

MONDAY, December, 9, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed; Trustees, Brian Johnson, Laurence Ostrander, and Douglas Cropper; Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons; Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Christine Speed

MEETING RULES OF PROCEDURE WERE READ ALOUD

MOTION to approve minutes of the previous meeting made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander 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, Summit Lake, Health Care Deductible & T&A #7 and Building Maintenance Reserve #2) made by Trustee Cropper, seconded by Trustee Ostrander ALL AYES NO NAYS

PUBLIC REQUESTS: DPW Superintendent David Siter had the new DPW Dump Truck present for viewing. He commended his DPW staff on Storm Clean up and garbage pickup in the extreme conditions. He also noted that meter readings will begin this week. Trustee Cropper also thanked the DPW for a great job on storm clean up.

Julia Sedlock spoke about an after school drop in program and is looking into locations on Main Street. She is in contact with Community Center staff as to not compete with existing programs. Ms. Sedlock asked about the Rental Registry and was told by Mayor Speed that the office needs to be properly staffed to undertake this task; Attorney Fitzsimmons added that he is awaiting a response from Building Inspector Lee Heim on the matter. Marc Rowntree stated that he is committed to the Rental Registry Plan and wants to help. Debra Gitterman suggested forming a committee to help with the process. Rory Tice asked about Local Law #1 from the previous meeting. The Mayor stated that Mr. Siter has created additional parking for residents at the ball field on Church Street and on Canal Street. After much conversation between the Board, residents and OIC Vern Doyle regarding the parking on Prospect Street, it was agreed that the village will continue to work on the parking laws as to eliminate any confusion. Tom Paino also noted his support of the Rental Registry. Mr. Paino spoke regarding the GIS (Geographic Information System) and stated that funding is available for transferring to this system. He would also like an updated website for the village. Peter Johnson voiced his concerns regarding the Rental Property Ordinance as it pertains to property owners who do not live in close proximity to Philmont. Mr. Johnson also stated his desire to see more regulations pertaining to furnace inspections and safety.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: Atty. Fitzsimmons attended the High Falls Owners court proceedings on November 22nd which he noted was well attended by residents. With the current work load of court staff, he doesn't expect a judgment for at least 30/60 days. He also reported working on the UPSEU contract, the rental registry, and a snow removal law for sidewalks. After much discussion regarding the snow removal law, Trustee Johnson and OIC Doyle will be working together with David Siter to make revisions to the current law.

CLERK/TREASURER REPORT: Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Speed reported for Kim Simmons; all normal office tasks have been completed. (Bank statements, accounts receivable, accounts payable, garbage sticker sales, billing, payroll, monthly reports, etc.) Water termination will take place at noon on December 12th. AARP will be using the village hall on Mondays for the upcoming tax season. The office will be closed for Christmas on Wednesday, December 25th. There were no bids received for Snow Removal. Kim Simmons noted it is with a heavy heart that she is saying good bye. She thanks everyone for the pleasure of serving for almost 22 years.

POLICE REPORT: Given by OIC Doyle. A detailed report of all complaints and tickets issued was given and is on file. He noted that snow warnings and tickets were issued during this last storm. He added that repeat violators of the snow and parking laws will be towed. There is to be no overnight parking in the municipal lot on Maple Avenue, Dave Siter will order signs to be posted on the property.

LIBRARY REPORT: Given By Trustee Cropper. A full report is on file. Director Tobi Farley thanked Nathaniel Drake for his participation in story hour. Christmas cards are being collected for sick children. The ornament workshop will take place on December 14th. Lunch and a movie will take place during school break. The repair café for November was a success with about 35 attendees, this will occur 4 times a year. The Community Read is expected to run between February and April school breaks on Thursday evenings. The Columbia Land Conservancy has invited the Library to write a letter of support for a grant supporting a backpack program. The Library received \$909.00 from Columbia County funds for Overdrive.

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT: Given by Trustee Cropper. The Center was used by 113 people representing regular groups in November. The after school program will be suspended until March due to the dark winter months and the children's safety walking to the center. Mrs. Veronezi attended mandatory violence and sexual harassment training and the NYCOM meeting in Albany. The center was rented for 1 private party. Personnel matters were discussed with the Mayor and new curtains were created for the front window. Director Julie Veronezi's full report is on file.

SUMMIT LAKE AND ITS WATERCOURSE (BOA) REPORT: Given by Sally Baker, a full copy is available for review in the office. The BOA Co-Chair meeting for the month was held with Barbara Sagal attending, (Larry Ostrander was at a fire call). Work continued on history research for several commercial buildings in the downtown in relation to moving forward with building eligibility for determinations by the State Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO). Jessie Ravage, the historic preservation historian hired to conduct the Cultural Resource Survey of over 400 buildings in the village was in contact with the Philmont Library to have access to the history archive housed at the Library and will be following up for a visit there in December.

MAYOR SPEED: Mayor Speed signed all papers at the Village Office and answered complaints brought to his attention. He has been speaking to interested applicants for the Clerk/Treasurer position and provided support to the DPW during the recent storm. Mayor Speed thanked DPW Superintendent David Siter and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Chrissy Speed for all their hard work in obtaining a new Dump Truck for the DPW, at cost of only \$8,800.00 to the village. The cost of the truck was \$68,000.00 and the bulk of the funding was provided from the CHIPS program. The Mayor also noted that he and the Board will be judging the holiday lighting contest on Tuesday, December 17th at 6:30 pm and encouraged residents to get their decorations and lights up.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: Trustee Cropper obtained new keys for the community center for doors and the oil tank. He spoke with NYCOM several times regarding the Clerk/Treasurer vacancy. He and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Speed met with representatives from Monolith Solar regarding outstanding solar credits owed the village. He attended the Columbia County table top meeting at Pine Haven and the NYCOM meeting in Albany. At the NYCOM meeting he learned a lot about upcoming legislation.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: Trustee Johnson gave the DPW/WA/SW report provided by Superintendent Siter, the full report is available in the office for review. He reported that he met with RPI, Tom Paino and Dave Siter at the Sewer Plant regarding the lighting and a full report will be provided. The funding for this project is provided thru the NYSERDA grant Debra Gitterman worked so hard on. Trustee Johnson spoke with Village Engineer Ray Jurkowski regarding the Ultraviolet Lighting at the Sewer Plant and an extension has been granted. Use of Ultraviolet lights at the plant should start in the spring.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: Trustee Sagals report was given by Trustee Cropper. She attended the tabletop workshop at Pine Haven and the Library board meeting.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: Trustee Ostrander reported that he has been answering numerous phone calls, emails and attending meetings. He wanted to personally thank David Harrison, Director of Emergency Management in Columbia County for the help during the recent State of Emergency. The National Guard cleared fire hydrants after the storm along with himself, Dave Siter and Brian Ostrander.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST WAS PROVIDED TO THE AUDIENCE.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

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

MOTION to hire as needed temporary office help; was made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Cropper noted that the motor has been removed from the abandoned boat at the Community Center parking lot. The owner has been identified and Attorney Fitzsimmons will draft a letter instructing him to remove the boat or he will begin to incur fines. Trustee Johnson questioned the need to move the fire siren from the ball field to the roof over the Fire House. Mayor Speed noted that all first responders have pagers to be alerted of calls and the siren is not necessary. Trustee Ostrander noted that the siren is good to have to alert motorists and pedestrians of responding fire vehicles. After some discussion it was decided that it was cost prohibitive to purchase a new siren and the board will continue to look into the costs of rewiring and moving the ball field siren. Trustee Ostrander asked David Siter about the options to unclog the drains in the fire house. They are blocked and bubble up when they wash the turnout gear. Superintendent Siter will look into options in the spring as the lot will need to be dug up. Trustee Cropper also asked David Siter to get and install the door for the kitchen in the Village Hall.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Christine A Speed
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Philmont