

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

Absent: Trustees Jeannine Mayer and Patrick Landewe

Others: Robert Ford – New Sau Times, students, M/M M. Wardell, Mrs. Ethel Quick, Chris Wilson, M/M R. Martinez, John Murray, Sondra Flores, additional residents of Russell Street, PD Chief Joe Sinagra, Bob Ciarlante, Mike Hopf, Eyal Saad, Alex Wade, George Terpening, Ed Quirk, Jon Shapiro, Gary Newkirk and others

Public Hearing

Mayor William Murphy called the Public Hearing to order at 6:45pm. Mayor Murphy explained the purpose of the Public Hearing. The Village Board has been working on traffic flow in the Village for many years. Village streets were not designed for the amount and size of vehicles that travel through every day. The NYS Police are issuing tickets to 53' tractor trailers that use Russell Street to deliver furniture to the Saugerties Furniture warehouse located on Russell Street. In order for the trucks to legally drive on Russell Street, there must be a 10' wide driving lane. With two way traffic and parking on one side of the street, the driving lane is less than 10' wide. Many ideas have been suggested including making the street one way from Washington to Partition and/or eliminating parking on the street. Letters were sent to all property owners on Russell informing them of this Public Hearing and asking for comment on eliminating all parking on Russell Street. Mayor Murphy thanked Chris Wilson for contacting all his Russell Street neighbors and for circulating the petition (copy attached) presented to the Village Board this afternoon. The petition asks that the Board consider making Russell Street one way from Partition to Washington with parking remaining as it is currently permitted on the south side of Russell. Much discussion followed with all of the Russell Street residents agreeing that this latest suggestion was acceptable to everyone. Chris Wilson added that signage limiting truck traffic to "Local Deliveries Only" may be a good idea. Trustee Buono spoke saying the Saugerties Times had misquoted him and that he supports this solution. Trustee Parisian asked that the Village do a complete study of Village streets – Mayor Murphy said that one was completed several years ago by the Ulster County Transportation Council and SAMA (Saugerties Area Mobility Analysis) and that the Village has enacted several of their recommendations. Changing Montgomery, Clermont, Post and Russell streets to alternating one way streets was one of SAMA's suggestions. Area residents objected and the change was never made. Several of the Russell Street residents said they would like to see more parking available on Russell – Trustee Buono said that is something the Board will take a look at. Mrs. Ethel Quick said she supports the one way street change. Mayor Murphy will ask the Village attorney to draft a law changing Russell Street to one way from Partition to Washington and to ask about signage for "Local Deliveries Only". Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Buono, to close the Public Hearing. Carried unanimously. The Public Hearing closed at 7:10pm.

Mayor Murphy called the regular meeting of the Village Board to order at 7:12pm. Trustee Hackett led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Town of Saugerties Accountant Gary Newkirk spoke to the Village Board to help the Trustees understand how Village residents are taxed by the Town. Village residents pay Town taxes for the Town Court (mandated by NYS), the Town Board, Police Department, Parks, Buildings & Grounds, and the Transfer Station. Residents of both the Town and Village are taxed evenly for these services; however Town residents pay 80% of the total tax to 20% paid by Village residents. The average Town tax bill for Village residents in 2012 was \$818.00 – in 2013 the tax bill will be \$892.00. The Town residents paid \$1239.00 in 2012 and will increase to \$1318.00 in 2013. These figures do not include the “Special District” taxes (fire, library, Diaz). Mayor Murphy added that the Village did not get a “free ride” for the Police Department. In addition to paying Town taxes for the Police Department for the last two years, the Village also paid over \$400,000.00 to the Town to help with the transition.

Mayor Murphy presented the minutes of the November 5, 2012 Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Martin, to approve the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for November 19, 2012: General - \$47,718.60; Water - \$3,531.43; Wastewater - \$15,385.40. Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to approve the Abstract. Carried unanimously.

Police Chief Joe Sinagra presented the Police Department report for October 2012 (copy attached). There were 276 calls for service in the Village, 21 arrests, 3 DWI arrests, 6 narcotics arrests and 141 parking tickets were issued. Chief Sinagra praised the many agencies that participated and cooperated in the emergency service response for Hurricane Sandy. The Zombie Crawl went well – only one incident reported – closing the streets was a good decision – over 2000 people attended. During the winter season officers will “walk the beat” in the Village on the 3:00pm – 11:00pm and 12 midnight to 8:00am shifts. Two new patrol cars will soon be in service. Trustee Buono asked if the Police Department budget “took a hit” in the budget process. Chief Sinagra answered he requested \$2.4 million and received \$2,115,117. To reduce the budget, the cost for cameras in patrol cars was removed, Chief Sinagra forfeited his health insurance coverage and additional ammunition was purchased in 2012 to avoid cost increases anticipated for 2013. No services to the Village will be reduced. Trustee Parisian asked how the surveillance camera in the Village was working – Chief Sinagra said it had the effect of another patrolman in the Village.

George Terpening presented the Building, Parks and Grounds report (copy attached). The wraps and wreaths will go up on the lampposts next week. Kiwanis members are working on the decorations at Seamon Park. The Electric Light Parade will take place on December 2nd.

Bob Ciarlante presented the DPW report (copy attached). Mayor Murphy thanked the DPW for all their work helping residents clean up from Hurricane Sandy. Trustee Hackett asked about leaf pick-up. Mr. Ciarlante said they should finish up the week after Thanksgiving.

Mike Hopf presented the Water Department report (copy attached). No problems at the water plant from Hurricane Sandy. There was a water main break on Hill Street – the DPW will help with the repair. Trustee Buono inquired about the new software for the water department office – Mr. Hopf reported that the new software will eventually be able to “handshake” with the Village Treasure’s system; however it has not been an easy transition.

Code Enforcement Officer Eyal Saad reported Hurricane Sandy caused mostly cosmetic damage to homes on Lighthouse Drive and Ferry Street – there was not much structural damage. Mayor Murphy announced that Building Department fees would be waived for any home that sustained damage from Sandy – he asked homeowners to check with Eyal for more information. Mr. Saad reported he went to Long Island to help other Building Inspectors from throughout the State assess damage from Sandy – extensive destruction. Fire inspections for public assembly buildings are almost complete.

Alex Wade presented his Special Assignment report (copy attached). Still plodding through all the DOT paperwork for Streetscape. Mr. Wade agrees that one-way traffic on Russell Street from Partition to Washington seems like the best solution. The Comprehensive Plan meeting was well attended. Trustee Buono said that one big concern regarding the Comprehensive Plan is the implementation of the document.

Trustee Hackett presented the SFD report (copy attached). The SFD was manned for 24 hours during Hurricane Sandy and was involved in the evacuation of Lighthouse Drive and Ferry Street. Twenty firefighters stood by during the night of October 29th. The SFD is considering the installation of a siren to alert residents of a flooding event. The SFD will host the Holiday Parade of Lights on December 2nd at 530pm.

Mayor Murphy thanked Keith Hughes and his crew from Expert Tree Service for their help with the holiday lights on the buildings in the business district. Mr. Hughes sent 4 bucket trucks with crews to help the firemen with this lighting project.

Trustee Hackett presented the Wastewater Department report (copy attached). The conversion of the furnaces to natural gas at the Wastewater Plant will be sent out for bid. Motion was made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Parisian, to approve the hiring of Fred Carney. Carried unanimously. Mr. Carney will be a laborer in the Wastewater Department.

Trustees Martin and Parisian had nothing to report.

Trustee Buono advised the Board that there have been no STAC or Economic Development Committee meetings recently. He reported that he has met with the

members of the Ethics Committee and determined that Bob Michaud will serve 1 year, Karyn Pavich will serve 2 years and Ann Meiswinkle will serve for 3 years. Jack Wilsey is the alternate and his term is for 3 years.

Mayor Murphy presented Trustee Mayer's report (copy attached). He advised the Board of the schedule of events for Holiday in the Village on December 2nd.

Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel situation. Carried. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:20pm and exited at 8:30pm.

Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Buono, to adjourn. Carried unanimously. The Village Board adjourned at 8:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk

Filed 11/21/12