

AUGUST 11, 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 Sharon Hannon, Trustee Mike Montero, Trustee James Palumbo

Absent: Trustee Anne Clancy

Staff Present: Attorney Steve Primo, Clerk/Treasurer Marie Stanczyk

Members of the Public: Approximately 3

Mayor Kurt Brunger called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Trash Truck

The new trash truck has arrived and is functioning well.

Sidewalks

Mayor Brunger and DPW Crew Leader Gary Martin have toured the Village and found four different areas of sidewalks in need of repair. A plan has been outlined to have the repairs done in late August - early September.

Main Street Paving

The specifications portion of the bid contract is complete.

Rear Garage(s)

The matter of the repair or replacement of the garage(s) has been tabled until spring as we are waiting to be reimbursed for the First Street and Leroy Street project. Mayor Brunger advised he has sent an e-mail to TDK regarding shoring up the structures for the time being.

Camillus Cutlery Property

We are still waiting for notice on the Restore New York grant applications.

GASB 45

Quotes for actuarial services have been received from Harbridge Consulting Services in the amount of \$3,000.00 and Armory Associates in the amount of \$2,200.00. Attorney Primo advised a third quote will not be necessary as the work to be performed is categorized as professional services.

Resolution 08112009-1: GASB 45

Trustee Mike Montero moved to select Armory Associates to perform GASB 45 compliance services for first year actuarial evaluation of the fiscal year 2010 in accordance with their proposal as received in April in the amount of \$2,200.00. Trustee James Palumbo seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

Sidewalks

In response to a question from Trustee Palumbo, Mayor Brunger confirmed the locations of the sidewalks identified for repair include a section on Leroy Street by the Methodist Church, two spots on Main Street – one on the south side across from the Methodist Church and a section across from Trustee Hannon's house at 82 Main Street - and a few spots on Union Street. Mayor Brunger added there are a few areas of sidewalk on North Street that need to have the surfaces chipped or ground down. Trustee Palumbo reported sidewalk problems in two locations on Green Street approximately three houses from his property.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

CFD New Fire Trucks Purchase

Attorney Primo advised that before the Village commits to the purchase plan for the two new fire trucks, the Village needs to receive a commitment, preferably in writing or by resolution, from the Town of Camillus approving the purchase plan.

Trustee Montero reported representatives of the Town Board will be meeting at the fire house on Thursday of this week to tour the building and discuss the proposed truck purchases. Attorney Primo will contact Town of Camillus Attorney Odermool to discuss the matter that has come to a head because of what would be a long-term commitment by the Town.

Trustee Montero advised there would be a \$22,000 gap in the current budget level on a yearly basis with the purchase plan for the trucks. The annual gap would amount to \$1,800.00 for the Village portion of the budget with the rest to be absorbed by the Town, which would amount to a 4% increase in Town budget for their annual fire protection contract. In regards to the matter of the Mitson contract and funds, Attorney Primo advised he would rather discuss that matter in executive session.

Attorney Primo confirmed that he has reviewed the new fire truck equipment bid packages and the bid packages for the equipment to be sold as part of the purchase plan. Trustee Montero reported there are people interested in purchasing the pumper and Engine 4. Attorney Primo advised the decision to proceed with the sale of the trucks should be dependent on approval of the purchase plan by the Town, and added that the Village has the right to go out for bids and then not proceed with the equipment sale or purchases.

Trustee Montero voiced Chief Binns' concern that the new fire truck emissions standards are scheduled to go into effect in September and it is therefore important to get the bid packages out and to sell the existing trucks soon.

Attorney Primo advised summarized bid packages for the equipment to be sold can go out quickly with the reserved right for the Village to back out of the deal. He also recommended the fire department ask for a 5% deposit check to better identify interested buyers.

Trustee Montero will see that Attorney Primo receives a list of equipment and approximate sale value to enable him to prepare the bid packages. Attorney Primo advised the sale of the existing fire trucks must be published at once.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Decorative Street Banners

Mayor Brunger will meet with Trustee Hannon on August 31, 2009 at 8:00 AM to discuss banner designs to be brought before the Board at a later date. He noted that in the meantime DPW Gary Martin has begun work on brackets for the banners, that there is \$1,200 in the Main Street Revitalization Fund, and sponsorship letters for the banner program will be prepared and sent to business owners throughout the village.

In response to question from Trustee Hannon about bracket designs, Mayor Brunger confirmed that all of the banners he has been looking at use a universal bracket made of aluminum and fiberglass and hold the flags at the top and bottom. He said that Gary Martin will be making enough brackets for 22 banners out of welded and rolled steel. He added that the cheapest pair of brackets and poles available from vendors cost \$78 per banner, and that Gary Martin can make 44 of them for less than \$100 in materials.

911 Surcharge

Onondaga County has passed the fire department radio surcharge legislation.

Speeding Traffic On North Street

In response to complaints regarding speeding vehicles on North Street, Attorney Primo suggested as an alternative to speed bumps, the speed limit on the street could be lowered to 25 MPH and has drafted a law to that effect. He explained that the lower speed limit would be easier to enforce, would eliminate maintenance of the speed bumps and possible damage claims for vehicles traveling over the bumps.

Trustee Hannon spoke of past discussions regarding adopting a 25 MPH speed limit on every village side street. Attorney Primo responded that a specific circumstance would

have to be cited for each street and every existing sign would need to be changed. Trustee Montero suggested a sign could be placed at the three main entrances to the village posting that the 25 MPH speed limit throughout the village. Attorney Primo responded that justification for each street would be required with a village-wide speed limit.

Mayor Brunger noted that cars parked along one side of North Street make speed limit enforcement difficult. Sgt. Eckert suggested the police department could place a speed counter on North Street to record the actual speed of vehicles traveling the street.

Main Street and Elm Street Intersection

Trustee Montero suggested installation of a flashing traffic light at the intersection – with flashing yellow on Main Street and flashing red on Elm Street. Trustee Hannon suggested a “Stop Means Stop” sign. She will discuss the matter with Gary Martin and Mark Pigula of the Town DPW.

Main Street Paving

Attorney Primo said bid packages for the project should be complete by the middle of next week.

Yard Sale Complaint

Mayor Brunger noted he has received complaints regarding an ongoing yard sale at a property on South Street. In response to a question from Attorney Primo, Mayor Brunger said that CEO Williams has told him there is nothing that can be done about a lawn sale.

Attorney Primo said he assumes there is nothing in the current village code or CEO Williams would be enforcing it, and if there is nothing in the present code, something could be put into the code that would be enforceable going forward.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report

President Jesse Norcross submitted a monthly financial report. Attorney Primo reviewed the previous report and the related local law that states a new policy be enacted within 60 days, which has not happened. He said he has prepared a resolution that contains a policy with checklist modified for the fire department for the Board to consider, noting the resolution does not address the issue of the hiring of person for the secretarial/clerical position and how that will be handled. He plans to address that matter by adding language to the draft of the resolution.

Officer Resignation

Jesse Norcross informed the Board that he will be resigning from the office of president of the fire department this month.

Public Hearing Schedule: Car #3 Light Bar

A public hearing on the purchase of a light bar with funds to come from the Reserve Fund is scheduled to take place at Village Hall on August 25, 2009 at 6:55 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Monro Park Suggestion

Ms. Belle Brown suggested bathrooms be installed at Monro Park. Mayor Brunger said the idea is something that would be worthwhile but must be budgeted for in the future.

Resolution 08112009-2: Maxwell Library Contract

Trustee Palumbo moved to approve the contract with the library as presented. Trustee Hannon seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sgt. Mark Eckert reported no real issues or complaints to report.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Munro Park Tree Survey

Trustee Hannon reported that Cornell students will be meeting at Village Hall on Sunday, August 30, 2009. As part of the agreement for the survey to be performed that day, lunch for the students will be provided by the Village. Trustee Hannon advised that a map showing right-of-way widths for every street in the Village will be required prior to the tree survey to verify which trees are on private or Village property. Attorney Primo will e-mail information on the distance from the centerline of streets to Clerk/Treasurer Stanczyk no later than Thursday of this week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Flood Committee

Trustee Palumbo reported that heavy rains this week resulted in a four (4) foot rise in the water level of Nine Mile Creek resulting in an overflow of the creek banks and flooding of portions of yards on South Street. He noted a large tree hit a phone pole guide wire as it fell into the creek.

Trustee Palumbo suggested that to be prepared for water levels in the spring, and to enable the people who operate the dam at Otisco Lake to better understand the impact of water flowing from the dam through the village, a map of the entire valley area (approximately 20 miles long from the dam to the village) is needed.

Proposed Scanning of Village Maps

Clerk/Treasurer Stanczyk noted a correction in the draft of minutes of the July 28, 2009 meeting as presented noting that Syracuse Blueprint has offered to take all of the old and current village maps and scan them into PDF files so they can be stored on CD's or uploaded onto the village website. She verified the price quoted is \$2.00 per page - not per map - and that there are 101 maps consisting of a total of 501 pages.

Legal Services Invoice

Trustees Hannon and Montero asked Attorney Primo about a charge for research his firm has billed the Village for services rendered by his associate Courtney Hills on July 16, 2009 researching speed bumps. The trustees noted the date of services as billed was prior to the Ms. Hills' attendance at the July 28, 2009 meeting when the topic of the speed bumps was raised and during which time she had indicated no research had been done on the matter. Attorney Primo responded that there was definitely research done by him on the topic of speed bumps before the July 28, 2009 meeting but that he did not share the findings of his research with her. He will review the invoice.

Sidewalk Repair Costs

Trustee Hannon noted that at the prior meeting, Ms. Hills had advised that in accordance with state regulations, the Village should not be paying for sidewalk repairs if they are located on private property, and that she had suggested the Village code needs to be changed as Attorney Primo's firm has changed for many villages in the past.

Attorney Primo said many municipalities have a policy that sidewalk repairs are the responsibility of the property owner, the same as the responsibility of shoveling snow, unless the damage to the sidewalk was caused by the municipality in the course of doing work in the right-of-way.

Attorney Primo advised if there is a desire to amend the current code, some options should be discussed such as to encourage people to make repairs by having them pay for up to 50% of the cost, as often done with the property owner paying for the materials and the DPW providing the labor. Attorney Primo will present the Board with policies used by area municipalities.

Trustee Palumbo voiced his opinion that very few property owners will make the repairs and the repair of sidewalks should remain the responsibility of the Village. Mayor Brunger said in speaking about the matter with Gary Martin, the cost of the repairs as planned would be less than \$1,000.

Resolution 08112009-3: Approval of Abstracts

Trustee Montero moved to approve Abstracts #003 [General Fund (A), Vouchers #044-046, totaling \$1,643.67] and #004 [General Fund (A), Vouchers #047-075, totaling \$149,963.98]. Trustee Hannon seconded the motion that was approved by majority vote of members present.

Refuse Fee

The topic of the refuse fee per rental unit will be on the agenda of the next meeting. Mayor Brunger reported that when he was evaluating the sidewalks with Gary Martin on a Monday and Tuesday of that week, he made note of the large and unconscionable mounds of rubbish to be picked up by the DPW crew citing in particular the amount of trash outside the apartments on Elderkin Avenue.

Trustee Palumbo reported that DPW crew member Tom Brown told him the crew is still picking up trash 3 days a week, despite the fact that part of the justification for the new trash truck was to reduce the amount of time spent on trash pickup.

Trustee Montero reported that Gary Martin told him the capacity of the new truck is exactly the same as the old truck. Mayor Brunger responded that the problem we had with the old truck is that we were doing extra runs to the dump each Monday and Tuesday, and what is now happening is the crew can do a full Monday run without going up to the dump more than once to unload and then be ready for pickups on Tuesday so they are still picking up trash 3 days a week but are cutting out nearly a half-a-day in driving back and forth to the dump.

Trustee Palumbo said that with the reduction in time required for the dumping of trash, there should be more time for the DPW crew to perform other work such as the repair of sidewalks and other municipality tasks.

Building Facades

Trustee Montero said he has spoken with Mayor Brunger about some type of regulation in regards to the appearance of the front of buildings in the village to make the front of buildings look a little fresher, such as painting. Noting that while Attorney Primo is continuing research and plans with specifications for the appearance of buildings [in the pending zoning overlay], Trustee Montero said he is looking for something that could be adopted now, not something that would take another couple of months to implement. He commented that there are very few businesses in the village and not a lot of pretty things per- se to look at, and if we don't have it in the code book, he would like there to be a way to make property owners paint their buildings.

Attorney Primo referred to New York State building code in regards to the property maintenance law that could be adopted that would permit a resident to complain about the

appearance of a house to the village clerk who could then send a code violation notice directly from the clerk's office without the code enforcement officer being involved. He said he has been very successful with this approach in other municipalities. A lengthy discussion on this approach followed.

Resolution 08112009-4: Executive Session

Trustee Hannon moved to adjourn the Board to Executive Session. Trustee Montero seconded the motion that was adopted by majority vote of members present and the Board moved to executive session at 8:55 PM. Attorney Primo noted the reason for the executive session was potential litigation in the matter of the Mitson contract.

Amendment of August 11, 2009 Minutes

Per **Resolution 09082009-4: Approval of Abstracts, Minutes, and Polling of the Board**, as adopted during the meeting of September 8, 2009 and as contained in said resolution, the minutes of the August 11, 2009 meeting are hereby amended "to reflect approval of the resolution approved following the executive session authorizing the Village to go out for bid relative to purchases of Engine 4 and Squad 2 for the fire department pursuant to the bid packages as verified by the village attorney."

Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan J. Clarke
Administrative Assistant
Clerk/Treasurer's Office

Minutes APPROVED by Resolution 09082009-4

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