

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Mary Leahy, Michael Karashay, William Murphy, Kelly Myers, Michael Campbell and Richard Moore
Others Present: Superintendents Joe Bisignano, Bob Ciarlante, Mike Marino, George Terpening, Eyal Saad, Police Chief William Kimble, Fire Chief Brian Martin, Will-New Saugerties Times

Mayor Robert Yerick opened the Village Board meeting at 7:00pm. Trustee Leahy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Mayor Yerick presented the minutes of the March 6th Board meeting for approval. Motion was made by Trustee Moore, seconded by Trustee Karashay, to approve the minutes as written. Carried.

Trustee Moore presented the Abstract for March 20, 2006. General - \$19,592.24; Water - \$4,769.64; Wastewater - \$5,806.38; pre-paid Wastewater - \$65,896.02. Motion was made by Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to approve the abstract for payment. Carried.

Code Enforcement Officer Eyal Saad presented his report (copy attached). The Boys & Girls Club received their Certificate of Occupancy and should be open soon. Attorney Alex Betke is drafting letter to property owners who failed to respond to the Multi-Family building inspection requests.

Trustee Campbell presented his report (copy attached). The Transportation Committee is continuing its work. Progress has been made with limiting the speed limit into the Village on 9W North – kudos’ to Trustee Leahy. A simpler URL for the Village website has been developed – SaugertiesNY.US. A “Lighthouse TV 23 Jam” is planned for May 20th.

Mayor Yerick reported he received a call from the DEP informing him of a planned release of water from the Ashokan. No problems with flooding have been reported. Mayor Yerick said the DEP finally seems to recognize their responsibility to the communities on the Esopus affected by flooding.

Joe Bisignano presented the Water Department report (copy attached). Highlights include the following items. Water bills were mailed on March 1st. The Water Department is working on the Annual Water Quality Report – it should be complete in a few months. The firm Aqualogic performed a calibration service for the water plant.

Mike Marino presented the Wastewater Department report (copy attached). General maintenance was performed at both the treatment plant and in the collection system.

Police Chief Kimble presented the Police Report (copy attached). The Chief also advised the Board that the PD is monitoring the water level of the Esopus. The flood stage at Mt. Marion is 20 feet. On March 1st the water was at 13.88 feet and on March 20th the water was at 14.72. The Chief also mentioned that the radios passed out by Ulster County have two channels – one for flood alerts and one for weather forecasts. Village Clerk Mary Frank reported that Lighthouse Drive resident June Overbaugh had advised the Village that the instructions for radio use were complicated, but once the radio was operational, she has had great reception and no problems at all.

Bob Ciarlante delivered the DPW report (copy attached). The sweeper will begin its work in the Business District next week and then move on to residential areas. Spring Clean Up is scheduled for April 24 – April 28. No yard debris in the streets prior to April 17th. Chips money was received - \$45,474.20 which covered much of the road construction costs for 2005.

Trustee Campbell has been asked by a resident about the DPW burning debris on North Street. He inquired about alternatives to burning. Mr. Ciarlante replied that he realizes that burning is a problem. He and Trustee Myers are investigating alternatives, however the alternatives are quite costly. The DPW could rent a tub grinder to dispose of the debris – the cost would be \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00 per year. The cost to purchase a grinder is around \$100,000.00. No other local landfills will accept the debris. There is no easy solution.

Fire Chief Brian Martin presented the SFD reports for January and February (copy attached). January had 11 alarms with 155 firefighters responding. February had 17 alarms with 275 firefighters responding.

George Terpening presented the Buildings, Parks and Grounds report (copy attached). His department is in the spring clean-up mode at all the Parks. The generator issue is still under investigation.

Mayor Yerick thanked Trustee Richard Moore and Village Treasurer Julie Dunn for all their work on the Village Budget for 2006/2007. Trustee Moore reported to the Board that 2006/2007 will be a tough year, financially. The assessed property value has risen from \$149 million to \$260 million. The tax rate for 2005/2006 was 12.2824%. The tax rate for 2006/2007 will be 7.3881%. The cost for salaries, insurance, benefits and utilities has risen for 2006/2007. Village taxes will increase by 4.9% in 2006/2007. A Public Hearing on the 2006/2007 Budget is scheduled for April 3rd at 6:45pm. Notices have been sent to all departments that the Mayor, Trustee Moore and Treasurer Dunn must approve any unplanned expenses.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that John Dragun has resigned from the Ulster County Transportation Committee.

Mayor Yerick reminded everyone that Village Elections are March 21st from 12noon to 9:00pm.

Mayor Yerick asked for a moment of silence to remember former Village Trustee and County Legislator Joan Feldmann. She was a tireless supporter of the community of Saugerties and will be sorely missed.

Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Moore, to adjourn. Carried. The Village Board adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk