

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Mike Campbell, Suzanne LeBlanc, Kelly Myers, William Murphy and Mary Leahy

Absent: Trustee Michael Karashay

Others: Police Chief William Kimble, Fire Chief Brian Martin, Superintendents Joe Bisignano, Bob Ciarlante, George Terpening, Code Enforcement Officer Eyal Saad, Alex Wade, Town Supervisor Greg Helsmoortel, Town Police Chief Greg Hulbert, Youth Award Committee Members Mary Olsen and Justine Smythe, Youth Award Winners, their friends and families and others

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

Mayor Yerick announced the presentation of the 1st Saugerties Youth Awards. The mission of the Saugerties Youth Awards Committee is to recognize and reward the young citizens of the Saugerties area who are caught making good choices and doing good deeds. Mayor Yerick and Supervisor Helsmoortel presented awards and gifts to the following young people:

Jordan Corvin – 6 years old – for purchasing (with his own money) and wrapping 80 Christmas gifts for children at Westchester Medical Center.

Amanda Martin & Megan Holmes – 16 years old – at their Sweet Sixteen Birthday Party they requested their guests make a donation to the family of a Saugerties infant with serious medical problems instead of gifts for themselves.

Shane Collins – 13 years old – for rescuing a St. Mary's of the Snow 2nd grade student from a pit bull who ran into the playground and attacked the child.

Kaleigh Myer – 10 years old – found \$35.00 while walking into her elementary school and quickly turned it into the principal's office.

After a short recess, the Board resumed its meeting at 7:35pm. Trustee Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Ron LeBlanc addressed the Board. He advised the Board that he does not support the Village spending \$10,000.00 on the restoration of the Gristmill. He said the building is in need of help but he does not sense any community support for the project and the gristmill should probably be demolished. He mentioned that the lighthouse restoration and the Kiersted House acquisition were both accomplished without taxpayer funding. The gristmill should not be a burden to the taxpayers. Mayor Yerick responded by saying that the last effort to restore the gristmill failed because it did not have the support of the Village Board. He said the Village Board made the decision to spend \$10,000.00 on the gristmill for the betterment of the community. He advised Mr. LeBlanc that since taking office as mayor, the tax rate in the Village has only increased 1¼%. The Mayor said that additional funding for the gristmill will be raised privately. Mr. LeBlanc said that was not apparent to the public. He went on to say that property assessments have increased causing taxes to rise. Trustee Myers responded by saying prior to the latest tax re-val, the tax rate was 12%. Now it's down to "7% and change".

Mayor Yerick presented the minutes of June 4, 2007. Trustee LeBlanc asked that her vote to approve the \$10,000.00 funding of the gristmill be changed from abstention to no. The Clerk explained that she could not change the minutes of June 4th but tonight's minutes would reflect the change. Motion was made by Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Leahy, to approve the minutes as written. Carried.

Trustee LeBlanc presented the Abstract for June 18, 2007. General - \$123,049.02; Water - \$2,150.47; Wastewater - \$55,659.47. Motion was made by Trustee Campbell, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to approve the Abstract for June 18, 2007. Carried.

George Terpening presented the Building and Grounds report (copy attached). Mowing and weedwacking is ongoing at all parks. He hopes to have the Village Beach and Lions Club Pool open around July 1st. Thanks to Carole Luther for the plants around Village Hall. Thanks to the Beautification Committee for the new hanging baskets and trees throughout the Village. One hanging basket was vandalized on Friday night and will be replaced. Trustee Myers remarked that she is getting positive feedback from residents about the appearance of the Parks and Village in general. Trustee LeBlanc asked if the beach bathrooms were open. Mr. Terpening said the bathrooms are only open when the lifeguards are on duty. Trustee Leahy asked the hours of the Lions Club Pool – George replied 9:00am – 6:00pm Monday thru Friday. She asked if the pool could remain open on weekends – George said he can consider it.

Trustee Campbell presented his report (copy attached). He presented a picture of the proposed bus shelter. He will check with the Beautification Committee for their approval and with the Post Office for location. The SAMA follow-up meeting is July 17th. Trustee Campbell is receiving info from other communities regarding yard waste disposal and will share ideas with the Board.

Alex Wade delivered his report (copy attached). The Planning Board is considering an application for a Special Use Permit by Saugerties Rent All on Ulster Avenue.

Bob Ciarlante delivered the DPW report (copy attached). A large layer of rock is in danger of collapsing on the DPW garage. It must be removed and a plan is being put into place to do just that. The DPW is working on Lighthouse Drive.

Trustee Myers spoke saying the rock behind the DPW garage looks like a large slab and action must be taken very soon. She is meeting with contractors and the Village will probably rent some heavy equipment and an operator with a cost of between \$5,000.00 and \$6,000.00. She is looking at the cost of renting a grinder and operator to handle the yard waste collected by the DPW. The cost will be around \$5,000.00 for a day. Currently, the debris is burned at no cost with a permit issued by the DEC. She is looking for feedback from the Board and the community. Mayor Yerick asked about purchasing a grinder and then renting it to other communities. Bob Ciarlante said the County tried that and was unsuccessful. Trustee Campbell went on record of being against burning and in favor of spending the funds for a grinder. Trustee Myers also

advised the Board that the work on Lighthouse Drive is to stop some erosion – the drainage is being solved with new piping and the road is stable.

Joe Bisignano presented the Water Department report (copy attached). The Department is looking for an alternate method to dispose of the lagoon sludge. It is presently removed by the Wastewater Department and put into the sewer system. Construction of the holding lagoon is complete and a barge is presently sucking sludge from the reservoir for the ongoing dredging project. The area experienced heavy rains (once again) – 6 inches in 30 hours. The plant was manned and the situation handled. The water tank provided water to residents for 8 hours. Hydrant flushing has been postponed.

Trustee Murphy presented the Wastewater Department report (copy attached). He advised the Board that the odor control system at the wastewater plant was ready for summer use.

Chief William Kimble presented the Police Department report (copy attached). He noted that on May 14, the PD arrested someone for a DWI who turned out to be wanted for murder in another state and on May 24th an arson investigation was completed resulting in an arrest – the SFD prevented what could have been a very bad fire. The grant for 2 new police cars from Senator Bonacic is forthcoming and the cars have been ordered. The Chief and the Mayor met with filmmaker Bill Stitt and filming of a documentary for National Geographic will begin on Finger Street in July.

SFD Chief Brian Martin presented his report (copy attached). The Chief invited the Board to its annual July 4th inspection at 8:30am. The ladder truck was out of service to have 16-year-old seals replaced. The truck is currently back in service.

Eyal Saad presented the Building Department report (copy attached). He advised the Board on the court case involving a derelict property on Livingston Street. The owner refuses to cooperate.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that Sam Farina has been appointed by the Department of Criminal Justice System to investigate the consolidation of the Village and Town Police Departments. This study is a free service provided by NYS and is in addition to the study that will take place by an independent organization that will be funded by a grant.

Mayor Yerick reminded the Trustees of the July 4th parade and asked for suggestions.

Trustee Mary Leahy spoke saying that she has talked to the contractor who is interested in restoring the gristmill. The \$10,000.00 approved by the Village Board will not cover the expenses that were thought it would. The Gristmill Committee will try to refocus on fundraising for a long-term plan. A decision has been made to not proceed with the project at this time, however Trustee Leahy hopes the Village will continue to support the project. This is a Village owned property that must be taken care of.

Trustee Campbell invited the Board to the opening of the Farmers Market on Saturday, June 23rd.

Trustee Myers gave a thank-you to Sonny Solito for his work on the Veteran's Monument recently dedicated at Cantine Field.

Motion was made by Trustee Campbell, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to adjourn. Carried. The Board adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk