

Village Board

March 5, 2007

Present: Mayor Robert Yerick, Trustees Michael Karashay, Mary Leahy, Kelly Myers and William Murphy

Absent: Trustee Michael Campbell and Richard Moore

Others: Alex Wade, David Radavanovic, Will Dendis-New Saugerties Times

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

Mayor Yerick complimented the Water Department, the Wastewater Department, Buildings and Grounds and the DPW for the great team effort put forth by everyone working together on the recent water main break on Main Street.

Privilege of the Floor

David Radavanovic announced that he was holding a “Meet and Greet” the candidates at the Inquiring Minds Bookstore on March 15th from 7:00am until 8:00pm. He invited all the Board to attend.

Mayor Yerick presented the minutes of the February 20, 2007 Village Board meeting for approval. Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to approve the minutes as written. Carried.

Mayor Yerick presented the Abstracts for March 5, 2007. \$General: 48,330.03; pre-paid Water: \$557.66; Water -\$7,940.53; Wastewater - \$20,447.18. Motion was made by Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Leahy, to approve the Abstract for payment. Carried.

Trustee Myers reported that the DPW had provided assistance to the Water Department during the recent water main break on Main Street. Merrit Construction was also called in to help with the repair.

Trustee Murphy reported that the water line on Main Street broke in 14 different places. The line is at least 80 years old. All departments did an excellent job, working into the night several times to repair the breaks. Through it all, the Cahill School remained open due to the efforts of the Water Department. The digging was difficult – there was one foot of concrete over the line in addition to the blacktop. The water line will have to be replaced from Washington Avenue to Diaz Ambulance on Main Street. Trustee Murphy complimented all Village Departments for the job – a great example of team effort. He also advised the Board that Steve Whitaker would be moving from Buildings and Grounds to the Water Department effective March 19th.

Trustee Leahy said the Buildings and Grounds Department will miss Steve and they wish him well at the Water Department. The Buildings & Grounds Department is completing

two projects – the interior painting of the Police Department and the renovation of the Seamon Park House kitchen.

Trustee Murphy remarked that he felt that the DPW was the backbone of the Village. Mayor Yerick agreed and stated that he feels that the feasibility study will point out the Town Highway Department and the Village DPW have two different agendas.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he had nothing to report on behalf of the Police Department.

Trustee Karashay reported that the SFD has not seen much activity – a good thing. The Washington Hook and Ladder Company will recognize two 50-year members – Jack Kolano and Jim Gage.

Alex Wade presented his report (copy attached).

Mayor Yerick presented copies of Local Laws #4 and 5 of 2007. These laws modify tax exemptions for senior citizens and Gold Star Parents. According to Treasurer Julie Dunn, 21 properties will be affected by these proposed changes and the cost to the Village in tax revenue is anticipated to be about \$35,000.00. Those numbers could change from year to year. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for March 19, 2007 at 6:30pm.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that he had read a recent column by Hugh Reynolds in the Daily Freeman regarding the County Legislature putting a committee of legislators in place to investigate the debacle at the County Jail. The Mayor feels that the Legislature should not be investigating itself. He has written a letter to Legislature Chairman David Donaldson stating his opinion. The Mayor asked the Board if they would support the letter or if he should send it as a private citizen. Trustee Myers stated that the jail has tied up dollars that could have been spent for other projects. Trustee Karashay said that because the Village government was not financially impacted by the jail project, the Board should not comment. Trustee Murphy and Trustee Leahy agreed that the County Legislature should not be investigating itself, however the Village Board should not comment. Mayor Yerick said he might send the letter as an individual citizen.

Mayor Yerick presented Resolution #8/2007 for approval. This resolution authorizes the Village to move forward in Supreme Court to demolish the structure located at 51 Livingston Street. The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Murphy and carried unanimously.

Mayor Yerick advised the Board that NYS has mandated that local municipalities train their personnel to deal with “Violence in the Workplace”. The law firm of Roemer, Wallens & Mineaux will begin a training program for employees on March 14th.

Mayor Yerick urged everyone to attend “Candidates Night” sponsored by the League of Women Voter’s on March 6th.

Mayor Yerick asked for Board approval to authorize a survey of Village owned property located in the Industrial Park. There is a line dispute with another property owner and the Village needs a new survey to resolve the matter. Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Leahy, to approve \$3800.00 for a survey of the Village owned parcel. Carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Karashay, seconded by Trustee Murphy, to adjourn. Carried. The Board adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Frank
Village Clerk