

OCTOBER 27, 2009 REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF CAMILLUS, COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, STATE OF NEW YORK, HELD AT THE CAMILLUS VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Mayor Kurt Brunger, Trustee Anne Clancy, Trustee Sharon Hannon, Trustee Mike Montero

Absent: Trustee James Palumbo, Clerk/Treasurer Marie Stanczyk

Staff Present: Attorney Steve Primo, Administrative Assistant Susan Clarke

Members of the Public: Approximately 7

Deputy Mayor Clancy called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Brunger arrived at 7:02 PM. Attorney Primo arrived at 8:04 PM.

**Cornell University Cooperative Extension Tree Survey Report**

Professor Nina Bassuck, Co-Chair of Cornell University's Urban Horticulture Institute and Community Forestry Program Work Team members Fran Lawlor and Fred Cowett provided a PowerPoint presentation and report on the street tree survey performed by 14 students involved in the Student Weekend Arborist Team (SWAT) the last weekend in August.

Professor Bassuck noted members of the SWAT group used GPS (global positioning devices) and PDA (personal digital assistants) devices to track and record data on many items including the location of the 354 trees planted in the village right-of-way and parks, the species, size, age and condition of tree wood and leaves, and to record tree and overhead wire conflicts. Per the report, 48% of the spaces that could be planted are being used so there is room for improvement in terms of planting spaces.

Professor Bassuck reported the general condition of the tree inventory is overall good, but recommended a certified arborist should inspect for stability the large-leaf silver maple trees that comprise approximately 12% of the total inventory. She noted the inventory includes 40 different species of trees with the majority (58%) of trees being maples with the additional trees being white and Norway spruce. The professor recommended pruning of some of the potentially hazard trees including the silver maples by a certified arborist the sooner the better, or just prior to springtime.

As explained by the professor, the report indicates the trees included in the inventory provide a current annual benefit to the village of \$44,655 (\$126.15/year per tree), and the value of the trees appreciates over time if they are properly maintained. Financial benefits from the trees are calculated based on energy conservation, carbon dioxide reduction, air quality improvement, storm water control and property value increases. The replacement value of all trees included in the inventory would be \$1,745,728.

In addition to recommending annual pruning of the trees, the report suggests planting larger species where there are no overhead wires, including monies in the annual budget for the maintenance and annual planting of trees to eventually take the place of older trees, updating the database of inventory provided by Cornell, and making an ordinance to protect the trees.

## **TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

### **Resolution 10272009-1: Sale of Camillus Fire Department Engine 4 and Mini-7 Trucks**

Trustee Clancy moved that the finding is that Engine 4 and Mini-7 fire trucks be declared surplus and not needed for Village purposes, and that the Village approve the sale of Engine 4 and Mini-7 to the Summerfield Volunteer Fire Department of Selma, Alabama for a total sum of \$82,000.00. Trustee Montero seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

Trustee Clancy verified a 5% commission will be payable to the broker involved in the sale of the trucks and that she will contact the Summerfield, Alabama department to arrange their payment by cashier check and pick up of the trucks during the last week of November. Trustee Clancy and Deputy Chief Doug Groesbeck confirmed that the total net dollars from the sale of the four vehicles sold as part of the plan for the purchase of the two new fire trucks will be \$206,650.00, exceeding the original target of \$183,000.00 by \$23,650.00.

**NOTE:** [Suggested correction to preceding statement: According to figures recorded during the September 22, 2009 regular meeting, the total gross sale price of the Heavy Rescue Truck #3 was \$125,000 and would be subject to a 5% commission, and Squad Truck #2 was sold for a total amount of \$10,111 with no commission noted. Combining those figures with the gross sale price of the two trucks listed above, the total gross sale price for all four (4) trucks should be \$217,111.00, less 5% commission payable on three (3) of those trucks totaling \$10,350.00 that results in a total net sale price of the four (4) trucks of \$206,761.00 which exceeds the original target of \$183,000.00 by \$23,761.00].

### **Resolution 10272009-2: Light Bar Purchase**

Trustee Clancy moved to approve the purchase of a light bar [for Car #3] as quoted at \$1,772.20 and supplied by Jerome Fire Equipment Company, Inc. on an emergency basis which waves the public hearing requirement for the Repair Reserve expenditure, and to the extent necessary the procurement policies, although there were quotes for that equipment, and with monies to be taken from the Repair Reserve Fund. Trustee Montero seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

### **Resolution 10272009-3: Firehouse Water Heater Purchase & Line Item Transfer**

Trustee Clancy moved to spend \$6,100.00 for the purchase of a new water heater from DBR Plumbing, Inc., the company that submitted the lowest of three quotes for the project, and to pay for the purchase from Line Item A3410.429 Interior Building Maintenance by

approving the transfer of \$6,000.00 from the Fitness account Line Item A3410.466 into the Line Item A3410.429, and that such transfer will result in a total of \$6,100.00 in Line Item A3410.429. Trustee Montero seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

Trustee Clancy noted another vendor had to be hired to perform the hookup of the water heater to the furnace and his bill (approximately \$89) will be forthcoming and will be paid from the \$6,100.00 in Line Item A3410.429.

**Resolution 10272009-4: Release of Funds to CFD**

Trustee Clancy moved to authorize the Clerk/Treasurer on an ongoing basis to release up to 35% of the monies received from the Town of Camillus for fire protection services provided the monies are in accordance with the line items specified in Local Law No. One (1) of the year 2009, and that said monies will be released within 2 days of receipt of payment received from the Town of Camillus.

**Town of Camillus Fire Contract Audit Requirement**

A discussion took place regarding possible reasons for the delay in the quarterly payment not yet received from the Town of Camillus due to the audit requirement. Attorney Primo said it was his understanding that once the Town received a copy of our audit contract they would release the monies as they would have the confidence level that we were going ahead with the audit of the last year.

Attorney Primo reported that according to an e-mail he received from Clerk/Treasurer Stanczyk, Town Supervisor Coogan wonders why the audit does not include the [Camillus Fire Department's] 2% money. Deputy Chief Groesbeck explained his understanding of how the 2% monies are received and how the money can be spent according to the laws of New York State. Attorney Primo will look into the possibility of having the 2% monies included in the scope of the audit.

**Resolution 10272009-5: Funding Advance to CFD**

Trustee Clancy moved to advance the fire department the 35% monies they would be receiving from the next installment from the Town, and the monies to be advanced to be taken from Revenue Line Item A2262. Trustee Montero seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

Mayor Brunger will call Supervisor Coogan to discuss the matter of the overdue payment. In response to a question from Attorney Primo, board members present agreed they would be in favor of including the audit of the 2% money in the pending audit if the scope of the agreement with the Town requires such.

**DPW Salt Spreader**

Trustee Montero reported Crew Leader Gary Martin has confirmed installation of the salt spreader on the DPW truck should be complete next week and the truck will be picked up in Watertown, New York for return to the Village next Friday.

#### **Fallen Tree In Nine Mile Creek**

Trustee Montero reported Crew Leader Martin will use the garbage truck to remove the tree that fell into the creek behind Village Hall. The tree should be removed the end of this week or next week.

#### **Power Washer Purchase Request**

Trustee Montero reported the DPW would like to purchase a power washer for \$296.00. Mayor Brunger recommended the monies for the purchase should be taken from the DPW line item for small equipment.

#### **Trash Accumulation Behind Laundromat**

Trustee Montero reported an unsightly collection of a large amount of trash behind the laundromat building on Main Street. He reported that CEO Williams has asked the tenant to remove the trash which has reduced the amount of debris several times, but it keeps coming back as the tenant collects more items.

Attorney Primo said such an issue would tie in with the pending local law for general property maintenance and that CEO Williams has reviewed the proposed local law and submitted to him comments and concerns on the proposed law that will be read during the public hearing.

#### **Fire Department Computer Problems**

Deputy Chief Groesbeck reported problems that have existed for four months with the computer the department uses for the entry, storage and reporting of key information that must be sent annually to New York State.

Mayor Brunger recommended the department obtain three bids for repair of the computer. He said that upon receipt of the bids, the Board can be polled by phone on the matter. The Mayor requested that Clerk/Treasurer Stanczyk provide Deputy Chief Groesbeck the contact information for the company the Village Office uses for computer support and repair services.

#### **Resolution 10272009-6: Telephone Polling Ratification**

Trustee Clancy moved to ratify the phone polling of the Board [that took place on September 21, 2009] approving the increased amount [increased from \$88,301.73 to \$90,957.25] of the Republic First National lease. Trustee Montero seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present. Attorney Primo that reported he is waiting for comments from Republic First National on the contract which he expects to be finalized by the end of this week.

**Resolution 10272009-7: Public Hearing Scheduled - Local Law No. Four (4) for the year 2009 “General Property Maintenance”**

Trustee Montero moved to schedule the public hearing for proposed Local Law No. Four (4) for the year 2009 to take place at 6:55 PM on November 10, 2009 at Village Hall. Trustee Hannon seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

**Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony**

The annual event will be held on December 5, 2009 at 7:00 PM at Village Hall.

**Statewide Election Day 2009 Polling Place**

Village Hall will be a polling place for the November 3, 2009 election. Trustee Hannon volunteered to open the building at 5:30 AM and Trustee Montero volunteered to close the building at 9:00 PM. Deputy Chief Groesbeck will be responsible for the opening and closing the fire house, also a polling place for the upcoming election.

**Restore New York Grant**

Mayor Brunger will contact Mr. Fitzgerald, the state representative assigned to the grant, tomorrow to determine what the Village needs to do next in the management of the grant. Attorney Primo reported that he received a letter from the state dated October 6, 2009 that contains some of the details of the grant. Mayor Brunger and Attorney Primo will try to schedule a meeting next week with Mr. Kirk and Mr. Blair to discuss their restoration projects and the grant.

**First Street & Leroy Street Paving Project Reimbursement**

Attorney Primo read aloud a letter that he plans to send with the latest documentation to be submitted to the DOT. In his letter, Attorney Primo asks for the approximate timing of when reimbursement may be forthcoming for the paving project that was completed last year.

**ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

**Vacant Property Tax Certificates**

Attorney Primo reported that he has received the tax certificates from Onondaga County last week. Notices to individuals interested in the properties will be sent out per County statute. Because this matter involves the potential purchase of a property, Attorney Primo said he would like to talk about this matter in executive session.

**Refuse Collection Fee**

The matter will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **Inactive Camillus Fire Department, Inc. Bank Accounts**

Attorney Primo reported that the money in the inactive accounts at Solvay Bank will go the comptroller shortly as unclaimed funds. Trustee Clancy will provide Mayor Brunger contact information for appropriate past executive officers of the corporation that is no longer in existence. Mayor Brunger will contact those executive officers who are signatories on the bank accounts.

### **Executive Session**

Attorney Primo advised he would like to discuss in executive session a potential litigation matter, a letter he has drafted relative to another litigation matter, and finish the discussion regarding the tax certificates as a potential property transaction.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Ward Council Candidate**

Mr. David Filippone introduced himself to those gathered as a candidate running for 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Councilman in the Town of Camillus.

### **Service Award Issue**

Ms. Belle Brown reported a delay in receipt of her service award check that was reportedly mailed to her recently from Solvay Bank. Trustee Clancy will contact Solvay Bank tomorrow to follow up on the status of the check.

## **CLERK'S REPORT**

### **Tax Collection**

Administrative Assistant Clarke read a report from Clerk/Treasurer Stanczyk regarding tax collection:

Taxes and Penalties collected to date: \$254,335.01

Penalties: \$ 1,190.42

Late Fees: \$ 6.00

### **Resolution 10272009-8: Unpaid Taxes, Penalties and Late Fees**

Trustee Clancy moved to authorize Clerk/Treasurer Stanczyk to turn over all unpaid taxes, penalties and late fees totaling \$19,172.15 to the Onondaga County Finance Department prior to November 7, 2009, and with the notation the figure may change slightly between this meeting and November 2, 2009, that being the last date for the Village to collect the taxes. Trustee Hannon seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

**Financial Audit**

Administrative Assistant Clarke reported that Clerk/Stanczyk wished to advise the Board that Mr. Greg Evans of the accounting firm of Testone, Marshall & Dicenza is scheduled to begin the audit at 9:00 AM tomorrow morning.

**Newsletter**

Mayor Brunger requested that members of the Board submit content for the newsletter to him by Wednesday, November 4, 2009.

**Record Shredding Services**

Mayor Brunger advised that future shredding of records should be arranged using the free shredding services available through Onondaga County.

**Executive Session**

Trustee Clancy moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel matter, two matters of pending litigation, and the potential purchase or sale of land. Trustee Hannon seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present and the Board adjourned to executive session at 8:38 PM.

**Resolution 10272009-9: Approval of Minutes**

Trustee Montero moved to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2009, the September 8, 2009 and the September 22, 2009 Regular Meetings and the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 30, 2009 per the draft redlined and bearing the watermark "Revised Draft" as presented by Administrative Assistant Clarke. Trustee Clancy seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

It was noted Administrative Assistant Clarke left the meeting at 9:20 PM.

**Resolution 10272009-10: End Executive Session**

Trustee Montero reported that by motion made by Trustee Clancy and seconded by him, the Board came out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting at 9:57 PM.

**Adjournment**

Trustee Clancy moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Trustee Hannon seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present and the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan J. Clarke

Administrative Assistant  
Clerk/Treasurer's Office

Minutes approved by Board resolution 1/12/2010

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