

VILLAGE OF CORNWALL-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 13, 2006

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:07 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance, at 325 Hudson St., Cornwall-on-Hudson, N.Y.

The following Board Members were in attendance:

Mayor Edward C. Moulton, Jr.
Trustee Charles R. Hahn
Trustee Mark J. Edsall
Trustee Peter J. Miller
Trustee William T. Fogarty

Also present were: DPW Superintendent Robert Gilmore, Water Superintendent Robert June, and Village Clerk Jeanne Mahoney.

PUBLIC HEARING INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW I-6 of 2005, "Limited Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters" Proof of Notice, Affidavit of Posting and Publication having been furnished, and copies of the text having been given to each Board Member on December 9, 2005, the Public Hearing on Local Law on Limited Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters was called to order at 7:08 PM by Mayor Moulton.

Having no one speak for or against said amendment, the Mayor declared the Hearing was closed at 7:12 PM.

Trustee Hahn moved for the acceptance of the January 23, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes as written, on a motion seconded by Trustee Miller, the minutes were approved 5 ayes and 0 nays.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Moulton stated that a treasurer's report has been prepared through January and distributed to the Village Board for review. He further stated that full impact of the cost and expense reduction program implemented several months ago will not be known until the annual report is complete.

The open utility balances report for the end of January read as follows:

Village water, sewer, garbage & penalties	\$ 32,861.50
Town water & penalties	276,127.56

Which included 4 finals/adjustments for the Village and 1 for the Town.

The following claims were approved for payment:

General Fund claims in the amount of \$	213,367.53
Water Fund claims in the amount of	98,456.05

Sewer Fund claims in the amount of	4,349.69
Trust & Agency claims in the amount of	593.14
Capital Water claims in the amount of	119,209.18

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Water Department reported an average daily production of 1.4 million gallons with all bacteria samples passing N.Y.S. Standards. The required monthly and quarterly samples were collected. It was also reported that 58 utility locations were made, 10 meters were repaired or replaced, 5 special readings were taken, and routine maintenance was performed. A service line was repaired to 281 Main Street, a water main on Mill Street was secured for replacement at a later date, cold patching was done at Clinton St., Curtis Court and Continental Road, main line pressure reduction vaults (PRV's) were serviced, and well vaults were pumped out.

Water Superintendent June reported that the Catskill Filter Plant was off-line for 2 days in January because of high turbidity.

Water Superintendent June further reported that the Black Rock reservoirs and plant were inspected, a water main/service was installed and the Shore Road DPW yard, and water main shut off's were located at Tarkett for repairs.

The Police Department reported 10 COVAC assists; 11 calls were covered for/assisted to Town Police; 15 responses to burglar alarms; 5 E-911 hangups; 3 domestic incidents; 8 crimes were committed; 2 vehicle lockouts; 8 accidents were investigated; and 15 moving violation tickets were issued. Total patrol miles = 3,457, not including mileage on Chief's vehicle.

Chief Williams reported that Sergeant Christopher Park continues investigation of three (3) open cases with six (6) cases marked as open/inactive.

Chief Williams also reported that the new police vehicle and tactical equipment, funded through a grant obtained from Senator Larkin's office has been ordered and monies from the State requested.

Chief Williams further reported that Sgt. Park apprehended 2 juveniles after responding to a call of "kids" breaking into a residence. Both juveniles were charged with Criminal Trespass and Criminal Mischief and sent to Family Court.

The Fire Department reported 45 responses, including 8 emergency medical service (EMS) calls, for a total of 579 volunteer man hours.

The Department of Public Works reported plowing and sanding of roads, blacktopping of potholes, continuation of work at the new DPW facility, installation of a catch basin on Barr Avenue, and routine maintenance was performed.

The Code Enforcement Officer reported 1 certificate of occupancy and 6 certificates of compliance were issued. In addition, 2 property maintenance and 3 unregistered vehicle violations were issued.

The Building Inspector reported 55 on site inspections, 2 fire inspections, 8 municipal searches, and 8 building permits were issued.

DPW Superintendent Gilmore reported that the new DPW facility is nearing completion and a C.O. is being finalized for the premises. On or before March 1st, he anticipates moving from the current facility. Final building costs for the new facility should be ready in time for the March meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Moulton is in receipt of a letter from Rosemary DiCesare of 11 Barr Avenue thanking DPW Superintendent Gilmore and his crew for the catch basin work recently completed on Barr Avenue.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Farabaugh of Cornwall Avenue asked if the Village had located another place to dump decaying leaves other than at the Dock Hill-Route 218 intersection. She is concerned that the leaves will kill tree roots and disturb the natural slope of that property.

Mayor Moulton replied that no alternate location has been found.

Richard Gioia of Hudson Street stated he is concerned about erosion of the slope. He feels that the slope is already decaying as a result of the organic waste being dumped there. The Village started a dumping problem at that location because it now appears that others are also dumping waste as well. He suggested that the Village Board contact Museum of Hudson Highlands at Kenridge Farm to see if they would be interested in allowing the organic waste to be dumped on their property.

Barry Gruber of Bayview Avenue stated that he is frustrated with the number of phone books being dumped each year on Village properties. He would like the Village Board to put a stop to it.

Mayor Moulton stated that telephone company's contract with outside sources to deliver phone books. It is difficult for the Village Board to stop specific books from being delivered. He suggested Mr. Gruber contact the company's he does not wish to receive a book from and request he be removed from the delivery list.

Trustee Miller stated that he can also contact the Police Department to file a complaint if he feels that the phone books are littering his property.

Barbara Farabaugh of Cornwall Avenue stated that she doesn't want to see the Village stop dumping at the Dock Hill intersection and start dumping in other places around the Village (i.e. across from the Museum property on Boulevard) instead.

Lauren Anderson of Stillman Avenue asked why wasn't the problem of locating a place to dump yard waste addressed before the new DPW facility was put up.

Trustee Hahn stated that it was originally felt that some organic waste would benefit the slope at the Dock Hill Road intersection. The Village Board will continue to monitor the area to determine if any future erosion occurs.

Barbara Farabaugh of Cornwall Avenue further stated that the Lindstrom property on Mountain Road has disrupted the slope on their property and it should be fixed immediately.

DPW Superintendent Gilmore replied that a garage is to be built on that property. The homeowner will be responsible for any necessary repairs to the slope when complete.

Trustee Edsall suggested DPW Superintendent Gilmore check out the slope periodically before any approval is given.

Joe Gross of Lafayette Street stated that illegal dumping on Deer Hill Road continues to be a problem. The Police Department should enforce the laws of the Village.

Trustee Miller stated that he has spoken with the Police Chief regarding this matter. The Police Department has been working toward resolving this problem, but without an eyewitness to the dumping, it is hard to make an arrest and hard to prove wrongdoing.

Richard Gioia of Hudson Street suggested that the current DPW property be used to provide high end senior or service sector housing.

Trustee Miller replied that the location is too small to accommodate that type of development.

Trustee Edsall stated that even if there was sufficient property, a change to Zoning would be required since that is not an approved use in the Central Business and Shopping District.

George Burger of Vinebrook Avenue asked who will be responsible for the roadway once it is sold by the Village.

Trustee Miller replied that it will become a private road and no longer maintained by the Village.

David Fitzgerald of Taft Place stated that garbage and recycling cans are being left out for long periods of time at a neighboring property.

DPW Superintendent Gilmore replied that he will take care of that problem and issue a violation notice to that property.

OLD BUSINESS

PRIVATE WATER LINES

Mayor Moulton stated there are several properties in the Town and Village that share service through private water lines from the Village main. When leaks occur on these lines, the Village can not repair them. We are currently seeking ways to correct this problem within our service area (i.e. creating special districts).

BLACK ROCK FILTER PLANT STATUS/TESTING

Water Superintendent June reported that repairs have been made to the upper vault assembly. One more valve needs repair and then the lower vault can be installed.

Trustee Fogarty asked when the plant will open. Water Superintendent June estimates that testing will begin in three (3) months.

Water Superintendent June further reported that the Wellfield meter was determined to not be working properly. Prior numbers from the meter appear to be inaccurate. He purchased a retro-fit meter for \$3,800.00 and the repairs were made this past week. He is now monitoring the daily reading numbers, and will make a report to the Board at next month's meeting.

RIVER AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

Mayor Moulton stated that this item is scheduled for 2006. Items being studied include drainage, deep ditches, increased traffic, and the safety of children walking along roadway.

JOINT SEWER PLANT DISCUSSION

Trustee Hahn stated that a meeting took place regarding a problem with the digester. It is hoped that this problem can be fixed without incurring major expense. He further stated that the meters at the plant have been certified and indicate the Village makes up 40% of its volume.

ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT

The Village Clerk reported that the plans, specifications and the cost estimate were forwarded to the county last month for review and approval.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW I-7 OF 2004--STEEP SLOPE AND SOILS PRESERVATION

Mayor Moulton stated that this item remains under review by the Master Plan Committee and Planning Board.

RIVERFRONT PARK SHELTER

Mayor Moulton stated that the foundation is complete. The kit was delivered in January. A contractor has been engaged to assemble the structure this spring. He hopes it to be complete before Riverfest.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mayor Moulton stated that an interim status report was submitted last month to the Village Board. It is anticipated that the committee will complete its work sometime in June of 2006.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LDC)

Mayor Moulton stated that this committee is nearing completion of its first project, the construction of the new DPW facility on Shore Road. It is anticipated that this project will be completed in March.

ASSISTANT WATER SUPERINTENDENT POSITION

Mayor Moulton stated that this item will be discussed in Executive Session later this evening.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW #I-6 LIMITED PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

After some discussion, Trustee Miller made a motion to table action on this item pending further review which was seconded by Trustee Fogarty and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW I-1 OF 2006 – ESCROW DEPOSITS

After some discussion, Trustee Miller made a motion to table action on this item pending further review which was seconded by Trustee Fogarty and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE

Mayor Moulton stated that this item will be tabled for further review.

NEW BUSINESS

POLICE CHIEF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

Mayor Moulton stated that this item will be discussed in Executive Session later this evening.

WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Moulton stated that a committee was formed back in the 1990's to address the future of the riverfront. A lot of groundwork was performed before disbanding. He recommends that the Village Board revive this committee. The goal will be to recommend action to the Village Board on improvements to the boat launch and take note of the Master Plan's vision in finding ways to bring about changes to the Riverfront.

Upon Mayor Moulton's recommendation, Trustee Hahn made a motion to appoint the following members of the Waterfront Revitalization Committee; John Wenz, as Chairperson, Robert Anderson, Peter Miller, as Village Board liaison, Barbara Corwin, Colette Fulton, Melissa Stoffa, Andrew Maroney, with Jerry Gage and Mary Donahue as alternates. This motion was seconded by Trustee Edsall and upon a vote of 4 Ayes 0 Nays and 1 Abstain (Miller) the motion was carried.

Having concluded the business set before them, Trustee Edsall moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters with the Water Superintendent and the Police Department, along with

union talks which was seconded by Trustee Hahn and upon a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.