

VILLAGE OF CORNWALL-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 23, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 P.M., with the Pledge of Allegiance, at 325 Hudson St., Cornwall-on-Hudson, N.Y.

The following Board Members were in attendance:

Mayor Brendan G. Coyne
Deputy Mayor Mark J. Edsall
Trustee David Carnright
Trustee Kenneth A. Schmidt

Absent was: Trustee James P. Kane (military duty)
Attorney for the Village Joseph McKay (standing obligation S. Blooming Grove)
Village Clerk Jeanne Mahoney (vacation)

Also present were: DPW Superintendent David Halvorsen, Water Superintendent Robert June, and Recording Secretary Kristen Boyle.

Mayor Coyne announced that there is a binder on the back table for anyone interested in looking at resolutions and meeting-related documents that will be discussed this evening.

MINUTES

Mayor Coyne made a motion to accept the January 26, 2015 Business Meeting Minutes as presented, which was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Coyne is in receipt of the following correspondence:

- Letter from General Electric reporting on cleanup of PCBs in the Hudson Rivers. This item will be discussed later in tonight’s agenda.

TREASURER’S REPORT

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

Village water, sewer, garbage & penalties	\$ 36,146.96
Town water & penalties	303,483.10

which included 0 final/adjustments for the Village and 2 for the Town.

Warrant #2 – Mayor Coyne made a motion to approve the February 2015 Warrant (#2) and authorize payments totaling \$237,711.86, which was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried by a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Trustee Schmidt reported receipt of \$6,282,941.66 (91.93%) in anticipated revenues and \$5,625,431.94 (82.31%) in anticipated expenditures through the end of January.

Trustee Schmidt further that Treasurer Mahoney provided the Board with a “Fiscal Stress Summary” from the NYS Comptroller’s Office based upon their review of our 2014 Annual Update Document (AUD). As of December 31, 2014, the Village is once again classified as “No Designation” (which means we are not experiencing fiscal stress) with a projected score of 4.6%. In 2011 our score was 41.7%, in 2012 our score was 27.1%, and in 2013 our score was 17.5%.

CORRECTION TO TAX ROLL

Trustee Schmidt reported that parcel 104-1-62, owned by WB Realty LLC, was eliminated by a lot line change finalized in 2014 but was not removed from the Town of Cornwall’s assessment roll. The property was assessed for \$12,050 and a tax bill was produced for \$122.52. A correction to the tax roll is required.

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing a correction to reduce the 2015 tax roll by the amount of \$122.52 which was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

BUDGET TRANSFERS – ESCROW MATTERS

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing a budget transfer of \$1,121.80 from Trust & Agency (Escrow Deposits) to A1420.411 (Legal Expense – Other Boards) to reimburse the general fund for legal expenses incurred to review planning board applications on behalf of The Stylist’s Chair and Rock Wall Pub & Grub. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing a budget transfer of \$1,272.00 from Trust & Agency (Escrow Deposits) to A1440.4 (Engineering) to reimburse the general fund for engineering expenses relating to planning board applications on behalf of The Stylist’s Chair, Rock Wall Pub & Grub, and Storm King School. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing a budget transfer of \$600.00 from Trust & Agency to A2115 (General Fund Revenues – Planning Fees) for the planning board application fee collected from Eighteen Church Street which was deposited into Trust & Agency. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing a budget transfer of \$1,000.00 from A2115 (General Fund Revenues – Planning Fees) to A1420.411 (General Fund Expenditures – Legal Expense Other Boards) for the escrow fee collected from Eighteen Church Street deposited into the general fund and expended in legal fees. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

BOARD DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Building Department Trustee Carnright reported 5 building permits were issued, 4 certificates of compliance/were issued, 18 onsite inspections were performed, and 13 fire inspections were conducted. Inspector Maggio worked 80 hours in January.

Fire Department – Deputy Mayor Edsall reported 8 medical calls, 3 automatic alarms, 2 hazardous conditions, 6 motor vehicle accidents, 1 mutual aid given, 1 landing zone – medivac, 1 storm standby, 2 meetings, 11 drills, 1 training class, and 1 fund raising detail for a total of 37 events and 374 man hours.

Deputy Mayor Edsall further reported that S.C.B.A. bottles are being hydrostatically tested as required by N.F.P.A. The department currently has 41 bottles which are 10 years old and must be tested every 5 years. The life span of these bottles in accordance with N.F.P.A. guidelines is 15 years so this will be the last test. It will cost approximately \$1,000 to replace each bottle. In addition annual servicing and testing of M.V.A. Extrication Equipment is complete. The equipment, which was purchased used back in 1995, is nearing the end of its “useful life span” and plans should be made to gradually replace it.

The department has completed computer upgrades, installed security cameras in the truck bays, conducted annual sexual harassment and workplace violence prevention training, and conducted annual blood borne pathogens training, conducted firehouse software training. Orange County 911 is in the final stages of upgrading the computer aided dispatching (C.A.D.) system which will be operational this spring, and will also be upgrading the dispatch consoles for fire and EMS in February. Orange County Department of Emergency Services will be reviewing the Hudson River Response Plan for boating accident’s this spring. Donahue Memorial Park is a designated located for rescue operations due to its easy access to the river. In February, the department will conduct C.P.R./Defibrillator and first aid training.

Police Department Trustee Carnright reported 1 criminal mischief, 1 petty larceny, 5 misdemeanor arrests, 7 traffic accidents, 19 traffic summons issued, 23 warnings issued, 5 parking summons issued, 4 fire response calls, 4 domestic incident calls, 10 alarm response calls, 2 noise complaints, 1 suspicious person call, 2 suspicious activity calls, 4 suspicious vehicle calls, 4 animal complaints, 2 disorderly adult calls, 3 assists to the Town of Cornwall Police Department, 11 EMS assist calls, 2 assists to other agencies, 2 welfare checks, and 5 citizen assists for a total of 272 total calls for service.

Trustee Carnright further reported that P.O. Desjardines attended “Interview and Interrogation” training which was held in Goshen.

Department of Public Works – Trustee Schmidt reported repairs to village vehicles, sewer maintenance, plowing and treating roadways, building maintenance, brush cutting, snow removal from parking areas, and clearing snow and maintenance of sidewalks.

Trustee Schmidt further reported that a meeting was held with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on January 30th, and a Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) audit is scheduled for February 18th.

DPW Superintendent Halvorsen will be out of town from March 6 – 14 for vacation.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

In order to offset the cost of this year's winter ice and snow storms, DPW Superintendent is requesting the following budget transfers.

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing a budget transfer of \$7,000.00 from A8140.4 (General Fund Expenditures – Storm Sewer Expense) to A5110.4 (General Fund Expenditures – Street Maintenance Expense). The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Edsall and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing a budget transfer of \$8,000.00 from A5142.1 (General Fund Expenditures – Snow Removal Salary) to A5142.4 (General Fund Expenditures – Snow Removal Expense). The motion was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Water Department – Deputy Mayor Edsall reported an average daily production of 977,000 gallons with all bacteria samples passing N.Y.S. Standards. The required monthly and quarterly samples were collected (a total of 29). A total of 32 utility mark-outs were done, 3 meters were replaced, 18 miscellaneous repairs were completed, and 4 final meter readings were done. In addition, installation of markers on fire hydrants was completed, a water main was repaired on Washington Street, installation of meters on all water main bleeds was completed, painting of pipework at Catskill Treatment plant was completed, snow was cleared from fire hydrants, assisted Department of Public Works with snow removal, and snow was removed from Water Department properties.

Deputy Mayor Edsall further reported that the Catskill Treatment Plant is off line until March, and Blackrock Treatment Plant is ready for use. Water Department personnel will be attending certification classes in May/June 2015, and Code Red is up and running.

RESOLUTIONS

WATER DEPARTMENT TRAINING

Mayor Coyne made a motion to approve a 2 week “Grade A” training course in May for Shawn Arnott and Daniel Nye at the Western New York Water Operator School in Buffalo including lodging, meals, and transportation costs, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Edsall and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Mayor Coyne made a motion to approve a 1 week “Grade I Advanced Operations” training course in June for Shawn Arnott at the Western New York Water Operator School in Buffalo including lodging, meals, and transportation costs, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Edsall and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Deputy Mayor Edsall reported that this training is important because it provides continuous intensive training and helps our employees get the proper certifications quickly in order to comply with Department of Health standards.

LEASE/PURCHASE OF DUMP TRUCK – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Coyne made a motion to authorize a 5 year lease/purchase agreement with Robert Green Auto & Truck, Inc. for a 2015 Dodge Ram 5500 Dump Truck in the amount of \$17,374.80 annually which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Edsall and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – LABORER POSITION

Upon the recommendation of DPW Superintendent Halvorsen, Mayor Coyne tabled this item for discussion at the March 9th work session.

REQUEST FOR FURTHER REMOVAL OF PCB'S FROM HUDSON RIVER

Deputy Mayor Edsall introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

WHEREAS, the Hudson River is an American Heritage River and the health and beauty of the river is critical to the economic vitality of the communities surrounding it; and

WHEREAS, nearly 200 miles of the Hudson River are a federal superfund site because the General Electric Corporation discharged large quantities of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) into the river from 1947 to 1977; and

WHEREAS, the PCBs are pollutants that are linked to a wider variety of adverse health effects; and

WHEREAS, the PCBs have also significantly harmed a number of industries, included a multi-million-dollar-a-year commercial fishing industry; and

WHEREAS, the PCBs have also diminished the enjoyment of the Hudson River; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson hereby urges that General Electric continue its removal of PCBs and a more thorough cleanup of the Hudson River.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

2015-2016 INSURANCE

Discussion took place regarding an insurance proposal that was received earlier today from the McKane Group. The proposal, which came by email, only provided that the new carrier will be CNA Insurance and the premium will be \$155,304.00.

Deputy Mayor Edsall made a motion to accept the insurance proposal from CNA and National Casualty Company in an amount not to exceed \$155,304.00 and authorize Mayor Coyne to obtain additional information from the McKane Group regarding coverage limits which was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried by a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

MELISSA FUND SUN RUN – MAY 16, 2015

Mayor Coyne made a motion authorizing the “Melissa Fund Sun Run” to take place on Saturday, May 16th. The course route will once again go through portions of the Village and Town of Cornwall. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

REQUEST TO KEEP THE MID-HUDSON POSTAL FACILITY OPEN

Mayor Coyne introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

WHEREAS, The United States Postal Service plans to close or consolidate the Mid-Hudson Processing and Distribution Center; and

WHEREAS, This plan would severely delay all classes of mail delivery; and

WHEREAS, The delay of mail would negatively affect residents and local businesses, and would harm our community; and

WHEREAS, The closure would result in a degradation of “service standards,” that would result in the virtual elimination of overnight mail delivery throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, The closure is not in the public's best interest; and

WHEREAS, Federal law stipulates that, “The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people. It shall provide prompt, reliable and efficient services to patrons in all areas and shall render postal services to all communities.” [39 U.S. Code Section 101(a)]

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Cornwall-on-Hudson Village Board:

Section 1. Does hereby demand congressional intervention to stop this proposal to close or consolidate the Mid-Hudson Processing & Distribution Center.

Section 2. Does hereby demand congressional intervention to stop the delay of mail and the elimination of overnight delivery of first-class mail.

Section 3. That this resolution shall be forwarded to our U.S. Senators and Representative, and the Postmaster General.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Deputy Mayor Edsall and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

ORANGE COUNTY STOP DWI AGREEMENT

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

WHEREAS, the County of Orange has funds to be distributed to local law enforcement agencies for the purpose of conducting enforcement activities related to the STOP DWI program, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Cornwall on Hudson does wish to participate in said program,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of the Village of Cornwall on Hudson approves the receipt of said funds on behalf of the Village of Cornwall on Hudson Police Department from the County of Orange and authorizes Mayor Brendan G. Coyne, to execute all necessary contracts and documentation for the year 2015 in regard to available funds.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Schmidt and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

RESOLUTION ISSUING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION PURSUANT TO THE NYS ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (“SEQRA”) – TAYLOR ROAD WELLS

Deputy Mayor Edsall introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

WHEREAS, the Village identified a need to expand the available capacity of its public water supply to meet both the current and future needs of its residents and customers; and

WHEREAS, the Village currently maintains two (2) public water wells within the Town of Cornwall, commonly known as the Taylor Road Well Field; and

WHEREAS, the Village has applied for a Public Water Withdrawal Permit from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“DEC”) pursuant to Article 15, Title 15 of the DEC’s regulations; and

WHEREAS, on or about October 21, 2014, the Village Board determined the proposed action is subject to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQR”) and further expressed its intent to be Lead Agency under SEQR; and

WHEREAS, on or about October 21, 2014, the Village Board circulated its Intent to become Lead Agency under SEQR to the DEC and no objection was received; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board and the Village’s engineer have reviewed the Short Environmental Assessment Form and any associated documents prepared for this action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson hereby determines that the project is an unlisted action pursuant to Part 617 of the regulations implementing SEQRA; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Village Board determines that the project will have no significant adverse impacts on the environment, issues a negative declaration for the project and authorized the Village Clerk to circulate the Notice of Determination of Significance issued herewith.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Carnright and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.

OTHER BUSINESS

VILLAGE SEWER SYSTEM INSPECTION

Mayor Coyne reported that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representative met with Engineer for the Village Andrew Fetherston, DPW Superintendent Halvorsen, and Secretary Arlene Roberts on January 30th to inspect the Village sewer system. Several recommendations were made.

SNOW STORMS

Mayor Coyne commended our DPW and Water Department employees for their efforts during the recent snow storms.

DPW Superintendent Halvorsen wanted to especially thank Wayne Yeoman, Pat Conley and Tom Lyons for all the time and effort they put in during these storms.

MS4 EVALUATION

Mayor Coyne reported that the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation representative met with Engineer for the Village Andrew Fetherston and DPW Superintendent Halvorsen on February 18th to conduct a follow-up evaluation of the Village's Municipal Separate Storm Water System (MS4).

MEETING ON ST. LUKE'S CORNWALL HOSPITAL

Mayor Coyne reported that he attended a meeting on February 18th involving St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital. They are planning to work with another hospital but cannot divulge additional information at this time.

GAZEBO ACCESSIBILITY – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Mayor Coyne reported that a Request for Proposals on handicap accessibility at Donahue Memorial Park was held on February 20th. One proposal was received from Nannini & Callahan and it is currently under review.

VILLAGE ELECTION DAY

Mayor Coyne reported that Election Day will be held on Wednesday, March 18th from 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

HANSON-HOWELL SUBDIVISION – PARKLAND FEE

Mayor Coyne reported that Ms. Hanson-Howell has withdrawn her request for subdivision.

UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Mayor Coyne tabled this matter for discussion in Executive Session later this evening.

FYI

MAYORS ROUNDTABLE

Mayor Coyne reported that there will be a “Mayors Roundtable” discussion in the Village on February 25th.

LECTURE ON LAC-MEGANTIC OIL TRAIN DISASTER

Mayor Coyne will attend a lecture on the Lac-Megantic Oil Train Disaster at West Point on February 27th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carol O’Keefe of 2 Payson Road asked for an update on plans for the Sewer Plant.

Deputy Mayor Edsall replied that an application to review drawings, plans, and specifications was sent by the town to the DEC back in October of 2014. So far there has been no response. Mr. Edsall further stated that the purpose of establishing a capital fund was to cover our share of costs associated with the sewer plant improvements and to address infiltration/inflow of the Village’s collection system.

DPW Superintendent Halvorsen reported that the furnace in Village Hall which heats the police department and board room broke down this past weekend. Roth Mechanical has been able to temporarily provide heat by utilizing the boiler for the front of the building. He expects repairs to be completed sometime this week.

BOARD ACTIVITIES/COMMENTS

Trustee Schmidt recently met with Paul Gould in preparation for this year’s “Artfest”. In addition he met with the Bandstand Committee to work on preparations for the 30th anniversary celebration of the Bandstand this June. Mr. Schmidt thanked our employees and supervisors for a job well done with snow removal this winter.

Trustee Carnright also thanked our employees for a “great job” on snow removal.

Deputy Mayor Edsall recently spoke with Trustee Kane who is currently serving our country in Afghanistan. Mr. Kane is doing well and sends greetings to everyone back home. In addition Mr. Edsall has been working with Village Clerk Mahoney and Water Superintendent June on a recent complaint he received about our voice mail messaging system and suggests that a reprogramming change be made.

Mayor Coyne stated that even though there are no opponents in this year’s election, he hopes that voters turn out on March 18th. Mr. Coyne is glad that Deputy Mayor Edsall and Trustee Carnright are running again, feels that we have a “well-oiled machine”, and he appreciates working with the entire Village Board.

Having concluded the business set before them, Trustee Carnright made a motion to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session at 8:20 PM in order to discuss status of union contract negotiations which was seconded by Trustee Schmidt and carried upon a vote of 4 Ayes and 0 Nays.