

**REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013 7:00 PM**

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

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

**MOTION** to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to approve the treasurer's report was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to approve payment of bills (General Abstract #3, Water Abstract #3, Sewer Abstract #3, Library Abstract #3, Trust & Agency Abstract #3, Summit Lake Abstract #3, Summit Heights Abstract #3, DPW Garage Project Abstract #12, Health Care Deductible Abstract #1) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**PUBLIC REQUESTS:**

Mrs. Chadwick requested that the sidewalks on Rock and Prospect Streets be repaired as they are in poor shape. Trustee Ostrander also noted that the sidewalk on the east side of Summit Street near Elm Street is also breaking up. The board will have the DPW look into these areas. Mrs. Chadwick also asked if anything could be done about a group of kids who are hanging out near the Methodist Church on Church Street. She stated that the group is very loud. The Village Police will patrol the area more and keep an eye out for the group.

**ATTORNEY ROBERT FITZSIMMONS:**

Reported that he has been working on ongoing projects with the Fire Department and Planning and Zoning Boards and also that the Union and the Village have reached an agreement.

**CLERK/TREASURER KIM SIMMONS**

The Village office will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2013 for Labor Day. Also that water turn-off letters were sent out today and that turn-off is scheduled for September 11<sup>th</sup>. All monthly reports have been completed and that interviews have been conducted for the Deputy Clerk position.

**OIC VERNON DOYLE**

OIC Doyle gave the police report. A copy is available in the Village Office for review. He also reported that the "Big Up" was quiet for the Village. The Village was well covered and the police stuck with the plan they had in place. They did have some arrests and numerous traffic tickets were issued. He also asked that the board approve the sponsorship of four recruits to attend the Zone 14 Law Enforcement Academy in September. A list of names will be provided to the board after background checks have been completed.

**LIBRARY REPORT** (read by Trustee Sagal)

**(Building and Grounds)** The Pavilion should be started in September and they hope to have all electric and cement work done by the time the snow flies.

**(Services)** The Summer Reading Program is complete and they had good turn out with 49 signed up. The Directors Challenge continues and they are approaching 50,000 miles but with only 7 weeks remaining it's doubtful that they will reach their goal of 100,000 miles. She urges all to TURN IN THEIR MILES. Susannah White will be doing programming for Story hour this year. Story hour will be held on Thursdays at 10 am starting after Labor Day. The Library will be closed on Labor Day.

**(Grants and Donations)** The library received a donation of \$1,000.00 from a patron and the money has been used to increase their audio and print collection. Also Stewarts provided them with ice cream for one of their summer events.

**COMMUNITY CENTER** (read by Trustee Cropper)

Three motion detector lights were installed and hand rails were put on the stairs going up to the park. The playground was treated for bees. Game night continues three nights a week and yoga is also an ongoing program. A Community Shower was held on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Six county agencies were involved providing information on infant safety. Attendance at this program was low. The "Choose Health" program sponsored by Cooperative Extension was canceled due to inadequate sign ups. A Lightning Safety and Lost in the Woods program will be held on August 14<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4 pm. The program is for 5 – 15 year olds and will be conducted by Fran Martino. A course for adults is being researched at this time to take place in the fall.

**TOWN OF CLAVERACK/COUNTY OF COLUMBIA**

The report was given by Town of Claverack Supervisor Robin Andrews.

**(Town of Claverack)** The Big Up is now over. The Planning Board will be having a follow up meeting to review the event. The date for this meeting has not yet been scheduled. She asks that anyone with concerns please let her know so she can share them with the board. The Town Board is reviewing adding a mass gathering law to their books and also thinks that limiting the number of hours for music would be a suggestion for future events. She noted that she has checked with the court administration about court coverage and they will be moving forward with a mutual aid agreement. Also that she, along with Robert Preusser, had a meeting with the Philmont DPW, Mayor Speed, Trustee Perry and Steven Gruber from Renewage about a green infrastructure for storm water management grant. The Village has been granted \$3200 to do a feasibility study. The property that the upper reservoir sits on has been sold, and she would like to thank the village for providing support for an anniversary banner to be purchased by the town.

**(County of Columbia)** She sighted continuing work on site options for Pine Haven as well as on - going discussion of county bus service. The airport development public hearing has been postponed.

**MAYOR CLARENCE SPEED:**

Reported that he attended meetings with Claverack and the union, dealt with complaints and also that he moved the fuel and gas tanks to the new DPW garage building free of charge.

**TRUSTEE BARBARA SAGAL:**

Reported that she attended training sessions as well as the Fireman's Convention Parade. She noted that the Department of State will answer any questions that anyone may have about planning or zoning. She also noted that she has found one street light out and it has been reported.

**TRUSTEE PERRY:**

Reported that he has attended many meetings and he is looking into funding options with the Town for court consolidation. He has also had many questions about the "Big Up".

**TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:**

Reported that he also has attended many meetings and has been working on union negotiations. He called on Fire Chief Mark Beaumont to give the Fire Company report. A copy of which is available in the Village Office for review. Chief Beaumont noted that the fire company is growing fast and gear is expensive.

**TRUSTEE CROPPER:**

Trustee Cropper gave the DPW and Water/Sewer reports. Copies of these reports are available in the Village Office for review. Reported that he has also been working on union negotiations and that they have reached a 3 ½ year agreement that he believes is fair. He noted that anyone wishing to use Village property should fill out a use of facilities form. He also attended

meetings with the Department of State. He also noted that there will be a wrap up meeting for Community Day this Saturday at 1:00 pm at the Rod and Gun Club. He also reported sending a letter of support to Rural Water.

## **CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE AUDIENCE**

### **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

1. MOTION, after reviewing applications, to appoint Christine Speed as Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/Registrar at the rate of \$14.00 per hour ( 5 days a week, 6 hours a day) effective immediately made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
2. MOTION to take action against delinquent water/sewer users made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
3. MOTION to put a street light at the intersection of Church and Garden Streets made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
4. MOTION to authorize the Mayor to sign two memorandums of agreement with UPSEU regarding Health Insurance and sick time donation made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The board discussed the use of a USE OF FACILITIES form for the public to fill out and have on file when requesting the use of the Village Green and the Community Center. Attorney Fitzsimmons noted that the form we have on file in the Village Office will due. Work has to be done to define what constitutes a "group." The form is available in the Village Office and will be required for the use of these areas.

Trustee Perry inquired about the one hour parking signs on Main Street between Maple Ave. and Church Streets. He asked the police to giving people warnings for violating these signs. He would like to see the business' along this area have parking for patrons. The police will patrol this area for violators.

Comments were made about the lack of public restrooms in the village. Since Stewarts has closed people have been complaining about the lack of facilities. The sign on the Taconic State Parkway states that travelers can get food, gas and lodging at the Philmont exit however they are surprised when there are no facilities for them to use. Trustee Ostrander will draft a letter to Cumberland Farms about this problem.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Trustee Cropper asked for an update on derelict buildings and also on the back taxes that are owed to the Village. Attorney Fitzsimmons noted that the Village needs to bring the owners of the derelict buildings to court. He also noted that a letter will be going out for the back taxes. Trustee Cropper also talked about the fact that we have not heard from Mr. Pace about the theft of services last summer.

**MOTION** to start small claims action against Mr. Pace for theft of water services was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to have the building department get quotes to clean up derelict properties was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

Discussion was also held about the property located at 33 Summit Street. The mayor would like to see the Columbia Land Conservancy take the property as it backs up to the highfalls area. Attorney Fitzsimmons believes the county has this property on their list and will check into it.

Trustee Perry brought up the fact that 54 Summit Street has recently been sold and this house will be taken down in a few weeks. He asked that the Village forgive an outstanding water/sewer bill on this property.

**MOTION** to wave the outstanding water/sewer bill for 54 Summit Street was made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. TWO AYES, (Trustee's Perry and Ostrander), THREE NAYS, (Trustees Sagal, Cropper and Mayor Speed), MOTION FAILED.

At this time a **MOTION** was made by Mayor Speed to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters and was seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

(Discussion)

**MOTION** to close the executive session was made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

**MOTION** to adjourn was made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons  
Clerk/Treasurer  
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT