

VILLAGE OF CORNWALL-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 18, 2008

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 Joseph J. Gross
Trustee Mark J. Edsall
Trustee William T. Fogarty
Trustee Barbara J. Gosda
Trustee Richard Gioia

Also present were: Police Chief Charles Williams, DPW Superintendent David Halvorsen, Water Superintendent Robert June, SKEC #2 Fire Chief Jeffrey Armitage, Interim Deputy Village Attorney Jeffrey Sculley, and Village Clerk Jeanne Mahoney.

Trustee Fogarty moved for the acceptance of the July 21, 2008 Regular Meeting and August 11, 2008 Special Meeting Minutes as presented, on a motion seconded by Trustee Gioia and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Gross stated that a treasurer's report has been prepared through July and distributed to the Village Board for review.

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

Village water, sewer, garbage & penalties	\$ 72,956.76
Town water & penalties	452,677.33

Which included 3 finals/adjustments for the Village and 5 for the Town.

The following claims were approved for payment:

General Fund claims in the amount of	\$ 475,513.58
Water Fund claims in the amount of	161,092.10
Sewer Fund claims in the amount of	4,903.44
Trust & Agency claims in the amount of	2,918.20

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summer Playground-Trustee Gosda stated that the program, which ended on Friday, August 14th, was successful and included three (3) special events. Approximately 100 children participated. Dylan Reitenbach and his counselors did a fine job and we are lucky to have them.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Water Department reported an average daily production of 1.078 million gallons with all bacteria samples passing N.Y.S. Standards. The required monthly and quarterly samples were collected (a total of 62). It was also reported that 56 utility locations were made, 19 meters were repaired or replaced, and 8 special readings were taken. In addition to routine maintenance, a water main break was repaired on Hazen & Clinton St, a curb valve was repaired at 27 Lafayette St., and a water service was repaired at 67 Willow Avenue. It was further reported that the town meter reading was completed, brush was cut along Reservoir dams, and the department assisted the Department of Public Works with paving on Second Street.

Black Rock – An old float relief PRV was repaired, and the supply to the plant was switched from the Upper Reservoir.

Water Superintendent June further reported that over the last two (2) weeks of July, there was a low flow from the plant because of problems with chemical feed pumps. Three (3) new pumps were ordered along with new fittings, self priming valves, check valves and head rebuilding kits for remaining pumps. Repairs will be made upon receipt of the parts and pumps.

Trustee Gioia provided the Board with a proposal for a feasibility study of a hydro-powered energy recovery system on our water supply system for review.

Mayor Gross announced that steps need to be taken to discourage recreational activity at our dams.

The Department of Public Works reported black top patching, repaving of Second Street, rebuilding of four (4) catch basins, removal of eight (8) hazardous trees, sweeping of streets, weekly yard waste collection, removal and installation of new radiator in fire engine #412, removal and installation of two (2) rebuilt pistons on fire engine #413, removal of donated boat docks from boat launch area, ordering of new dump truck with plow (estimated delivery is September) maintenance of equipment and mowing and trimming of Village owned properties and parks.

DPW Superintendent Halvorsen sent a letter to Michael Biggs of Quality Auto Body thanking him for his assistance in removing the donated docks which were larger and heavier than he was led to believe.

Mayor Gross also thanked the members of the Department of Public Works for their hard work, and the Cornwall Yacht Club for being on “stand by”.

DPW Superintendent Halvorsen further reported that he spoke with the Town DPW Superintendent regarding establishment of an “electronics recycling day” in two (2) locations (one container in Village and one in Town) on September 27th.

Trustee Gosda announced that the “Community Yard Sale” will take place October 18, 2008.

The Police Department reported 9 COVAC assists; 16 calls were covered for/assisted to Town Police; 12 responses to burglar alarms; 6 E-911 hangups; 4 domestic incidents; 9 crimes were committed; 21 non criminal activities were reported; 4 arrests were made; 4 vehicle lockouts; 8 accidents were investigated; 10 moving violations; 10 parking tickets; and 10 vehicle and traffic stops with warning were made. Total patrol miles = 3,061, not including mileage on Chief’s vehicle.

Chief Williams reported that Sergeant Christopher Park continues investigation of four (4) active open cases. In addition, the department covered July 4th celebration, and 6 events at Donahue Memorial Park.

Mayor Gross announced there will be a joint meeting with the Town Board on September 2nd in order to discuss police consolidation issues.

The Fire Department reported 58 responses, including 13 emergency medical service (EMS) calls, for a total of 1794.5 volunteer man hours.

Fire Chief Armitage thanked the police, DPW, and water departments along with the Village Board for their support during the annual Fireman’s Fair.

He further reported that the new brush truck has been delivered to manufacturer for outfitting.

The Building Inspector reported 49 site inspections, 1 fire inspection, 6 building permits, and 5 municipal searches were issued.

The Code Enforcement Officer reported 3 certificates of occupancy/compliance, and 2 property maintenance violations were issued were issued.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter announcing that the 25th annual Orange County Senior Games Day will take place on September 20th at 8:30 AM. All are invited to attend.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of an announcement from the NYS Public Service Commission soliciting comments on the Verizon New York, Inc. network review plan.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter and model law from Assemblyperson Calhoun regarding the appointment of alternates to planning and zoning boards. He will forward it on to the Planning and Zoning board chairpersons for review and comments.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter from Pastor Resling of the Mountainville United Methodist Church thanking the Village for our help in preparing the gazebo and lawn area for a riverfront service held on August 3rd.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter from Ed Kennedy, President of the Newburgh Rowing Club expressing interest in the newly acquired floating docks.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter from Cookie Mirabile regarding her concerns with the upcoming fireworks planned at NYMA Alumni weekend.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter dated August 6th from James Patch of 11 River Avenue regarding parking in his neighborhood. He suggests the Village issue resident permit parking passes to allow them (exclusive of business patrons) on-street parking.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter dated August 6th from Joe Nicaj of 191 Bayview Avenue requesting status of the draft master plan. He has concerns regarding pedestrian safety, upgrading of speed limit signs, and noise abatement in relation to motorcycles.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of an email from Rhonda Tippett of 10 Wood Avenue regarding a “flaw” with the recycling pick up schedules when it comes to a 5 week month.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter dated August 6th from Betsy Turner of 157 Hudson Street requesting copies of reports or studies and facts related to the reconfiguration of the Route 218 and Dock Hill Road intersection and closure of Dock Hill Extension.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter dated August 6th from John Thomas of 5 Academy Avenue thanking the Village Board for allowing his band to practice in the Board Room.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a copy of a letter sent to Fire Chief Armitage from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation announcing an award of \$1,000.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a copy of a letter dated June 11th from Col. Daniel Bruno of the US Army Garrison Commander thanking the Village volunteer firefighters for their outstanding mutual support at the West Point Grey Ghost housing area on May 8th.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of an email from Ralph Balfourt of Albany who recently kayaked to and visited Donahue Memorial Park. He states that park is beautiful as it is now and no dock improvements are needed.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter from Andrew Schmar of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust thanking the Village for meeting with their group to discuss mutual concerns.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter from Sandy Welch of 23 Andrews Street regarding the growth of trees at the bottom of Andrews Street that has become a “green wall” blocking the river view. She states that since there is a law to protect views, it should be adhered to.

Mayor Gross is in receipt of a letter dated August 11th from Cornwall High School National Honor Society requesting permission to hold a car wash at the Village Hall parking lot on August 23rd.

Trustee Edsall made a motion to authorize this request which was seconded by Trustee Gosda and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stella Quinn of the newly incorporated Food Co-Op is actively looking for a site in either the Town or Village. They have formed committees and are in process of fund raising.

Barry Gruber of Bayview Terrace asked if the new recycling schedule has resulted in a decrease in the volume being collected. DPW Superintendent Halvorsen responded that the quantity has increased slightly since the new schedule went into effect.

Barbara Farabaugh of Cornwall Avenue asked where the recycled electronics will go. Trustee Gioia responded that they will go to a company in New Jersey who breaks it down and recycles all the raw materials.

Peter Russell of Barr Avenue thanked the Village Board for the great job done on this year's Summer Playground. In addition, he thanked the Village police department for doing a great job handling the Fireman's Fair.

OLD BUSINESS

WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee member Simon Gruber stated that two (2) of the three (3) grants require a procurement process (RFQ) which have been prepared and reviewed by the Deputy Interim Village Attorney. His edits will be incorporated in the (RFQ) and submitted to the Village Board for approval. In addition, the paperwork necessary to finalize the State contracts for funding on these two (2) grants is awaiting a revised narrative. The FEMA grant requires that we contact the NYS Emergency Management Office and request an extension to prepare and submit a revised design proposal.

He further stated that two (2) of the donated floating docks are still in the water. They are too heavy to pull out with available equipment. He suggests that the docks be cut in half. He further suggests that they might need to be retrofitted to raise them up with floatation devices as they presently are too low.

Trustee Edsall made a motion to authorize the Mayor to send a letter to NYS Emergency Management Office (SEMO) asking for an extension, indicating the various grants we are coordinating, which was seconded by Trustee Fogarty and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Discussion regarding future plans for the newly acquired docks followed.

HUDSON-FULTON COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Gosda stated that she is in receipt of grant application forms from the County Planning Department for Hudson Fulton celebrations. The deadline for submittal is September 3rd.

She suggests a one day community event to celebrate the Hudson/Fulton Quadricentennial with historical presentations and river education from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Trustee Gioia would like to see some grant money go toward commission of a sculpture by a Hudson Valley artist to be placed at Donahue Memorial Park for several months each year.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW I-6 OF 2007 – ETHICS LAW

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 1-6 OF 2007 entitled “A Local Law Creating an Ethics and Disclosure Law for the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson” be and hereby is introduced before the Board of Trustees of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson in the County of Orange and State of New York; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law be laid upon the desk of each member of the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 20, a public hearing shall be held to receive comments concerning the enactment of said Local Law on September 15, 2008 at 7:30 o'clock p.m. at the Board Room of the Village Office, located at 325 Hudson Street, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk give notice of such public hearing specifying the time when and the place where such public hearing will be held by publication in the official newspaper of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson at least five (5) days prior thereto and by posting in accordance with the Municipal Home Rule Law.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Edsall and carried upon a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

DREW’S ON THE SQUARE – SIDEWALK DINING SERVICE APPLICATION

The Deputy Interim Village Attorney prepared a draft Temporary License Agreement for Sidewalk Dining Service for the Board to review. Discussion regarding a minor revision to the signature lines followed.

Trustee Edsall made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Temporary License Agreement for Sidewalk Dining Service at Drew’s On the Square, as amended, which was seconded by Trustee Fogarty and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

MAPLE AVENUE SALE

Mayor Gross stated that a letter has been drafted for the residents of Maple Avenue and adjoining property owners notifying them that the former Water Department Garage and property are for sale.

NUGENT & HAEUSSLER – ANNUAL AUDIT AGREEMENT

After some discussion the Board decided to table this item in order to request an explanation of the \$5,000 increase on this year’s annual audit agreement.

WATER DEPARTMENT STORAGE BUILDING

Mayor Gross stated that he has been getting pricing on concrete for a steel building rather than a pole building because it is more cost effective. In addition, engineering needs to be done to check the soil feasibility.

FUEL STORAGE

Discussion regarding installation of a waste oil burner at the DPW facility took place. The waste oil generated at the facility is currently being hauled away at no cost.

NEW BUSINESS

SKAT REQUEST FOR VETERAN'S OUTING

Mayor Gross stated that the Board is in receipt of a request from Kris Seiz, director of SKAT to hold a Veteran's Outing/Kayaking benefit on August 21st at the Cornwall Landing. She asks that participants without valid stickers be allowed to park between 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Congressman Hall will be there to welcome the Veteran's.

Trustee Gioia made a motion to authorize the event and allow participants without valid stickers to park which was seconded by Trustee Fogarty and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

In addition, Ms. Seiz is assisting the Cornwall Conservation Advisory Council in organizing an event on September 20th, in which a group of volunteers in kayaks will clean up the shoreline from south of the Cornwall Yacht Club to the Moodna Marsh. She requests an exemption for parking on that date as well from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Trustee Edsall made a motion to authorize the this event and an exemption for parking on that date as well, subject to legal review of the current Village insurance policy, which was seconded by Trustee Fogarty and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO FILE APPLICATION WITH H.V. RIVER ESTUARY

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

WHEREAS, the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson is hereby submitting its application for funds for consideration from the Hudson Valley River Estuary Program under the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village-of-Cornwall on Hudson does hereby authorize and direct the Mayor to file an application for funds from the Hudson River Estuary Program in accordance with the provisions of the Hudson River Estuary Management Act (ECL 11-0306) of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with the Hudson River Estuary program for such financial assistance to the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Gosda and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – MEETING NIGHT CHANGE

Trustee Edsall made a motion to authorize a change in the monthly meeting dates of the Zoning Board of Appeals from the second Monday of the month to the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M. as needed which was seconded by Trustee Gosda and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

YOUTH DAY – AUGUST 30th

Trustee Gioia requests that the Village Board authorize a Youth Music Day on August 30th at the Riverfront Shelter – Donahue Memorial Park from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM. He would like to see 5 to 6 bands perform. Basic concessions will be offered. He is looking for chaperones and additional police presence. Discussion followed.

Trustee Gosda made a motion to authorize a Youth Music Day also known as L’Aiszez Music Faire, subject to verification that the current Village insurance policy will cover the event, which was seconded by Trustee Edsall and carried by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

DONAHUE MEMORIAL PARK

Trustee Gosda stated that as a result of last month’s complaint by Mr. Joseph Suto, she was joined by Bob Gosda, Mary Donahue and the Department of Public Works in the cleanup of the memorial to Dr. Michael Donahue at the park.

WATER DEPARTMENT – 4WD UTILITY VEHICLE w/TRAILER

Hearing no objection from the Board, Water Superintendent June was authorized to prepare bid specifications for a new 4WD utility vehicle w/trailer for use in Black Rock Forest.

Discussion followed regarding future availability of Homeland Security funds to purchase equipment used to protect our water resources.

Having concluded the business set before them, Trustee Edsall moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters in Summer Playground and Police Department, which was seconded by Trustee Fogarty and upon a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.