

Village Board

May 4, 2009

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Suzanne LeBlanc, Mike Campbell, Kelly Myers, William Murphy, Jeannine Dirie and Richard Moore

Others: students from SHS Government Class, Richard Frisbee, Ron LeBlanc, Maryanne Wrolsen, Alex Wade, Don Hackett, Ed Quirk, Heather Plonchak – New Sau Times, Ariel Zanglia – Freeman, and others

Mayor Yerick called the Village Board to order at 7:00pm. Trustee LeBlanc led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Trustee Dirie introduced Todd Loucks from the Hess Corporation. He informed the Board about a not for profit energy procurement program called MEGA, Municipal Electric & Gas Alliance. This organization has been endorsed by the NYS Association of Counties as a vehicle for municipalities and not for profit organizations to receive significant savings and energy costs by reducing the delivery fee and the merchant function fee. The prices can be fixed at a set rate or can float with the market. Mr. Loucks recommends the floating price because he does not foresee a spike in price any time soon. There will be two invoices – one from Central Hudson for the delivery charge and a second from Hess for the actual product. Ulster County has just signed on with MEGA and expects an annual saving of over \$200,000.00. The Board asked several questions and requested an estimate of the savings for the Village energy costs from Mr. Loucks. The Mayor thanked him for his information.

There was no one present who wished to address the Board.

Mayor Yerick presented the April 20, 2009 minutes of the two Public Hearings and the regular Village Board meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Campbell, to approve all of the above mentioned minutes. Carried.

Trustee Moore presented the Abstract for May 4, 2009: General - \$39,615.08; Water - \$6,981.33; Wastewater - \$10,248.52; Water Distribution - \$193,894.40, Building Reserve Fund - \$3,290.00. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc, to approve the Abstract. Carried.

Mayor Yerick welcomed back Trustee Bill Murphy after his recent surgery.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he and Supervisor Helsmoortel are still discussing the consolidation of the two Police Departments. He hopes they can make a decision by August. Mayor Yerick said if no consolidation happens, there will be drastic changes in the Village Police Department. The abolishment of the Village Police is a possibility. Trustee LeBlanc said the Board should prepare the public – give them the economic reason for this decision. Mayor Yerick said that there must be a solid plan in place before releasing figures to the public. Trustee Myers said she would like to see a written plan to include cost and how service to the Village residents will be affected. Mayor Yerick agreed. Trustee LeBlanc said the Board should let the public know how much the Police

Department costs Village residents. Mayor Yerick said those figures are in the budget which is certainly available to the public. Trustee Campbell asked for a working plan by July 1st. Mayor Yerick asked for continued patience saying that the consultant had presented 4 scenarios for consolidation. Mayor Yerick believes the figures are incorrect saying that additional areas need to be addressed. Trustee LeBlanc said she still favors putting the current costs out to the public. Trustee Murphy said he believes, from the word on the street, that most Village residents are in favor of combining the Police Departments. Trustee Campbell stated that only Village residents would have the opportunity to vote on consolidation. If the PD is abolished, the responsibility would fall to the UC Sheriff's Department. Heather Plonchak asked if Town residents could vote on consolidation – the answer is no.

Joe Bisignano advised the board that the annual Water Quality Report would be mailed to residents before the end of May.

Trustee Campbell advised the Board that a crane overturned on Partition Street – the SFD was on the scene. Open burning is not allowed in the Village. He advised the Board that Time Warner Cable has underpaid the Village franchise fee by \$3000,00 – a request has been made to correct this situation. The SAMA committee work is ongoing. An effort by some local college students is being undertaken using Saugerties as their project. They will study the Village and recommend traffic improvements.

Trustee LeBlanc advised that the Saugerties Economic Development Committee has published the new brochure describing Saugerties – they did a great job. The Hors'n Around Saugerties horses should be in place by June 1st. The horses will be auctioned on September 12th. A shopper's survey will soon be available. Art will soon be displayed in vacant stores. Trustee LeBlanc reported that she recently attended a NYCOM Conference regarding "Main Street" and property maintenance issues. She learned much and received suggestions. She will be attending a RUPCO meeting to discuss housing needs in the Village. She reminded residents to mow their lawns.

Alex Wade presented his report (copy attached). Trustee Myers mentioned that there seems to be more traffic in the Village and the lights on Main Street are not timed correctly. Mr. Wade replied that the DOT controls the traffic signals.

Trustee Myers reported that Spring Clean up has ended and no more yard waste should be placed in the street. The sweeper is making its rounds.

Trustee Dirie reported that she attended a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting and informed members of the Village Revolving Loan Program. She also asked merchants to maintain their sidewalks. The flower baskets should be in place by June 1st. She has also contacted the Alternative Sentencing Program for help with mum planting this summer. Trustee Dirie said she has been contacted by a local merchant – the bike shop owner – regarding bike racks in the Village. Alex Wade spoke up, saying he was working on the bike rack issue. Trustee Dirie said the bike shop owner would like a bike rack in front of his store – Mr. Wade replied that the rack would be in the DOT right of way. Trustee

Dirie read a thank you note from the Reformed Church for the use of Seamon Park on Easter Sunday.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that the PD solved a stolen bike case – the bike was valued at \$2000.00.

Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Moore, to appoint Donald Hackett to the Planning Board to replace the late Tom Dederick. Carried.

Clerk Mary Frank advised the Board that two fees regarding Planning Board services were inadvertently omitted from the list of Village Fees recently passed by the Board. They are the Site Plan Application charge of \$200.00 for both commercial and industrial buildings. Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee LeBlanc, to approve the fee. Carried.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that there would be a lecture on May 12th at the Historical Society.

Mayor Yerick presented Local Law #2/2009, the Federal and State mandated changes to the existing Flood Plain Law. A Public Hearing was held earlier in the evening. Motion was made by Mayor Yerick, seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve Local Law #2/2009. Carried unanimously.

Trustee Myers inquired as to the status of the Historic Review Board. Mayor Yerick has asked Trustee Campbell and Nancy Campbell to review his actions and make recommendations to the Village Board. Trustee Campbell will report at the May 18th Village Board meeting.

Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Myers, to adjourn. Carried. The Village Board adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk