

Village Board

April 2, 2012

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

Others: Cal Hackett, Sue and Bill Anderson, Robert Ford – New Sau Times, Ariel Zanglia – Freeman, students, Alex Wade and others

#### Public Hearing

Mayor William Murphy called the Public Hearing on the 2012/2013 Budget to order at 5:30pm. Sue Anderson questioned the Water Department Budget and the notice on the recent water/sewer bills citing an increase in water rates. Mayor Murphy explained that this is the 1<sup>st</sup> water rate increase in over 6 years. Water revenue is down for several reasons; in part because a large water leak was discovered by the Town and repaired by them reducing income to the Village. Residents are being more cautious in the water use also reducing revenue. Mayor Murphy added that even with the increased water rate, the Village's rate is still one of the lowest in the State. Some of the water lines are over 100 years old and will need replacing – the increase will allow the Water Department to budget for those needed repairs. Cal Hackett questioned the salary of Wastewater employee Lynn Vroman saying it appears he received a huge increase. Mayor Murphy explained saying he thought that last year Mr. Vroman was paid by the Water and Wastewater Departments because he works one day a week in the Water Plant. This year, his entire salary was moved back to the Wastewater Department budget. Mayor Murphy said he will confirm with Treasurer Julie Dunn and assured Mr. Hackett that the employee did not receive a \$9000.00 raise. Trustee Buono thanked all departments for their work on the Budget. Mayor Murphy closed the Public Hearing at 5:45pm.

#### Regular Village Board Meeting

Mayor Murphy called the April 2, 2012 meeting of the Village Board to order at 6:00pm. Trustee Hackett led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Murphy administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Trustees Vincent Buono, Donald Hackett and Terry Parisian.

Russell Nasby spoke to the Board presenting his application for a Taxi License in the Village of Saugerties. Mr. Nasby also presented his proof of insurance, driver's license, registrations and has paid the \$100.00 license fee. He is a retired NYC Detective and already owns a taxi company in New Paltz. He will operate three vehicles from an office located at 139 Partition Street with hours seven days a week from 6:00am till 12 midnight. The name of his company will be Stagecoach Taxi Service. He has contracts with NYS to transport patients on Medicaid and Medicare. After a short discussion, motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Mayer, to approve the Taxi License. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy presented the minutes of the March 19, 2012 Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Parisian, to approve the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for April 2, 2012: General - \$47,287.63; Water - \$19,584.97; Wastewater - \$13,023.48. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to approve the Abstract. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono again thanked the Trustees and Department Supervisors for their hard work on the Budget. The General Budget (paid by taxes) remained steady at a rate of 6.7639% per \$1000.00 – 0% increase from last year. The Water Department Budget (paid by user fees) decreased 2.06%. The Wastewater Department Budget (paid by user fees) decreased by over \$69,000.00. Mayor Murphy displayed an envelope received by him recently. There was no return address on the envelope and inside was a real estate page from the NY Sunday Times with listings of homes in Connecticut, Brooklyn, and Westchester County. The sender wrote “Saugerties taxes higher than Westchester & Conn. Something must be done !!!”. Mayor Murphy said he does not appreciate anonymous correspondence and normally would not respond but wanted to say since he has been mayor, in 2010/2011 there was a 0% tax increase, in 2011/2012 a 21% tax decrease and in 2012/2013 a 0% tax increase. He stands by his record on taxes and feels a great job has been done to hold the line in today’s economy. He went on to say that he is very accessible to the public – he will speak to anyone who has questions, comments or suggestions – but have the courtesy to identify yourself.

Mayor Murphy presented the suggested appointments in the Village Administration and to the various Village Boards (copy attached). He read all names into the record. Motion was made by Trustee Landewe, seconded by Trustee Buono, to approve all appointments. Carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy advised the Board that the Village representative to the UC Planning Board has resigned. A replacement is needed. Anyone who is interested, please contact the Mayor.

Trustee Parisian advised the Board that the sweeper is back in service after being repaired. Spring clean up is scheduled for the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Mayer advised the Village Board that the Saugerties Area Chamber of Commerce has elected a new Board. Bob Siracusano of Sawyer Motors has been chosen “Business Person of the Year”. Thanks to Bill Mayer of McDonalds for repairing the roof on the tourist info center.

Mayor Murphy asked the Board to approve a request from Water Super Mike Hopf to allow GristMill Real Estate to list the reservoir house for rent. The payment to GristMill would be the 1<sup>st</sup> month rent. Motion was made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee

Buono, to approve giving GristMill Real Estate the reservoir house listing. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Mayer asked for a discussion on the two separate recent requests for additional installation of parking meters. She has learned that the Village has a double meter available now – additional meters cost about \$350.00. Mayor Murphy said there is off street parking available in a lot at one of the locations. Trustee Hackett added that the Saugerties Police do not issue parking tickets – that is up to the “meter folks” employed by the Village. Mayor Murphy said “meter folks” patrol for 2 hours every day at different times. Additional discussion continued with the matter tabled until the next Board meeting.

Trustee Landewe reported that he recently attended a workshop on consolidated grant funding. He also advised the Board that 2 new homes will be built on Valley Street.

Trustee Hackett thanked the Buildings and Grounds Department for replacing the SFD sign at the Firehouse. He has met with Mayor Murphy, Mike Marino and Julie Dunn regarding the bulk storage tank removal at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Trustee Martin reported that the Tree Commission is reviewing the Shade Tree Ordinance.

Trustee Buono reported that Central Hudson will be removing a gooseneck style streetlight from Partition Street on Wednesday April 4<sup>th</sup>. The DPW will make sure the parking area is clear.

Trustee Hackett invited the Board to attend the SFD’s Chief’s night on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Murphy presented Resolution #7/2012. This resolution approves the sale of 780 square feet of land along East Bridge Street to Stan O’Dell for a price of not less than \$500.00. Trustee Landewe said he did not see any language in the Resolution regarding an easement on the property. Trustee Parisian asked if the language would be included in the deed description. Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Buono, with the condition that easement language be included in the Resolution. Carried unanimously. The Clerk will notify attorney Alex Betke.

Mayor Murphy set a Public Hearing for 630pm on April 16<sup>th</sup> to receive comment on proposed Local Law #2/2012 that prohibits the sale, possession or distribution of products containing synthetic drugs.

Mayor Murphy invited everyone to attend the Easter Sunrise Service at Seamon Park at 700am on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Martin, to adjourn. Carried unanimously. The Village Board adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank Village Clerk

Filed 4/4/12