

Village Board

February 22, 2011

Present: Mayor William Murphy, Trustees Suzanne LeBlanc, Vince Buono, Donald Hackett, Patrick Landewe and Jeannine Dirie

Absent: Trustee Kelly Myers

Others: Students, David Radavanovic, Bob Ciarlante, Joe Bisignano, George Terpening, Eyal Saad, Anthony Bell, Brian Martin, Heather Plonchak, Ariel Zanglia and others

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

Privilege of the Floor

Dock Street resident David Radavanovic spoke saying the entrance to Dock Street is a complete mess caused by the construction of the Partition Street Project. Rocks and mud are left on the street – there are at least 12 families living on Dock Street and they should be shown some respect. He also questioned the PILOT Program granted to the Partition Street Project by Ulster County. Mr. Radavanovic feels the County “rolled over” the Village by granting the PILOT and does not feel the project will bring much benefit to the Village. Mayor Murphy explained the PILOT Program award process saying the Village requested a modification to the PILOT however the Saugerties Central School District did not agree and the original plan was granted.

Mayor Murphy presented the minutes of the February 7, 2011 Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee Dirie, to approve the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for February 22nd: General - \$22,835.76; Water - \$10,027.74; Wastewater - \$6,435.48; Short Lived Asset -\$5550.00. Trustee Landewe questioned the \$1000.00 payment to Kingston Hospital for an employee. Trustee Buono explained that this was the deductible that the Village pays on behalf of the employee. In exchange for paying a higher deductible, the Village saves on lower premium payments. Trustee LeBlanc questioned the payment of \$750.00 to the law firm of Roemer, Wallens & Mineaux. She feels the amount of the payment should be reduced before the bill is paid. She also questioned the legality of their contract saying it was signed by the Mayor but not approved by the Board. Trustee Hackett suggested checking the Village Board minutes for contract approval. Mayor Murphy said he would check the minutes and explained that Trustee Buono has contacted the law firm to ask them to renegotiate the fee. Motion was made by Trustee Hackett, seconded by Trustee Dirie, to approve the Abstract. Carried with Trustee LeBlanc voting no.

Trustee LeBlanc advised the Village Board that the Planning Board has scheduled a Public Hearing for March 9th at 6:30pm to discuss an application for a Special Use Permit for a property on Market Street. A Special Use Permit was granted to Sawyer Motors to allow for display of used cars at the car wash on Ulster Avenue. The Board also asked for

a site plan to shield refuse containers for a property on East Bridge Street. TV23 is looking for a new member.

Eyal Saad presented his Building Department report (copy attached). He reported that he is in close contact with contractors at the Partition Street Project but will ask them again to clean Dock Street. Mayor Murphy asked that the street be cleaned every night.

Trustee Buono had nothing new to report on SAMA or Economic Development.

SFD Chief Anthony Bell said the department has had several recent fire calls. He also announced a Brooks's Chicken fundraiser to be held in front of the Municipal Building on March 2nd. Motion was made by Mayor Murphy, seconded by Trustee Dirie, to authorize the SFD to hold the fundraiser at the Municipal Building. Carried unanimously. Chief Bell advised the Board that a "knock box" has been installed at the Library and will soon be installed at the Center of Health. He urged all businesses to consider the "knock box".

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

Trustee Dirie reminded the Board the Town Gala is April 8th. The cost is \$50.00 per person and reservations should be made with Mary Frank. Ms. Dirie will speak at the next Chamber meeting regarding the "knock boxes". She advised the Board of several other upcoming community events and of the Village Election to be held on March 15th from 12noon to 9:00pm.

Trustee Dirie also said the Village has been approached by the Chamber to pay 1/3 of the cost of the printing of the Discover Saugerties brochure. The total cost is \$15000.00 so the Village portion would be \$5000.00. Trustee LeBlanc said she feels that Villagers pay for the brochure through Town taxes and does not feel Villagers should pay twice. Trustee Hackett said this should be discussed by the Village Board and a decision should not be made by one Trustee. Mayor Murphy said he believed that the Chamber previously paid for the entire brochure. Trustee LeBlanc said she thinks the brochure is great however the Village portion should be paid by the Town. Trustee Buono requested more information and that a decision be made by the Village Board in March.

SFD Chief Bell spoke saying he has written the Saugerties Police Department regarding the numerous celebrations that may result in the closing of Village streets. He reported that the Police have been very cooperative.

Building and Grounds Superintendent George Terpening reported that renovations to the Municipal Building would begin in the spring. The holiday decorations have all been removed and he is now participating in budget meetings.

Trustee Landewe reported that the recent LEWP informational meeting on turbid water releases into the Esopus Creek was well attended. The DEC has now filed a complaint with the DEP that requires the DEP to submit a new plan and asks for \$2.6 million in

finer and damages. They are also asking for a study to determine the impacts of the turbidity.

Trustee Landewe also reported that the HRB is meeting on February 23rd to consider several issues including the application of Mark and Michele Proper for a Certificate of Appropriateness for a barbecue restaurant on Partition Street.

Trustee LeBlanc asked if anyone from the Village has examined the Village Beach for damage. Supervisor Terpening said he would assess any damage after the snow and ice melt in the spring. Trustee Dirie asked if she should still be pursuing the water chestnut harvester from the Town of Esopus. The consensus was to continue the effort.

Trustee Buono advised the Board that he and Treasurer Julie Dunn are working with all departments on the budget.

Trustee Landewe inquired about any Comprehensive Plan Committee meetings. Trustee LeBlanc said she would keep him informed.

DPW Supervisor Bob Ciarlante presented his report (copy attached). The DPW has serviced 15 winter storms so far this season. Mr. Ciarlante pleaded with residents not to plow or snow blow snow back into the streets after the plow has gone by. Trustee Buono suggested putting that message on TV 23.

Water Department Supervisor Joe Bisignano presented his report (copy attached). Trustee Buono inquired as to the status of a meter to record the flow over the dam at the reservoir. Mr. Bisignano advised that the meter is in place however it must be recalibrated. That will be done as soon as personnel can walk safely on the top of the dam.

Alex Wade presented his report (copy attached). The report centered on the Emerald Ash Borer insect.

Mayor Murphy advised the Board that he requested that Eyal Saad obtain copies of Village Board Minutes that may have shown where the Board approved the Roemer, Wallens & Mineaux contract. Mr. Saad retrieved the minutes, however contract approval did not appear in the minutes. Mayor Murphy apologized for the oversight, saying the contract was signed just after he took over from former Mayor Yerick and all contracts will be put before the Village Board, before signature, in the future.

Mayor Murphy advised the Board that he has received a request from the Saugerties Central School District. The SCSD and the Saugerties Library are planning to do a "land swap" of property located between the Cahill School and the Library. When the Village sold the Library property to the Library Board, the Village received a "right of first refusal clause" in the transfer. The SCSD needs a letter from the Village stating the Village has no objection to the land swap. Motion was made by Mayor Murphy,

seconded by Trustee Landewe, to send a letter to the SCSD approving the transfer.
Carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy announced the Town is holding a 200th Anniversary Gala at the Lazy Swan on April 8th. The cost is \$50.00 per person.

Trustee LeBlanc asked the Trustees to sponsor a lighthouse for the “Shine on Saugerties” project. The cost will be \$50.00 per Trustee and the Treasurer and Clerk will also participate.

Motion was made by Trustee LeBlanc, seconded by Trustee Buono, to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a Village worker. Carried unanimously. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:35pm and returned at 9:20pm.

Motion was made by Trustee Buono, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc, to adjourn. Carried unanimously. The Village Board adjourned at 9:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk

Filed 2/28/11