

Present: Mayor William Murphy, Trustees Don Hackett, Jeannine Dirie, Patrick Landewe, Kelly Myers, Vince Buono and Suzanne LeBlanc
Others: Students from SHS Government Class, Virginia Lupino, Dave Campbell, Fire Chief Anthony Bell, George Terpening, Bob Ciarlante, Joe Bisignano, Alex Wade, Heather Plonchak-New Saugerties Times and others

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

Privilege of the Floor

Dave Campbell, of Lighthouse Drive, addressed the Board with concerns regarding recreational vehicles to include ATV's, jet skis and snowmobiles. He advised the Board that residents of Lighthouse Drive are subjected to "hours upon hours" of constant noise from illegal recreational vehicle use. Mr. Campbell submitted suggestions (copy attached) for amending existing Village noise law. His proposal states "if you can hear it, it's in violation". Mayor Murphy advised the Board that Mr. Campbell spoke with him and Trustee Buono over the summer months about this problem. The mayor instructed the Village Police to patrol the area more often and that action was helpful this summer. Mr. Campbell said the winter months are also a problem. Trustee Buono advised the Board that he has already spoken with Town Police Chief Barbaria about the situation. Mayor Murphy thanked Mr. Campbell for his comments and promised to keep working on a solution.

Mayor Murphy presented the Minutes of the December 6, 2010 Village Board meeting. Trustee Buono requested an addition to the minutes regarding his comments about the management of the reservoir on page 2. He requested that "He is in favor of monitoring the amount of water if the cost of such action is not prohibitive." Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Buono, to accept the minutes as amended. Carried.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for December 20, 2010. General - \$58,006.23; Water - \$5,387.13; Wastewater - \$27,883.17; Water Distribution Fund - \$50,510.88; Seamon Park - \$1,425.86; Storm Sewer Separation - \$240.00. Motion was made by Trustee Dirie, seconded by Trustee Buono, to approve the Abstract. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented Resolution #15/2010 for Board approval. This resolution was requested by the USDA to authorize and provide for the incurrence of indebtedness in the amount of \$3,245,800.00 for the purpose of providing the cost of improving the Village Water System. The resolution was seconded by Trustee Landewe and carried unanimously.

Trustee Myers then presented a report regarding the turbid water flowing in the Esopus Creek since October 2010. In May of 2006, the Esopus Creek experienced severe

flooding after torrential rain and unannounced releases from the Ashokan Reservoir by the DEP. All the Towns along the Esopus Creek and the Village of Saugerties formed a group naming itself the Lower Esopus Watershed Partnership to work with the DEP on flooding issues. In October 2010, muddy, chocolate colored water began to flow down the Esopus Creek. Upon investigation it was discovered that the DEP was releasing 580 million gallons of muddy water per day into the Esopus Creek. This water used to flow into the Kensco Reservoir and was treated with the chemical “alum”. Apparently too much alum has been used, causing damage to the Kensco Reservoir. The NYS DEC ordered the DEP to stop using the alum. The DEP’s solution to this problem was to open a channel from the Ashokan Reservoir and send all the turbid water down the Esopus. The DEP considers its only responsibility to be to provide clean drinking water to NYC. They have not taken into account all the damage the muddy water is causing for the residents along the Esopus Creek. Trustee Myers and Alex Wade attended two meetings with the NYS DEC and the DEP last week to discuss this problem and the impacts it has caused. Much was learned and discussed at these meetings. The DEP also releases water into the Delaware River, however, protection of the Delaware has been in place for many years. Trustee Myers called on the DEP to ask for the same protection for the Esopus Creek. Trustee Myers presented pictures of the damage already caused to the Saugerties Village Beach. She said the silt is damaging the wetlands along the Esopus – these actions are illegal. This turbid water release is endangering fish, especially bass, and causing problems for farms along the Esopus. Property values will drop causing assessments to be reduced. According to Trustee Myers, the EPA and the NYS DEC need to enforce laws already on the books. There should be a moratorium on turbid releases into the Esopus. Alex Wade added that the DEP had no knowledge of the dam on the Esopus located in the Village of Saugerties owned by John Mullen. Trustee Dirie asked what can the Village do? Trustee Myers advised contacting every elected official possible. Trustee Hackett suggested contacting the EPA. Joe Bisignano said that, per the DEC, the Esopus is a “class A” stream. Much additional discussion took place. Mayor Murphy thanked Trustee Myers for her excellent presentation. Trustee LeBlanc asked what the Village Board could do. Trustee Myers wants to file a written complaint with the DEC and oppose the issuance of a new SPEDES Permit to the DEP.

Trustee Landewe reported that he attended a DEC conference regarding water resources and its effects on regional economies. Communities must know how much water is available before businesses will invest in their communities.

George Terpening presented his report (copy attached). The Park is decorated for the Season and looks great. Trustee Dirie reported that she has received many compliments on the Park.

Trustee LeBlanc presented the Building Department report (copy attached). Blasting at the Partition Street Project is just about complete.

Trustee LeBlanc presented Local Law #2/2011. This law amends the unregistered vehicle law by saying that an unregistered vehicle displayed for private sale must be

removed from the property or properly registered after being for sale for 6 months. The Board set a Public Hearing for Local Law #2/2011 for January 3, 2011 at 6:45pm.

Mayor Murphy presented Local Law #1/2011. This law reduces the speed limit to 25MPH on Washington Avenue from Montgomery Street to Main Street. The Board set a Public Hearing for Local Law #1/2011 for January 3, 2011 at 6:40pm.

Fire Chief Anthony Bell presented his report (copy attached). The report contains a summary of all calls answered by the SFD in November 2010. Chief Bell also reported that the CA Lynch Company would hold its annual Candy Run on December 25th. The SFD recently participated in the Town of Esopus Christmas Parade. Chief Bell will try to coordinate events between our two Towns. "Knox boxes" have been installed by two local businesses – these boxes contain keys to allow the SFD access to the buildings. Trustee Dirie will suggest the use of "knox boxes" to the Chamber of Commerce. Chief Bell would like to meet with Town Police Chief Barbaria to make sure the communication between the two departments is on track.

Trustee Hackett presented the Wastewater Department report (copy attached).

Water Superintendent Joe Bisignano reported heavy rains caused the water treatment plant to shut down twice in recent weeks. A new pump is being installed in the backwash system. He reported that Sal Cavalaro would be retiring on December 29th after 30 years of service to the Village. Sal will be greatly missed by everyone at the Village.

DPW Superintendent Bob Ciarlante presented his report (copy attached). The CHIPS reimbursement from NYS has been received in the amount of \$50,000.00. As usual, those funds were used to finance the paving of Village streets this year. Mr. Ciarlante thanked Expert Tree Service for their help with the Christmas Tree. He also thanked the DPW crew for all their efforts over the past year. He commented that his men are asked to perform many tasks and those tasks are always handled.

Alex Wade presented his report (copy attached). He advised the Board that he would attend an Ashokan Reservoir Dam safety meeting on December 21st.

Trustee Dirie reported that the Chamber is working on some new ideas for next years Holiday in the Village. There is a contest underway to name the public art "lighthouse" exhibit.

Trustee LeBlanc reminded residents that calendars commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Town are available for sale at the Village office. She reported that she, Mayor Murphy, Clerk Mary Frank and Treasurer Julie Dunn attended the swearing in ceremony for Village Police Officers who became part of the Town Police Department.

Trustee Buono advised the Board that he attended a preliminary meeting of officials regarding a race to be run on April 3, 2011 through the Town and Village. The race is

scheduled as a warm up for the Boston Marathon and should attract many runners to our area. SAMA efforts continue.

Mayor Murphy presented the PBA Contract for Board approval. The PBA Contract expired in May of 2010. This new contract covers the time period of June 2010 through December 2010. Mayor Murphy reported that the PBA has accepted the contract. Trustee Buono and Treasurer Julie Dunn recommend the Village Board approve it also. Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Dirie, to approve the PBA contract. A roll vote was taken with Trustee LeBlanc voting nay and all other voting yea. The contract was approved.

Mayor Murphy asked for Board approval to appoint Suzanne Frederick to the Tree Commission. Board approval was given.

Mayor Murphy advised the Board that the Village needs a volunteer to represent the Village on the Ulster County Planning Board. Anyone interested should see the Mayor.

Mayor Murphy advised the Board that 5 long time employees are retiring at the end of 2010. Their combined service to the Village totals 147 years. They are: Sal Cavallaro of the Water Department; John Ingrassia of the Wastewater Department; and William Kimble, Thomas Rea and Joseph Laquarda of the Police Department. Mayor Murphy thanked them for their service and wished them well in retirement.

Mayor Murphy wished the officers joining the Town Police Force good fortune. He believes that a unified force will serve the Town and Village well.

Lastly, Mayor Murphy thanked everyone for his or her support since he became Mayor in March of this year.

Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to adjourn. Carried. The Village Board adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk