

Village Board

August 1, 2011

Present: Mayor William Murphy, Trustee Patrick Landewe, Don Hackett and Vince Buono

Absent: Trustee Jeannine Mayer, Kelly Myers and Brian Martin

Others: Alex Wade, Robert Ford – New Saugerties Times, Kevin Hobbs, Ashley Drewes and others

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

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

Mayor Murphy advised the Board that Old Timer's Day is planned for Saturday August 6th from 12noon to 6:00pm. Many activities are planned for the day.

Mayor Murphy presented the minutes of the July 18, 2011 Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to approve the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for August 1, 2011: General - \$30,022.17; Water - \$8898.60; Wastewater - \$8504.35. Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to approve the Abstract. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Landewe presented the report (copy attached) prepared by Trustee Myers regarding the meeting on July 28th with the DEP, the DEC and the ARWG, their site visits and a Riverkeeper event. The DEP will release 10 million gallons a day of clear water into the Esopus to help benefit downstream communities.

Trustee Landewe went on to present the HRB's minutes (copy attached) of their July 2011 meeting. There was no Planning Board meeting in July and the ZBA is reviewing the area variance application for the Baptist Church.

Mayor Murphy advised the Board that violation letters have been sent to the owner of the Dragon Inn. The Village may have to cut the grass at the property if the owner fails to comply.

Mayor Murphy then asked a resident, who arrived late, if she wished to address the Village Board. Ashley Drewes, the owner of Sugartown Boutique, had a few questions regarding the HRB. She said the design for her business sign was rejected by the HRB for being "too modern". She wondered if there was a list of criteria so she could modify the sign. Trustee Landewe advised her to attend the next HRB meeting so she could discuss the sign with the Board and work out a design that was acceptable to both parties.

Trustee Buono advised the Village Board he attended the recent Economic Development Committee meeting. On August 6th, a mountain bike race will travel through a section of West Saugerties, with most of the race taking place in Greene County. This is a huge event drawing over 1000 racers. The EDC hopes to attract the organizers to Saugerties for future events. The Diamond Mills Hotel hopes to open by mid-September. The restaurant and convention center are set for the end of October. Water and sewer hook-ups on Kings Highway are ongoing. The purchase of Opus 40 by the Town of Saugerties is off the table – the owner is searching for private investors. The Shine on Saugerties Lighthouse auction is scheduled for October 1st at the Kiersted House.

Trustee Buono reported that he has received correspondence from Senator Bonacic regarding the various traffic signal problems: the signal at Price Chopper has been modified; there will be no changes to the Right on Red at Market and Ulster; the DOT suggests that the Diamond Mills owners purchase a new signal for the intersection of Main and Partition. Some discussion of the signals took place.

Trustee Buono suggested tabling any discussion of supervisor use of Village vehicles and the recent meeting with Lighthouse Dive residents until the August 15, 2011 Village Board meeting.

Trustee Hackett advised the Board that the odor control equipment at the Wastewater Plant was not in working order. The Department advised surrounding residents and has not received any odor complaints as a result. There is no new information on the co-generation effort.

Trustee Hackett reported that the SFD will assist at the Farmer's Market Farm Animal Day on September 3rd. The SFD won 1st Place at the recent UC Fireman's Parade. The radiator on the ladder truck is broken and needs to be replaced. Trustee Hackett will speak to Treasurer Julie Dunn about the cost of the repair. Meanwhile, Ulster Hose Company will cover any fire where a ladder truck is required.

Alex Wade presented his report (copy attached). The report focused on proposed changes to the Vehicle & Traffic Law that would convert seven streets to one-way traffic. There was discussion including suggestions that not all streets be changed at the same time and to conduct a resident survey prior to holding a Public Hearing on the changes. The discussion was tabled until the August 15th Village Board meeting.

Alex Wade also advised the Board that TV23 filmed the ARWG meeting with the DEP. There is a concert scheduled for the Tina Chorvas Waterfront Park on August 5th.

Mayor Murphy presented Trustee Mayer's report (copy attached). TV23 Committee Member John DeWald has resigned. Anyone interested in volunteering for the TV23 Committee should contact the Village.

Mayor Murphy presented Resolution #15/2011. This resolution establishes a standard workday for several Village employees for the NYS Retirement System. Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to approve Resolution #15/2011. Carried unanimously.

Village Clerk Mary Frank advised the Board that Trustee Myers has spoken with Esopus Town Supervisor John Coutant regarding the rental of the Water Chestnut Harvester. A site visit meeting will be scheduled shortly.

Robinson Street resident Kevin Hobbs addressed the Board regarding his application for a Permit to Keep Farm Animals. He and adjoining neighbor Niki Swarhout have applied to the Village to keep 3 to 6 chickens on their property. The application included a drawing of the proposed coop and letters of support from adjoining neighbors. After some discussion, motion was made by Trustee Landewe, seconded by Trustee Hackett, to approve the application. Carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Buono, to adjourn. Carried. The Board adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk

Filed 8/3/11