

VILLAGE OF CORNWALL-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 17, 2006

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:30 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: Police Chief Charles Williams, SKEC #2 Fire Chief Jeffrey Armitage, Deputy Village Attorney Howard Protter, and Recording Secretary Kristen Boyle.

PUBLIC HEARING INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW I-2 of 2006, "Escrow Deposits" Proof of Notice, Affidavit of Posting and Publication having been furnished, and copies of the text having been given to each Board Member on January 23, 2006, the Public Hearing on Local Law on Escrow Deposits was called to order at 7:31 PM by Mayor Moulton.

Having no one speak for or against said amendment, the Mayor declared the Hearing was closed at 7:32 PM.

Trustee Edsall moved for the acceptance of the March 20, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes and April 3, 2006 Reorganization Meeting Minutes as written, on a motion seconded by Trustee Fogarty, the minutes were approved 5 ayes and 0 nays.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mayor Moulton stated that a treasurer's report is not available for tonight's meeting. The Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer are still in the process of closing out the 2005-2006 fiscal year and opening the new fiscal year.

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

Village water, sewer, garbage & penalties	\$ 103,187.22
Town water & penalties	276,112.12

Which included 3 finals/adjustments for the Village and 8 for the Town.

The following claims were approved for payment:

General Fund claims in the amount of \$ 512,472.22  
Water Fund claims in the amount of 379,424.33

Sewer Fund claims in the amount of	4,493.43
Trust & Agency claims in the amount of	1,852.52
Capital Water claims in the amount of	6,692.34

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tree Beautification Committee - Trustee Fogarty reported that the committee is seeking public input on placement of approximately 12-14 trees for planting this year. In addition, anyone interested in donating a tree for planting in the Village should contact him. He is in receipt of a letter from Barbara Farabaugh of 24 Cornwall Avenue requesting that three (3) trees be replaced along Cornwall Avenue. He will take this under advisement.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Water Department reported an average daily production of 1.128 million gallons with all bacteria samples passing N.Y.S. Standards. The required monthly and quarterly samples were collected. It was also reported that 46 utility locations were made, 22 meters were repaired or replaced, 12 special readings were taken, and four (4) service connections were repaired. In addition to routine maintenance, repairs to sump pumps were completed at Riley Road, a water leak at 3 Payson Road was repaired with department assistance, and main line pressure reduction vaults (PRV's) were serviced.

Black Rock Water Superintendent June reported that the Black Rock reservoirs and plant were inspected and repairs to the pressure relief pit were completed.

Water Superintendent June further reported that the domestic water system for the plant has been moved. The tank for installation in the plant has been received. The upper float control tank will be installed as soon as repairs to the trail/roadway into its new location are completed. A meeting has been scheduled with Waltech Construction on April 24<sup>th</sup> to set up a construction time table. This progress has been reported to the Orange County Health Department.

The Department of Public Works reported moving into the new facility, equipment maintenance, leaf and brush pickup, and blacktopping of potholes.

The Code Enforcement Officer reported 4 certificates of occupancy were issued.

The Building Inspector reported 47 on site inspections, 3 fire inspections, and 12 building permits were issued.

The Police Department reported 1 COVAC assist; 5 calls were covered for/assisted to Town Police; 15 responses to burglar alarms; 2 E-911 hangups; 2 domestic incidents; 11 crimes were committed; 4 vehicle lockouts; 7 accidents were investigated; and 17 moving violation tickets were issued. Total patrol miles = 3,354, not including mileage on Chief's vehicle.

Chief Williams reported that Sergeant Christopher Park continues investigation of three (3) open cases, and has begun a State mandated three (3) week Supervisor's School at Rockland County Police Academy.

Chief Williams provided a copy of a letter sent from Howard Hull – St. Thomas of Canterbury Teen Youth Group Advisor thanking the police department for the fantastic coverage provided to the Teen Group event held on March 11, 2006. Their presence inside the school provided a safe and orderly environment as well as leaving a positive impression on the parish community to see the department involved.

Chief Williams also reported that the new police vehicle, funded through a grant obtained from Senator Larkin's office, has been painted and lettered. The remaining equipment is in process of being delivered and the vehicle could be ready by the end of April.

The Fire Department reported that a grant application requesting \$96,000.00 has been submitted under the 2006 Fire Act Grant in order to purchase pagers, AEDs and turnout gear. The Village's contribution would be 5% in matching funds or \$4,800.00.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Moulton is in receipt of an engagement letter from Nugent & Haeussler, P.C. for the upcoming audit of financial statements of the Village for the year ending February 28, 2006.

Trustee Fogarty made a motion to authorize engagement of Nugent & Haussler, P.C. to audit the financial statements of the Village for the year ending February 28, 2006 which was seconded by Trustee Miller and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Mayor Moulton is in receipt of a letter from American Legion #353 inviting the Village Board to take part in the annual Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2006 beginning at 10:00 AM. In addition, there will be a breakfast held at the American Legion Hall on May 27<sup>th</sup> between 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

Mayor Moulton is in receipt of a letter from Senator William Larkin stating that the annual state aid to the Village will increase from \$16,000.00 to \$20,202.00 for this year as a result of action by the Legislators and approval by the Governor. In addition, another \$25,000.00 has been allocated to the Village for annual street projects.

Mayor Moulton stated that he serves on a property tax reform committee formed a couple of years ago to try to make elected officials in Albany aware that property taxes are a problem in many areas of the state. A rally is planned on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall where speakers will seek to bring attention to this problem, and state that alternative methods are needed to fund schools rather than sole dependence on property taxes. Petitions are available for public signature if they wish support this reform.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Barbara Farabaugh of Cornwall Avenue asked if there is a reason why the Village always plants the same type of tree. Although the pear trees are pretty, they don't grow very tall.

Trustee Fogarty replied that maple trees were planted along Avenue A last year. This type of tree may only be planted where no Central Hudson or telephone wires exist. In addition, the root systems of larger trees can destroy sidewalks.

Barbara Farabaugh then submitted photos of trees along Route 218, above of Pagenstecher Park and across from Donahue's Farm, showing large amounts of debris and rotting leaves dumped on and near them. She would like it removed.

Mayor Moulton replied that he will look into this dumping problem.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **BLACK ROCK FILTER PLANT STATUS/MODIFICATIONS**

Mayor Moulton stated that this item was addressed earlier in tonight's agenda.

### **RIVER AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS 2006**

Mayor Moulton stated that a plan is being put together for this project by the DPW Superintendent.

### **JOINT SEWER PLANT DISCUSSION**

Trustee Hahn stated that there is nothing new to report on this item.

### **ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

Mayor Moulton stated that the plans, specifications and the cost estimate were forwarded to the county a couple of months ago for review and approval. No response has been received.

### **STEEP SLOPES/VIEW PRESERVATION REVISIONS**

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 work is done. Erection of the shelter will start on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Hahn stated that the area around the shelter should be marked off from the public to prevent injury.

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Deputy Attorney Protter stated that a draft of the proposed master plan is being prepared. A lot of time and work has gone into this plan and it is nearing completion.

## LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LDC)

Mayor Moulton stated that he met with members of the Local Development Corporation (LDC). The next municipal goal of this committee is the relocation of the Water Department from a residential neighborhood to the Shore Road property. Other goals include development and expansion of the commercial part of the Village, and development/modification of parking in the Village.

## INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW I-2 OF 2006 – ESCROW DEPOSITS

Trustee Miller introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

**WHEREAS**, an Introductory local law entitled "ESCROW DEPOSITS" was introduced before the Board of Trustees of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson on January 23, 2006, and upon notice duly published and posted, a hearing was held on April 17, 2006 before the Board of Trustees; and

**WHEREAS**, public discussion was heard at such hearing concerning the merits and environmental significance of said introductory local law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the adoption of the Introductory local law entitled "Escrow Deposits" is hereby determined to be a Type II action and determined not to have a significant effect on the environment.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Introductory Local Law entitled "Escrow Deposits" of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson be and hereby is adopted as Local Law #2 of 2006 of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson on April 17, 2006.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Fogarty, and upon a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays, was adopted.

## FEE SCHEDULE - REVISIONS

Trustee Edsall reported that some revisions to the fee schedule have been suggested by the DPW Superintendent. It is anticipated that these proposed revisions will be ready for discussion at the next work session.

## WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

John Wenz, Chairperson of the Waterfront Revitalization Committee stated that their first meeting was held earlier this month. A top priority of the committee will be the preparation and submission of a grant application before the May 26<sup>th</sup> deadline. This grant may require matching funds from the Village. The Committee will be seeking input on suggested waterfront improvements from the public. The next meeting is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Miller made a motion authorizing the Deputy Village Attorney to draft a letter to the Cornwall Yacht Club releasing the Yacht Club from liability for the assistance by yacht club personnel and equipment to drive in

pilings for the Village's floating docks. The motion was seconded by Trustee Edsall and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT DPW SWEEPER**

Mayor Moulton stated that the DPW street sweeper is over 20 years old and in need of replacement.

Trustee Hahn made a motion to authorize preparation of a bid package for a new street sweeper which was seconded by Trustee Miller and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

### **WATER DEPARTMENT REORGANIZATION JOB DESCRIPTIONS**

Mayor Moulton stated that the Water Superintendent has provided recommendations for the reorganization of Water Department personnel. After some discussion, Trustee Hahn made a motion to table this item until the next work session which was seconded by Trustee Miller and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

### **TAX PENALTY RELIEF REQUEST – CHOI**

Mayor Moulton is in receipt of a request from Dr. Y.S. Choi for relief of penalty for late payment of Village taxes. The bill had been sent to his escrow agency for payment, and not forwarded to him when the loan was recently satisfied.

Trustee Fogarty made a motion to disapprove this request which was seconded by Trustee Hahn and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

### **RALLY SCHOOL TAX REFORM**

Mayor Moulton stated that this item was discussed earlier in this evening's agenda.

### **RIVER BANK PARKING**

Mayor Moulton stated that he met with the owner of the River Bank Restaurant. He is proposing a seasonal outdoor dining plan for the Board's consideration which would allow him to put tables in 2 existing parking spaces. In return, the owner will then begin to develop additional parking spaces on a neighboring parcel. Discussion followed regarding the proposal and the problem of insufficient parking throughout the Village.

Trustee Miller made a motion to authorize the Mayor to invite the owner/applicant to the next work session in order to discuss this matter further which was seconded by Trustee Hahn and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Mayor Moulton stated that he has been reviewing deeds to Village property along Maple Avenue Extension and the municipal lot. Parents have voiced concerns regarding the safety of children when dropped off and picked up for school. He suggests that we have the property surveyed prior to making any changes or improvements.

Having concluded the business set before them, Trustee Miller moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters which was seconded by Trustee Edsall and upon a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.