

Village Board

March 3, 2008

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Suzanne LeBlanc, Michael Campbell, Kelly Myers, William Murphy, Michael Karashay and Mary Leahy

Others: Alex Wade, Heather Plonchak-New Saugerties Times, David and Melissa Radavanovic, Ariel Zanglia-Freeman and others

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

Privilege of the Floor

David Radavanovic reminded everyone present the Village Elections were March 18th. He wished all candidates “good luck” and hopes for a good voter turnout.

Mayor Yerick presented the minutes of the Public Hearing of February 19, 2008. Motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to approve the minutes as written. Carried. The Mayor presented the minutes of the Regular Session of the February 19, 2008 Village Board. Trustee LeBlanc requested that the minutes of the 4th paragraph 1st page be amended as follows: “Motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc to delete \$4585.80 from payment on the General Abstract until further discussion and clarification.” Motion was made by Trustee Campbell, seconded by Trustee Leahy, to approve the minutes as amended. Carried.

Trustee LeBlanc presented the Abstract for March 3, 2008: General - \$78,944.43; Water - \$7,047.51; Wastewater - \$18,475.34. Motion was made by Trustee Campbell, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to approve the Abstract. Carried.

Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Carried. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:07pm and returned at 7:16pm.

Alex Wade advised the Board Resolution #2/2008 passed by the Board in January was not accepted by the DOT. This resolution deals with the grant from Congressman Hinchey for “Pedestrian Improvements”. The Board must remove the phrase dealing with “in-kind services” by the Village. Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Leahy, to approve the amended motion. Carried unanimously. Mr. Wade reported that he had two productive meeting with the DOT last week. The Mayor attended one of the sessions and said that some the projects discussed were the sewer separation projects, the “wall” project, and the repaving of Route 9W through the Village. Thanks to the DOT and Congressman Hinchey for their cooperation.

Trustee Kelly Myers reported the DPW is busy plowing, sanding and salting. The DPW had to order additional salt. The DPW is addressing the complaints from residents regarding the plowing of Village streets. Trustee Myers asks residents not to shovel their sidewalks until after snow stops falling, not to shovel the snow into the road and to be

sure to shovel out fire hydrants if they live near one. Mayor Yerick asks that the snow plows drive slowly. She also reports that the PBA contract negotiations are going slowly.

Trustee Murphy reported that the Wastewater Department is making some equipment repairs and that the Water/Sewer bills were mailed on February 29th.

Mayor Yerick reported “business as usual” in the Police Department.

Trustee Karashay reported that she had received thanks from the Library for the Fire Departments help in pumping 7 feet of water from a basement at 3 Division Street. At 8:00pm on March 5th there will be a meeting to reorganize the Ladies Auxiliary. Trustee Karashay and the SFD are still pursuing a Youth Program for individuals aged 16 to 18. The SFD will host the UC Firemen’s Convention the last weekend in July. There will be a parade and other activities. Mayor Yerick read the letter from Library Board President Hernandez thanking all the Village departments who worked together to help the Library with the flooding problem at 3 Division Street.

Trustee Leahy reported that the abandoned vehicle law recently passed by the Board is being enforced. Letters will go out this week to offenders. Trustee Leahy also mentioned that it is illegal to leave trash cans on the curb after pick up. Residents are urged to comply. Trustee LeBlanc remarked that garbage cans left on the street seem to have reached epidemic proportions. She also commented that dumpsters in front of apartment buildings are becoming a problem. Mayor Yerick asked the Board to think about solutions. Trustee Campbell asked if there was already a law in place for garbage cans? Trustee LeBlanc said there is a 24-hour after pick up law.

Trustee Campbell presented his report (copy attached). Trustee LeBlanc said she was glad to see progress on the “jake-braking” signs. Trustee Murphy mentioned that TV23 was hoping to film SAA League games in the future.

Trustee LeBlanc asked Mayor Yerick if an agenda could be provided to the Board and public prior to a Village Board meeting. Mayor Yerick replied that it was a good suggestion and agendas for Village Board meetings would be made available on the Friday before Board meetings.

Mayor Yerick presented a Proclamation declaring Andrew Carnegie Day as March 15, 2008 in the Village. The Proclamation was seconded by Trustee Leahy and carried unanimously. Trustee Leahy invited the Board to attend the festivities at the Library and Historical Society on March 15th. Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he recently saw the plans for the Library expansion and it looks beautiful.

Motion was made by Mayor Yerick to donate \$400.00 to the effort by Judith Spektor to plant additional trees throughout the Village. Much discussion followed with Trustee Campbell suggesting that the Board look at the Beautification Committee’s budget before committing to a contribution. Much discussion followed. Mayor Yerick agreed and withdrew his motion.

Mayor Yerick thanked Trustee Suzanne LeBlanc and Treasurer Julie Dunn for their work on the 2008/2009 Budget.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he has spoken with representatives from the Wind Orchestra again. He told them that local business might be interested in a performance in 2009/2010.

Trustee Myers advised the Board that the Town of Esopus has contacted her about their machine that grinds water chestnuts. The Village had approached the Town asking to borrow the machine for use at the Village Beach. The Town of Esopus machine is old and to repair it is not cost efficient. The Town of Esopus is wondering if the Village and Town of Saugerties would be interested in sharing the cost of a new grinder (\$80,000.00). Much discussion followed. It was suggested that the Esopus Creek Conservancy might be willing to help. Trustee Campbell advised the Board that the owner of the dam was planning work on the dam this spring. It may be possible to hand pick the plants while that work is being done and the water level is very low. No decision was made and more discussion will follow on the subject.

Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to adjourn. Carried. The Village Board adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk