

Village Board

March 18, 2013

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

Others: Robert Ford – New Sau Times, Ed Quirk, Dave Mason, Joe Sinagra, Mike Hopf, Mike Marino, Eyal Saad, Bob Ciarlante, George Terpening, Alex Wade and others

Public Hearing

Mayor William Murphy called the Public Hearing to order at 6:45pm. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive comment on Local Law #1/2013 – adding the definition of “party wall” to our Zoning Code. Trustee Landewe explained that the “party wall” definition is used in NYS Building Code but is not defined in Village Zoning Code and thinks it should be. Eyal Saad agreed that adding the definition to the Zoning Code was a good idea. There were no other comments. Mayor Murphy closed the Public hearing at 6:50pm.

Mayor Murphy called the regular meeting of the Village Board to order at 7:00pm. Trustee Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor

Steve Hubbard addressed the Board asking the status of a 6 month moratorium on new construction of multi-family housing. Mr. Hubbard had requested the Board to take this action several weeks ago in a meeting with Mayor Murphy, Trustee Landewe and Trustee Mayer. Trustee Landewe responded saying the Board has decided to wait until the Comprehensive Plan was completed. Mr. Hubbard insisted that there must be a limit set on multi-family housing saying the Village does not need anymore. He said there is already a 10% vacancy rate for apartments and that we need jobs, not housing. Trustee Buono added that the Village Board is very aware of his concerns. Trustee Landewe advised Mr. Hubbard that the Board has put aside money in the new budget to hire a consultant to help update the Village Zoning Code that governs these issues. Mayor Murphy then took Mr. Hubbard to task saying he had met several times with Mr. Hubbard on the issue of affordable housing and PILOT Programs. However at a recent SACRED meeting televised on TV23, Mr. Hubbard accused the Mayor of making a “backroom” deal for a PILOT program for Country Meadows. Mayor Murphy went on to say that the County Meadows Project was approved for senior housing 4 years ago and a PILOT was negotiated and approved by the Town Board. When the developer changed the project to “multi-generational” housing, the original PILOT was no longer valid. Mayor Murphy said he spoke to the developer and got the developer to agree to a higher PILOT payment. He went on to say if the Village, Town and School District do not accept a PILOT negotiated by the municipalities, NYS will step in and award one that will not be as favorable to local governments. Mayor Murphy said he is a lifelong resident of the Village and loves the Village and its residents. He will not tolerate anyone accusing him of dishonesty. Mr. Hubbard apologized for any remarks he may have made

that offended Mayor Murphy. More discussion followed. Alex Wade commented that municipalities cannot have a policy that disallows affordable housing. Mayor Murphy agreed adding that the Village would be sued by the State and Federal Government if that occurred. Mr. Hubbard apologized to Mayor Murphy once again.

Ed Quirk, spoke saying Mr. Hubbard should be ashamed of himself for his remarks regarding Mayor Murphy at the SACRED meeting.

There was no one else who wished to address the Board.

Mayor Murphy presented the Minutes of the March 4, 2013 Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Buono, to approve the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for March 18, 2013: General - \$20,569.09; Water - \$3,564.93; Wastewater - \$14,041.29. Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Mayer, to approve the Abstract. Carried unanimously.

Mike Hopf presented the Water Department report (copy attached). 18,879,000 gallons of water were treated in February 2013. A 20 gauge shotgun was found off the dam spillway. The PD recovered the weapon and discovered it was stolen 13 years ago.

Mike Marino presented the Wastewater Department report (copy attached). Repairs are ongoing on 10 year old equipment. New employee Fred Carney is fully trained and doing well. The “jet truck” is an important piece of equipment for the Village – maintenance is always ongoing. A 500 gallon waste oil tank has been removed and sold. The “muffin monster” will be auctioned in the spring.

Bob Ciarlante presented the DPW report (copy attached). The street sweeper will begin rounds shortly. Spring clean-up is the week of April 15th – please – nothing in the street before April 5th. DPW is replacing several parking meter poles in the Village. Trustee Mayer announced that this year’s “Art in the Street” will once again be Lighthouses. The DPW will install them.

Eyal Saad presented the Building Department report. He is arranging for driver safety training for Village employees. He condemned a building on Main Street for raw sewage in the basement. He is working with Safco to identify which employee has what numbered “fob” to create a master list. He is helping Trustees install new Village email addresses.

Alex Wade presented his Special Assignment report (copy attached). UCAT is making changes to the local bus route and schedule. Mr. Wade and Trustee Buono are meeting soon with County officials to discuss these changes. Streetscape continues.

George Terpening presented the Buildings and Grounds report (copy attached). George will be meeting with NYMIR reps to tour playgrounds shortly. Trustee Mayer announced

that Marge Block will research grants for new playground equipment and Heidi Rocco has volunteered to head the fund-raising committee for new playground equipment. The Department is working on the Emerald Ash Borer problem at Seamon Park.

Police Chief Joe Sinagra presented the Police Department report (copy attached). In addition to the data report, the Chief advised the Board that he plans to begin a “Reserve Police Officers Program” in Saugerties. These will be volunteers who will ride along with paid police officers. The reserve officers will be certified officers, and will be placed in schools and other areas chosen by the Chief. They will be asked to volunteer 24 hours per month. Chief Sinagra briefed the Board on the upcoming May 12 Bike Race going thru the Village. The Chief also announced that police services will not be “free” to special events this year – all promoters will have to pay for extra police services. On March 27th, the PD will conduct an active shooter drill at the Cahill School. Detective KJ Swart has completed a course and is now a certified Arson Task Force member. The prescription medical return program is very successful. The new police dog will begin canine training on April 1st.

SFD Chief Dave Mason presented the SFD report (copy attached). The SFD responded to 10 alarms for a total of 57 hours in February.

Trustee Mayer advised the Board that the Comprehensive Plan Committee recently held a Public Hearing and received many constructive comments. Their next meeting is April 2nd.

Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Mayer, to support the May 12th Bike Race with a small portion of the route to be in the Village. Carried unanimously.

Mike Hopf announced that the 2nd annual Fishing Tournament sponsored by the Saugerties Fish and Game Club will take place at the reservoir on May 19th. Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Martin, to support the tournament. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy reminded everyone that the annual Village election is tomorrow, March 19th.

Trustee Landewe motioned Local Law #1/2013 for approval. This local law adds the definition of “party wall” to the Zoning Code. The motion was seconded by Trustee Martin and carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy presented the \$4100.00 contract for the Tree Inventory by Integral Tree and Landscape. Trustee Parisian said he would like to see the Village added as an additional insured and that the Village would have the option to approve any additional hazard tree evaluations. Motion was made by Trustee Parisian, seconded by Trustee Mayer, to approve the tree inventory contract with the additions suggested by Trustee Parisian. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy asked the Board if they wanted to instruct Treasurer Helene King to enroll in the free credit monitoring service offered by Central Hudson after a recent data security incident. The Trustees asked if payments to Central Hudson could be made on-line. The Clerk will ask the Treasurer. Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Parisian, to authorize Treasurer Helene King to activate the credit monitoring service for one year. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy presented the Budget for 2013/2014. The General Budget is \$2,322,755.00; the Wastewater Budget is \$949,376.78 and the Water Budget is \$1,176,739.29. The rate per thousand on the General Budget is 6.3646 down from 6.7639. Mayor Murphy said this amounts to a 6% reduction in taxes or \$138,000.00 less in expenses. The Wastewater Budget reflects a decrease of \$52,238.22 in expenses and the Water Budget reflects a \$70,145.93 decrease in expenses. A Public Hearing on the Budget will be held on April 1st at 500pm at Village Hall. The regular meeting of the Village Board will immediately follow the budget Public Hearing. Trustee Buono said he feels that the budget is the most important job that the Village Board performs. He thanked the Supervisors and employees of all departments for their hard work and cooperation during this budget process.

Motion was made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss a real estate transaction. Carried unanimously. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:20pm and returned to the regular meeting at 8:45pm.

Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Parisian, to adjourn. Carried unanimously. The Board adjourned at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk

Filed 3/22/13