

Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2016

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

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

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

MOTION: to approve payment of bills (General, Water, Sewer, Library, Trust & Agency, Summit Lake and Health Care Deductible abstract's #8) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

PUBLIC REQUESTS: Columbia Opportunities has asked once again to rent some space in our warehouse on Elm Street for their weatherization program. They would only require a small area of the warehouse and would store things like windows and doors. They have offered to pay for the use of the space and have also offered to help clean up the area they need. Trustee Sagal wanted to make sure they realize that the warehouse is damp and has no heat. The Mayor will check with our attorney for legalities and see about having a contract drawn up. Sally Baker reminded the board that the warehouse sits within the BOA boundary. The board was well aware of this. Ms. Baker then went on to talk about the Town of Claverack being pro community with their meetings and agenda's being posted on line for the community, and how they have two of their board members attending all of the planning/zoning meetings so the board is well informed with what is going on at all times. Although the Village posts their meeting minutes on line she would like to see us do more using the internet to keep the community updated.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: No Report, on vacation.

CLERK/TREASURER SIMMONS: Reported that the Village Office will be closed on Monday January 18th for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Water bills were mailed out on December 31st and are due without penalty through the end of this month. Our billing computer has once again given us trouble and the programmer has repaired it. I have an appointment set up at the end of the month with another software company and will decide after that which program will work best for us and begin the switch. All the usual office tasks have been completed and new locks have been installed on most of the file cabinets in the meeting room. A reminder to all departments that work will begin on the 2016-2017 budget and they should turn in their proposed budgets as soon as possible. Petitions for village elections must be turned in between February 2nd and 9th for the March 15th elections.

POLICE REPORT: Given by Officer-In-Charge Doyle. A copy of the complete report is available in the office for review. He noted a new service that the police have started is property checks to make sure doors are locked after the business has closed. He also noted that since the first of the year they have issued several parking tickets.

LIBRARY REPORT: The report was given by Trustee Sagal. A copy of the full report is available in the office for review. Soup sales have started and will continue every Wednesday in January. The new photography display is now ready for public viewing, thanks to Valerie Richmond for hanging the show. They are currently planning activities for the February vacation as well as Book It, the 5K that is sponsored by both Philmont and Claverack libraries for May. They have submitted a grant application to the Bank of Greene County asking for funds to replace their public copier.

COMMUNITY CENTER: Report was read by Trustee Cropper. A copy of the full report is available in the office for review. The center continues to be used by community members. The center was decorated for Christmas. Gifts from the Hands had a good attendance with 11 children participating. There will be an Emergency Preparedness for Citizens class held at the Village Hall on February 3rd from 3-7 PM. Attendance is encouraged and free to all who attend. It is being held at the Village Hall in anticipation of a large turn-out.

MAYOR SPEED: He reported signing all papers and Judging the Holiday Lighting Contest with the Board. Winners are: 1st place, French resident on Summit Street, 2nd place, Starr/Miller on Maple Terrace, 3rd place, Boyles on Eagle Street, 4th place, Sheline on Highland Avenue, 5th place, went to Bancroft/Coffman on Maple Terrace and the best street award went to Highland Avenue. Prizes were donated by Speeds Garage, Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons, the Village Board of Trustees and Ed Herrington's, Inc.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: He first gave the DPW/WA/SW reports. A copy of which are available in the office for review. The reports did note sharing services with both the Town of Claverack helping paint a truck as well as helping the Town of Taghkanic with their new salt shed. Trustee Johnson then went on to report that things are getting worked out with the union in regards to the personnel issues. He also noted that all fire hydrants have been tagged.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: She noted attending the Community Day and Library Board meetings and judging the holiday lights. She also stated that she will not be seeking reelection this year but will still work with the board on the BOA project.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: He checked village properties and all is well. He also judged the holiday lights and answered questions from residents. He reminded all that Community Day will be held on July 9th this year.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: Trustee Ostrander reported talking with attorney Fitzsimmons and the Bank of Greene County to secure funding for the new fire truck. He has also extended the contract with Monolith Solar. It looks like it will take some time for the village to get solar power, as Monolith is still looking for a site for the panels. He informed everyone that the BOA steering committee will have a meeting on Monday, February 1st at 10:00 at the Vanderbilt. Sally Baker gave an overview of the next step in the BOA project, and then she added that Greg Swanzey, who is the Director of the City of Kingston Office of Economic Development and Strategic Partnerships, will attend the February 1st meeting and have an informal conversation to discuss how Kingston is benefiting from engaging in their BOA project. Trustee Ostrander then gave the Fire Company report. The full report is available in the office for review but highlighted members graduating from a variety of fire school classes in 2015. The fire company will also be ready to respond to level 1 and 2 EMS call in April or May.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

MOTION to move money within accounts as needed was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to allow the mayor to sign a shared services agreement with NYSDOT to facilitate disaster assistance as the need arises was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to identify the Village Meeting Hall, located at the rear of 124 Main Street, Philmont, NY as the polling place for the Village Elections to be held on Tuesday March 15, 2016 with the polls being opened from 12 noon until 9:00 PM was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to appoint Karen Garafalo, Mary Linda Harrington, and Kurt Basl as Election Inspectors for the March 15, 2016 Village elections, to be held in the Village Meeting Hall from 12:00 noon – 9 PM at the rate of \$10.00 per hour was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to appoint Peter Groll as Election Custodian and Machine Custodian, as needed, for the March 15, 2016 Village Elections to be held in the Village Meeting Hall from 12:00 noon to 9:00 PM at the rate of \$75.00 for machine set up and \$75.00 for machine opening and closing, as needed was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to accept with regret the resignation of Karen Garafalo as Library Director Effective June 11, 2016 was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to accept the amortization schedule from the Bank of Greene County for a fifteen year term with a fixed payment of \$23,949.37 for the purchase of the new fire truck was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION: to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

The Village Board convened to the office to discuss a personnel matter they have been working on with the employees union. After an update on this issue a **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cropper and seconded by Trustee Johnson to close the executive session. ALL AYES, NO NAYS (**NO FORMAL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME**)

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

Sally Baker finished the BOA report which noted that Elan Planning's draft nomination plan will not be ready for review by the board now until at least March due in part to a delay by Renewage Inc. on a feasibility study and also in a delay by HydroPower Consulting on an assessment of hydro-power capacity. Trustee Ostrander noted that he has observed a lot of garbage at Memorial Field. He is glad that the children are playing and using the field but would like to encourage them not to litter. Due to the mild winter, Trustee Johnson will have the DPW put the garbage cans back in hopes to curtail the garbage. Mike Heavers also noted drug paraphernalia by the Community Center gazebo area. A concerned resident asked what would be the most effective way to handle something if you see drug activity. The board informed her to call the police and report it. Trustee Johnson told her if she would be more comfortable, she could always call a board member so they can report it. He also suggested a meeting with our Police Department and they could handle the situation. Trustee Cropper told her to get as much information as she could and Mayor Speed said he would talk to the village electrician and have more lights installed in the area. Paloma Medina spoke about the litter in the park and suggested that if the area is kept clean perhaps it would make people want to keep it clean. Trustee Johnson noted that although there is a problem with litter, the area has not been vandalized since the girls' softball has been using the field. Kate Martino asked questions about the upcoming budget work and how it's done. Ms. Baker also had questions about the budget and funding going forward with the BOA project. The board informed them of our procedure and how we arrive at a final budget.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons
Clerk/Treasurer