

## **REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011**

**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 Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. 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, Summit Lake Abstract #10, Summit Heights Abstract #7, Building Renovations Abstract #1, Building Maintenance Abstract #4) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander). ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MAYOR SPEED PRESENTED CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO **MITCHELL BURCH** "For serving ten years as President of the Philmont Santa Claus Club, brightening the lives of countless citizens, young and old alike", AND **DICK HOWARD** "for dedication and hard works on the annual Christmas Parade in the Village of Philmont". (They were given a round of applause)!

### **PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

Albert Wassenhove gave a progress report on keeping Pine Haven in Philmont noting that he was disappointed in Clermont Supervisor Randy Staats' motion to support Pine Haven moving to the Ockawamick Building (which is no longer an option as the Village decided not to run water/ sewer lines to the property). He praised the Village Board for taking a strong and appropriate step in making that decision.

A college student requested information on the proposed surveillance equipment that the village is considering purchasing. Trustee Cropper noted that all prices are not in yet, therefore it would be unfair to give that information out at a public meeting. Also, they were not willing to give out the possible location of the cameras. She was asked to check back with the Village Office in a couple of weeks and the clerk could give her the type of equipment and the price of the equipment that the Village is considering.

### **ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS:**

Ongoing projects. He reported that Homeland Towers was in agreement with the contract changes.

### **CLERK/TREASURER MORRIS:**

\*Water turn-off took place Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> with one service being terminated for non-payment.

\*The office has received several calls about brush pick-up and about the date for clean-up day (Trustee Johnson will check with the DPW).

\*Water meter readings are being taken and the next billing will go out on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*A reminder that Village Elections will be held tomorrow from noon until 9:00 PM in the Village Hall.

### **POLICE REPORT:**

Report given by OIC Vernon Doyle. A copy is available in the Village Office for review.

### **LIBRARY REPORT:**

The report was provided by Director Karen Garafalo and given by Trustee Sagal. Reported on "Building and Grounds" (AC installed, roof leaking and needs to be replaced), "Library Services" (income tax forms and assessment information are available, reported on number of library users, and new programs which consist of Zumba, Wednesday games for ages 6-12 and an Introduction to Forensics on Mondays in March. Also noted that "story time" numbers are improving) and "Grants and Donations" (Applying for a Berkshire Foundation grant, raised \$277 for the "purple hair" contest, and received \$5000 from the HRBT Foundation).

### **COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT:**

The report was provided by Director Renee Maxwell and given by Clerk Morris. Reported that craft night has been eliminated. The Center continues to be open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from

4 to 6 and attendance varies from 5 to 10 children. She reported that the Center was used for a private birthday party and a donation was received. She also reported on the three day snowshoeing event.

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK/COUNTY OF COLUMBIA:**

The report was provided by Supervisor Andrews and given by Mayor Speed. Reported that the **Town of Claverack** will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM to discuss altering the number of members of the Board of Assessment Review from 3 people to 5 people. **Columbia County** is no longer considering locating the new Pine Haven at the Ockawamick site due to the village being unwilling to extend water and sewer lines to that property. She also reported that the December 26<sup>th</sup> storm is eligible for funding. She also gave a special thanks to all the volunteer firefighters who worked especially hard during the recent storms.

**MAYOR SPEED:**

Thanked the fire company for their hard work during the recent flooding situations. He thanked Hudson for the use of their snow blower which allowed our DPW to remove much of the snow and also thanked Meltz Lumber for their use of a trailer. He also noted that as of today, he is officially a member of the board of Philmont Co-Op. They have plans of opening the end of May. He also noted that he called often from Aruba and kept up on the events in the village. He stated that NYSDOT is starting to fill pot-holes on Main Street. He also congratulated the Library on their "purple hair" contest.

**TRUSTEE CROPPER:**

Reported that the Forest Lake Road is closed due to the winter weather. He also reported that he has been looking into the Claverack/Philmont tax situation with properties owned by the village and located outside the village limits. He noted that there is another Eagle Scout candidate that would like to do a project in the village (possibly sprucing up a trail and building benches). The board approved the request. He also reported attending Community Day meetings (Dick Howard handed out flyers). The Mayor thanked Trustee Cropper for attending the Eagle Scout Ceremony for Joshua Essig.

**TRUSTEE SAGAL:**

Reported to NYSEG that four streetlights are out. She noted that she also has been looking into the village assessment situation and spoke to Charles Brewer about it. She also thanked the fire company for their patience while they wait for the Philmont Rescue Squad to move their rescue truck. After discussion Mayor Speed suggested that he put dealer plates on the vehicle to move it from one bay to another. Trustee Sagal will provide the keys to the vehicle.

**TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:**

Reported that he met with Chief Vernon Higgins and John Blaauw from the fire company to share new ideas. He noted they discussed OSHA Training and the new door. The Mayor noted that *Trustee Ostrander* was heading the meeting regarding merging.

**TRUSTEE JOHNSON:**

Gave the DPW, WATER and SEWER reported which were provided by Supt. Scheller. Copies of all are available in the Village Office for review. At this time Mr. Osborn reported to Trustee Johnson that a storm drain has collapsed on Garden/Elm Streets and there is a fair amount of water running through the pipe. It was also noted that Marlene Weisner reported a "dig" in her driveway. Trustee Johnson noted that it would be repaired when "hot patch" becomes available.

**CORRESPONDENCE LIST – AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC**

**MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **MOTION** to schedule the Annual Organizational Meeting and the Annual Budget Hearing for the first Monday in April (April 4, 2011) at 7:00 PM made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
2. **MOTION** to close out the inactive Comprehensive Plan account in the amount of \$158.91 and transfer those funds into the general account as a "miscellaneous revenue" made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
3. **MOTION** to reappoint Charles Edwin Hoag Jr. Esquire for a one year term as Acting Village of Philmont Justice made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
4. **MOTION** to transfer funds between accounts as needed made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**(NOTE: MOTION** to pay bills includes a “Building Maintenance Account” bill from Morris Associates in the amount of \$1332.00 for the proposed DPW Building and a “Building Renovations Account” bill from Huber Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$6700.00 for the Library air conditioner which the board agreed to via the above mentioned motion).

#### **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Karen Davala requested more information on the budget process. The clerk noted that she would help in any way she could and that it would be necessary to obtain the taxable assessed value of another village for comparison (Ms. Davala was comparing Philmont to Chatham).

The Mayor addressed some of the issues that were included in a letter to the editor of the Register Star regarding misinformation about the transportation of the WWII Cannon, the purchase of a Fire/Rescue Truck, and the savings on the purchase of the new Library building of \$30,000 due to his efforts. He also thanked everyone for their support.

With no further business to conduct a MOTION to adjourn was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris  
Clerk/Treasurer  
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT