

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Suzanne LeBlanc, Michael Campbell, Kelly Myers, William Murphy, Jeannine Dirie and Richard Moore

Others: Alex Wade, David Radavanovic, Rosemary Brackett, Dave Minch, Penelope Milford, Vinnie McGlaughlin, Prudence See, Richard Frisbee, Donald Hackett, Ed Quirk, Heather Plonchak-New Sau Times, students from the SHS Government Class and others

Mayor Robert Yerick called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00pm. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive public comment on infrastructure projects with regard to the NYS Office of Community Renewal's Community Development Block Grant. Mayor Yerick introduced Victor Cornelius, the Village grants writer who explained that availability of funds for these projects are based on the Census information. There are three block areas in the Village and one area qualifies for the Block Grant. The Village is going to apply to the federal government for these funds. Penelope Milford asked "where are the blocks and what projects are being considered. Mr. Cornelius answered that a sewer main re-lining project was being considered. Alex Wade explained that the sewer main runs behind Price Chopper on Ulster Avenue, through the cemetery along the creek down West Bridge Street to the Ripley Street pump station. Village Clerk Mary Frank read the Public Hearing Notice that had been published in the New Saugerties Times and posted on TV23 to the residents in attendance. Mayor Yerick spoke about his understanding of the stimulus package – 3 "waves of funding"; 1st wave is available now and all projects must be "shovel ready". Ms. Milford said she would like the Village Board to consider changing the venue for Public Hearings and Board meetings. She does not like the configuration of the Board meeting table, because some Trustees have their backs to the public. She said it is not encouraging for the public to attend meetings. Trustee Campbell asked Mr. Cornelius if stimulus dollars would be available to purchase buildings. He mentioned that the Baptist Church School on Partition Street was for sale and if purchased would give the Village much needed space. Mr. Cornelius said the funds were not for acquisition of property. Trustee Campbell asked about sidewalks – Mr. Cornelius replied the project must be shovel ready and tie in with another infrastructure project. Mr. Cornelius said that the requirements for funding are changing and projects must be in contract by January 1, 2010. Trustee Myers asked about stimulus funding for firetrucks. Mr. Cornelius said there are funds from Homeland Security and has the figures from the Fire Department to request funding. Trustee Myers inquired about improvements to the DPW garage. Mr. Cornelius requested facts and figures. Trustee LeBlanc inquired about roads – Mr. Cornelius said roads could be rolled into water and sewer infrastructure projects. Trustee Dirie asked if these programs were a combination of grants and loans – the answer is all grants. Resident Vincent McGlaughlin asked about bus transportation. Trustee Campbell said he is working with SAMA and UC Transit for a more comprehensive countywide system. There was more discussion. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Dirie, to adjourn. Carried. Mayor Yerick closed the Public Hearing at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Frank

