

Village Board

January 16, 2007

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Richard Moore, Kelly Myers, William Murphy, Michael Karashay and Mary Leahy

Absent: Trustee Michael Campbell

Others, Eyal Saad, Alex Wade, Joe Bisignano, Bob Ciarlante, Will Dendis-New Saugerties Times, Kate Heidecker-Freeman, Karin Yerry-Post Star, George Terpening, 35 students from the SHS Government Class and others

Mayor Robert Yerick called the regular meeting of the Village Board to order at 7:00pm.

Mayor Yerick presented the Minutes of the December 18, 2006 meeting for approval. (The January 2, 2007 meeting was cancelled due to the death of President Gerald Ford). Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Myers, to approve the minutes as written. Carried.

Trustee Moore presented the Abstracts: General - \$41,571.66 and \$51,735.88; Water - \$11,448.72 and \$6,276.58; Wastewater - \$15,888.31 and \$7,550.67. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to approve the Abstracts for payment. Carried.

Code Enforcement Officer Eyal Saad presented his report (copy attached). He urged the Board to approve Local Law #2/2007.

Building and Grounds Superintendent George Terpening presented his report (copy attached). He reported that over 160 lightbulbs had been stolen from the holiday decorations and asked the Board to consider security cameras. Trustee Mary Leahy added that the Beautification Committee also discussed the need for cameras at a recent meeting. She advised the Board that a new street and parking lot maintenance person has been hired. Trustee Leahy thanked employee George Beisel for the work he performed on a new wrought iron gate at Seamon Park. It looks beautiful.

Alex Wade informed the Board that a joint meeting of the Town and Village Board's is scheduled for February 1st, 7:00pm at the Senior Center. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the final report on the SAMA study from the consultants. He also advised the Board that they will be receiving Local Law #3/2007 that will contain some zoning changes.

DPW Superintendent Bob Ciarlante presented the DPW report (copy attached). Trustee Kelly Myers reminded the public that the DPW will not pick up Christmas Trees – save them for Spring Clean-up or bring them to the Municipal Lot on Wednesday or Saturday for a small fee. She reported that the low bid of \$35,000.00 for the new truck for the DPW was received and awarded to Robert Green Truck Division. Motion was made by Trustee Myers, seconded by Mayor Yerick, to approve an additional \$3,690.00 to outfit the truck with necessary equipment (as explained by Trustee Myers). Carried.

Water Superintendent Joe Bisignano presented the Water Department report (copy attached). He advised the Board that Bill Holden is retiring from the Water Department after more than 30 years with the Village. Bill is an excellent employee and will be missed. Trustee William Murphy advised that water shut-off notices were distributed today.

Trustee Michael Karashay reported that the annual Candy Run by the CA Lynch Company on Christmas Day distributed over 1500 bags of candy to Village children. The Mayor and the Board thanked the SFD for that effort.

Mayor Yerick presented Resolution #1/2007 for approval. This resolution announces Village Hall as the Polling Place for Village Elections to be held on March 20, 2007. The resolution was seconded by Trustee Murphy and carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick presented Resolution #2/2007 for approval. This resolution reaffirms the Board's opposition to a casino in Saugerties. The resolution was seconded by Trustee Leahy and carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick distributed Local Law #3/2007 to the Board. This law includes several changes to the zoning law. The changes are highlighted on the chart presented to the Board. He urged the Board to review the law and ask Alex Wade or Eyal Saad if they have questions or concerns. The Mayor set a Public Hearing for Monday, February 5, 2007 at 6:30pm for comment on Local Law #3/2007.

Mayor Yerick presented Local Law #1/2007 for a vote. This law transfers ownership of the Saugerties Public Library Building from the Village Board to the Library Board. Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve Local Law #1/2007. Trustee Mary Leahy recused herself from the vote, citing she was also a member of the Library Board. The law carried unanimously by all Trustees present.

Mayor Yerick presented Local Law #2/2007 for a vote. This law allows for administration and enforcement of the NYS Building Code mandated by NY State. Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve Local Law #2/2007. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick presented a request from the Ulster County Treasurer's Office regarding tax liens for the Village of Saugerties. This is an annual request that allows the County Treasurer to sell foreclosed Village property and share the proceeds from the sale with the Village. Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to approve the request. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick presented the annual request from the Ulster County District Attorney's Office to approve the DWI Task Force contract. Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Leahy, to approve the DWI contract. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he would revisit the decision regarding the Holiday Tree/Menorah/Nativity scene issue. He has spoken with many residents on the issue and done much research. One resident asked Mayor Yerick to look at the issue through the eyes of a child. The Mayor will make a recommendation to the Board and ask for a decision from the Board in the near future.

Mayor Yerick also asked the Board to think about raising the parking meter fees from \$.10 to \$.25 per hour. He also asked them to consider the hiring of a "meter-maid" on a part-time basis.

Mayor Yerick announced the joint Village/Town Board meeting on February 1, 2007 at 7:00pm at the Senior Center to receive the SAMA report from our consultants. He urged all Board members to attend.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he and Michael Karashay would be the emergency contact people for Central Hudson in case of an emergency.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that a \$37,000.00 grant has been awarded to the Village and Town for a feasibility study regarding combining the Village DPW and Police with the Town. The Mayor said he is in favor of the study but feels that the study will prove that combining the departments with the Town will not result in savings to taxpayers and is not in favor of combining the departments.

He announced a grant to study economic development with the Town has also been awarded.

Mayor Yerick wished retiring employee William Holden a long and happy retirement. Bill has been an outstanding employee for over 30 years at the Water Department. On behalf of the Board and residents of Saugerties, he wished Bill the best in the future.

Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to enter Executive Session to discuss a proposed real estate transaction. Carried. The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 7:58pm and returned at 8:15pm.

Trustee Murphy announced to the Board that he is a partner in MBM, LLC. This company operates the garbage and recycling center located in the Municipal Parking Lot for Village residents. Trustee Murphy will recuse himself from any discussion or vote on contracts with MBM, LLC.

Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Moore, to adjourn. Carried. The Village Board adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk

