

**OCTOBER 13, 2009
VILLAGE OF SPECULATOR
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Regular Meeting of the Village of Speculator Board of Trustees was held at the Village Hall, Elm Lake Road, Speculator, New York, on October 13, 2009.

PRESENT: Neil P. McGovern, Mayor; Letty Rudes, Cheryl Paestella, Del Cook, and Munro Collie Smith, Trustees; Florence Braunius, Wastewater Chief Operator; and Bonnie J. Page, Village Clerk-Treasurer.

GUESTS: Katie Smith, Village Attorney; and Robert Hoffman, resident.

Mayor McGovern called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and began the pledge of allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE - Correspondence would be addressed later in the meeting.

MINUTES

Trustee Cook made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 28th meeting as presented. Trustee Paestella seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith and McGovern – aye; nays – none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Hoffman asked if there were minutes from a meeting earlier in the year about senior housing. While it was an open meeting, it was informational only and no minutes were taken. Mayor McGovern said he would look for his notes and provide them. Some discussion ensued on the Long Lake housing project.

FLORENCE BRAUNIUS, WWTP CHIEF OPERATOR

Mrs. Braunius reviewed the written report which is made a part of these minutes (Attachment #1). She said Denis Meadows, NYS Archives, would be coming to review the Village's needs for a possible 2010 application and noted that the 2009 grants had not yet been announced.

Regarding the wastewater report, she reviewed the Town of Lake Pleasant's need for a discharge point for water collected from the floor drains in the garage and bus garage. Rob Streeter, NYSDEC, discussed the options for the Village receiving this at the plant. She said the Village would need engineering and suggested that the Town reimburse the Village for any additional expense. Further discussion took place on the discharge at other municipal buildings.

Mrs. Braunius reviewed the action list for the Green Innovation Grant Program. She said she'd done research on the NAICS number from the vendors and needs further information. She reviewed the training requests and reviewed the recommended changes to the Village meter law.

Mrs. Page recommended that the fee schedule be left out of the meter law. A sentence can be added that fees be set by resolution of the Board of Trustees and adjusted as needed.

Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the training requests as follows: Rob Peck and Jim Desrochers at the Adirondack Water Works Conference Fall Meeting and Workshop on October 29 at the cost of \$35.00 per person and the NYWEA workshop on November 5 at the cost of \$120.00 per person (includes membership). Trustee Rudes seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Trustee Cook made a motion to adopt the resolution regarding authorizing the mayor to execute documents related to the Water Quality Improvement Project as made a part of these minutes (Attachment #2). Trustee Smith seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Page reported on receipt of changes to the MVP Health Plan policy regarding the prescription drug plan. She said the most important change to the employees would probably be that if the employee has a covered prescription filled with a brand name drug and there is a generic equivalent drug for that brand name drug, they must pay the generic copayment plus the difference in cost between the generic and the brand name drug for each 30 day supply. She went on to read other parts of the notice.

ABSTRACTS

Trustee Paestella made a motion to pay Abstract #9 in the following amounts: General Fund - \$7073.39, Water Fund - \$1173.84, Sewer Fund - \$916.94 and Oak Mt. Special Revenue - \$1294.30. Trustee Smith seconded. The motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

OLD BUSINESS

The Village Hall remains on the Old Business. Trustee Paestella reported on the Revitalization Committee and an idea to give grants to businesses to improve their property. Mrs. Page explained that because the money comes through the Village it can't be done as it would be considered a gift of municipal funds. Another idea would be the possibility of getting power down to the point. Mrs. Page had discussion with Mr. Camoin as he thought there was a possibility of 501c3 status. She explained that the Village can accept donations which makes them tax exempt for the person donating which is be statute.

There was some discussion on whether there could be a day use fee for the point and the use of the (proposed) power and water. Mayor McGovern said he would look into getting power to the point. There was also discussion on hanging flower baskets on the National Grid poles and Lynne Brown had offered to contact National Grid for permission.

Mayor McGovern said that there was a good harvest out of the community garden although it was a small plot. The harvest went to the food pantry.

Regarding Oak Mt., the Parker's party is October 17th. Mayor McGovern said he had time with Fred Knapp on the wattage being used when nothing was on at the mountain. There is work that has to be done to pass inspection. There has to be an underground wire to the tubing hill. He said that they would like to stay on schedule with opening the tubing hill on the day after Thanksgiving. Mowing and other work will be taking place very soon.

The Parker family has asked whether there two or three campers could stay overnight and whether they could have a bonfire on the site. Some discussion ensued. It was suggested that the bonfire be in an area clear of any vegetation. The Board agreed to allow the campers.

Mayor McGovern reported he'd sent letters out to the Town Supervisors regarding the contributions to Oak Mt. There was a phone call from Bob Edwards, Town of Hope, saying they'd authorized the funds and it will be paid at their next meeting, November 5. The Town of Wells has an issue because their children go to Gore on Sunday and the proposed agreement is for their constituents to have free skiing on Sundays so there may be further negotiations with Wells.

There was some discussion on researching the purchase of skis, etc. and discussion on getting power up to the warming hut.

Mrs. Page said she would revise the water Local Law to include the recommendations suggested by Mrs. Braunius and get it out to the Board. Some discussion ensued regarding the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Law as proposed at the last meeting. Mrs. Page recommended that both Laws be done at the same time.

The Board agreed to have another clean up day at Oak Mountain on October 31st starting at 9:00 a.m.

Trustee Paestella made a motion to advertise the work day in the Hamilton County News. Trustee Rudes seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor McGovern suggested that the Board make a citation for Mark Rudes as a distinguished resident and sailor and to include thanks for the flag for the Village Hall. It was also suggested that his birthday be declared as Mark Rudes Day. Mrs. Page will print a proclamation for Trustee Rudes to take with her as she is meeting the ship when it comes into port.

Trustee Paestella made a motion to declare February 2 as Mark Rudes Day and to issue a proclamation citing Command Chief Rudes' exemplary service to our country. The motion was seconded by all and passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Mrs. Smith, Village Attorney, said Mr. Smith, the pump house property purchaser, is concerned with the continuing services of water, sewer and snowplowing. The Board agreed that these services would continue.

Trustee Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie J. Page, CMC, RMC, CMFO
Village Clerk-Treasurer

Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – October 26, 2009