



VILLAGE OF SAUGERTIES  
43 PARTITION STREET  
SAUGERTIES, N.Y. 12477

## Village Board Meeting Minutes January 7, 2019

**Present:** Mayor Murphy, Deputy Mayor Jeannine Mayer, Trustees Don Hackett, Vince Buono, Terry Parisian, Brian Martin, Jeff Helmuth, Alex Wade, Bill Kemble, Dave Gordon, Bob Daley, Bob Gallenz, John Stafford, 7 High School government students

**Mayor Murphy** called the **Village Board Meeting** to order at 5: 30 pm.

**Mayor Murphy** requested **Trustee Helmuth** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Privilege of the Floor – John Stafford** addressed the Board as a member of the Village Tree Commission. John explained the work that the Tree Commission has done, applying for and receiving a 40K grant for tree maintenance, tree planting, and working with the DPW and Central Hudson with tree removal and stump grinding. He had two requests from the Board. The Tree Commission would like to apply for a grant to purchase a cherry picker. The grant would require one of the DPW members to be a certified arborist. He is requesting funding for the employee to attain certification.

The second request would be to have the Board consider increasing the Tree Commission budget from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

**Mayor Murphy** stated that the budget increase would be considered by reallocating monies from DPW that was set aside for tree maintenance. It would be considered during the budgeting process. The funding for a certified arborist would also be considered.

**Trustee Parisian** remarked that the possibility of obtaining a cherry picker had been looked into in the past. The mandatory insurance that was required caused a problem. There were certifications required to own and maintain the cherry picker. Working in the area of the electrical lines and balancing the equipment was a major requirement and subsequent cost of the insurance.

**Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Minutes from December 17, 2018. Trustee Buono made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2018 Village Board meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mayer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for January 7, 2019:**

- **General** \$ 97,321.63
- **Water** \$ 155,709.98
- **Wastewater** \$ 18,817.90

**Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the Abstract for January 7, 2019. The motion to approve the Abstract of January 7, 2019 was seconded by Trustee Hackett. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Tracey Testo and Kelsey West** of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties presented an assessment report regarding the Village of Saugerties Climate Smart Planning tool. See attached. The report included the areas of strengths such as the Comprehensive Plan, Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, the Community Rising projects and the participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. The participation in the Climate Smart Communities certification program would provide the Village access to funding opportunities for project implementation. The tool would help make the community become able to deal with climate change in the future.

Alex Wade has been working closely with Cornell Cooperative staff on the Climate Smart Planning for the past year. The suggested opportunities for the village include risk assessment, public outreach, and disaster preparedness and recovery. The Village has already addressed and completed some of the requirements for

certification. Tracey suggested that the assessment report tool be used as a resource and to keep in contact with them. There is funding opportunities available.

**Mayor Murphy** asked how the Village of Saugerties compares to other villages in the Hudson Valley. They stated that they were impressed with how much the Village has done already. Saugerties is one of a first communities to have the LWRP. The Comprehensive Plan is very encouraging.

The Town is also considering participating in the same program.

**Trustee Parisian** asked what the cost would be for the certification process. Tracey stated it varies greatly. The community contract is free to work with the committee to come up with a baseline. There are funding opportunities available. Once you become a Climate Smart Community, you can apply for funding and some of the projects are a 50/50 cost share. Up front costs would be repaid. The planning tool is available as an Excel format as a working document.

A branch of NYS DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program provides a lot of the funding for this work.

The Hudson Valley Regional Council can provide help with implementation funding also.

A lot of the items in the tool are already done and is an easy way to earn points for certification. A joint effort with the Town would be looked into.

There will be a follow up within the next few weeks. A person to control the online portal, forming a committee and taking a pledge are the next steps to start the process.

**Trustee Parisian** had nothing new to report.

**Jeff Helmuth** had nothing new to report.

**Trustee Buono** mentioned that he met with Helene to get an update on the budget. We are 58% completed with the year. All three budgets, General, Water and Wastewater are on target. We are where we should be. Budget updates and information are available from Helene.

**Trustee Martin** reported that he attended the Tree Commission meeting. A lot of good has been done by the Tree Commission, tree planting, maintenance and pruning. The Tree Commission received a grant that has been used to inventory trees, purchase supplies, prune, grind stumps and plant new trees. The Tree Commission committee has been working closely with DPW and Central Hudson to address tree removal, stump grinding, planting and pruning. The water bags used this summer for new plantings worked out well. The Commission is requesting an increase in the budget from \$3000 to \$5000 as John Stafford had referred to when he addressed the Board. Plans for 2019 include stump grinding, planting trees on Market Street and applying for additional grants. See attached report.

**Mayor Murphy** added that the Tree Commission has done a great job. Residents are pleased.

**Trustee Martin** stated that the Tree Commission will be creating a Homeowners Packet with information when a tree is planted near their property.

**Trustee Buono** reported that the tree at Seamon Park needs to be evaluated. It is a very tall cedar and has begun to lean towards the house. The holiday lights have become grown into the tree which could be a possible fire hazard.

**Trustee Hackett** stated that the Seamon Park Board should be notified regarding the hazardous tree.

**Trustee Hackett** reported that the control panel at East Bridge Street pump station was not working. The electrician was able to repair the problem.

A resident on Washington Avenue reported a backup in their sewer line that turned out to be roots in the line.

**Alex Wade** see attached report for Special Projects.

Mr. Wade thanked the representatives from Cornell Cooperative for the Climate Resiliency Grant presentation.

Mr. Wade reported the engineer's revised agreement for the Bluestone Sidewalk Repair Project will be going out to bid in February. The portion of Partition Street that was too expensive was eliminated from the project scope. The final budget has not been received yet.

**Deputy Mayor Mayer** reported

- The NYE Ball drop went well despite the rainy weather. Thank you to Mike Ivino for the use of the crane and to The Dutch Tavern for helping out by sharing the music from the band *Innocence* with the crowd.
- The Visitors Center space has been rented out. An alternate location is needed. The Chamber Board meeting will be this Wednesday evening.
- TV23 has approved 2 new members - Elizabeth Reece for the Village and Tamara Shupin for the Town. Classic movies will be played on Thursday at 7pm in February.
- The Comprehensive Plan Committee will meet next month. Mary Leahy is the Village Planning Board Representative.

The Board discussed a letter received from the Library Director, Katie Scott-Childress regarding parking in front of the library. See attached letter.

**Trustee Hackett** has an issue with cars that park on Washington Avenue all day long. Most are school employees. He had contacted the interim superintendent regarding the problem a few months ago. There are empty spots in the parking lot and they park on the street that are needed for school pickup. He thinks the 15 min parking sign should stay and 2 additional in front of the Library. Enforcement is necessary.

**Mayor Murphy** will speak to the School Superintendent regarding parking on Washington Avenue as a first step. St. Mary's parking lot is available to the school employees also.

**Mayor Murphy presented Resolution #1 - Annual Election Polling Place.**

**Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve Resolution #1 seconded by Trustee Buono. A roll call of the Trustees was yes to all present. Motion carried.**

**Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the Village Board meeting, seconded by Trustee Buono. Motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.**

**Next Village Board meeting is Monday January 22, 2019 at 5:30 pm.**

Lisa Mayone

Village Clerk

Filed January 10, 2019