

Village Board

December 3, 2007

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

Absent: Trustee Mary Leahy

Others: Will Dendis-New Saugerties Times, Alex Wade, Dennis Young

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

Mayor Yerick called the Holiday in the Village event wonderful. Trustee Campbell spent two days on the street filming the festivities and called it a success. Thanks to everyone involved. Trustee LeBlanc said the Village looks beautiful and urged everyone to support local merchants and shop locally for the holidays.

Mayor Yerick presented the minutes of the Public Hearing and regular meeting of November 19, 2007. Motion was made by Trustee Campbell, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc, to approve the minutes as written. Carried.

Trustee LeBlanc presented the Abstract for December 3, 2007: General - \$26,093.45; Water - \$7,168.26; Wastewater - \$13,935.42. Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Campbell, to approve the Abstract for payment. Carried.

Trustee LeBlanc also reported that the Town Board has exempted Village residents from a portion of the Town Highway Tax. She thanked the Town Board for their cooperation and asked Village residents to compare their highway taxes on the 2008 bill to the 2007 charges. They should see a reduction.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that it is “business as usual” in the Police Department. Trustee Myers said she noticed their “friendly presence” in the streets during the Holiday in the Village celebration.

Trustee Karashay presented the Fire Department report for July – October 2007 (copy attached). He reported that the new Fire Chief’s car is running well. The Board thanked Harold Wilsey for 50 years as a member of the Snyder Hose Company. Trustee LeBlanc and Trustee Myers complimented the SFD for the light parade on Sunday night.

Trustee Campbell presented his report (copy attached). The number of visits to the Village website continues to increase. A ribbon-cutting and open house event is scheduled January 26 at 11:00am for TV23. All are welcome. Trustee Campbell advised the Board that TV23 is funded by Time Warner Cable and spends less than Time Warner Cable donates to TV23. Both Trustee Campbell and Mayor Yerick said the volunteer spirit is in force at TV23 and throughout the community of Saugerties. Trustee Campbell reported the menorah located in the Reis Parking Lot would be lighted on December 4th at 4:30pm.

Alex Wade presented his Special Assignment report (copy attached). He is waiting for material to begin the 2010 Census information process. He has prepared a timeline for the many DOT projects scheduled for 2008. All the projects are interconnected and will require much coordination. Trustee Karashay suggested the timeline be published so residents will know what to expect. These projects will also include new signage, lampposts and flower boxes. Trustee LeBlanc asked how the Census information benefits the Village. Mr. Wade replied that federal aid is based on the number of residents in a community, so accurate information is very important.

Trustee Myers reported that the leaf pick-up by the DPW is almost complete. Residents are not to deposit any additional leaves in the street. The trucks are ready for winter. The DPW cut and decorated the Holiday Tree donated by Pam Gundmunsen.

Trustee Murphy reported that the paperwork for the grant awarded for the leak detection equipment is almost complete. He also reported that the Water and Wastewater Departments have decided to use an outside contractor to remove and process the sludge removed from the lagoon at the reservoir for the next 6 months. This will provide relief for the Wastewater Treatment Plant who has been processing the sludge. Trustee Murphy is investigating the construction of a “drying bed” for the sludge. Mayor Yerick said the Village is looking for a two to three acre site. The material could be sold as fertilizer providing income to the Village. The Mayor and Trustee Murphy stressed that the Wastewater Department is not near capacity, but the sludge material puts undue stress on the equipment, thus the need for an alternative solution.

Mayor Yerick reminded Village residents that the overnight parking ban goes into effect on December 15th.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he has reviewed the Ethics Law proposed by Trustee Campbell. He feels the law is too ambitious for the Village and is more suited for larger municipalities. He asked the Board to review the proposal and return with suggestions for a more simplified law. Trustee Campbell agreed saying he had some questions on whether the Village needed an “Ethics Committee”.

Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Myers, to adjourn. Carried. The Board adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk