

**Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
Monday April 10, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Clarence Speed; Trustees Brian Johnson, Douglas Cropper, Eilene Morris, Laurence Ostrander; Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons; Clerk/Treasurer Kimberly Simmons.

**PUBLIC HEARING  
LOCAL LAW # 1 OF 2017  
AMENDING THE STREETS AND SIDEWALKS LAW**

Attorney Fitzsimmons gave an overview of the proposed Local Law which will allow for the Village to hire an outside contractor to clear any sidewalk that has not been cleared by the owner. This new law will also allow the village clerk to bill the owner for the expense of snow/debris removal, and if the owner fails to pay, attach the bill to their annual property tax. The law also contains specific language to make sure that any fire hydrant that sits on/or adjacent to any property is also clear.

Trustee Ostrander asked about how the process would work and attorney Fitzsimmons informed him that the village would have to put the work out to bid, award the bid, have the police check the walks twenty-four hours after the end of the snowfall and provide the office with a list of properties that are in violation. Then the clerk would dispatch the company to clear the walk. A bill would then be sent to the property owner, and if they fail to pay, the clerk would attach the bill to the annual tax bill. Barbara Sagal thought more than twenty-four hours should be given. The mayor told her that depending upon the amount of snow, the village has in the past allowed more time to clear the walks and this practice would be continued. Trustee Cropper wanted to make sure the law was for other materials besides just snow and ice and was informed that it did cover other materials as well.

**MOTION** to close the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Morris, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

**MOTION** to declare a negative declaration and no environmental impact was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

**MOTION** to adopt Local Law #1 of 2017-Amending the Streets and Sidewalks Law was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

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

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

**MOTION:** to approve payment of bills (General, Water, Sewer, Library, Trust & Agency, & Summit Lake Abstract's # 11, Health Care Deductible Abstract #10, and Equipment Reserve Abstract #1) made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

**PUBLIC REQUESTS:** Tim Smith couldn't remember who was in charge of the Community Center and he was told her name was Julie Veronezi.

**ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS:** He reported working on the new local law, union issues, and ongoing projects. He also has moved forward with village foreclosures on two parcels. We will be going to court soon and then awaiting the court order.

**CLERK/TREASURER SIMMONS:** All normal office tasks have been completed. Water termination took place on Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup> with one vacant property going off. The April water/sewer bills went out on March 30<sup>th</sup> with the new billing system, and are due without penalty through the end of the month. 2017-2018 Budget work continued due to some last minute needs. It is now ready for adoption (see Motions and Resolutions). Village elections took place on March 21<sup>st</sup> with Mayor Speed and Trustees Ostrander and Cropper all coming back for another two year term. Welcome back! Taconic Hills continues to use space in the office for tutoring and AARP held their last tax preparation day last Monday. They had a continuous stream of people utilizing their service and helped a lot of area residents. The plumbing and electrical repairs in the municipal building are complete. The office will be closed on Friday April 14<sup>th</sup> for the Good Friday Holiday. Registration has begun on the NYS Electronic Death Registration System and I am currently waiting for further instructions. I also have ordered 300 tons of road salt per instructions from DPW foreman Mike Scheller.

**POLICE REPORT:** Given by Trustee Cropper. A copy of the full report is available in the office for review.

**LIBRARY REPORT:** Given by Trustee Morris. The new chairs have arrived for the teen room. The hallway has been painted and shelves have been built. Thanks to the Friends of the library for the purchase of a chair and also to Patrick Farley and DJ Dobert for painting and building the shelves respectively. They have been having problems with their email lately and are looking into changing their server. English conversation classes are going well with a consistent group of adult students. Their mentor program is also proceeding. A bilingual story hour/mentor classes will begin soon, meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays beginning this month at Taconic Hills Elementary from 6-7 pm. Meditation classes have begun, meeting on Mondays from 6 – 7. The next Trivia Night is scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the Vanderbilt House. The last two trivia nights had about 25 people in attendance each night. This event will continue through the spring. Upcoming events will be posted on a community calendar in one of the shop windows across the street. Events will include 2 movies, a teen spa day for girls 10 and up, Columbia County Photo Club opening, Ockawamick Alumni art show, tote making teen workshop, and a talk from the Claverack Historical Society about a mastodon that was discovered in Claverack in 1801. They also received a grant from Stewarts. A copy of the full report is available in the office for review.

**COMMUNITY CENTER:** Report was read by Trustee Cropper. A copy of the full report is available for review in the village office. The NYS Safe Boating class was held on March 28, 29, and 30<sup>th</sup>. All participants will be receiving their certificates soon. Spring Camp with Free Columbia will take place the week of April 16-21. Director Veronezi attended the Legislative Breakfast with the mayor and members of the board which took place on April 7<sup>th</sup>. She thought the presentations given were very informative.

**MAYOR SPEED:** He reported being busy signing papers, attending meetings and taking phone calls. He and Dan Davis went to look at another street sweeper. He also attended the Legislative Breakfast at Columbia Greene Community College.

**TRUSTEE JOHNSON:** He gave the DPW/WA/SW reports. A copy of which are available in the office for review. He is still working with the building inspector on derelict buildings, and is also working with Mike Scheller on the water tower. Richard Osborn asked about how we were going to pay for the street sweeper and was instructed on where the funds were coming from.

**TRUSTEE OSTRANDER:** He gave the fire company report; they have been seeing a vast number of EMS calls. A copy of the full report is available in the office for review. He then reported also attending the Legislative Breakfast. He spoke about correspondence on getting a charging station for electric cars in the village and that more information would be forthcoming. He did learn the charging station would have to be on municipal land. He also gave a LOSAP update, and they are currently seeing a 3.5% return. He also has been busy with the Brownfield Area Grant.

**TRUSTEE CROPPER:** He thanked the voters for his re-election. He checked village properties and the outhouse that has been such a problem is now gone after several phone calls. The Community Day Spaghetti dinner fundraiser was a success and he is working with the post office on

getting a special cancellation stamp for community day. He is also busy working on the contract for fireworks, and starting the process with NYCOM on gross utilities possible underpayments. He taught the safe boating class at the community center and has attended meetings as well as the Legislative Breakfast. Richard Osborn informed him that the car club will have trophies for this year's Community Day. The next meeting for Community Day will be held on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm.

**TRUSTEE MORRIS:** She reported attending the workshop, organizational and budget meetings. She attended the spaghetti dinner fundraiser for Community Day. She also attended a presentation at the library where plans to make the library more user friendly were discussed.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC**

#### **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**MOTION** to accept as warrant the tax levy in the amount of \$522,314.00 and the tax rate of \$7.742/1000; was made by Trustee Morris, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to move funds within accounts as needed; was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Morris. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

**MOTION** to accept the bid from Speedy Automotive in the amount of \$45,000 plus a \$400 delivery fee for a 2006 Street Sweeper; was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

**MOTION** to spend \$15,000 from the Equipment Reserve fund for the purchase of the 2006 Street Sweeper, and to move the additional \$30,000 from the General Fund Balance into A5110.2 was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

**MOTION** to put out for bid specifications for a used 2005 or better dump truck with plow and sander; motion made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

**MOTION** to accept the following slate of Philmont Fire Company 2017-2018 Officers as presented with each member meeting or exceeding qualifications,

**Line Officers:** Chief – Mark Beaumont  
1<sup>st</sup> Asst. Chief – Ryan O'Dowd  
2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief – Richard Howard  
Captain – Brian Ostrander  
1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant – Cody Mossman  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant – Anthony Krein IV

**Company Officers:** President – Larry Ostrander  
Vice President – Fred Zitto  
Secretary – John Blaauw  
Asst. Secretary – Sarah Langdon  
Treasurer - Jeanette Beaumont  
Asst. Treasurer – Doug Cropper

**Trustees :** Five Year – Anthony Krein IV  
Four Year – Lisa Mossman  
Three Year – Jose Ortiz  
Two Year – Andrew O'Neil  
One Year – Richard Howard;

Mayor Speed asked Richard Howard before they made this motion if he was alright with his new appointments. Mr. Howard agreed with the appointments so the **Motion** was made by Trustee Johnson, and seconded by Trustee Morris. MAYOR SPEED, TRUSTEE JOHNSON AND TRUSTEE MORRIS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AND TRUSTEES OSTRANDER AND CROPPER ABSTAINED FROM VOTING, NO NAYS.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Trustee Cropper spoke about the school using space in the office for tutoring and thought perhaps they could find a better space for their needs. Mayor Speed told him that he gave the okay for the use of the space and Trustee Johnson didn't see a problem with them using the space.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Richard Osborn asked about a warranty on the sweeper and wanted to know what kind of sweeper it is. Mayor Speed told him that it is a dual side broom GMC with a Kabota engine and that it dumps from the top. Any parts needed for the sweeper we will be able to get directly from the company and overall he is pleased with it.

**MOTION** to declare the old Johnson Sweeper as surplus and no longer needed for village purposes was made by Trustee Johnson, and seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

Barbara Sagal invited the board members and members of the public to the April 29<sup>th</sup> presentation from Behan Planning and Design regarding the Summit Lake Brownfield Opportunity Area Grant. They will present the finding of six reports and studies that have been conducted over the last two years and what can be done to start the restoration.

Richard Howard asked the board to have the DPW crew make sure that all hydrants are properly marked. Trustee Johnson will check into this and asked Mr. Howard for a list of the hydrants.

Richard Osborn spoke about a derelict property located on Prospect Street that backs up to his property. This house is a mess and well as other properties on Main Street. The board is aware of some of the problem properties and they will speak with building inspector Lee Heim about Prospect Street.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons  
Clerk/Treasurer