



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes July 5, 2023

Present: Mayor Murphy, Trustees: Terry Parisian, Vince Buono, Brian Martin, Don Hackett, Andrew Zink, Deputy Mayor Mayer
Others: Bill Kemble Freeman, Suzanne LeBlanc

Mayor Murphy opened the Village Board meeting at 5:30pm.

Regular Session

Trustee Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege Of The Floor

Kai Lord-Farmer was coming to answer the questions that the Village Board had discussed at the last Village Board Meeting, unfortunately Kai was not able to attend the meeting.

Judith Spektor, Diane Colello – Co-Chairs for the Town of Saugerties Task Force for the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities Initiative came to discuss their involvement and came to share their support for the Village. Also, Marjorie Leopold, Josepha Gutelius, Madison Suardy and Antonio Aguilar.

Diane Colello – wanted to speak to the Village Board to join the Task Force for the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities Initiative after reading in the paper that it was voted down. Diane is aware that Kai would be able to answer more questions, but wanted the Village Board to know that the Saugerties Task Force is newly set up and wanted to make known. It would make sense for the Village and the Town to work together.

Mayor Murphy – commented that he had spoken to Supervisor Costello on this topic before the last Village Board Meeting and when the topic came up for discussion the Village Board had a lot of questions. We turned the vote down without prejudice and that was the reason for Kai to meet with the Village Board. Th Village Board wanted to make a informed decision.

Trustee Parisian stating that upon further investigation of the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities, Ulster County program not a State program. This program is at no cost, Ulster County municipalities who join the initiative. Initiative he found many layers that need to be completed. Trustee Parisian had many samples of what he found, the implementation of the 12 Housing Smart Actions. The Village would have to join the Initiative through municipal resolution, designate a Housing Smart Community Coordinator, establish a municipal-level Housing Smart Task Force. Review Housing Smart Actions, Identify which 1-2 Housing Smart Actions the municipality would like support implementing. Complete the Consultant Support Services online application. Ulster County Planning Dept. will contact the municipality Coordinator to meet and collaboratively draft a Scope of Work, will oversee implementation of scope of work.

Create Municipal Housing action plan – what is that

Adopt short term rentals regulation - which we partially have

Support the development Accessory Development Unit / Short Term Rental

Adapt existing real estate tax law

Adapt a rent stabilization regulation – regulating rents? Assessments go up, landlords will increase rents

Adapt an affordable housing overlay district

Housing site inventory – issue request conceptual proposal for housing

Streamline development of approval processes

Adapt a building energy code

Establish a housing rehab program

Create initiative housing strategies

How much will this cost? Who will do this?

Suzanne LeBlanc – and at what cost? We have more affordable housing in the Village than the Town.

Trustee Parisian – went on with the discussion of tasks need to be completed

Diane Colello – reading the list of tasks sounded like it was stated “then we have to”, “then we have to”. You made it sound like the Village Board has to do the work. We started with volunteers to start the Town Task Force.

Alex Wade - stated in the resolution that was written that the Village was assisting with the Town nowhere does it say we are joining the task force.

Trustee Hackett - It sounds like the Town did not do their homework. Diane Colello asked the question what you mean by that? we are official task force, we have no power. We can bring our ideas to the Town Board.

Mayor Murphy – the discussion with Supervisor Costello initially was that we would join their task force. There is no point to having two working task forces. We were asked to join the Town.

Josepha Guelius – Joined the Task Force to gather information. Information gathering to understand long term rentals, short term rentals. If we asked the right questions, we might find the right solutions. I know the hardships that landlords, why are people choosing short term rentals versus long term. Too much weighed to tenant needs, not hearing the whole story.

Mayor Murphy - It was great during COVID the Governor gave tenants a relief on making payments when people lost their jobs. There are many landlords I know that lost hundreds of thousands of dollars, if they choose to turn those rentals to short term to recoup their loss, why not?

The rental landscape has changed the Task Force to reach out to the Community to have options to take. The spirit of the concerns for the workforce that cannot afford to live here.

Trustee Parisian – Tell me in Ulster County who employes people know, we need to bring jobs here, Jobs and housing go hand in hand. Is it government’s responsibility to create housing, affordable housing. The change that is happening is not a result of government involvement. We don’t need a law to use the resources.

Judith Spektor – Ulster County Task Force we can use those the resources available that have an expertise in getting information to inform communities to make informed decisions.

Suzanne LeBlanc – any new program or proposition we need to hear Kai’s comments and then list the advantages and the disadvantages for the Village. There is always pressured to join, let the Town do their work, they have a lot of work to do. We have over 60% rentals in the Village.

Mayor Murphy - we are not going to resolve this tonight. I appreciate you coming to the meeting and appreciate the work you are doing for the Town. We will notify your Task Force of the meeting when Kai is coming. We will just table this for now. Thank you for coming, Thank you Suzanne for coming, it’s good to get all sides. Healthy discussion.

Trustee Parisian – Thank you for your volunteerism.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from June 19, 2023.

Trustee Parisian made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from June 19, 2023. Trustee Martin seconded the motion to approve the minute from June 19, 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstracts for July 5, 2023.

- General \$ 45,155.84
- Water \$ 14,857.27
- Wastewater \$ 24,162.62

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstracts for July 5, 2023. Trustee Martin seconded the motion to approve the Abstracts for July 5, 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy read the names of the Village of Saugerties Summer Help - 2023

Ethan Maloney – Office Intern
Ava Cooper – Lifeguard
Danna Saad – Lifeguard
Gianna Papa – Lifeguard
Lisa Pagon – Pool Aide
Grace Hopf – Parks
Steven Fischer – Parks
Johnathan Saad – Parks
Catelynn Brennan – Parks
Alex Moores – DPW
Owen Gallagher – Water

Mayor Murphy – shout out to DPW for the clean up after the 4th of July. Streets looked great.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the list of names for the Village of Saugerties Summer Help 2023. Trustee Martin seconded the motion to approve the list of names for the Village of Saugerties Summer Help 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Parisian – Nothing new to Report

Trustee Zink – Update from the Planning Board Meeting, Public Hearings will remain open for 310 Main Street and 105-107 Partition Street till the next Planning Board Meeting. Resolution # 4 53 S. Partition Street was approved by the Planning Board.

Library – July 4th Shout Out Saugerties hosted an Artist / Poetry reading, I read a poem. Twenty-five Village and Town residences in attendance.

Trustee Buono – Nothing new to report

Trustee Martin –

Deputy Mayor Mayer – Chamber Board 1st Friday, August 4th at Tina Chorvas Park

Auction street artwork - September 9th at HITS, Brunch – Million Dollar Horse Show 2:00PM, tickets \$35, \$40.00 at the door.

Food Truck canceled due to bad weather.

Chamber - Tourism Calendar Events

Vintage Baseball Games 7/29/23 and 8/26/23

Artist Studio Tour – 8/12/23 and 8/13/23

B-Fit Studio – Chamber had its meeting, very nice.

Arts Commission – considering new logo and new web
Sawyer Motors Car show July 8 & 9
Revolving loan application

Trustee Hackett – Smell has improved at wastewater. The sludge process has now become daily process. Jake Dodd started as a new operator at the plant.
Eyal Saad surveying spots on the Esopus that the town residences have inquired about.

Trustee Martin - July 4th here and gone, more to follow

Trustee Buono – Nothing to report

Mayor Murphy – The July 4th parade was phenomenal, the best parade and the most fun I've had, the turn out was great.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to Adjourn the Village Board Meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion to Adjourn the Village Board Meeting. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:19PM.

The next **Village Board meeting is Monday, July 17, 2023, at 5:30pm.**

Peggy Melville Village Clerk July 7, 2023