

Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Monday February 13, 2018

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

MOTION: to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. 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, and Health Care Deductible Abstract #9) made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Morris. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

PUBLIC REQUESTS:

Barbara Sagal informed the board about a fundraising letter she received from the Community Day Committee. She provided each member of the board with a copy of the unsigned letter and wanted the board's thoughts on it. Trustee Cropper will find out where the letter originated and attorney Fitzsimmons noted a signatory should be added to the letter and the committee should be reminded of 501C3 laws. An unidentified member of the public noted tax laws allow some not-for-profits to operate without the 501C3 in certain instances.

Denis Sperl is concerned about the sidewalk in front of her home on Main Street. The walk is broken and uneven making passage hard for anyone pushing a stroller or in a wheelchair. She noted seeing someone almost tip their wheelchair over and she would like someone to look at the walk. Deputy Mayor Johnson will take a look at the walk in the morning and check with our DPW and attorney Fitzsimmons will look into the State highway.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: He reported work with ongoing projects.

CLERK/TREASURER SIMMONS: All normal office tasks and all monthly reports have been completed. Village elections will be held on Tuesday March 20th. Petitions must be turned in by February 13th. The office will be closed on Monday February 20th for Presidents Day. AARP has started using the village hall for tax preparation on Monday's, continuing through April 9, 2018. I have begun work on our 2018-2019 budget; if your department has not turned in your proposed budget yet, please do so now.

POLICE REPORT: No Report

LIBRARY REPORT: Given by Trustee Morris, a copy of the full report is available for review in the office. Director Farley thanked the teen volunteers and the DPW for putting away most of the Christmas items and replacing the flag. The teen advisory had 12 teens attend their first Book to Movie Club, pizza was provided by the Rotary Club. Soup Sales raised \$956.50. The Taconic Hills Community Read will start on February 13th running for four Tuesdays alternating between the Claverack and Philmont Libraries. Activities will center around the book Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race. Taconic Hills will be holding their Board Of Education Meeting at the library on Wednesday, February 14 at 6:30. Plans are being made for the annual Book It 5k race/walk. Lots of help is needed, if you are interested in volunteering please contact the library.

COMMUNITY CENTER: Report was read by Trustee Cropper. A copy of the full report is available in the office for review. The new kitchen area is almost complete; an open house will be planned as soon as the finishing touches are done. Donations of basic kitchen supplies are needed, contact Director Veronezi if you have anything you would like to contribute. Thanks go out to all who have worked so very hard on this project. The center continues to be used by community members. A New York State Safe Boating Class will be held at the center on March 25, 26 and 27th from 6 – 9 pm. The class is offered free of charge. Director Veronezi has been in contact with our webmaster about putting a tab on our page for the community center to share ongoing information; however, she has been having trouble with this. At this time Barbara Sagal spoke up about the website being out dated. She believes it needs updating and would like the board to discuss this and get back to her with a solution.

MAYOR SPEED: No report.....on vacation.

DEPUTY MAYOR JOHNSON: He gave the DPW, WA/SW reports, full copies of which are available in the office for review. The men have been busy working on water breaks this month. He has been busy working with the men and working on the street lighting issues with Tom Paino.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: He attended the workshop meeting, updated the Emergency Action Plan, and escorted a NYES&G representative around village properties while he conducted energy audits, has been working on the siren problem and attended the Community Day Committee Meeting. He has also been working on the Community Center kitchen project and he checked village properties. He noted the Summit Street dam is looking good, even with all the water running over it. The next Community Day meeting will be held on March 7th. He thanked Michael Scheller for his help with a "small emergency" in his basement when it was filling up with water.

TRUSTEE MORRIS: She noted being in contact with the office and library.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: He gave the fire company report, a copy of which is available in the office for review. The company has submitted paperwork for a grant to purchase a new vehicle. He attended the workshop meeting and has been gathering information about a possible consolidation with the Philmont and Mellenville fire departments. He thanked Mark Rowntree for all his help on this.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

MOTION to hire Amelia McIsaac as Community Center Assistant for the purpose of leading an after school program one day per week at the rate of \$13.50 per hour as recommended by Director, Julia Veronezi was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Morris. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to reappoint Robert MacFarlane as a member of the Village of Philmont Planning Board for a five (5) year term, to expire March 1, 2023, was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to reappoint Robert MacFarlane as Chairman of the Village of Philmont Planning Board for a one (1) year term, with the term to expire March 1, 2019, was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

MOTION to reappoint Kim Czyzewski as a member of the Village of Philmont Zoning Board of Appeals for a five (5) year term, to expire March 1, 2023 was made by Trustee Morris, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to reappoint Kurt Basl as the Chairman of the Village of Philmont Zoning Board of Appeals for a one (1) year term, with the term to expire March 1, 2019 was made by Trustee Morris, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to move forward to gather information from NYSE&G pertaining to their LED Streetlight program was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to allow the (Deputy) Mayor to sign the 2018 Columbia County Shared Service Agreement for Information Systems Management was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to appoint Daniel Starr as a member of the Library Board of Trustees effective February 8, 2018 to fill the vacated seat of Chris Hoppe, term to expire September 2018, was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Morris. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

Resolution # 1 of 2018
Climate Smart Pledge Resolution

Model Resolution for Community Adoption

Board member Cropper moved and Board member Ostrander seconded that:

WHEREAS, the Village of Philmont, NY (hereinafter "local government") believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our village and country's infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Village of Philmont, NY, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge, a symbolic gesture of our commitment to reducing greenhouse emissions and which comprises the following elements:

1. Pledge to be a Climate Smart Community.
2. Set goals, inventory emissions, plan for climate action.
3. Decrease community energy use.
4. Increase community use of renewable energy.
5. Realize benefits of recycling and other climate-smart solid waste management practices.
6. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through use of climate-smart land-use tools.
7. Enhance community resilience and prepare for the effects of climate change.
8. Support development of a green innovation economy.
9. Inform and inspire the public.
10. Commit to an evolving process of climate action.

Resolution # 2 of 2018
New York State Unified Solar Permit

WHEREAS, New York State has developed a unified solar photovoltaic permitting process designed to streamline municipal permitting which will reduce costs for solar projects and support the growth of clean energy jobs across the state, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Philmont is desirous of participating in the unified permitting process, thereby increasing the Village's eligibility for various incentives and grants through the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Village of Philmont adopts the New York State Unified Solar Permit as attached hereto as Exhibit 1, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately and a copy of this resolution, with Exhibit 1, shall be provided to the Building Inspectors/Code Enforcement Officers.

Made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

Resolution # 3 of 2018

ADOPTING AN ENERGY BENCHMARKING POLICY FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS IN THE VILLAGE OF PHILMONT

WHEREAS, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has announced a new Clean Energy Communities program which would allow the Village access to significant grant funding to further implement clean energy actions reducing both energy costs and greenhouse emissions, and

WHEREAS, One of the Clean Energy Communities "High Impact Actions" requires the Village Board to establish a policy which mandates the public reporting of building energy benchmarking, and

WHEREAS, Establishing a building energy benchmarking system will benefit the Village and its residents by making available good actionable information on municipal building energy use to help identify opportunities to cut costs and reduce pollution in the Village of Philmont, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board is desirous of adopting a policy that directs that monthly building energy usage for all fuel types including but not limited to electricity, natural gas, fuel oil, chilled water, steam and diesel fuel be collected and formally tracked for all buildings that are 1,000 square feet or larger that are owned or occupied by the Village, using the EPA Portfolio Manager platform, and

WHEREAS, Building reports shall be made available to the Village Board in EPA Portfolio Manager regarding summary statistics for each covered property including Energy Us Intensity, annual greenhouse gas emissions, and energy performance score where available, and other descriptive information as required by EPA Portfolio Manager and for that data to be made available to the public via the internet on an annual basis, and

WHEREAS, The Village Board may exempt a particular covered municipal building from the benchmarking requirement if the Village Board determines that it has characteristics that make benchmarking impractical, and

WHEREAS, The Village Board or their designee shall be the administrator of this local policy and promulgate procedures necessary for the administration of this local policy and promulgate procedures necessary for the administration of the requirement of this local policy, and

WHEREAS, If it is determined by the Mayor and the Village Board that the Local Policy is not in its best interest of the Village or there is a change in the operational structure of the Village government that would make this Local Policy obsolete, they will have the ability to no longer proceed with it, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the policy outlined in this resolution be hereby adopted and established for the Village of Philmont, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate Village Officials.

Made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Morris. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

The board discussed the LED street light options the village has. Maintenance issues are a big concern and Deputy Mayor Johnson thanked all who have been gathering information for the village and noted a public comment period will be had before the board finalizes which way to proceed. Julia Sedlock volunteered to help with public outreach for this.

Henry Casivant updated the board on his Main Street property, noting that he got a demolition permit for the garage and it will be coming down soon. He also informed the board he is working with an engineer on a plan for the house. The mobile home will be removed as well. When asked by Trustee Ostrander for a time line, Mr. Casivant noted he is currently cleaning out the garage and his permit gives him one year to complete the work, but he assured the board that he would have it complete before then.

David Andrek from NYSE&G presented the board with the results of his recent energy audits on some Village owned properties. Each audit has the total cost of conversion along with the total cost that would be incurred by the village. NYSEG will handle all work and removal of all debris and the village would be billed approximately two weeks after the completion of the job. The village is free to choose all, none, or any number of the provided audits. There was much discussion this subject with residents being concerned about the increase in "lumens" and what constitutes better lighting. Mr. Andrek noted that he has been working with this program for five years, with ten others across the state, and no one has ever asked to have the lights removed after they were in. The board had no questions for him. Trustee Cropper noted this is not a public

decision but more about the people who will be working under the lights. The board asked Mr. Andrek if he could resubmit the audit for the municipal building separating the up and down stairs. Mr. Andrek will get this new audit to the board soon. The board will make a decision on how to proceed upon checking the availability of funds.

MOTION to enforce the water turn off law was made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Morris. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Mark Rowntree asked about the motions made reappointing planning and zoning board members. The board educated him on the process of how each member is appointed. They encouraged him to submit a letter of interest if he was interested in becoming a member of either board.

With no further action before them a

MOTION to adjourn in memory of Bruce Olson and Dorothy Allen was made by Trustee Ostrander, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly J. Simmons
Clerk/Treasurer