

**Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, December 8, 2014**

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper and Laurence Ostrander, Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons, Clerk/Treasurer Kimberly J Simmons.

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with the following correction: Instead of the Brownfield Opportunity Grant for the Summit **Lake** Revitalization Plan it should read the Brownfield Opportunity Grant for the Summit **Reservoir** Revitalization **Area** Plan, was made by Trustee Ostrander , seconded by Trustee Sagal . ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

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

MOTION: to approve payment of bills (General, Water, Sewer, Library, Trust & Agency, Summit Lake and Health Care Deductible abstract's #7, Grant Account Abstract # 2) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

FIRE TRUCK BID OPENING

Three Bids Received:

- 1) Shakerley Fire Truck Sales.....\$449,502.46
- 2) Garrison Fire & Rescue.....\$470,655.00
- 3) KME Fire Apparatus.....\$513,871.00

The board discussed the bids and they would like to have the fire company review them. They will award the bid at the January 2015 board meeting.

PUBLIC REQUESTS: The Santa Claus Club wishes to thank the Library for letting them hold their annual "Breakfast with Santa" in the community room this past Saturday. Over 200 tickets were redeemed by area children to "purchase" presents for family members. They are grateful for the space at the library but they really need a larger place for this event. They would like to request the use of the village hall for next year's breakfast which will be held on December 5th (the first Saturday of the month) from 9-12. They would also need to set-up the Friday night before the breakfast. They reminded everyone of the parade this Saturday. Step-off will take place at 6:00. Santa will be visiting the children after the parade. The board discussed the request and granted the use of the hall.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS:

Attorney Fitzsimmons met with the DEC and members of the Village Board and has been busy working with ongoing projects.

- **CLERK/TREASURER SIMMONS:** The Village Office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year Holidays.
- In accordance with the Records Retention and Disposition Schedule we adopted on November 12, 2013 we have destroyed the following records:
 - 1) Paid water/sewer receipts dated April 1985 thru November 1989
 - 2) Paid water/sewer receipts dated April 1990 thru December 1990
 - 3) Paid water/sewer receipts dated October 1992 thru December 1997
 - 4) Paid Bills dated between June 1991 thru May 1996
 - 5) Paid Bills dated between January 1987 thru May 1988
 - 6) Paid Tax Bill receipts (duplicates) dated 1985-1986
 - 7) **Records located in the vault all prior to 1994** (Receipts books, bank deposit slips, cancelled checks – all funds, 1970 land subdivision drafts & proposals, bank receipts, old centennial bumper stickers – cut wrong, bank statements, tax receipts, gas usage slips, grievance day files 71-72, paid bills 68-69, misc correspondence 57-75, some company files (correspondence) 57-75, paid bills 1970-72 & 77-78, yellow copies of water bills 10/93-4/94, tax bill copies 93-94, check carbons 93-94, accountability reports 6/92-5/94, draft zoning flyers, community housing catalogs (kept one), consumers insurance guides, garbage sticker receipt books prior to 1994, check receipts 6/94-5/95, cancelled checks 6/94-5/95, tax bills- 94, water bills 7/94-1/95, misc correspondence 76-79, paid bills 75-76, 65-68, & 62-65, aged exemption forms (old), old garbage contracts, misc correspondence, grievance day 66-68, check carbons 6/91-9/93, bank statements 6/90-5/93, key advantage statements 6/90-5/93, bank deposits 6/90-5/91, paid bills 1/79-12/80, abstracts 1956-1979, Cash Receipts/disbursements 1956-1978, Subsidiary Receipt/Appropriation books 1979-1980, General Journal/Ledger 1979-1980, Bingo reports 1977-1985, Bank Statements 1965-1979, aged exemptions 1968-1979, veterans exemptions 1956-1979, 1980 exemption forms & instructions, check carbons 1964-1979, misc. correspondence 1962 including aged exemptions)
- All the usual office tasks have been completed. (Bank statements, accounts payable and receivable, garbage sticker sales, monthly reports, etc.)
- All reserve accounts have been closed with Key Bank and have been moved to The Bank of Greene County. Our checking accounts are in the process of moving. We are waiting for checks to clear, but all deposits and payments are now going through The Bank of Greene County.
- The Police posted 21 water termination notices on doors and 10 properties remain on the list. Water termination is scheduled for Wednesday, December 10th at noon.

POLICE REPORT: Given by OIC Doyle. A copy of the full report is available in the village office for review. They are continuing extra patrols and presence on Main Street. He had questions about the overnight parking and sidewalk shoveling laws because of what happened last year. There was discussion by the board and they are all in agreement that the sidewalks need to be kept clear. The police should enforce our local law and give tickets where necessary. Attorney Fitzsimmons suggested that they may want to take pictures of troubled areas for the court's benefit. The village office will also compile a list of area youth who may be interested in shoveling sidewalks for residents who may not be able to shovel themselves. Anyone interested in a shoveling job or anyone in need of help should contact the office to have their names put on the list.

LIBRARY REPORT: The report was given by Trustee Sagal. The full report is available in the office for review. They noted work on the roof has started. They will be having a craft day on December 13th for youth of all ages. They also had a Black Friday sale and made almost eighty dollars for the Friends group.

COMMUNITY CENTER: Report was read by Trustee Cropper. Centerpieces are under construction for distribution to Pine Haven Nursing Home and grandparents. A holiday party is scheduled for December 16th at 4:15. The center wishes to recognize all merchants and organizations that provided carved pumpkins and produce for last month's pumpkin walk: St. Mark's Church, Cumberland Farms, Gabriel's, Vanderbilt House, McNan's Variety Foods, Free Columbia, Local III, Philmont Public Library, Dan Winter's Limousine, Love Apple Farm, The Hawthorne Valley Farm Store, Holmquest Farm Stand. A copy of the full report is available in the office for review.

MAYOR SPEED: Reported a quiet month with meetings with the Police and other board members. The Village Board is not happy with recent decisions made by the Village Justice and the village needs to remedy this problem before things get out of hand. He also signed all necessary papers.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: She noted handling a complaint, working on emails regarding the BOA grant and ordering a projection screen for use at the village hall.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: He read the DPW/WA/SW reports, a copy of which are available in the office for review. He then reported that after the recent felony drug arrest in the village, and the Judge's decision to cut the defendants loose, he made calls to the DA's office, the NYS Police and the Sheriff's department. It is the general opinion of all involved that our Justice did not do the right thing. In this case the DA's office recommended no bail. The Mayor then informed everyone that the people involved in this felony drug arrest were arrested the *very next day* in Albany for doing the *exact same thing* up there. They are currently in Albany county jail. After some discussion it was determined that the Village Board has no power over the Judge, it is within his judicial authority to rule as he seems fit. The Village Board is in agreement that something needs to be done with the Judge; his decisions are not in the best interest of the residents of the village. The Police Department is frustrated because they are here to protect and serve and feel they cannot do their job if they get no cooperation from the bench. They cited two different DWI arrests, one in which a passenger in the car fled police, the Sheriff's Department and State Police were called in to help. A K9 unit was also involved in the chase. After they apprehended the suspect, they found drugs were involved. The defendants walked out of court. The other DWI involved a child in the vehicle, a felony under Leandra's Law. The DA recommended \$5,000 bail, the defendant was able to walk out of court with the child. In another case the police issued a ticket for illegal window tint. After appearing in village court, the Judge instructed the officer to escort the defendant to her car and explain the tint law. When the officer was in the parking lot with her, he was told that she knew her windows were too dark and she didn't need an explanation. She then proceeded to get in her car and drive away. It is disheartening as an officer to have the Judge throw out these, and other, cases. OIC Doyle was told that the Police Department has the full backing of the Village Board and they should continue to do their job just as they always have. It was at this time that Trustee Cropper stated that people are not happy with the Judge and he read aloud a petition that the village board is circulating. The petition is asking for the Judge's resignation. He encouraged residents to sign the petition and he then turned over the pages he had already signed to the Mayor so he can serve them on the Judge at a later date. Questions were also raised about disbanding the court. The attorney informed everyone that the village cannot do that without cause and the decisions that are being made from the bench are within the Judge's jurisdiction, he is doing nothing illegal.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: Trustee Ostrander reported attending Elan Planning meetings, cooking breakfast for the Community Day Committee's Breakfast with Santa fundraiser, and still working on solar power getting installed on some village property. He reminded all that the markers need to be placed on the fire hydrants. He then gave the fire company report, a copy of which is available for review in the village office.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: Reported that he has checked all village properties and found all is well. He also had a meeting with the DEC, Lawyer and Engineer as well as attended the Community Day meeting. Dick Howard is requesting the use of the village logo to use on community day letterhead. The attorney issued a warning to be careful with this because the village is not able to solicit funds. The Board also announced they will be judging the annual Holiday Lighting contest on December 18th at 6:30 pm. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. Trustee Cropper also wanted to thank Trustee Ostrander and his son for cooking breakfast for Community Day's Breakfast with Santa. The committee will be having another breakfast on March 15th.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

MOTION to accept the resignation of Renee Dobert as Assistant Director for the library effective January 1, 2015. She will continue to work for the library as a substitute at the hourly rate of \$11.00/hour. The motion was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. THREE AYES, ONE NAYS (Trustee Sagal)

MOTION to hire Tobi Farley as a Substitute Librarian at the rate of \$11.00/hour to fill the hours vacated by the Assistant Director was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal on the condition that she passes a background check. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Sally Baker gave an update on the BOA grant. The full report is available in the office for review. She told everyone they are making progress and have had a second meeting with Elan Planning. Due to individual schedules, the meetings need to be held on Monday's. The target area has been increased and a new map will be drawn up to reflect the larger area. There will be a stakeholders meeting to take place on a Tuesday in January with the exact date to be determined. She would like help with suggestions on who should attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Johnson discussed the need for a plan when power goes out. After the last storm, some residents were without power. They spoke about getting a list of residents to the police department so they can do "well checks". This situation is part of the village's Emergency Action Plan however on a smaller scale. All that would need to be done is for someone to make a call to the county for assistance, and supplies such as cots and food would be brought out. The village's generators are working.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons
Clerk/Treasurer