

# REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 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 Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. 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 Heights Abstract #4, Summit Lake Abstract #7, Building Maintenance Abstract #5) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

### **PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

Matt Oakley asked if there was any additional information regarding the Greenport Rescue Squad. The Mayor noted that more money was agreed upon, however has not heard yet what the outcome was. Mr. Oakley was reminded that the Town of Claverack is the ultimate bargaining unit.

Mr. Osborn thanked Trustee Johnson for the ditch repair done in the area of his residence.

Ed Fertik, representing the Claverack Rail Trail Committee, provided information on the group's plans for activities and their promotional campaign. They also asked that the board consider bike racks for the area of Elm and Canal Streets. He thanked the board for their time and looks forward to the support of the community.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS:**

No new business – ongoing projects.

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

Water termination took place on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Two services were turned off for non-payment and one service which was turned off last quarter was found to be turned back on again by someone not authorized to do so. The police are handling the issue.

The Clerk filed paperwork with EMO of Columbia County for reimbursement of storm related expenses connected to the October 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> snow storm.

The village office will be closed on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> for the Holidays.

All monthly and quarterly reports, water/sewer rent and tax collections, sticker sales, bill payment, notarizations etc. were completed.

#### **POLICE:**

The report was given by OIC Doyle. A copy is available in the village office for review. Mr. Osborn asked if there was any progress in the investigation of the break-ins in the area. It was noted that it was still under investigation. The board asked that the furniture be removed from the hall no later than Friday (12/16) as there is a dinner scheduled for that night.

#### **LIBRARY:**

Director Garafalo was absent. Trustee Sagal gave the report.

(BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS) Pat Sama of the Claverack Garden Club filled the raised flower beds with winter decorations. They also purchased additional LED lights for the front of the Library for the bushes and the doorway. Sherry Bolevice donated a decorated wreath for the front door.

(SERVICES) Story hour will continue for another two weeks. GED study classes continue. Julie Veronezi will present a program on Astronomy. Karen Novakowski will present a nutrition program.

(FUNDING) The Town of Ghent donated \$1500 for the operating budget for the Library.

**COMMUNITY CENTER:**

(No Report)

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

Supervisor Robin Andrews was absent. Clerk Morris gave the report.

(TOWN OF CLAVERACK) The Youth Winter Ski Program was cancelled due to lack of interest. There will be an End of Year meeting on Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Claverack Court Building and a celebration to follow. All are welcome. The next regular meeting date was changed to Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM to accommodate combining the organizational and regular board meeting. The workshop date was also changed to January 3<sup>rd</sup> due to the holidays.

(COLUMBIA COUNTY) There are no committee meetings scheduled for the month of December. The next regular board meeting is Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Also, it was determined by counsel that no appointment positions for next year can be made by the current sitting board. The vote for the Fire Coordinator and the EMS Coordinator will be done by the new board at the organizational meeting to be held on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. There are nine new Supervisors on the board for next year. Supervisor Andrews wished all a happy holiday.

**MAYOR SPEED:**

He reported that he put up the holiday banners and is getting ready for Santa's night and the parade. He also noted that he handled complaints on leaf removal. He noted that he even handled an employee issue while in Baltimore at a "tow-show". He wished all a happy holiday.

**TRUSTEE CROPPER:**

He noted that he completed the usual duties. He also noted that all at Forest Lake is fine. He reported that the Village Board will be judging holiday lights on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at about 7:00 PM

**TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:**

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

**TRUSTEE SAGAL:**

Reported that she attended the fiber art show at the Library and found it very interesting. She thanked Firemen Brian Wheeler, Mark Beaumont and Vern Higgins for coming to her aid when she had an alarm issue at her home. She also reported that she has received complaints from neighbors about the poor condition of the sidewalks. One neighbor fell and was hurt due to the sidewalks. She also noted that five (5) streetlights were reported out. NYSEG has been a bit slow with repairs but will get to them as soon as they can.

**TRUSTEE JOHNSON:**

He gave the DPW, Water and Sewer reports. Copies are available in the village office for review.

**CORRESPONDENCE – COPIES MADE AVAILABLE TO THE AUDIENCE.**

**MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **MOTION** to spend \$1,733.30 from the Building Maintenance Account for expenses related to the proposed DPW Garage made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
2. **MOTION** to approve Ronald Montague Jr. and Michael McMann as members of the Philmont Fire Company made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:**

Trustee Ostrander noted that he has witnessed someone living at the Summit Trailer Park and was told to notify police.

Also, it was verified that "Walking The Dog Theater" will be using the warehouse.

**MOTION** to adjourn in memory of *Edna Barden* made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eilene Morris  
Clerk/Treasurer  
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT