

Village Board

October 6, 2008

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Suzanne LeBlanc, Michael Campbell, Kelly Myers, William Murphy, Michael Karashay and Richard Moore

Others: students from SHS Government class, Ken Whyte, Willy Neumann, Alex Wade and others

Mayor Yerick called the Village Board to order at 7:00pm. Trustee Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that Sunday's Mum Festival was a huge success. Thanks go out to all the organizations that participated in the Festival and especially to George Terpening and his crew. Trustee LeBlanc especially thanked Treasurer Julie Dunn who headed the Mum Festival Committee. Mayor Yerick also mentioned the open house at the SCS Jr/Senior High School and the crowing of the Mum Queen at the Mum Bowl. The SAGE group held it 1<sup>st</sup> Make A Difference Day at Cantine Field on Sunday – that was also a great success. The Irma Sagazie Race was held on Saturday with 45 racers - 99 year old Irma Sagazie was in attendance. Finally – History Day at the Kiersted House was Saturday with good attendance. A great weekend to be in Saugerties! Attendance was down at last weekend's Garlic Festival due to rainy weather.

Privilege of the Floor

Willy Neumann advised the Board that he witnessed a disturbance in a local store by a group of youths. He hopes the storeowner has called the police.

Kelly Myers spoke to the Board regarding her request for raise laying hens at her property at 12 Washburn Terrace. She has presented the Board with a petition from 5 neighbors stating they have no objection to her request, however the Board has received a letter from Audrey and Robert Rightmyer stating their objections to the plan. Mrs. Myers answered the objections by saying that the Rightmyer property is one street below her property. She feels Village street catchbasins will catch any water run off from her property and she has never seen a bear in the Village. There is nothing in the Zoning Law that prohibits raising the hens and Mrs. Myers does not feel that her request will impact the neighbors.

Ken White of Ulster Avenue addressed the Board. He said he has written two letters to the Village in the last few weeks – no reply has been received. He spoke of a recent incident regarding loud motorcycles circling around Ulster, Cross, Livingston and Market Street going 60MPH at 11:00pm. He asked where were the police – be is Village, Town, County or State? He said the un-muffled vehicles on Ulster Avenue are a real problem. Trustee Campbell responded by saying he has attended a recent seminar in Syracuse on behalf of the Village sponsored by Governor Patterson and Senator Schumer. They are investigating new laws to regulate truck traffic on local roads. Trustee Campbell also advised Mr. White that the Village would be erecting new signs asking truckers to avoid engine braking when traveling in the Village. Mayor Yerick apologized for the lack of

response from the Village and advised Mr. White that the police cannot be everywhere and that they do the best they can. Mr. White suggested a vehicle traffic check. Mayor Yerick replied that is a manpower problem. Mr. White then reported that the tree on the corner of Ulster and Elm is decayed. Trustee Myers said the DPW would investigate. Trustee LeBlanc commented that the motorcycles are indeed a problem. She also inquired how the police schedule their time. Mayor Yerick said they are in the patrol car 90% of the time. She asked if they walk Main and Partition Streets. Mayor Yerick answered yes.

Mayor Yerick presented the minutes of the September 15, 2008 Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to approve the minutes as presented. Carried.

Trustee Moore presented the Abstract for October 6, 2008: General - \$91,638.84; Water - \$11,351.22; Wastewater - \$12,764.85; Seamon Park Fund - \$785.00; Water Distribution Fund - \$224,424.54. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to approve the Abstract. Carried.

Trustee Myers reported that the DPW has made needed repairs to the sweeper. The DPW has been busy paving on Lighthouse Drive. Leaf pick up will begin the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November. No leaves in the street before Halloween please. The DPW helped out at the recent Garlic and Mum Festivals. They will be starting a paving project on West Bridge Street this week. Trustee Myers reported that the Building and Grounds Department was very busy at Seamon Park getting the Park in shape for the Mum Festival. Thanks to George and his crew as well as "Men in Orange" from the Ulster County Jail for the planting of the many mums. The Park looks beautiful.

Trustee Murphy advised the Board that the Water Department will be flushing hydrants this week. The UC Health Department has approved the recently installed water main near Sawyerkill Terrace. Work on the Main Street portion of the project is going very well. The sludge tank at the Wastewater Treatment Plant was repaired in house saving over \$20,000.00. The repair should last another 5 years.

Mayor Yerick reported that the Police Bike Patrol will be back in force in the spring of 2009 or the bikes will be sold. The next contract mediation with the PBA is scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Karashay reported that October is Fire Prevention month. The SFD has school visits scheduled. He mentioned that a recent report noted that tobacco is once again the leading cause of fires. He will give the Board more information on the Halloween Parade at the October 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. More info will be forthcoming on the new insurance available to volunteer firefighters in January 2009. The SFD has received a grant of \$1,000.00 to be used in conjunction with the Quadracentennial Celebration – to celebrate our Dutch heritage in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.

Trustee LeBlanc reminded everyone to check their smoke alarms. The Zoning Board will hold two Public Hearings for area variances on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee LeBlanc then presented Local Law #6/2008. This local law amends the parking meter law discussed at the previously held Public Hearing. Motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to approve the new law. Carried unanimously.

Trustee LeBlanc presented Local Law #7/2008. This local law amends the Village policy regarding superintendent use of Village owned vehicles, which was discussed at the previously held Public Hearing. Motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve Local Law #7/2008. Carried unanimously.

Trustee LeBlanc then presented new proposed fees for the Building Department and Planning and Zoning fees. Attorney Alex Betke reviewed Village fees and found them to be significantly lower than those of surrounding communities. The proposed fees were discussed with Mr. Betke, Code Enforcement Officer Eyal Saad, Clerk Mary Frank and Trustee LeBlanc. After discussion, motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc to table the discussion until the October 20, 2008 Board meeting. Carried.

Trustee Campbell again briefed the Board on the seminar in Syracuse regarding truck traffic. He mentioned that the DOT has identified 35 “short-cuts” that truckers use – 15 of them in the Elmira area of the State. It was mentioned at the seminar that the mayor of Saugerties has been in contact with the committee and they are aware that Saugerties also has “short-cuts”. Trustee Campbell urged everyone to attend the “High Tech/Green Collar and You” seminar at the SHS on October 16 at 6:30pm. The Saugerties Area Chamber of Commerce flea market is October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Union Plaza. The Chamber is also sponsoring “Hors’n Around Saugerties”, a project similar to the “Cats of Catskill” scheduled in the spring of 2009.

Alex Wade reported he is busy with Streetscape Project II paperwork.

At the last Board meeting, the Board received a request from artist Willy Neumann to place a piece of his art at a municipal location in Saugerties. Mr. Neumann then spoke advising the Board that he has an art piece on display in Brooklyn, NY at the East River. The piece is an 8x10 foot open frame. He would like to place the art at the Village Beach, framing the Village Beach sign. This work was also on display at the Woodstock Village Green for some time. He is the artist responsible for the recent flag and cube art on the hill at Snyder Farm on Route 212. He would like to bring the art to Saugerties on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Neumann assured the Board that he will anchor the frame and is responsible for it’s maintenance. He will also provide insurance coverage. He would like the Board to cover the cost of transporting the art from Brooklyn to Saugerties. After more discussion and questions, motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Myers, to approve a sum of no more than \$200.00 to transport the art piece from Brooklyn to Saugerties and the project be coordinated by Trustee Myers. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick presented Resolution #14/2008. Clerk Mary Frank explained that NYS wants to remove Registrar duties from local village and town clerks and move them to county clerks. The proposal also increases the cost of obtaining a vital record (birth, death, marriage certificates, etc.) from \$10.00 to \$30.00. This resolution opposes the NYS proposal. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc, to approve the resolution. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick reported that the request made by the SFD to exempt parking regulations for volunteers answering a fire call will be honored by the Police Department.

Mayor Yerick reported that the request of the owners of Village Apothecary would not be granted. Instead, parking meter attendant Sal Cavallero will replace one meter with a "double meter" creating one additional parking space.

Mayor Yerick inquired if the Board was ready to vote on the application of Kelly Myers to raise chickens at her property on Washburn Terrace. Trustee LeBlanc said she was uncomfortable with the procedure of asking the applicant to poll her neighbors. She feels some neighbors may not want livestock in their neighborhood, but answer yes when asked, just to keep a good relationship with their neighbor. Mrs. LeBlanc feels a yes vote to approve the application would set a precedent. Mrs. Myers replied that she feels each application should be judged on its own merit. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc, to table any action on the application until the October 20, 2008 Board meeting. Carried with Trustee Myers abstaining.

Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Moore, to adjourn. Carried. The Board adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank  
Village Clerk