

REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, November 13, 2012 (Tuesday-due to Veteran's Day Holiday)

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Laurence Ostrander, Matthew Perry, Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons, Clerk/Treasurer Eilene Morris.

MOTION to approve minutes of the previous meeting made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve the treasurer's report made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #6, Water Abstract #6, Sewer Abstract #6, Library Abstract #6, T&A Abstract #6, Summit Heights Operations Abstract #2, Summit Lake Abstract #6, DPW Garage Abstract #5) made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

OIL BID OPENING:

One Bid Received.....Montague Oil
Fuel Price \$ 3.77/gallon (or current market value)
Labor \$ 55.00/hour for service and maintenance.

MOTION to accept the bid of Montague Oil was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Brian Wheeler raised questions regarding the response time of the Greenport Rescue Squad now that they are no longer "housed" in the village. Most were in agreement with the lack of enthusiasm of the Greenport Rescue Squad and with the extended response time. Trustee Perry noted that he would be willing to work with anyone who thought they had a solution to the problem. It was also noted that the Greenport Rescue Squad still retains the Certificate of Need and that the Town of Claverack is the decision maker on matters of the rescue squad.

Mr. Wheeler also asked about the concerns regarding Prospect Street parking issues. He noted that people are parking the wrong way on the street, etc. It was noted that the police may have to issue tickets to those who improperly park. Trustee Perry noted that this discussion took place at the last meeting and for plowing purposes, people would have to find alternate parking.

REPORTS:

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: Reported that union issues are being discussed. Planning Board issues with Summit Heights (1/4 acre lots to 1/2 acre lots) are being worked out. The booster pumps must be installed prior to any further building permits being issued.

CLERK/TREASURER MORRIS: Reported that the village office will be closed on Thursday, November 22nd and Friday November 23rd for the Thanksgiving Holiday. She also noted that water turn off is scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2012 at noon for those still owing their July, 2012 water/sewer bill. Also reported that all regular tasks have been performed (garbage sticker sales, bookkeeping, water/sewer collections, bill payments, monthly reports, tax issues, etc).

POLICE REPORT: None (no officer available)

LIBRARY REPORT: Report given by Library Director Karen Garafalo. (Building and Grounds) Village flower pot was picked up but the library flower pot that was moved to put in the patio over a year ago still remains in the back of the building. Several oral requests have been made and at least two written requests. (Services) The next book discussion will be November 14th.

We will discuss Three Junes by Julia Glasser. The Library Open House (Shower for Renee and DJ) was very successful with approximately 35 to 40 people in attendance. The story hour on Mondays is small but we will continue with it until the Christmas holidays. We will start it again in March. (Grants and Donations) The Art Sale continues. We have netted about \$500 so far. We will have a Black Friday discount on the day after Thanksgiving. A percentage will be taken off all donated items and some of the consigned items with permission of the artist. Director Garafalo also expressed her concern regarding being unable to convince Supt. Scheller to bring the generator to the Library when Hurricane Sandy was approaching. The board agreed and assured her this would not happen again. Trustee Cropper questioned why a religious group was allowed to use the library and noted that he felt uncomfortable with that decision. The Director noted that it was considered more of a book club type of meeting and there were no worshiping services. The attorney quoted separation of church and state and noted that there should be no services or donations collected by the group. Trustee Cropper also asked the Director for circulation numbers and she agreed to provide them as they are done on a regular basis and available upon request.

COMMUNITY CENTER: The report was given by newly appointed Director Kevin Maisenbacher. He reported on the clean up and organization of the building. He has also passed out surveys asking for community input on programming and will continue to utilize this type of outreach. He would also like to have background checks on all employees and volunteers to avoid liability issues. He will provide monthly reporting of attendance and activities to the board and will require emergency contact information for all children attending programs. He reported that their face book page was up and running using it as a cost effective way to get word out about programming and schedules. He also noted that all community center rentals (birthday parties etc.) will require a "use of facilities" form and all requests must come through the Director for scheduling purposes. He would like to meet with his "Trustees in Charge" (Sagal, Ostrander) to go over items of concern. He would also like to arrange an appointment to discuss inclusion of the Community Center on the Village Web Site (Trustee Perry). All Trustees welcomed Mr. Maisenbacher and thanked him for his thorough report.

TOWN OF CLAVERACK/COUNTY OF COLUMBIA: No Report

MAYOR SPEED: Signed all necessary monthly paperwork. Also met with the Columbia County Youth Program representative. Attended the Veteran's Luncheon at the Vanderbilt House. He also judged the Halloween Costume contest. As usual took complaints and made suggestions.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: Inspected street lights (2 were reported as out). She also noted that she would like to have a discussion regarding the dog control officer. She felt he was being unprofessional. The Mayor assured her that he has talked with Mr. Conklin regarding some of the complaints received. The situation will be worked out. It was also noted that the Police can enforce any local laws regarding animal situations.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: Reported attending the workshop and hiring Kevin Maisenbacher as the new Community Center Director (welcomed him). He also resolved a water break situation on West Street. Also reported reading many, many e-mails from PB Inc. (Sally Baker). There was no Fire Company Report.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: Reported that he has been checking Forest Lake and Preusser Road regularly and all is fine. All are reminded that a "pass" needs to be picked up at the village office for those village residents who wish to hunt at Forest Lake. This pass must be kept on your person while hunting. Also noted that he judged the Halloween Costume contest at the Firehouse. He reported that the next Community Day meeting will be Monday, November 19th and everyone is welcome (see motions and resolutions for motion to contribute \$2000 for Community Day fireworks). He gave the DPW, Water and Sewer reports provided by Supt. Scheller.

TRUSTEE PERRY: Reported that he has been compiling a list of derelict properties. He has taken pictures of the properties in question. He also suggested the village board consider a

“Nuisance Law” for property owners. He also had a discussion with DPW employees regarding garbage pick –up. He noted that he is excited about the plans of new Community Center Director Kevin Maisenbacher. He also handled a “generator” complaint from Library Director Karen Garafalo and a complaint regarding a water main break on West Street. He thanked the Town of Claverack DPW for their assistance with the break and suggested having more of our DPW employees trained on the backhoe. He also referred to the Stockport situation which has been in the news (High water rates – increase of 271%- due to funds unaccounted for) and he suggested an audit.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to enforce the water turn-off law with termination scheduled for December 13, 2012 for those still owing their July, 2012 water/sewer bill made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
2. **MOTION** to approve the expenditure of \$2000 towards the fireworks display for Philmont Community Day made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
3. **MOTION** to declare the Ford Crown Victoria Police Car and an International 4900 Chassis Cab as surplus made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The damage done by a County Waste truck on Ames Street was discussed. The Village Board will consider a Local Law to make Ames Street one-way eliminating the ability for these large trucks to travel that same route.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

MOTION to adjourn in memory of *Royal Northup* and *Art Rote* (a moment of silence was observed) was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris
Clerk/Treasurer
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT