

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Laurence Ostrander, Clerk/Treasurer Eilene Morris (Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons-Absent).

MOTION to approve minutes of the previous meeting (with the following additions)

1. Richard Osborn noting his disapproval of chickens in the village as he felt they attracted rats.
2. Note that MOTION to add "chickens" to the original law of animals NOT allowed in the village was made by Trustee Johnson and seconded by Trustee Cropper-ALL AYES, NO NAYS. (It was omitted from the original minutes).
3. Under "Public Requests" first paragraph, last line should read "Rescue Squad never came before the Village Board to request anything".

MOTION to approve minutes (with above) made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #4, Water Abstract #4, Sewer Abstract #4, Library Abstract #4, T&A Abstract #4, Summit Heights Abstract #2, Summit Lake Abstract #4) made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Max Dannis, representing the Philmont Fire Company, expressed his concern regarding several rumors about the fire company consolidation issue. Trustee Ostrander noted that the whole process was in the early stages. There is another meeting scheduled for September 23rd with the facilitator present and it was requested that Max Dannis attend this meeting to get answers to all the questions he and the fire company might have regarding the proposal. Trustee Ostrander noted that there have been no decisions made by the board and they were still in the "question and answer" stage. The Mayor noted he was uncomfortable with the facilitator (attorney) that was heading up the meetings as he felt he was moving too fast and it was all about the money. It was determined by the meetings already attended that it was unlikely that taxes would go down with a consolidation move. Max Dannis raised several points for keeping the Philmont Fire Company as it is. Trustee Cropper noted that there are several false stories going around and that there was no decision on what road to take yet. When Max Dannis asked what the actual goal of the board was Trustee Johnson felt that the consolidation would mean better protection, better buying power and better training. Max felt if a consolidation plan was to be considered; it should be a COUNTY plan not a TOWN plan for it to be effective. He also felt money was at the heart of the proposal. Mr. Dannis agreed to attend the September 23rd meeting. Winnie Speed noted that it appears "face book" is the vehicle spreading all the false information.

Mathew Oakley asked if a member of the village board could be assigned as a liaison to meet with the Greenport Rescue Squad about any issues pertaining to the village. Trustee Sagal agreed to take the position.

Mrs. Chadwick complained about speeding on Prospect Street. It seems to have increased since Stewarts closed leaving Cumberland as the only store.

Richard Osborn thanked the village for fixing the drain by his house. He asked if there were any drawings of the drainage in that area as this drain goes right under his property and he would like to have more information about where it starts and where it goes because he did not know about the drain prior to this.

Karen Garafalo suggested the "moving speeder sign" again. The mayor will look into it again with the possibility of maybe sharing it with another municipality.

It was asked if signs have been purchased for Summit Street to deter large trucks from taking that route. The Mayor will expedite the ordering of the signs.

REPORTS:

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: (No Report)

CLERK/TREASURER:

1. The Village Office will be closed on October 10th for Columbus Day. Due to the holiday, the October board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11th.
2. Five (5) parcels had water service terminated for non-payment of their April, 2011 water/sewer billing. Of these parcels, 3 remain off and 2 parcels await turn-off (due to a "wrench" problem with the water department).
3. All monthly reports, collections, sales, payrolls etc. have been completed.
4. I would like to note that I was on vacation during Hurricane Irene and Kim did an excellent job keeping up with all the "craziness" during the storm, coming in on Sunday and "keeping the Mayor in line" (smile).

POLICE REPORT:

The report was provided by Officer in Charge Vernon Doyle and given by Trustee Douglas Cropper. A copy is available in the village office for review.

LIBRARY REPORT:

(BUILDING AND GROUNDS) Acoustic Clouds have arrived. Patio has been finished. There is a great need for a trash can...DPW was asked months ago...not received yet. (Mayor will see to it that it is delivered). (SERVICES) GED study classes begin Tuesday. Home Schooling group will be using the cultural center on Thursdays. Story hour will begin September 19th on a trial basis. Movies on Friday night have been very successful.

TOWN OF CLAVERACK/COUNTY OF COLUMBIA

(TOWN) Next meeting will be Thursday, October 6th to accommodate the controller's schedule. The skateboard park committee will make a final decision on a reduced project of \$30,000. Reported that town highway employees were helping Greene County recover from storm damage as are county employees.

(COUNTY) There was a special meeting which approved extension of the option to purchase the Greenport Plaza building to house county offices/DSS. No final determination of the purchase has been made.

She also extended thanks to highway workers as well as firefighters, police and all who helped during the storm. A special thanks especially for all the extra work to support the Philmont Evacuation Alert. She noted that all should be proud of the Churchtown Fire Company which had their first Red Cross schedule offering and had the most people staying in a shelter in the county as well as setting up the first Humane Society animal shelter.

MAYOR SPEED:

Reported that he felt all worked together well to get through Hurricane Irene. There was plenty of help from fire companies, police agencies, buses and town and county officials. Everyone helped with notification of possible evacuation (due to the upper privately owned dam). All was calm by Sunday evening and our dam on Summit Street held up fine. Hopefully DEC will continue to pressure the owner of the upper dam to do necessary maintenance. He thanked Kim for coming in on Sunday and opening everything up for them.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON:

He gave the DPW report and the Water and Sewer report provided by Supt. Michael Scheller. He noted that a pump was lost at the sewer plant during the second round of rain. He thanked water and sewer personnel for keeping everything up and running during the storm.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:

He gave the fire company report provided by Chief Higgins. A copy is available in the village office for review. He thanked the fire company for their efforts during the storm. Chief Higgins thanked Max Dannis for his assistance with his personal equipment.

TRUSTEE SAGAL:

She noted that she reported nine (9) street lights out. She has spent most of the month in rehabilitation after having hip surgery.

TRUSTEE CROPPER:

He also dealt with storm related problems and kept watch on the upper dam. Noted that Forest Lake held up fine during the hurricane. He felt all went well during the emergency. He also attended the 9/11 Memorial at the Claverack Town Park and noted that it was very moving and well done.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A list was provided for the audience.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to set the October regular monthly board meeting for Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 7:00 PM due to the Columbus Day holiday falling on Monday, October 10th made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
2. **MOTION** to put fuel oil out to bid with bids being accepted through October 11th and to be opened at the October 11, 2011 regular monthly board meeting made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
3. **MOTION** to appoint Brian Laurange as a part-time police officer to fill the open position created by the resignation of Chad Shumway made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
4. **MOTION** to approve Mark Tipple, Christopher Schelling, Michael Sylvester, Douglas LaPorta, Daniel Stevens and John Laviano as recruits for the September Zone 14 Law Enforcement Academy made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mark Beaumont asked about when the Philmont Co-Op would be opening. The mayor said the projected date was March, 2012. The Mayor attends meetings once a month and noted that in order to get grants the building must be renovated "green" which will cost about \$200,000.

Chief Vernon Higgins thanked the board for having the drain snaked out at the fire house. There have been no major problems since.

Dick Howard reported that the date of June 30, 2012 has been set for the next Philmont Community Day. The next meeting will be held October 3rd at 7:00 PM.

The Mayor noted that "Mercedes" was in the audience auditing the meeting for her class.

MOTION to adjourn was made by Trustee Sagal and seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris
Clerk/Treasurer
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT