

VILLAGE OF COXSACKIE
BOARD MINUTES
December 14, 2009

Mayor Mark Evans called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Deputy Mayor Stephen Hanse, Trustee Dianne Ringwald, Trustee John Oliver and Trustee Greg Backus.

A motion to approve the Board minutes from November 9, 2009 and to dispense with reading of the same was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. Trustee Backus voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. The motion carried.

Old Business

Mayor Evans called for a review of the dwelling located at 23-25 Church Street which is owned by Paula Chandler. Ms. Chandler is being represented by Attorney Angelo Scaturro who was in attendance. He stated that clean-up has begun and that forty bags of trash had been removed from the house and that the remaining water in the basement would be pumped out on Wednesday, December 16, 2009. He said that Ms. Chandler would begin extensive clean-up and repairs and asked that the Board bear with her a little longer. Trustee Ringwald was concerned that no timetable is being set and stated that this could drag on for some time. Trustee Hanse felt that Ms. Chandler is not taking responsibility and that a timetable as to when this work will be completed is necessary. He also stated that he was not sure that her effort was sincere and that an actual completion date is necessary so that the Board can respond. He also mentioned that our Code Enforcement Officer Christian Larson needs to get into the building to inspect the premises.

Ms. Chandler said that she removed forty large bags of garbage from the premises and stated that Albany Tank would be arriving on Wednesday to remove the contaminated water from the basement and that they are working with Matt Franklin from the DEC to accomplish this. She said that the former tenants were given three weeks to remove their personal belongings and they are now completely out of the building. Ms. Chandler also said that she feels that the tenants were the problem in this neighborhood and that she will be very careful as to whom she rents out the building to in the future. Trustee Backus commented that the report Ms. Chandler submitted to the Board was from an architect and not from an engineer as originally requested by the Board. He also echoed Trustee Hanse's statement that our Code Enforcement Officer needs to get into the building.

Mayor Evans asked if Christian Larson can come to the house and look at it and asked what date that can be done. He also asked Ms. Chandler for a date of completion and would also like to see progress reports. Ms. Chandler said that she would like three months to complete the necessary repairs to the building and mentioned that she has already hired a builder. Attorney Scaturro said that if this builder is not available to do this work that there are other reputable builders Ms. Chandler can hire so that she can meet the deadline set by the Village of Coxsackie. Trustee Hanse asked that Code Enforcement be allowed in to look at the house and to issue a report to which Mayor Evans agreed. Mayor Evans also told Ms. Chandler that she would have to submit the appropriate applications for building permits and asked her if she felt that April 1, 2010 would be a reasonable date for her to have all work completed. Ms. Chandler agreed that she would be able to complete all necessary repairs by then. Mayor Evans said that the Code Enforcement officer would meet with Ms. Chandler at the Church Street residence on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 and that a report would be sent to Ms. Chandler after that visit. He also told Ms. Chandler that she would need to submit monthly updates on the progress of repairs to the Board. Trustee Oliver said that it is important to have an open line of communication between both Ms. Chandler and the Board.

A motion to hold off on determining what action should be taken at 23-25 Church Street until April 1, 2010 was made by Trustee Backus and seconded by Trustee Oliver. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. Trustee Backus voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. The motion carried.

Mayor Evans reported that the demolition of the old village building has been slowed down due to the backhoe having been in for repairs and further delayed due to the recent snow storms. He also reported on the new sidewalk from the United Methodist Church to the Village of Coxsackie municipal building needs ends before they will be complete. Mayor Evans reported that the combined sewer overflow ten year correction plan was approved by DEC and will begin next year. He also stated that DOH has finally sent comments to Delaware Engineering regarding the Village's Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. He also mentioned the notice sent to all residents regarding amnesty from water/sewer penalties on all past due water bills that are paid by January 12, 2010.

Let the record reflect that Trustee Backus left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

New Business

Mayor Evans recognized three new Eagle Scouts in our area. They are Justin Pruiksma, Matthew Mockovciak and Tyler DeReamer.

Liaisons & Board Reports

Trustee Dianne Ringwald said that she was happy to see that an ad would be placed in the local newspaper to remind residents to clear the snow and ice from their sidewalks. She also mentioned that we are in need of new holiday decorations and hopes that we can put money into next years budget to buy new ones. She reported that Christmas by the River offered several crafters downtown and throughout the Village, and that Greene County Tourism, UPS and Hinterland all assisted in getting the word out about this event. She would also like to see the members on the committee recognized for their hard work and dedication to this annual event and stated that the money to cover all mailing costs and phone calls comes out of these individuals pockets. Trustee Ringwald also commented on the death of former Mayor Robert Brennan who died on December 10, 2009 and wanted to remember him as beginning the village wide yard sale day, working on the burn plant and also having problems with the water filters as Mayor. Due to his health he was forced to step down as Mayor and Thomas Burke became Acting Mayor until April 1985.

Mayor Mark Evans said that the Christmas by the River has been an annual community event and that he would like to recognize the following people for their hard work and support through the years. Dianne Ringwald, Judy Misuraca, Jennifer Weinstein, Sally Bender, Donna LaMere and Regina McGrath.

Trustee John Oliver reported that the new police vehicle is waiting for paint and installation of computers before it can be put in service. He also noted that our Police Department is now listing offenses in the police blotter section of The Daily Mail and that PAL has secured liability insurance for school use for basketball games. Trustee Oliver also said that the rink in McQuade Park is flooded for ice skating and he wished everyone a happy holiday and a prosperous new year.

Trustee Stephen Hanse reported that Christian Larsen was appointed as the Code Enforcement Officer for the Village of Coxsackie and that he has been busy issuing c/o's and building permits and will be able to assist the board with the property located at 23-25 Church Street belonging to Paula Chandler. Trustee Hanse said that the Planning Board has been doing lot line adjustments and have been working on UMH. He would also like to recognize the hard work and dedication of Patricia Maxwell who recently retired from the Planning Board.

Motions & Resolutions

A motion to approve sending a letter of support to the NYSDEC regarding clean-up of the former M.G. Carter site on South River Street was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. The resolution was approved

A motion to approve the maintenance contract with Kinsley Power Systems for three generators, one located at the Serta pump station, one at the West Coxsackie pump station and one at the Waste Water Treatment plant at a total of \$2,649.00 per year was made by Trustee Oliver and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the report from Delaware Engineering dated November 23, 2009 regarding two small leaks in the lower reservoir dam and to authorize them to proceed with actions #1 and #2 (if necessary) per item #6 in the report to assess the problem, up to \$5,000.00 was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve one year contract with the Greene County Humane Society for January 1-December 31, 2010 was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Oliver. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve renewal of insurance contract for one year with Marshall & Sterling Insurance at a price of \$80,283.00 was made by Trustee Oliver and seconded by Trustee Hanse. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald abstained. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Mayor Evans voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to authorize Hodgson Russ to initiate the process to bond for the purchase of fifteen air packs for D.M. Hamilton fire department, and the amount not to exceed \$70,000 with term to be determined in consultation with Hodgson Russ was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Oliver. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with D.M. Hamilton Steamer Company #2 and officially designate it as the short term emergency shelter for Village of Coxsackie residents was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve appropriation changes to move \$1,428.00 from A1440.4 Engineer Contractual to A1420.4 Attorney Contractual was made by Trustee Oliver and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

A motion to approve November 1-30, 2009 adjustments to water/sewer billings was made by Trustee Ringwald and seconded by Trustee Oliver. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

Let the minutes reflect that the Treasurer gave the following November 2009 reports to the Board of Trustees: Monthly Report of Treasurer (detail statement of all money received and disbursed), Balance Sheet/Trial Balance, Detail of Revenues and Expenditures for all funds.

A motion to approve the bills on General Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 277-336 totaling \$148,604.33; Water fund Abstract #7, vouchers 146-174 totaling \$40,091.73; Sewer Fund Abstract #7, vouchers 167-200 totaling \$48,092.89 and Trust & Agency Abstract #7, vouchers #11-13, totaling \$7,302.97 was made by Trustee Oliver and seconded by Trustee Ringwald. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

Mayor Evans opened the floor to comments and Chris Meadow who lives on Church Street spoke in support of the boards handling of the property located on 23-25 Church Street. He also commented about sidewalks not being cleared of snow and also that the leaves were taken late this year, but the twigs were left. Mayor Evans explained that the Village crew had several problems with the leaf machine which delayed pick up of the same. Trustee Hanse wished everyone a happy holiday season and complimented Trustee Ringwald for the great work done on Christmas by the River.

A motion to adjourn the Board meeting was made by Trustee Hanse and seconded by Trustee Oliver. Trustee Hanse voted yes. Trustee Oliver voted yes. Trustee Ringwald voted yes. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Murphy
Village Clerk