

Present: Mayor William Murphy, Trustees Don Hackett, Brian Martin, Jeannine Mayer, Patrick Landewe, Vince Buono and Terry Parisian

Others: Jon Shapiro, Assemblyman Pete Lopez, DOT Rep Rich Dillmann, Ed Quirk, Brendan and John Amodio, Robert Ford – New Sau Times, Dave Mason, Joe Sinagra, Bob Ciarlante, Mike Hopf, Russ Nasby, George DeSalvo, Theresa Deshane, Pat Serna, students and many others

Public Hearing

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive comment on proposed Local Law #8/2012 changing Russell Street to one way only from Washington Avenue to Partition Street.

Mayor Murphy called the Public Hearing to order at 6:45pm. He explained that the Village has been working on the one way street issue for several years. Proposals have included making Montgomery one way from Partition Street to Washington Avenue and Clermont Street one way from Washington Avenue to Partition. Neighbors on these streets were not in favor of these changes and the idea was tabled. More recently, a situation has developed where 53' delivery trucks are being ticketed when making deliveries to area businesses including the Saugerties Furniture Mart warehouse on Russell Street. These extra length trucks are not allowed on streets not designated as State Highways. Due to rising gas costs, many trucking firms are using 53' trucks to carry larger loads resulting in fewer trips for the trucks. Saugerties Furniture Mart owner Jon Shapiro contacted the DOT and Assemblyman Pete Lopez for help. There have been several meetings with the NYS DOT, the NYS State Police, local police, Village government and more. Suggestions included widening Russell Street or eliminating parking on the street. The recommendation from the NYS DOT was to make Russell Street one way – the street is not wide enough for two way traffic and a 53' truck at the same time. Although not required by law, letters went to every property owner on Russell Street asking if anyone objected to the street becoming one way. One phone call was received with no objection. Mayor Murphy went on to say in hindsight, letters should have also been sent to property owners on the corners of Russell and Partition. He concluded by saying the Board welcomed public input on this issue.

Theresa Deshane spoke saying she is the owner of Mirage – a styling salon located at 139 Partition Street – the corner of Russell of Partition. She is not in favor of the one way street because her customers will have no access to her parking lot from Partition Street. She has no problem with trucks delivering to the Saugerties Furniture Mart warehouse – she suggested removing a sidewalk. She also does not like the idea of huge trucks on Washington Avenue.

Jon Shapiro spoke saying use of the 53' trucks results in fewer deliveries. The truck drivers are just trying to do their job. He went on to say that in years past, most of the trucks were 48' long. This past year the companies went to 53' trucks and the NYS

Police are issuing tickets. If the truckers continue to receive these tickets, they will refuse to deliver to his warehouse.

Brendan Amodio, current owner of Mirabella's and owner of the new restaurant 123 Partition, spoke saying he is planning on outside dining in the alleyway from Partition to the Municipal Parking lot next to his restaurant. He is concerned that vehicles will not be able to turn right onto Russell Street and will turn into the Municipal Parking Lot to cut around to Russell. He is afraid this will result in many more vehicles in the alleyway causing harm to his business.

Russ Nasby, the owner of Stagecoach Taxi located at 139 Partition Street, spoke saying this will be a major inconvenience for his taxi business. The taxis will not be able to access his parking lot from Partition. He went on to say that the Village has seen a tremendous increase in both vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the last few years. Our streets were not designed for large truck traffic.

Jon Shapiro said he does not care if Russell Street is one way from Partition or one way from Washington.

Mayor Murphy asked if the Village could somehow widen Russell Street at the Partition Street end to accommodate the trucks going to the warehouse but placing signage saying trucks could not travel down Russell Street.

Jon Shapiro said he receives deliveries anywhere from 7:00am to 5:00pm.

George DeSalvo suggested eliminating parking on Russell Street.

Mayor Murphy asked what about one way on Russell from Partition Street to Washington Avenue? Trustee Parisian said the intersection at Russell and Washington is dangerous intersection crowded with the nursery school kids especially around 11:00am. Mayor Murphy asked DOT rep Rich Dillmann if NYS had any plans to change the law on the 53' trucks. Mr. Dillmann replied that 48' truck was the legal limit – a 53' truck needs a 10' lane.

Pat Serna asked if these trucks brought more wear on Village streets that could cause a sinkhole.

Alex Wade, a member of the SAMA Committee, suggested eliminating parking on Russell and that perhaps Saugerties Furniture could turn its vacant lot into parking for residents.

Trustee Landewe suggested eliminating parking on Russell from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Rich Dillmann said the lane needs to be at least 10' wide – not wide enough for two way traffic.

The discussion veered into overnight parking in the municipal lot.

Russ Nasby asked how much it would cost to widen Russell Street. Mayor Murphy said too much.

Alex Wade said the Village has a 40' right of way.

Mayor Murphy asked Jon Shapiro if the newly established loading zone on Partition Street was helping with the problem. Jon replied that it is not a good solution.

Alex Wade asked if Jon was willing to sell the warehouse and build a new one in a different location. Jon answered no.

A spokesperson for the Robert Alan Agency, located at 139 Partition Street, spoke saying they were not in favor of the proposed law. She presented a letter from Robert Carlucci for the record. She also said that the business may be forced to move if the law is passed.

More discussion followed with other suggestions for a solution.

Mayor Murphy asked “what about one way on Russell from Partition up to the exit of the municipal parking lot”? Then Russell Street would be two way from that point on. Everyone seemed to favor this solution however Mayor Murphy said this matter should be tabled and the law reconsidered.

Mayor Murphy closed the Public Hearing at 7:35pm.

Mayor Murphy called the regular meeting of the Village Board to order at 7:45pm. Trustee Hackett led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for October 15, 2012: General - \$18,264.76; Water - \$6,052.77; Wastewater - \$15,340.47. Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Mayer, to approve the Abstracts. Carried unanimously.

Mike Hopf presented the Water Department report (copy attached). He also advised the Board that Vince Brennan will retire on October 19th. Dave Dunn is moving into Vince's position.

Bob Ciarlante presented the DPW report (copy attached). In addition to his report, Bob said the new milling equipment is working out well and is very useful to the DPW.

SFD Chief Dave Mason presented the SFD report (copy attached). The Halloween Parade is scheduled for October 26th. Line up in the Municipal Lot behind Mirabella's is at 5:00pm. Step off is at 5:30pm. Fire Prevention Week at local schools is underway – thanks to Trustee Brian Martin for all his effort on this project.

Alex Wade presented his Special Assignment report (copy attached). The report updates the Streetscape project. He asked the Trustees to consider Resolution 15/2012 (copy attached). This resolution is regarding the Streetscape Program. The Trustees had several questions that Mr. Wade was unable to answer without obtaining further information from the DOT. Mayor Murphy tabled Resolution #15/2012 until all questions have been answered.

Trustee Hackett presented the Wastewater Department report (copy attached). Mike Marino is still collecting bids for the conversion to natural gas at the plant. Interviews for the vacant position at the wastewater plant begin this week.

PD Chief Joe Sinagra presented the PD report for September (copy attached). The Zombie Crawl is October 20 from 6:00pm to 10:00pm – Main and Partition will be closed to vehicle traffic. Two officers have attended “Homicide School” on behalf of the department. All officers are completing active shooting training. Trustee Buono asked that the police patrol Division Street – people are still driving the wrong way on the street – perhaps the Library could notify its patrons. Trustee Parisian asked how the enforcement of the “Synthetic Drug Law” is going. Chief Sinagra answered all Village businesses are in compliance. Other municipalities are using our law as a model for their community to consider.

Trustee Landewe reported that the Planning Board held a Public Hearing October 10th on the proposed changes to the Country Meadows project. The Planning Board will hold a Special Meeting on October 30th at 6:00pm where the Country Meadows developer will make another presentation to the Planning Board. The next Historic Review Board meeting is October 24th. Mayor Murphy advised the Village Board that he had met with developers regarding Country Meadows and now has a better understanding of the project. Trustee Parisian said he understands PILOT programs that bring business to a community but is not really in favor of PILOTS for housing.

Trustee Mayer reminded the Village Board that the Comprehensive Plan Committee will hold an information meeting at the Library on November 15th at 7:00pm. All Trustees are encouraged to attend. The Cahill Classic will be run on October 20th. The Mum Festival was a success.

Mayor Murphy closed the meeting by saying that the community suffered a major loss with the death of former Mayor Bob Yerick. Bob served as Mayor for over 12 years and sparked a rebirth of business and pride in the Village. A moment of silence was observed in his memory.

Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to adjourn. Carried unanimously. The Village Board adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank, Village Clerk

Filed 10/19/12

