

Village Board

July 2, 2007

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustee Michael Karashay, Suzanne LeBlanc, Kelly Myers and William Murphy

Absent: Trustees Michael Campbell & Mary Leahy

Others: Alex Wade, Will Dendis – New Saugerties Times

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

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

Mayor Yerick presented the minutes of the June 18, 2007 Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc, to approve the minutes as written. Carried.

Trustee LeBlanc presented the Abstract for July 2, 2007. General - \$45,863.64; Water - \$10,849.06; Wastewater - \$16,611.19; Water Capital Fund - \$90,461.25. Motion was made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to approve the Abstract for payment. Carried.

Trustee LeBlanc reported (copy of the report attached) on a meeting she attended along with Mayor Yerick, Town Councilman Fred Costello, Town Account Gary Newkirk and Town Bookkeeper Debra Martino held on June 11, 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to learn what charges Village residents pay the Town and are included in the January Town taxes. Trustee LeBlanc advised the Village Board that the meeting was very cordial and the Town representatives said they look for ways to reduce the tax burden to Village residents. Town taxes are separated into two categories – all Town taxes (includes all Town and Village properties) or part Town taxes (no Village properties). It was discovered that two portions of the Town Highway Tax – purchases, repairs and maintenance of road machinery & snow removal - were discretionary charges and could be removed from the items the Town taxes the Village residents. Motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Myers, to have the Mayor request (by letter) that the Town make two portions of the Highway Tax “part Town taxes” therefore exempting Village residents from these charges. Carried.

Alex Wade presented his report (copy attached). Some members of the SAMA Committee are meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup> to make plans to move forward with some of the SAMA recommendations.

Trustee Myers advised the Board that a slope project is underway on Lighthouse Drive. A portion of the shoulder of the road is deteriorating caused by poor drainage. New drains have been installed and the DPW is in the process of bracing the slope. The DPW has made some improvements at the Waterfront Park including the kayak and canoe launch. Some gravel spilled into the Esopus Creek during the improvement and the Village is working with the DEC to correct that issue. The rock ledge behind the DPW

garage is being braced by the DPW. Once the bracing is complete, the crews will begin chipping it away so it does not “give way” onto the garage. Mayor Yerick said “safety first” is the highest priority.

Trustee Murphy announced that hydrant flushing will begin next week. He also advised the Board that the Village Water Department has been awarded a \$35,000.00 grant from NYS. This grant will allow the Village to purchase 150 water leak detectors to be located at one in every 100 houses throughout the Village. This equipment will detect and locate leaks and help prevent incidents such as the water main break on Main Street this past winter.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that the Police Department is all ready for the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and the Car Show on July 8<sup>th</sup>. He also advised the Board of a recent incident at Stella’s Station on Partition Street where a 19 year old male hid under trucks parked in a lot on Russell Street and shot patron’s with plastic pellets from an air rifle. The youth was arrested and sent to Ulster County Jail.

Trustee Karashay invited the Board to the annual Fire Department Inspection at 8:30am on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Augie Fellows has been named Grand Marshal for the Parade in honor of his 50 years of service to the SFD. Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Myers, to approve Amanda Robinson for membership into the RA Snyder Hose Company. Carried. Trustee Karashay advised the Board that he and several members of the SFD attended the recent Hudson Valley Firemen’s Convention where they attended several seminars including how to fight fires in hybrid cars.

Alex Wade mentioned that Eyal Saad sends out grass letters to residents on a weekly basis. The Mayor urged the Board to report any property maintenance violations to Eyal. Trustee Leblanc asked about trash cans left in the street by homeowners after garbage pick-up. The Mayor will ask the Police Department to be more vigilant and speak to offending homeowners.

Mayor Yerick presented Resolution #13/2007 to the Board. This resolution urges the NYS Legislature to pass the NYS Property Taxpayer Protection Act. The resolution was seconded by Trustee LeBlanc and carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that the Board would have a float in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.

Mayor Yerick referred to an article from US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT distributed to the Board regarding clean water by Trustee Campbell. The Mayor mentioned that the Village has already addressed many of the issues cited in the report and is in very good shape.

Mayor Yerick urged the Board to attend the Car Show on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Murphy asked that the Board recognize Alex Wilson, a local man whom was seriously injured in Iraq. Lt. Wilson lost a leg in a roadside bombing. Trustee Murphy

would like some suggestions from the Board and public as to an appropriate way to honor Lt. Wilson when he returns to Saugerties. Trustee Murphy advised the Board that Lt. Wilson had planned to enter the FBI after finishing his military career. The Board hopes he will be able to realize his goal and will discuss ideas to express the Village thanks for Lt. Wilson's service and sacrifice.

Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to adjourn. Carried. The Village Board adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank  
Village Clerk