

VILLAGE OF CORNWALL-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 11, 2009

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 P.M., at 325 Hudson St., Cornwall-on-Hudson, N.Y.

The following Board Members were in attendance:

Mayor Joseph J. Gross
Trustee Barbara J. Gosda
Trustee Mark J. Edsall
Trustee Richard Gioia
Trustee Douglas Vatter

Also present were: DPW Superintendent David Halvorsen, Deputy Village Attorney Jeffrey Sculley, and Village Clerk Jeanne Mahoney.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW I-2 OF 2009 – FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

Deputy Village Attorney Sculley explained the “Community Rating System (CRS)” under the National Flood Insurance program that works on points. For example, if a municipality acquires 500 “CRS” points, residents within that municipality would be eligible for a 5% flood insurance reduction. Discussion followed. Due to comments and concerns raised by the Board, it was determined that the “optional additional language” enhancements suggested by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation were not beneficial to the Village and should not be incorporated into the draft local law.

Trustee Edsall made a motion directing the Village Attorney to prepare a draft Flood Damage Prevention Local Law, excluding the suggested enhancements, and forward to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation by the May 15, 2009 deadline which was seconded by Trustee Gioia and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE

After some discussion, Trustee Vatter made a motion authorizing the Deputy Village Attorney to draft a new Dog Control local law that addresses dog control and dog waste collection which was seconded by Trustee Gioia and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mayor Gross stated that a meeting of the Village Board, Zoning Board, and Planning Board will take place on Saturday, May 16th at 9:00 AM in the Board Room. This will give the Planning and Zoning Boards an opportunity to speak to the issues that concern them, and to go through each of the goals and objectives to gain some consensus. No public comment will be heard; however, the Master Plan Committee members have been invited to attend. Discussion followed regarding the revised text prepared by the Orange County Planning Department. Trustee Edsall strongly opposes the Mayor’s

decision to keep this text strictly for Village Board use. He feels that the Master Plan Committee members should have been provided copies of the text for review. Further, Trustee Edsall stated that “if we are going at any time use the rewrite that the County Planning Department prepared, it would be inappropriate to ask either of our Boards (Planning or Zoning) or the committee that we created to provide guidance or comment without sharing that with them”. Mayor Gross replied that only the original draft will be discussed on Saturday. Discussion continued regarding the documents.

Mayor Gross announced that the Meeting will open at 8:30 AM, and immediately close into Executive Session, in order to discuss a personnel matter regarding the Village Treasurer’s position.

TRANSITIONAL DUTY POLICY

Discussion took place regarding a draft transitional duty policy that would allow employees to return to work after an accident or injury as long as the job duties can be modified for “light duty”. The policy must be modified and “tightened” in order to prevent abuse. The Deputy Village Attorney was directed to finalize a policy for Transitional Duty that gives the Village Board authority, to allow/disallow on a case by case basis, and provide a “sunset clause”.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND

Trustee Gosda stated that she, along with Trustee Gioia and Dylan Reitenbach (last year’s Playground Director), met earlier today regarding new Orange County requirements. Dylan is committed to the program, and has agreed to prepare the necessary documentation. Discussion followed regarding salaries, and this year’s fee schedule.

VILLAGE SQUARE IMPROVEMENTS

Trustee Gosda thanked DPW Superintendent Halvorsen and his department for installation of the welcome signs donated by the Gosda Family. In addition, grant money was received last week for the municipal parking lot sign and a portion of proposed walkway improvements scheduled to begin in early July. A second grant, originally obtained for cost overruns on bandstand improvements in 2002, amended once to cover 2004-2008 improvements, and recently amended again to cover current improvements, was rejected because it was not within the contract period.

DONAHUE MEMORIAL PARK

DPW Superintendent Halvorsen has scheduled parking lining this week.

Discussion followed regarding two proposed inscriptions for the boulder. The purpose of the inscription is to provide “non-specific” wording regarding the significance of the movement and what was accomplished.

VILLAGE SERIAL BONDS

Mayor Gross stated that he has been in contact with Munistat Services, Inc. regarding a possible consolidation of Village Serial Bond debt. There is a possibility of significant annual savings. This will be discussed in more detail in Executive Session next Monday evening.

DPW SURPLUS VEHICLE

Upon the recommendation of DPW Halvorsen, Trustee Vatter made a motion to declare the 1983 Trojan Front End Loader, #3123214, surplus with a minimum bid of \$4,000.00 which was seconded by Trustee Gioia and carried by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Having concluded the business set before them, Trustee Vatter moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue, and negotiations with Verizon FIOS which was seconded by Trustee Gioia and upon a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.