

Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2013 (Tuesday – due to Columbus Day Holiday)

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Douglas Cropper, Matthew Perry and Barbara Sagal, Clerk/Treasurer Kimberly Simmons

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with the correction of a typographical error in the clerks report referring to water shut – off on October 11th. It should have read SEPTEMBER 11th made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. 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, Water, Sewer, Library Trust & Agency, Summit Lake and Summit Heights abstracts #5 and Health Care Deductible abstract #3) made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

OIL BID OPENING:

One Bid Received.....Montague Oil
Fuel Price.....\$3.6570/gallon (or current market value)
Labor.....\$55.00/hour for service and maintenance.

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

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Clarence (Skip) Proper presented a petition to the board signed by most of the residents of Railroad Avenue asking for a reduction in the speed limit to 15MPH on their road. They cited poor visibility on the hills and a narrow road width as cause for this action. The road is being used more and cars are driving too fast. He stated that there have been some close calls with near head on collisions because of the speed of the vehicles. (Attorney Fitzsimmons had previously informed the board that the legal minimum speed limit is 25MPH.) The board will look into getting signs of “CAUTION” such as “LIMITED SIGHT DISTANCE” and/or “NARROW ROAD” signs in place as well as “SUGGESTED SPEED LIMIT” signs.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: Was in the building but gave no report due to a conflict with the Planning Board Public Hearing.

CLERK/TREASURER SIMMONS: Reported that the Village Office will be closed on Tuesday November 5th for Election Day and Monday November 11th for Veterans Day. She noted that garbage pick-up will be held on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH due to Election Day. She also noted that the regularly scheduled board meeting for November will be moved to TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH due to Veteran’s Day. Water was turned off to six (6) properties in September; all but one (1) has been turned back on. The October water/sewer bills were mailed out on September 27th and are due without penalty through the end of this month. She also noted that all normal office tasks have been preformed.

POLICE REPORT: None (no officer available)

FIRE COMPANY REPORT: Report was give by Chief Beaumont. He noted that they responded to calls from a gasoline spill at Cumberland Farms to alarm malfunctions and property damage auto accidents. They had a total of 8 calls for the month, bringing the yearly total of calls to 55. They also turned out for 4 drills this month. They also have five members attending fire school and graduation is scheduled for October 22nd. They participated in the fire prevention program at Taconic Hills School and will be conducting a fire prevention drill at the Hawthorne Valley School.

LIBRARY REPORT: The report was given by Library Director Karen Garafalo. (Buildings and Grounds) The pavilion construction is well under way. She wanted to thank the DPW staff for the job they did. The slab for the stage area might be poured later this week with the remainder of the slab being poured in the spring after the roof is completed. (Services) The Director’s challenge is now over. She noted an excellent showing with over 78,000 miles walked by all. (Grants and Donations) She has completed a grant application to the Hudson River Foundation asking for \$12,000 for help constructing the pavilion. Also that Herrington’s has given the library a credit on their account of \$2,500.00.

COMMUNITY CENTER: Report was read by Trustee Cropper. (Facilities) A new flag has been put up and the garden has been weeded by the DPW. Fall decorations were placed inside the center. (Programs) Game night has taken place three nights a week with attendance picking up. Yoga class has continued. A babysitting course sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension will be held on October 26th from 8:45 AM – 4:00 PM. They will be having a pumpkin carving activity on October 28th from 4-6PM during game night. They are looking for donations of approximately 25 small pumpkins, a television and a DVD player. Anyone wishing to donate any of these items can contact the center or the office.

TOWN OF CLAVERACK/COUNTY OF COLUMBIA: The report was given by Supervisor Robin Andrews. (County) She noted that she is quite embarrassed that the Supervisor's did not request that answers to basic questions be received before they moved on with the airport project. The resolution that failed last week was not to stop the project, but to postpone until they get more definitive answers. If anyone has any questions they can let her know. She also noted that they have started the budget process. (Town) The Planning Board meeting for the follow up on the Big Up was held and they had many positive comments. They did have some concerns about the noise levels. The town made a motion to move forward with a mass gathering law and to hold a public hearing at their next meeting which will be held on Thursday, November 14th at 7:00PM. They have accepted the town's tentative budget and have scheduled workshops for the 21st, 24th, and the 29th of October at 7:00PM at the town office. She wanted to thank all who participated in the town's 225th birthday celebration. There will be future events that include a Patriot Grave Commemoration Ceremony and Cemetery tour at the Claverack Dutch Reformed Church on Saturday October 26th at 10AM and on November 3rd the Claverack Library will hold a dramatic reading of Stephen Crane's Red Badge of Courage with period music at 1:30PM. She also noted that they are still working on a mutual agreement with the village police to provide security for the town court.

MAYOR SPEED: He noted that he has handled "bunches" of telephone calls and arguments. He has attended the town's birthday celebration, signed papers, and met with Karen Buckley from NYMIR.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: She noted that NYSE&G has installed a new street light on an existing pole at the intersection of Church and Garden streets. The light is working well and is providing much needed light in that area. She also attended the town's birthday party.

TRUSTEE PERRY: He attended the town's birthday party as well as the DARE flag raising ceremony at Taconic Hills school. He and his daughter helped out with the library pavilion and he met with fire Chief Mark Beaumont about budget problems.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: Trustee Ostrander was in fire school so the report was given by Trustee Cropper.

He reported that he met with a representative and talked about getting solar power on some of the village owned property. He also met with Trustee Perry and fire chief Beaumont about budget issues.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: He reported that he reviewed the Union Contract and he is not ready to sign it yet as it still needs work. He also attended the town's birthday celebration. He noted that permits will once again be required to hunt at Forest Lake. He has checked village owned properties and has found no bad issues. He also noted that the Community Day Committee will have a wrap up meeting at the Rod and Gun Club on October 21st at 5PM. He also gave the DPW and water/sewer reports (provided by Superintendent Scheller) which are available for review at the office.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

MOTION to declare the Philmont Community Center, the adjacent park and basketball court and all public property within 25 feet of the building a "SMOKE – FREE ZONE" made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to change the November 2013 Regular Monthly Board Meeting date to TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12th at 7:00PM made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to raise the rate of pay for the Community Center Director from \$12.00/hour to \$13.00/hr effective October 1, 2013 made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to accept with regret, the resignation of Library Board of Trustee Jeff Bancroft made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to appoint Bruce Olson to the Philmont Public Library Board of Trustees for a five year term effective November 1, 2013 made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Perry. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to authorize attorney Fitzsimmons to bring legal action against Henry Casivant with regard to his Summit Street trailer park property made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to set the annual village elections for Tuesday, March 18, 2014 from noon to 9:00PM in the village hall to elect two (2) trustees for a two-year term and one (1) justice for a four-year term made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Perry ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS: There was discussion had with the Town of Claverack regarding the Police/Court situation. The board also discussed the use of village letterhead on an informational letter for the Summit Lake Revitalization Grant. The letter is to be posted around the village, which will encourage the public to view and discuss with the steering committee, the selection of the consulting firm. The use of letterhead was granted by the board. With fall upon us leaf pick-up discussion was also had. The board wishes to inform the public that leaf pick-up should start next week (October 21st). They also had a request from the Mellenville Union Cemetery asking for leaf pickup in the area of their chapel. They included a copy of a law from the State of New York which would allow the village to grant this request.

A **MOTION** to authorize leaf pick-up at the cemetery was made by Trustee Perry, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

At this time the Mayor asked for a moment of silence in memory of Stanley Wilcox Jr. and Stew Almstead Jr.

MOTION to adjourn was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Perry ALL AYES, NO NAYS

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons
Clerk/Treasurer