

Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday June 12, 2017

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

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Morris. 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, Health Care Deductible & Property Maintenance Abstracts # 1) made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

PUBLIC REQUESTS: Barbara Sagal told the board the white lines that were painted on Prospect Street have disappeared and requested that the DPW paint new ones. Cars traveling on Prospect Street tend to speed and she asked about the possibility of getting a "slow" sign or a speed bump. School bus drivers as well as rescue vehicles find it difficult to squeeze through the tight space created by cars parking on both sides of the street. The board spoke about the possibility of putting up signs to slow traffic and they will look into the situation further. Mrs. Sagal also noted her neighbor's sidewalk is in need of repair, and then added that the planters look especially nice this year.

Julia Sedlock asked the board if they had any follow-up ideas from the Library's opioid meeting and what they planned moving forward. Mayor Speed told her he will be talking with the police department and they will discuss it.

Henry Casivant asked the board about why the building inspector is requiring an engineer to look at his property on 6 Main Street as well as the garage when the garage sits on a separate piece of property. Attorney Fitzsimmons explained the need for the engineer for the house and told him he needed to speak with the building inspector about the garage. He then asked about why he was issued a water termination notice for his property on 6 Main Street when the house has been vacant. Clerk/Treasurer Simmons explained the situation and how he needed to proceed.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: He reported working on union negotiations regarding health insurance, the village foreclosure and ongoing projects.

CLERK/TREASURER SIMMONS: All normal office tasks have been completed. The office will be closed on Tuesday July 4th for Independence Day. The office has started our "summer hours": Monday – Thursday 8-2:30 and Friday's from 8-12:00. Garbage Sticker sales at McNans continue for area residents. The annual tax bills were mailed out on May 31st and are due without penalty by July 1st. Upon the return of the tentative tax roll to the County, they found that I mistakenly picked up the wrong "taxable value to figure the tax rate. The correct taxable value is higher than the value I used, therefore dropping our tax rate to \$7.641471/1000. Water turn-off is scheduled for Wednesday June 14th at noon. Work on the NYS Electronic Death Registration System is complete and I will start using the system as of today only for deaths that occur at Pine Haven. All other certificates will continue to be filed as usual until an undetermined future date. I have been assured by our village engineer that Morris Associates will handle the administration for the sewer plant grant. The books for the fiscal year end have been closed and the new ones open. I have begun the annual report for the NYS Department of Audit and Control. The office has received several complaints about high grass in various locations around the village. High grass attracts all kinds of unwanted animal life including ticks that can carry lime disease. If you own property in the Village please mow the grass and help keep our village looking nice. All of your neighbors will be thankful. If your property is not occupied – please make arrangements for property maintenance.

POLICE REPORT: Given by OIC Doyle, a copy of the full report is available in the office for review. He noted the department was all set for Community Day's Tug-of-War and welcomed any challengers.

LIBRARY REPORT: Given by Trustee Morris. Director Farley thanked Chris Hoppe, Damien Whittaker, and the Village DPW workers for the recent work done at the library. They have planted herbs in the planters in the rear of the library. Visitors to the library are welcome to take some when the plants are ready. She is writing a Bullet Aid Grant to purchase new furniture for the office and front room, carpeting for the teen room, fencing around the ping pong table and a ramp up to the pavilion. The drug addiction meeting had a great turn out with nearly 60 people in attendance. The response has been positive and they are talking about having another meeting in the fall. Summer Reading will begin soon. Patrons will receive a raffle ticket and building piece for each book they read. One winner from each age group will be picked at the end of the summer. Building pieces will be used to create two collaborative structures (Lego's for kids and discs for adults). They have received a grant from The Bank of Greene County to purchase a paper shredder and also have received County money.

COMMUNITY CENTER: Report was given by Trustee Cropper. A copy of the full report is available for review in the village office. The center continues to be used by area residents. They are still working on getting the floors cleaned and are also working on exterior washing of the building. Director Veronezi has been in contact with Susannah White for "Make and Take" activities that will be starting this month. Programming for the community forum on the drug problem has resulted in postponing due to a busy time with the Sheriff's office and the recent program held by the library. The Columbia County Mental Health Association would like to use the center as a location for get together on a weekly basis. The group meets for a few hours in the evenings and provide individuals who tend to be isolated an opportunity to socialize and feel a part of the larger community. She has been coordinating with Columbia County Mental Health Association for this endeavor.

MAYOR SPEED: He reported signing all necessary papers, attending the Columbia County Shared Services meeting, the Library's opioid epidemic meeting (which he found very informative), Memorial Day services both in the village and at the cemetery and also a union meeting.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: He gave the DPW/WA/SW reports; a copy of the full reports are available in the office for review. He met with Chris Hoppe and Michael Scheller at the library and they have decided they would like something other than just a plain gray concrete square for the area where the ping-pong table will be set up. The cost of this will require three written quotes.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: He first gave the Fire Company report. A full copy of the report is available in the office for review. He has checked village properties and reported people have been seen swimming at Forest Lake. OIC Doyle told him to call or text him when this happens and he will send the police up to the lake to handle the situation, swimming is not permitted at any time. He has been working with the Post Office on a special stamp for Community Day and that the DPW will be putting together a team for the Tug-of-War. He attended Memorial Day Services and reminded everyone that the Mayor, as well as his daughter and Community Center Director Veronezi all are finalist in the Best in Columbia County.

TRUSTEE MORRIS: She reported attending the Library's opioid epidemic meeting - Memorial Day services, which had to be held inside this year, and also the end of the year and workshop meetings. She was impressed by the information presented at the opioid meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

MOTION to accept the bid from Gentile Construction in the amount of \$38,000 for the demolition and removal of debris located at 5 Highland Avenue in accordance with all asbestos removal laws; was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Trustee Ostrander said a neighbor had spoken with him about papers that are thrown and left in driveways and wondered if anyone else had a problem like this. No one has had this problem. He then asked about the village foreclosure and attorney Fitzsimmons told him we are moving forward and he has papers for the clerk to review and sign.

Trustee Cropper had questions on Habitat for Humanity and the purchase of the property on Eagle Street. Attorney Fitzsimmons explained that things are moving forward, but slowly. We have given them a contract to review, they spoke about environmental reviews and studies and that Crawford & Associates will be handling for Habitat.

Trustee Ostrander spoke at this time about parked cars on Prospect Street making it almost impossible for a bus to get by. The board will look into regulating parking on the lower end of Prospect Street.

NEW BUSINESS: OIC Doyle told the board they have secured \$8,600 in grant money for security cameras, although they have nothing in writing and we are probably looking at a 6-8 month wait on the money. All of the cameras are having problems now and need to be replaced. He had received a quote from S & F Technologies to replace just one or all three of the cameras. After some discussion a

MOTION to purchase one (1) camera from S & F Technologies to replace the camera across from the village hall was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Morris. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

He then gave the board the information on the winning bid for a new police vehicle they found. The bid is a State Contract for an SUV. The current police vehicles are old and in desperate need of repairs. The department really needs a new car and this car is in stock and "on the ground". They did get a verbal favorable response for grant money for the car, but again nothing in writing and no time frame as to when they would see the money.

He then spoke in length about the new Chatham Cares drug program. Members of the public Julia Sedlock and Debra Gutterman also spoke on this subject. Much discussion was had on this problem, the financial burden it would place on the police's already small budget, the gaps in the system and the need for the police department and village board to come together and develop a plan. Attorney Fitzsimmons gave an overview on a plan the County is working on to address the overall problem. Meetings are happening at the County level and more information could be found by either calling the County Clerk or by visiting the Counties website.

With no further business before them the Mayor asked for a moment of silence in memory of long time residents Doris Dingman, Matthew Harris and Elwood Scutt, then a

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons
Clerk/Treasurer