

**REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015**

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Brian Johnson, Attorney Rob Fitzsimmons, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Christine Speed, (Trustee Larry Ostrander, absent)

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

MOTION to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to approve payment of bills (General, Water, Sewer, Library, Summit Lake, Health Care Deductible & T&A Abstract #12) made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal ALL AYES NO NAYS

PUBLIC REQUESTS: Mr. Edward Alexander asked the board about the status of his Work Request (submitted on April 22nd) to replace the sidewalk at 39 & 41 Church Street. He stated that the current condition of this sidewalk is causing erosion & runoff which is causing flooding in his basement. Mayor Speed asked Trustee Johnson to follow up on this pending request. Mr. Alexander also stated that he and other neighbors have had several thefts of items in the area of Church and Garden Streets; he requested more patrols from the Police. OIC Vernon Doyle stated that his schedule for June will include more coverage as well as foot patrols.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: Reported working on the Booster Pump Agreement between The Village of Philmont and Philmont Ventures Inc. Also, working on a Local Law pertaining to water meters and fee's with Trustee Johnson & Superintendent Michael Scheller. Discussion followed regarding the specifics of the law, Trustee Cropper requested that Part B be clearer and it was agreed by the board that this draft would be clarified.

CLERK/TREASURER REPORT: Reported by Deputy Christine Speed, that in accordance with our Records Retention Schedule we have destroyed Paid Water/Sewer bills from April 1999-October 2000. Water turn-off letters were mailed out today May 11th, for those still owing their January 2015 bills. Turn-off is scheduled for June 10th at noon. Books are being prepared for the fiscal year end and the office will begin the annual report for NYS Department of Audit and Control. The tentative tax roll has been completed and returned to Columbia County Real Property Tax service for processing. The annual tax bills will be mailed out on June 1st and will be due without penalty through July 1st. Two requests have been received for use of the Village Green. It was noted that the Village Office will be closed on Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day. Also, all the usual office tasks have been completed (paid bills, reports, water/sewer billing and collections, bank statements, monthly reports, garbage sticker sales, bookkeeping, etc.)

POLICE REPORT: Given by OIC Doyle. A Neighborhood Watch Meeting was held. Mr. Tim Smith of the Citizens Committee commended Sergeant Patrick Thomas for his Neighborhood Watch information. Mr. Smith noted a need for this program for dealing with problems from issues with youth late at night to helping the elderly. Richard Osborn asked about an increase in police presence, as well as foot patrols. OIC Doyle stated that these would both occur. Trustee Cropper noted that it's an excellent program that Tim Smith has going. Mr. Osborn and Mr. Alexander both stated that they are eager to be on board with a Neighborhood Watch Program. OIC Doyle stated that the next meeting for the Citizens Committee will be held on Thursday at 7:30 in the Village Hall and all are encouraged to attend.

LIBRARY REPORT: Provided by Director Karen Garafalo and presented by Trustee Sagal.
Building & Grounds – The Village DPW worked on the landscaping at the Pavilion and the Girl Scouts planted a Rose of Sharon to replace a lilac which was pulled out.
Services- Friday night movies have started. Director Garafalo stated that movies in the pavilion cannot start until dusk. Story hour will stop for the summer beginning in June. The Columbia County Photography Club is currently displaying in the Cultural Center, to be followed on May 25 by Artists from the Ockawamic Central School. The book sale is scheduled for June 6 & 7. **Grants & Donations:** Received notice of a \$400.00 grant from the Bank of Greene County to purchase a wireless scanner. She received a \$500.00 mini-grant for the program "How Do We Tell Our Stories", sponsored in part by Family Literacy Library Service Program funds.

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT: Provided by Director Julia Veronezi, given by Trustee Cropper. **Facilities** – Trustees Ostrander and Cropper have found someone to do small tile repair on the floor in the center and are looking for suitable replacement tiles.
Program – The Rock Solid Church is continuing with use of the center on Friday nights. The afterschool program has begun on Mon, Tues and Wed afternoons. Free Columbia Camp will begin on April 6th. The Safe Sitter Program is still available at the cost of \$50/per

participant. Sally Baker has expressed interest in getting the youth involved with reservoir efforts. Summer camps will be held the weeks of July 13th, 20th & 27th.

MAYOR SPEED: Reported that he will begin hanging flags on Main Street for Memorial Day. He will also be trimming the overgrown shrub at Memorial Park and requested Trustee Johnson to have the DPW clean up the trimmings once complete.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: Reported that she attended the BOA Grant meeting and stated that measuring will begin at the reservoir to determine the cause of the silt issues there. She noted that an application is being submitted for a new street light on Canal Street. This is in an effort to provide adequate lighting in that area following a robbery there last month. She also attended the Community Day Meeting.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: Trustee Cropper gave the Fire Company report provided by Chief Mark Beaumont; a copy is available in the office for review. He attended the Community Day meeting and checked Forest Lake and other properties and reported that all are in good shape and free of litter. Trustee Cropper asked Dick Howard to comment on the Community Day status. Mr. Howard noted that Governor Cuomo will have a representative attending Community Day and that donations are still being accepted to offset the cost of the event. The next meeting is on Monday, May 18th. Trustee Cropper attended a "Streams 101" class put on by the Cooperative Extension, where he gained valuable information regarding streams, reservoirs and safety. He spoke with our Police Department regarding recent complaints. Trustee Cropper stated that a Derelict Property Committee will be formed in the effort to clean up abandoned properties in the Village. Karen Davala of Davala Real Estate will be involved with this committee and is an asset in the effort towards progress. After discussion between the public and board it was noted by Trustee Johnson that it is a long process but the Village will take action on these derelict properties upon legal approval.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: Gave the DPW/WA/SW Report provided by Superintendent Scheller, a copy is available in the office for review. Trustee Johnson has been working with Mr. Alfred Matikow regarding Booster Pumps and with Mike Scheller on the Local Law Regarding Water Meters. Per the Mayors request, he will follow up on a report of low water pressure in the Summit Street area over the weekend.

CORRESPONDENCE – LIST WAS PROVIDED TO THE AUDIENCE.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. **MOTION** to take action against delinquent water users; was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS
2. **MOTION** to move funds within accounts as needed; was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS
3. **MOTION** to hold the end of year meeting on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 12:00 noon in the village office for the sole purpose of paying the end of year bills; was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
4. **MOTION** to hire Nathaniel Clark as a substitute librarian effective immediately at the rate of \$11.00 per hour (\$11.50 starting June 1st); was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS
5. **MOTION** to allow the Mayor to sign the Defined Benefit Length of Service Award Investment Policy Statement; was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS
6. **MOTION** to approve Amalia Ramsen and Michael Stoeker as new members of the Philmont Fire Company; was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.
7. **MOTION** to have NYSEG install a new street light at the intersection of Canal and Elm Streets; was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Sagal, ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

UNFINISHED – None.

NEW – A resident from Main Street reported random issues with a street light in the Village. Mayor Speed requested that Trustee Sagal look into it.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A Speed
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT

