

Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, March 14, 2016

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

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

MOTION: to approve payment of bills (General, Water, Sewer, Library, Trust & Agency, Summit Lake and Health Care Deductible Abstract's #10, Fire Truck Reserve Abstract #3) made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

PUBLIC REQUESTS: Monte Jennings informed the board that the tractor pull will be back this year for Community Day and held once again on Canal Street. He would like the road closed around noon for this event. The board sees no problem with this request. The Community Day Committee would like to keep the fire company up to date with any and all information and think a liaison would be the best way to do that. Trustee Ostrander also thought it would be a good idea and will see who may be the best candidate for this.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: He reported working on the fire truck contract, attending a planning board meeting and working with on-going projects.

CLERK/TREASURER SIMMONS: A reminder to everyone that the Village Election will be held Tuesday March 15th from noon – 9:00 PM in the Village Hall to elect two trustees each for a two year term. The Village Office will be closed on Friday March 25, 2016 for the Easter Holiday. All the usual office tasks have been completed. The proposed 2016-2017 budget is complete and available in the office for review. Water termination was taken place on March 10th with one property going off, it has since gone back on. I am still comparing the quotes we have for a new water/sewer billing program. I also want to say good – bye to Trustee Sagal. It has been a pleasure working with you and your presence on the board will be missed.

POLICE REPORT: Given by Officer Tkacy. A copy of the complete report is available in the office for review.

LIBRARY REPORT: Given by Director Karen Garafalo. She noted that the damaged ceiling tiles have been replaced. She also noted problems with windows in the library being left unlocked and youth's being caught on camera after hours trying to get into the library. She has spoken with the police department and they will be monitoring this situation closely. She is also currently displaying the "Similar but Different" photos in the library and in the windows of store fronts on Main Street. All are encouraged to stop in and see the entire display. Also their annual report was completed and approved by Mid-Hudson Library System. Total circulation is down this year, as seen by most area libraries.

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 will be holding a basket weaving class on Saturday March 19th from 9-1 pm. The cost of this class will range from \$15 - \$20 per participant. New guidelines have been developed for use of the center and sent to the village attorney and insurance carrier for their approval. Currently there are six people enrolled in the New York State Safe Boating Class which will be held on March 29, 30 and 31st. If you are interested in attending please contact director Veronizi. She also hopes to offer a CPR recertification class soon.

MAYOR SPEED: He reported a good time while on vacation last month. Since his return he has been busy signing papers, and answering any complaints. He also wanted to say thank you to Trustee Sagal and that it has been a pleasure serving our village with her.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: He first gave the DPW/WA/SW reports, a copy of which are available in the office for review. Trustee Johnson then reported our engineer has not been able to find grant money to help defray the cost of the ultraviolet light treatment for the wastewater, however, it does not have to happen this year, and perhaps by the time it has to be done, there will be grant money available. They are also working on the booster pumps.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: She reported attending the library and community day meetings and all lights in the village are currently working.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: He checked village properties and all is well. He has been working on the new use form for the community center and attended a webinar pertaining to sewer plant funding. He noted that a date for chipping brush needs to be set so residents can be ready for it. He told of a recent high school chemistry field trip to the sewer plant, and that Mike Scheller and Dale Wheeler did a good job being prepared and answering any questions. He also is working on the fireworks permit for community day. He also wanted to extend his thanks to Trustee Sagal.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: Trustee Ostrander reported that the solar panels will be operational in about three months. We are in the process of obtaining a title for the old truck so we can transfer it to the buyer. The new truck will be ready on March 23rd and should be in service after the 25th. He also attended the workshop/budget meeting. He then read the fire company report, a copy of which is available in the office for review.

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 Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to deem the 1992 Spartan Fire Truck as surplus and no longer necessary for village purposes, and authorizing the sale of said surplus fire truck to the highest offer, Toppers Total Tree Service, Inc. for the price of \$8,000.00 as is, where is, was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to allow the mayor to sign two extensions with Monolith Solar for the incentive funding from NYSERSA, one on the municipal building and the other on the DPW garage was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to hold the Annual Organizational Meeting and the Annual Budget Hearing on Monday, April 4, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the village Hall was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to allow the mayor to sign the listing contract with Davala Real Estate for the 8 Ellsworth Street property was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: At this time Sally Baker gave the BOA report. She told everyone that the hydropower feasibility report is complete and copies can be seen on the Philmont Beautification Inc. website or in the village office. The report looks at problems and offers three development options. She noted that there is a high nitrogen level in the reservoir which in turn is feeding the plant life. Columbia County Soil and Water also did a report on the lake in 2013. Elan Planning should finish their draft plan with-in six weeks and she also noted that the whole grant needs another extension because there is not enough time to finish things. She also wanted to thank Trustee Sagal for her work for the village. Trustee Sagal will stay on the steering committee until the project is complete.

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee Ostrander spoke about a fire call on Highland Avenue next to the Wright property. He feels the village needs to pursue whatever options we can to make the owner clean up the mess. Sally Baker added that an asbestos survey would have to be done before any clean up can happen. She then spoke at length about an affordable housing project she is looking into that would revitalize derelict properties and then be owner occupied. The board then spoke about having the building inspector go after the owner of the Highland Avenue property once again. A member of the public asked about the procedure for abandoned properties. Attorney Fitzsimmons explained we follow the New York State property maintenance codes and the owners can be sited, but in some instances the owners just walk away. He noted the process can be very costly to the village and that we are seeing some progress with the pending foreclosures.

With no further business before them the mayor asked for a moment of silence in memory of our long time village employee Levi Fielder.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons
Clerk/Treasurer