

MONDAY, January 13, 2020

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

MEETING RULES OF PROCEDURE WERE READ ALOUD

MOTION to approve minutes of the previous meeting made by Trustee Cropper, 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, Summit Lake, Health Care Deductible & T&A Abstract #8) made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper ALL AYES NO NAYS

PUBLIC REQUESTS: DPW Superintendent David Siter asked the Board about its continued support of Community Day in July. The requested amount of \$2,500.00 is a normal budget expense and was acknowledged by the Attorney and Mayor to continue for the upcoming Community Day. Mr. Siter noted that the door will be ordered and installed for the kitchen as requested by Judge Ingersoll. At this point Trustee Sagal asked Mr. Siter about the proposed bag system for garbage. He stated that the bag system will end all confusion with improperly tagged and overweight bags. He added that 2 bag sizes will be available in 13 and 30 gallon sizes and hopes to have the new system in place in the spring.

ATTORNEY FITZSIMMONS: Atty. Fitzsimmons reported working on the UPSEU contract and its negotiations, helping the village office as needed with the transition of staff and that the rental law is a work in progress.

CLERK/TREASURER REPORT: Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Speed reported that the office was only fully staffed for 6 out of 22 days in December with the unexpected retirement of Kim Simmons. This has put the office behind schedule on all normal office tasks. Tasks completed include; bank statement reconciliation and bank deposits, accounts receivables and payables, garbage sticker sales, billing, end of month reports and weekly & monthly payrolls. Work will continue on W-2's and quarterly reports as time allows. The Water/Sewer Bills went out on December 31st and are due without penalty by January 31st. This task would not have been possible without the help of Dickie Michael who helped with inserts & calendar folding and Winnie Speed & Mary Graziano, who volunteered to spend an entire day stuffing and licking envelopes for me. I am grateful for all of their help. Village Elections will be held on Wednesday, March 18th. Petitions must be turned in between February 4th and 11th. AARP will be using the hall on Mondays from 8:30 – 1 for Tax Preparation from February 3 – April 6th. We are looking into Accounting Software to better process Payroll and Bills. The Village Office will be closed on Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Day. The position of Clerk/Treasurer was posted with 12 applicants responding. The Board and I interview the top 4 qualified applicants over 2 nights. Budget preparation will begin very soon. We are requesting proposed budgets from all departments at this time. The Holiday Lighting contest was judged by the Mayor and Trustees on Dec. 17th. Thank you to all of the prize sponsors!!! Best Lit Street - Highland Avenue
1st Place – Dennis & Daryl King – Maple Ave, Prize by Village Board
2nd Place – Mark & Jeannette Beaumont – Union Ct, Prize by Highfalls Pizza
3rd Place – Ken & Lisa Coons – Summit Street, Prize by McNan's Variety Foods

POLICE REPORT: Given by OIC Vernon Doyle. A detailed report of all complaints and tickets issued was given and is on file. OIC Doyle asked Atty. Fitzsimmons about the wording on the proposed new parking tickets and space to include the ordinance per Judge Ingersoll's request. Atty. Fitzsimmons noted that this is common practice with other local departments. OIC Doyle noted that funding of \$150,000 is in place for a garage to house the police vehicles. He requested approval from the Board for a location that would fit a 3 bay facility. Trustee Johnson stated that the location they were looking at is too close to the old dump which is only 25' from the DPW garage, noted that a spot next to the fuel tanks is possible but the ground is all rock and could require blasting, he will continue to look into more options. OIC Doyle added that they would like to have water at the location for restrooms and a locker/changing room. Trustee Johnson and Superintendent Siter will work together with OIC Doyle to assess the location.

LIBRARY REPORT: Given By Trustee Sagal from Director Tobi Farley's report.

Building and Grounds: Thanks to Patrick Farley for replacing 2 ballasts in the lights. He has a few more to do. The DPW has been asked to order light bulbs as well.

Services: Our Christmas Ornament Workshop was extremely successful with over 55 people attending both the children's and adult workshops. The Philmont Memory Project for 2019 is complete! We had nearly 20 stories published with about 13 people attending the book launch. Volume 1 is available at the library to borrow or purchase. We are also starting on collecting memories for volume 2 for 2020. Lunch and a movie on December 30th at 12pm (movie – Abominable and lunch - sandwiches from McNan's: sponsored by The Friends of the Library). We had nearly 30 people in attendance! The Columbia Land Conservancy will be presenting an afterschool program on Mondays after school from 3:30-5pm beginning January 13th. It is intended for children 4-10 yrs old. The program is on nature journaling and art. It will run for a 6 week session and may continue beyond that if enough people are interested. The Rotary Club has agreed to sponsor the snacks for this program. Fine Free announcement was made in the papers, on-line and on the website. We have been receiving many positive comments. We are beginning to loan out canvas tote bags to patrons. They are cataloged with a barcode. The intention is for not only have people use them for library books, but also have a means to try out reusable bags since NY State will no longer allow stores to have plastic bags beginning in November. The bags being used are ones found in the closet with PHILMONT LIBRARY printed on them.

Grants/ state/county aid Funding:

\$2,000 Hover Foundation – history project – cataloging, organizing and preserving our collection

\$1,500 Town of Ghent - annual support

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT: Given by Trustee Cropper as reported by Director Julie Veronezi.

Programs: The community center was used by multiple groups in December. The CCYO group will no longer be using the center on Friday nights as they will be merging their activity with another church in Philmont. Friday nights being open again provides an opportunity for additional rentals and individuals wishing to host programs in the future. The New York State Boating Safety Course will be held again tentatively in March. Brianna's Law requires all motorboat operators to complete a boating safety course. New age requirements begin January 1, 2020, with full compliance by January 1, 2025.

Facilities: The center was decorated for holidays and remains ready for rental by community members for private events.

On December 14th the center was rented for a private party. The individual who rented expressed his gratitude for having a place that can be utilized by the public at a minimal cost. He was very appreciative.

SUMMIT LAKE AND ITS WATERCOURSE (BOA) REPORT: Given by Sally Baker, a full copy is available for review in the office. **REPORT SUMMARY:** Philmont Beautification, Inc., (PBInc), with the participation of the community-based BOA Working Groups, is pleased to report The Village of Philmont was awarded two grants for a total of \$356,759, plus the local match guaranteed by PBInc for a Total Project of \$407,419, was announced on December 19th in the 9th Annual Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) Awards Ceremony by Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and Empire State Development (ESD) Acting Commissioner and President & CEO designate - Eric Gertler. The two REDC awarded grants and the local match will provide the funds for The Village of Philmont in a project partnership with PBInc to hire professional consultants to conduct the following scope of work: 1) The Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) grant and the local match will provide the funds to undertake predevelopment activities within the Summit Lake and its Watercourse BOA to include design development plans for the waterfront park, and for a downtown parking area and community plaza, including studies, a cultural resource survey, marketing, and zoning updates. 2) The Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) grant and the local match will provide the funds to develop a watershed management plan for Agawamuck Creek. This plan will involve the participation of the neighboring Towns of Claverack, Hillsdale, Ghent, and Austerlitz (at no cost to each town) to develop management recommendations for improving water quality and restoring critical natural resources throughout the watershed, as well as identify measures to address invasive species and the Agawamuck Creek's impact on Summit Lake. The scope of work is outlined in the Philmont Rising brochure and map available at the Village Office. Residents and business owners are welcome to join a BOA Working Group by contacting the Village Office or PBInc at info@pbinc.org. More information for the REDC awards can be found at <https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov>

MAYOR SPEED: Mayor Speed signed all papers at the Village Office and answered questions brought to his attention. The Mayor, along with the Trustees judged the holiday lighting contest on Tuesday, December 17th. He participated in the Santa Parade and helped Santa with gifts for the children; he noted that 110 kids received gifts that night. The Mayor enjoyed celebrating Christmas and New Years Eve this year.

TRUSTEE CROPPER: Trustee Cropper attended 2 nights of Clerk/Treasurer interviews, worked with Superintendent Siter on DPW issues and attended the Community Day Committee Meeting.

TRUSTEE JOHNSON: Trustee Johnson gave the DPW/WA/SW report provided by Superintendent Siter, the full report is available in the office for review.

TRUSTEE SAGAL: Trustee Sagal reported that she attended the Library board meeting, judged the holiday lighting contest, and interviewed Clerk/Treasurer applicants. She also added that she has been trying to reach the NYSEG representative regarding the LED street lighting.

TRUSTEE OSTRANDER: Trustee Ostrander was absent.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST WAS PROVIDED TO THE AUDIENCE.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

**January 13, 2020
MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK
RESOLUTION NO. 6**

At a regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees for the Village of Philmont, Columbia County, New York, duly held on the 13th day of January 2020 at the Village Hall, Main Street, Philmont, New York, the following Resolution was proposed and seconded:

Resolution by: Trustee Johnson;
Seconded by: Trustee Sagal.

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees for the Village of Philmont desires to enhance the pool of applicants for the position of Clerk-Treasurer as and for the Village of Philmont and provide, in lieu of any other residency requirement imposed by law, that any appointed Clerk-Treasurer may reside within the County of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall supersede Village Law Section 3-300 (2) in its application to the Office of Village Clerk-Treasurer, See NY Opinion of Attorney General No. 87-66.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Philmont herein provides that the person holding the office of Clerk-Treasurer for the Village of Philmont need not be a resident nor an elector of the Village of Philmont, provided, however, that such person shall reside in the County of Columbia, in which the village is wholly located.

Upon question of the foregoing Resolution, the following Philmont Village Board members voted "Aye" in favor of the

Resolution: Trustee Cropper; Trustee Sagal;
Mayor Speed; and Trustee Johnson.

The following Philmont Village Board Members voted "No" in opposition, thereto:

NONE

The Resolution having been approved by a majority of the Town Board, the same was declared duly adopted by the Mayor of the Village of Philmont.

Dated: _____, 2020

Christine A. Speed, Acting Village Clerk
Village of Philmont

[SEAL]

MOTION to move money as needed within accounts was made by Trustee Sagal, 2nd by Trustee Cropper.
ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to identify the Village Meeting Hall, located at the rear of 124 Main Street, Philmont, NY as the polling place for the Village Elections to be held on, Wednesday, March 18, 2020 with polls being open from 12:00 noon until 9:00 pm was made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to appoint Karen Garafalo, Kurt Basl and Martin Miller as Election Inspectors for the March 18, 2020 Village Elections to be held in the Village Meeting Hall from 12:00 noon – 9:00 pm at the daily rate of \$120.00 each was made by Trustee Johnson, 2nd by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to allow the Mayor to sign the Shared Services Agreement for 2020 with Columbia County Management Information Services for computer related services was made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Sagal. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to appoint Theresa Tutt as Clerk/Treasurer/Registrar at the rate of 23.50/hr (7 hours a day/5 days a week) due to the retirement of Kim Simmons; with a positive evaluation after 90 days, a rate of \$25.00/hr will be paid; effective January 14, 2020 was made by Trustee Sagal, 2nd by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to make an emergency purchase from Claverack Pump for a motor and pump for the Preusser Road Wells upon failure of the existing equipment was made by Trustee Johnson, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to purchase an aeration compressor for the sewer plant due to the failure of the existing compressor was made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

MOTION to charge violators of the snow shoveling law (Sec. 127-7 & 127-8) a rate of \$4.00 per lineal foot of sidewalk, to be relieved on property owners taxes upon non payment was made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Johnson. ALL AYES, NO NAYS

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS:

None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Speed
Acting Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Philmont