

**MARCH 22, 2010
VILLAGE OF SPECULATOR
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Regular Meeting of the Village of Speculator Board of Trustees was held at the Village Hall, 112 Elm Lake Road, Speculator, New York, on March 22, 2010.

PRESENT: Munro Collie Smith, Acting Mayor; Letty Rudes, Del Cook, and Michael Tracy, Trustees; Roger Blanchard, Jr., DPW Supt.; Katie Smith, Village Attorney; and Bonnie J. Page, Village Clerk-Treasurer. Trustee Paestella was absent.

GUESTS: Town Supervisor Neil McGovern; Tom Germain, regarding Oak Mt.; William Tracy, resident; and Peter Klein, representing the Hamilton County Express.

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

MINUTES

Trustee Rudes made a motion to approve the minutes of March 8th meeting as presented. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; nays – none.

ROGER BLANCHARD, JR., DPW SUPT.

Mr. Blanchard reported he's attempted to contact NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation regarding restoration needed to the bank at the beach and is waiting for a response on how to proceed. He said they may start street sweeping if the weather holds. Trustee Rudes asked about the State no burn policy as it relates to local burning of brush. Supervisor McGovern said that individual property owners will still be able to burn brush and there is still burn training allowed. Some discussion ensued. Supervisor McGovern said the information is on the Town website. The crawler was discussed as it should go out to auction along with the old pickup truck. Mr. Blanchard said he is working with Tracy Eldredge on getting this done.

OAK MT. SKI CENTER

Mr. Germain said that overall things are in pretty good shape for closing down the ski center. He said they moved the snow away from the building so that it wouldn't flood. He noted the load test has to be done before next season. This test tests the brakes and it needs to be done now or in the fall. Mayor Smith said that it would behoove the Village to do it as a good steward of the Mountain.

Trustee Tracy made a motion to authorize Mr. Germain to do the load test at a cost not to exceed \$1200. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; nays – none; Trustee Rudes abstained.

Mr. Germain discussed a compliance plan for rewiring that is needed. He also said the coyote's have been active on the mountain and there are deer carcasses on the trails. He said that some keys had to be replaced. Trustee Rudes asked about the road and some discussion ensued.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Page reported she'd done the Annual Certification of Wastewater Treatment Facility Design, Planning and Flow Management and as usual, she'd signed after Mrs. Braunius completed the form.

The letter from Debbie George regarding waiving past due fees was discussed. Mrs. Page said New York State law is specific in that the property owner is responsible for knowing when their bills are due and there is no allowance for waiver of the past due fees. She said Mrs. George also complained about the postcard method of billing. Mrs. Page said that of the 1,200 postcard bills sent annually there are probably two a year that are an issue. The Board saw no need to take action on the past due fees. Mayor Smith offered to write Mrs. George a letter.

Mrs. Page provided the first draft of the proposed budget for the Board. Mayor Smith set a special meeting to discuss the budget on March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

ABSTRACTS

Trustee Rudes made a motion to pay Abstract #20 in the following amounts: General Fund - \$54,460.86, Water Fund - \$1,171.11, Sewer Fund - \$2566.63 and Oak Mt. Special Revenue - \$16,778.26. Trustee Cook seconded. The motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Cook, Tracy and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Smith said the Village Hall remains on the Old Business as does the National Grid gross receipts tax.

ORDER OF THE DAY

Trustee Rudes made a motion to authorize attendance of Rob Peck and Jim Desrochers at the AWWC Spring Meeting and Workshop at the cost of \$70.00 from F8310.4. Trustee Tracy seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

Trustee Rudes made a motion to accept the proposal of Lamont Engineers for the Pre-Design Service for the Route 8 Sewer Extension Project at the upset fee of \$5000. Trustee Tracy seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

Regarding the hauled waste agreement on the old business, Supervisor McGovern said that the Town isn't certain it's needed and they are working on solution. The agreement will be tabled.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Cook made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss possible contract negotiations with the Hamilton County IDA regarding Oak Mountain at 7:40 p.m. Supervisor McGovern and William Tracy were invited to stay for the Executive Session. Trustee Rudes seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

Trustee Rudes made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – ayes; nays – none. There was no action taken as a result of Executive Session and the regular meeting was not resumed.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Next Meeting – Special Meeting to discuss budget – March 29, 2010
Regular Meeting – April 12, 2010