

Present: Mayor William Murphy, Trustees Don Hackett, Jeannine Dirie, Patrick Landewe, Kelly Myers, Vince Buono and Suzanne LeBlanc
Others: Joe Bisignano, Rae Stang, Maryanne Wrolsen, Ed Quirk, Joe Churnefsky and others

Mayor Murphy called the Village Board of Trustees to order at 7:05pm. Trustee Jeannine Dirie led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor

Joe Churnefsky addressed the Board regarding his driveway entrance and exit on Partition Street between Café Tamayo and Love Bites Café. The DPW recently painted white lines to delineate the driveway from the parking spaces on Partition Street. Mr. Churnefsky informed the Board that the Police Department is not issuing tickets to vehicles that are not obeying the driveway markings. Mr. Churnefsky came in person to the Police Department to report the violation and got no satisfaction. Mayor Murphy replied saying he will speak to the Police about the situation.

Joe Bisignano, the Water Department Superintendent, addressed the Board. The entire system is experiencing discolored water problems. The situation was caused by the Kings Highway water line installation contractor opening valves to flush the line at the rate of 650 gallons per minute. The contractor called the Water Treatment Plant five minutes before opening the valves to give the Water Department a “heads-up”. Mr. Bisignano said by the time the Water Treatment Plant operator on duty advised him, the office was already receiving brown water calls. He explained that the contractor should not have opened the valves at such a high rate and should have notified the Village Water Department before beginning. The contractor was contacted immediately and told to stop but it was too late. The brown water was already working its way throughout the system. Mr. Bisignano has spoken with the contractor and the engineering firm for the project. These tests must be performed before the lines can be certified however, the public must be notified before the tests take place. The test must be done under the supervision of the Village Water Department personnel and the valves opened at a much smaller rate for a short amount of time to prevent another brown water situation. Village personnel opened 20 fire hydrants for several hours in the afternoon within the Village to attempt to remove the discolored water. Resident Rae Stang informed the Board that she experienced brown water at her business, Lucky Chocolates. Mayor Murphy thanked Mr. Bisignano for his quick response to the problem and urged him to be sure future testing is coordinated with the Village Water Department office.

Mayor Murphy presented the minutes of the August 16, 2010 Public Hearings and Regular Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Dirie, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to approve the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for September 7th: General - \$105,203.13; Water - \$8,891.20; Wastewater - \$10,043.86; Water Distribution - \$3,912.00; Seamon Park - \$3,781.85. Motion was made by Trustee Landewe, seconded by Trustee Myers, to approve the Abstract and carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono reported that the Hors'n Around auction would be held on September 11th at Stella's Station. A survey of local businesses by the Economic Development Committee should get underway shortly conducted by John Bassler. A committee is working to put together a 200-year centennial celebration. The SAMA Committee work is ongoing hoping to have a traffic study conducted by students at Cornell. A request has been made for a handicapped parking space near the Village Apothecary. Talks continue with Trailways to persuade them to pick-up and drop-off within the Village.

Trustee Myers reported on the Lower Esopus Watershed Plan. The group of five Towns and the Village of Saugerties was formed to address concerns caused by the release of water from the Ashokan Reservoir into the Esopus Creek. A letter has been sent to the DEC regarding these concerns. Trustee LeBlanc inquired if any effort has been made to address raw sewage floating down the Esopus. Trustee Myers replied that homes located in the various Towns along the Esopus may have properties with failing septic systems. The Towns and the Ulster County Health Department should cite violators. Trustee Myers went on to say that the LEWP is also concerned with chemical run-off from farmland. Trustee Landewe suggested that tests should be conducted to determine problem area locations and he would like to become involved. Trustee Myers reported that the Tree Commission will be meeting soon to develop criteria to evaluate Village trees and study the information obtained from the Villages of Woodstock and Red Hook. Rosemary Brackett has volunteered to chair the Commission, however another member is needed. DPW Super Bob Ciarlante has received several complaints regarding problem trees and has the authority to remove any tree he considers dangerous. Mr. Ciarlante has an agreement with a local tree removal company where the Village rents a bucket truck and its operator and the DPW crew does the rest of the work.

Trustee Landewe reported that the Historic Review Board is working alongside the Town on several projects. He attended a recent Seamon Park Board meeting – the annual Mum Festival is October 3rd. The beach and pool are closed for the season.

Trustee LeBlanc reported that the ZBA would hold a Public Hearing on the Schuman area variance on September 28th. The Schuman's would like to tear down their old home and build a new energy efficient residence, however the new structure will not meet set back requirements, forcing the need for an area variance.

Trustee LeBlanc presented Local Law #5/2010 for discussion. This law changes some language in an existing zoning law. Much discussion followed. Trustee Myers feels the original law may be unconstitutional. Trustee Hackett needs clarification on enforcement of appearance tickets. Most Board members felt that the Village attorney should review the existing law. Motion was made by Trustee Landewe, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to table the discussion for Local Law #5/2010. Carried.

Trustee LeBlanc spoke saying at the last Village Board meeting Code Enforcement Officer Eyal Saad advised the Trustees that he is comfortable with the current property maintenance law. Trustee LeBlanc recently gave Mr. Saad a list of properties that had trashcans located in the front of the property. Mr. Saad took the list, photographed the properties and then said he could not enforce the law. Trustee LeBlanc asked why. Much discussion followed. Trustee LeBlanc believes that absentee landlords own most properties with maintenance issues. Trustee Landewe spoke advising the Board that he met with Mayor Murphy and Eyal Saad and drafted new language for the law. He will email the Board with the changes. Mayor Murphy said he would be sure the property maintenance law is enforced. Trustee Myers believes that the overall appearance has greatly improved in recent years. Trustee LeBlanc said in the 2000 Census, 54% of Village properties had tenants. Resident Rae Stang spoke about a property on Partition Street that has constant property maintenance issues. She also mentioned the skunk population in the Village has had a dramatic increase.

Trustee Dirie mentioned that the Saugerties Lighthouse has been featured in the American Airlines onboard magazine. She has no information on the camera situation from the Chamber of Commerce. The owner of the Reis Insurance Building property has given his permission for a community bulletin board to be located there. The bulletin board will be purchased and maintained by the Chamber. The Chamber will hold a flea market on October 9th. Trustee Dirie is speaking to the Town of Esopus regarding the water chestnut harvester. Trustee Landewe would like to see a volunteer “weed pulling” event to help with the water chestnut problem.

Trustee Hackett reported that the SFD has completed its CPR training. The SFD conducted a successful boot drop fundraiser over the weekend. The boiler at the CA Lynch Firehouse must be replaced. Maine Drilling and Blasting Company – the blasters for the Partition Street Project – were on site at the wastewater treatment plant and conducted a pre-blast survey. A manhole was cleared at the old Weekend Liquidator property. A digester mixer pump at the wastewater treatment plant must be rebuilt at a cost of \$29,000.00.

Alex Wade presented his report (copy attached). He also mentioned that to designate a handicapped parking space on a NYS highway, a curbcut must be approved and the space must be located on a corner. This would be impossible at the Village Apothecary.

Mayor Murphy informed the Board that former Mayor Cornelius Cox has passed away. Mr. Cox served the Village from 1958 through 1964 as a Trustee and as Mayor from 1965 through 1972. A moment of silence was observed in his memory.

Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to enter Executive Session to discuss contractual issues. Carried. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:30pm and returned at 9:10pm.

Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Dirie, to adjourn. Carried.
The Board adjourned at 9:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk

Filed 9/14/10