



VILLAGE OF SAUGERTIES
43 PARTITION STREET
SAUGERTIES, N.Y. 12477

Village Board Meeting Minutes October 17, 2022

Present: Mayor Murphy, Deputy Mayor Jeannine Mayer, Trustees Brian Martin, Terry Parisian, Don Hackett, Jeff Helmuth
Others: Michael Hopf, Richard Forbes, Eyal Saad, Ed Quirk, Brian Mason, Dave Gordon, Bill Kemble, Nina Schmidbaur Zink, Andrew Zink, Nancy Fedoreshenko, Mark Griffith

Mayor Murphy opened the Village Board meeting at 5:30pm.

Deputy Mayor Mayer led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor

Nancy Fedoreshenko addressed the Trustees regarding the four recent burglaries she has had at her Market Street property. She has been personally assaulted, vandalized, and burglarized well over ten times since has moved here in 1985 and none of the cases have been solved. She does not consider Saugerties a friendly or safe town. No help has been offered. The most recent burglaries have caused her a loss of \$125,000 which she cannot recover. Some of her stolen items have been listed online for sale but she has not had any cooperation from the police department.

Trustee Parisian stated that this situation is a police and insurance matter and not a Board of Trustees matter.

Mayor Murphy stated that there have been issues in the past with stolen items on her property. **Ms. Fedoreshenko** denied the accusations that they were stolen, and stated, it was never proven.

Ms. Fedoreshenko added that her water pipe had been cut during the burglary and her basement flooded. She would like help with the erroneous water bill. **Mayor Murphy** stated that arrangements would have to be made with the Water Dept. personnel to have access to the damaged water pipe and address the problem.

Ms. Fedoreshenko questioned if the Village would consider a neighborhood watch. **Mayor Murphy** stated that a neighborhood watch would be welcome, but no one has requested to start one. It would have to be organized by interested community volunteers with support and authorization from the police department.

Mark Griffith added that the chain was broken to steal their oil. The neighbors saw the truck there two or three times. It's horrible here and no one will help.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2022.

Trustee Parisian made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2022. The motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2022, was seconded by Trustee Hackett. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy presented the Abstracts for October 17, 2022.

- General \$ 15,209.87
- Water \$ 1,200.52
- Wastewater \$ 14,690.69

Deputy Mayor Mayer made a motion to approve the Abstracts for October 17, 2022. The motion to approve the Abstracts for October 17, 2022 was seconded by Mayor Murphy. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Reports

Rich Forbes reported for the DPW. See attached report.

The grinding and paving will begin this week for Post, Clermont, and Virginia Avenue. Montgomery Street grinding will be complete tomorrow. Williams Street has been added also. Central Hudson is paving Washington Avenue from Division Street to Post Street. The DPW will pave Washington Avenue from Post Street to meet with Montgomery Street.

Mayor Murphy stated that Central Hudson will be paving Division to Post Street curb to curb and the other streets 6-10ft. wide. Central Hudson has been very helpful throughout the gas replacement project.

The West Bridge Medical Center parking lot drain area was paved.

The electric car charging station signs will be installed at the library lot.

Mike Hopf gave the Wastewater Dept. report for Joe Myers. See attached report.

The rebuild of the East Bridge Street pump station is moving along.

A ground monitoring pit has been installed at 25 Main Street to determine the ground water level and flooding issues.

Mike Hopf reported for the Water Dept. See attached report.

The dredging project is complete as of September 28th. They are cleaning the site, back grading, reseeding, and replacing the gate. Ten to eleven thousand cubic feet of debris was removed. Six of nine geo tubes were used. The material is spread out for the drying process and will be used as land fill.

The 2017 Ram is at Sawyer Motors for a transmission replacement. There is 42,000 miles on the transmission and not under warranty. Sawyer will try to work with us and try to get the work under warranty.

Eyal Saad gave a review of the petition for the Zoning change to the parking space requirements. The petition proposes a change from the current ½ parking space per dwelling unit to 3 spaces per two dwelling units in the B1 zoning district.

In October 2021 the Board, acting as the Lead Agency for SEQR, looked at parking in the Village and went through the process to pass a revised parking space law. The Ulster County Planning Board had sent their response to the change as *too significant a burden on new proposals while not addressing the impact of the existing parking demands* and disapproved the change. The Board tabled the law after further discussion.

Eyal Saad stated that the density in the B1 district is at full capacity, and it is almost impossible to build anything new.

A new regulation will not solve the problems that exist and would be hard to in force. Pre-existing construction would not be affected by the zoning change and new buildings on the same footprint would also be exempt. New construction and additions in the B1 district would be required to follow the new law. More low-income housing is suggested in the Comprehensive Plan but there is not the space for parking to go along with it.

Eyal Saad suggested that the Board consider hiring a planner to review the entire Zoning laws since it has been 1985 since the Zoning laws were developed.

Mayor Murphy stated that the smaller parking lots are spread out through the Village, no one place for all to park.

People must park and possibly walk. Anything we do with this law is for future growth and they would have to adhere by this new requirement. It would be minimal impact to the Village right now. The next step would be to set a public hearing. The January Board meeting will give us time to notify interested parties before the public hearing.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to set a public hearing regarding the Petition for a Zoning Change to the parking space law for Tuesday, January 3, 2023. Trustee Martin seconded the motion to set a public hearing regarding the Petition for a Zoning Change to the parking space law for Tuesday, January 3, 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Eyal Saad reported that the harvester removed 79.5 tons of milfoil was removed from the 229.5-man hours. Minor crackers to the harvester were repaired and it is now stored at the Wastewater plant for the winter season.

The job at Tannersville was completed. A 30 x 1200 path in the Rip Van Winkle Lake was done for a fee of \$800.

Mayor Murphy thanked Brian Mason for his hard work with operating the harvester this season.

GPS mapping which shows where the harvester has traveled, has been sent to the Town for review.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Parisian reported that the trees surrounding the Reis Parking lot have grown into the overhead wires, heaved the sidewalks and block the views of the parking lot and holiday tree. Trustee Parisian suggested that the trees be replaced with a lower hedge or flowers that would be maintained by the Village. A concern regarding the shade that the trees provide for the tables in the parking lot was discussed. The issue will be pursued with the Village Tree Commission.

Fall Cleanup is tentatively scheduled for the week of November 14th – Leaves only.

Trustee Helmuth reported that the revised Water Agreement has been passed on to the Town officials. No response has been received yet.

Deputy Mayor Mayer reported

- The Mum Festival was Sunday, October 9th, 12-5:00. It was lightly attended. **Trustee Helmuth** oversaw the art display and contest. Nina Schmidbaur also helped Trustee Helmuth with the art contest. The Parks and Grounds did a great job with the plantings and the park was beautiful. Trustee Hackett attended the opening ceremony. Horse wagon rides, Wildlife Show and musical entertainment was enjoyed by all. The Elks Club had a food booth.
- The Newberry Artisan Market, 236 Main Street, had their ribbon cutting on Saturday, October 15th. Mayor Murphy was in attendance. There are 32 vendors selling various handcrafted and specialty products. The market is open Wednesday – Sunday 11am – 6pm.
- The Chamber of Commerce donated money from the street art auction for Ravenswood and the Historical Society. Street art, Holiday in the Village, and maps versus guides of the village are being discussed. The Chamber will be supporting the proposed Snow Moon Festival in February. New reusable restaurant take-out containers called “tiffen boxes” will be publicized for purchase. The next Chamber meeting will be at the Auto Camp (Rip Van Winkle Campgrounds) Wednesday, October 26th at 6:30pm.
- The Ulster County Chamber will be honoring J. Mullen & Sons as Business of the Year 2022 and Tom Struzzieri as Heart of Ulster County on Thursday, October 27th at the Wiltwyck Country Club. A meet the candidate’s night will be held on Tuesday, November 1 in Kingston.
- The Arts Commission meeting will be October 27th. An event is being planned for November with the Boys and Girls Club to possibly have a giving tree and hand out art supplies.

Mike Hopf mentioned that the yarn event this weekend caused lots of traffic issues in the Village. Mayor Murphy stated that the Village was not aware of the event until Friday. Communication regarding the event needs to be improved for next year.

Trustee Hackett reported that Alex Wade and the short-term rental committee are still processing information and will forward it on to Eyal Saad to review and distribute to the Board and Village attorney.

The Wastewater plant is going well. The funds are available in the budget to repair the digester and clarifier/thickener. We are working with Dennis Larios regarding the upgrade to the Wastewater plant. We are meeting with Paula and how it will affect our user fees.

Trustee Parisian stated that other communities have added a one-time bond fee or a capital assessment bond levy, as opposed to adding it to the usage fee.

Trustee Hackett and **Mayor Murphy** agreed that a one-time yearly fee based on usage for businesses and homeowners would be best.

Trustee Martin reported for **the Fire Department**. See attached report.

Mayor Murphy stated that Vincent McLaughlin’s appointment to the Ulster County Planning board will expire soon. He feels he has been doing a good job and would like to reappoint him for the next term.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to reappoint Vincent McLaughlin to the Ulster County Planning Board for 2023. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to reappoint Vincent McLaughlin to the Ulster County Planning Board for 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy mentioned that the new chair lift has been installed in the Donlon stairway. The chair will help with anyone that needs assistance getting up the stairs. The final cost was less than quoted due to a second outlet not required.

A proposal for sand blasting and painting of the fire escape on the rear of the municipal building has been received. The quote is \$22,675. The cost will be covered by AARPA funds. It will take approximately one week to complete.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the use of ARPA funds of \$22,675 estimate for the restoration of the fire escapes at the municipal building. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve the use of ARPA funds of

\$22,675 estimate for the restoration of the fire escapes at the municipal building. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy announced that he has accepted the resignation of Village Clerk, Lisa Mayone, who will be retiring in January, 2023. **Mayor Murphy** has interviewed several candidates and has chosen Peggy Melville to be appointed the position of Village Clerk. Peggy is qualified and has a great resume and job history. She was also recommended by Trustee Buono for the position.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the appointment of Peggy Melville as the Village Clerk as of January 2023. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve the appointment of Peggy Melville as the Village Clerk as of January 2023. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the Village Board meeting. Trustee Martin seconded the motion to adjourn. The Board meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

The next **Village Board meeting Monday, November 7, at 5:30 pm.**

Lisa Mayone Village Clerk October 21, 2022