase in land taxes and noted changes in the clothing sales tax). Reported on County Buildings (proposed lease of the former Walmart building for county office space (opinions and/or questions on the proposal may be directed to

Supervisor Andrews). She also reported on discussion regarding the Pine Haven building (a good basic design has been developed and the water/sewer installation options are being considered). Cost estimates are being gathered. There was some discussion in the audience about the future of the current Pine Haven building and Supervisor Andrews noted that there has been no decision but a lot of discussion. It was determined that the State does not want to assume the challenge of creating a veterans facility so it would have to be taken on by a non-profit organization.

MAYOR SPEED:

Reported that it was a nice quiet month. Signed the usual letters and kept in touch with the office. Had nothing else to report.

TRUSTEE CROPPER:

He continues to check Forest Lake and all is fine. Next week the gate will be opened. He also reported that he noticed that a trailer's roof at Casivant's trailer park on Summit Street appears to be caving in. He asked that the building department be notified. He also spoke to Trooper Pierro (school resource officer) regarding the cross walk situation. He suggested that Brian Wheeler call Trooper Pierro directly and ask for his assistance.

TRUSTEE SAGAL:

She called the electrician to see about moving the fire alarm system out of the Judge's Office and is waiting for a return call. It was also requested that the motion light outside the fire department be repaired. She read a Columbia Opportunities Weatherization Report for November noting some of the hardship situations that have been remedied by the organization.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:

He gave the Fire Company report provided by Chief Higgins. A copy is available in the village office for review.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON:

He gave the DPW/Water/Sewer reports. Copies are available in the village office for review. Mr. Osborn asked if the current DPW building has a generator. It was noted that there is a large portable generator. Mr. Osborn suggested that a back-up generator for the new DPW building should be considered. Cal Dallas requested that some water be put back into Summit Lake as it may need to be used as an alternative water source for a fire (it was drained to cut down on the spray which tends to form ice on the bridge on Summit Street).

CORRESPONDENCE – COPY OF LIST PROVIDED FOR THE AUDIENCE

MOTIONS AND RESSOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to pay engineering fees to Morris Associates from the Building Maintenance Reserve Account for building design and septic design for the proposed DPW building in the amount of \$7,423.70 made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
2. **MOTION** to accept the resignation of Chad Shumway from the Philmont Police Department effective November 27, 2010 made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

POLICE REPORT:

The report was given by Mayor Speed (no officer was available). A copy is available in the village office for review.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

Dick Howard reported that there would be a special meeting of the Community Day Committee on Monday, January 3rd at 7:00 PM.

Trustee Ostrander reported that he visited the Catskill Police Department to review their security system. The next step is to have OIC Doyle meet with S&F Communications regarding the

needs of the village. Trustee Ostrander will check with OIC Doyle to set something up. Trustee Cropper wondered if a web cam system would be effective. Karen Garafalo will speak with S&F Communications regarding that type of set up as it may apply to the Library needs.

MOTION to adjourn in memory of Laurence Card, Barbara Rowe and Zina Lischwitz (a moment of silence was observed). Motion made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

(HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!)

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris
Clerk/Treasurer
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT