

**REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011 – 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 , 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Ostrander, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #1, Water Abstract #1, Sewer Abstract #1, Library Abstract #1, T&A Abstract #1, Summit Lake Abstract #1, Building Maintenance Abstract #1) made by Trustee Sagal, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

There were several people attending in favor of allowing chickens in the village. The Board has also received letters in support of allowing chickens. The Attorney has drawn up a draft law relating to this issue for the review of the board. Should anyone wish to read a copy, it will be made available in the Village Office.

Albert Wassenhove complimented the Village for their dedication to veterans with their Memorial Day Parade. He also noted he has been helping with Community Day planning, and announced that the Pine Haven Bus, carrying residents of Pine Haven will participate in the Community Day Parade. He also noted that Congressman Gibson will be in attendance. He also announced that the "plastics plant" will be having a mini job fair at their booth for Community Day. He also distributed copies of his news letter- "Jobs Mission for Columbia County" to village board members for their review.

Sally Baker requested that the kiosk at the pocket park be moved to make room for the community garden. Trustee Johnson noted that he would put it on the "list of things to do" for the DPW.

There was also a complaint about speeding on Summit Street which will be handled by the police.

**ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS:**

He gave a summary of the "draft law" referencing chickens in the village (a copy is available in the village office for review). He also noted that there would need to be a public hearing. He also reported on the Homeland Towers/In-site Towers lease since their merging. (Things will remain the same).

**CLERK/TREASURER:**

She reported that village tax bills were mailed on June 1<sup>st</sup> and are due without penalty through July 1<sup>st</sup>. She also noted that the village office will be closed on Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day. Also, water turn off took place on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> with four (4) accounts being terminated.

She also reminded the village board that the Claverack & Hillsdale portions of the fire district payments need to be determined as bills are normally sent out the first of our fiscal year.

**POLICE:**

The report was given by Sergeant Ambrosino. A copy is available in the village office for review.

**LIBRARY:**

The report was given by Director Karen Garafalo. She reported on Building and Grounds (Rugs cleaned, flowers planted by the Claverack Garden Club and air conditioner is working great). Library Services: (sold egg sandwiches on Memorial Day, and gave the Summer Concert Schedule... June 11<sup>th</sup> Taconic Hills Jazz Band, June 30<sup>th</sup> Blue Ribbon Boys, July 12<sup>th</sup> Tablesaw Acoustic Band). Grants and Fundraising: (\$450.00 grant from Mid Hudson Library System. Picnic Supper and donations raised \$560.00). She also provided a chart comparing the circulation at area libraries.

At this time, the village board was asked if something could be done about large trucks traveling on Summit Street (Mayor noted that a weight limit sign will be posted on the corner of Main Street and Summit Street). It appears that their GPS systems direct the trucks to that route to get to the Charter Supply building. There was also a complaint about four wheelers in the area of Overlook Court. Sally Baker said she knew the kids and would speak to them. The police were also alerted.

**COMMUNITY CENTER:**

The report was given by the Clerk/Treasurer. Programs are running on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM with an average attendance of 12 to 15 kids each day. Several fishing poles were purchased for use by the kids.

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

Both reports were given by Supervisor Robin Andrews.

Town of Claverack: She reported on the outcome of the vote to deem the Village of Philmont as tax exempt. The vote was 2- abstentions, 2 yes votes and 1 no vote which means it was not approved. There may be another opportunity to vote after information has been gathered. She also announced the Town of Claverack Summer Program sign up on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 PM and Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 5:00 PM downstairs in the Town Office Building (91 Church Street). More information can be found on the Town of Claverack web site [www.townofclaverack.com](http://www.townofclaverack.com).

Also, the Town of Claverack workshop meeting will be moved from June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

County of Columbia: Free metal collection will be extended for the months of June – September at the transfer station. Also the Walmart site study is continuing. She also noted that Emergency Management is being consolidated into the Sheriff's office and they will look at consolidating dispatchers. Also the "County Manager" issue will be presented. Any questions can be directed to Supervisor Andrews.

## **MAYOR SPEED:**

The Mayor thanked Congressman Gibson for his letter of appreciation for our commitment to the Veterans and our Memorial Day parade. It was also noted that Congressman Gibson will attend the Community Day festivities. He reported that he cleaned up at the monument and helped hang banners for Memorial Day. He also attended a luncheon and tour of vacant store fronts in the village. He took the borrowed snow blower back to Hudson and wrote thank you letters to Mayor Scalera and Supt. Perry for its use. He has set up a meeting with Assemblyman Molinaro regarding the proposed DPW building.

## **TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:**

He reported that he attended a meeting at the Town of Claverack (along with other officials) regarding fire district consolidation. It was an informational meeting which illustrated several good points. He also met with Philmont Fire Chief Vernon Higgins for a regular update on fire company issues. He accompanied Trustee Sagal on an inspection of the Community Center. There were some things that needed some attention and hopefully the issues will be resolved. He also gave the fire company report provided by Chief Higgins. A copy is available in the Village Office for review.

## **TRUSTEE CROPPER:**

He reported that he has been checking Forest Lake on a regular basis. It is very busy but all is going well. He also attended the fire company consolidation meeting. He marched in the Memorial Day parade. He has answered noise complaints, and noted that the stop signs he was asked about will be replaced. He has also been attending Community Day Committee meetings. At this time Committee Chair Dick Howard gave a progress report and presented Certificates of Appreciation to committee members and presented "Special" plaques to Trustee Doug Cropper and Clerk Eilene Morris. He also extended a special "thank you" to Max Dannis for his generous donation towards the fireworks display.

## **TRUSTEE SAGAL:**

She reported to NYSEG that six (6) street lights were out. She also swept out the firehouse. She asked that the firemen be a little more diligent in cleaning the downstairs. The Mayor suggested setting up a "housekeeping committee" and two different people will be responsible each month for cleaning up the area. Trustee Sagal also reported that the ambulance got moved to the other bay (thank you to Mayor Speed). She also reported that she marched in the Memorial Day Parade. She reported benches and posts that needed repair up by the reservoir. They have since been repaired by the DPW. She noted that there was still garbage in that area that needed to be picked up and disposed of. She thanked Brian Wolf for cleaning up the fire house after she noted that it needed it.

## **TRUSTEE JOHNSON:**

Gave the DPW report and the Water and Sewer reports provided by Supt. Michael Scheller. Copies of all are available in the village office for review. He also reported that the area of the proposed DPW garage was rock blasted and the rock was taken away.

## **CORRESPONDENCE LIST – COPY MADE AVAILABLE TO THE AUDIENCE.**

## **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village of Philmont (Location code 40308) hereby establishes the standard work day for elected and appointed officials and will report the days worked to the NYS and Local Employees Retirement system based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by the officials to the clerk made by Trustee Cropper, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Johnson. **ALL AYES, NO NAYS.** (Resolution to be posted on door).

2. **MOTION** to spend \$14,988.00 from the Building Maintenance Reserve Account to Visage Construction Corp. for blasting work done at the site of the proposed new DPW Garage made by Trustee Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
3. **MOTION** to allow Mayor Speed to sign the Estoppel Certificate (related to plans and bids) regarding Homeland Towers made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Trustee Ostrander verified that Leggett Electric was notified of the approval for installation of the electric for cameras. Trustee Ostrander also asked if “Walking The Dog Theater” was still interested in using the warehouse. Linda Gatter will arrange for them to attend the next workshop (6/22/11).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Trustee Johnson noted his displeasure (along with the rest of the board) regarding the fact that the Town of Claverack Board has not granted an exemption to the Village of Philmont for properties owned by the Village (but located in the Town of Claverack outside the village limits). He noted that every not-for profit was granted tax exemption status, but the Village of Philmont (by vote) was denied even though the Village residents already pay land taxes to the Town of Claverack. Residents were urged to write letters to the Town Board or whomever they wish to write letters to, as well as attend Town of Claverack meetings to voice their displeasure. The Village will look into hiring an attorney to deal with the issue. The Clerk was asked to make up a list of “points” that the residents could follow when writing their letters.

With no further business to bring before the board, a MOTION to adjourn was made by Trustee Ostrander and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris  
Clerk/Treasurer  
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT