

**APRIL 26, 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 April 26, 2010.

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

GUESTS: Robert Hoffman, 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 Paestella made a motion to approve the minutes of April 12th Regular meeting as presented. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; nays – none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Hoffman said he'd spoken at the last meeting with the Board on whether the Village would have two budgets but he'd only meant that he expected a public meeting before any decision is made on Oak Mt. Some discussion ensued.

ROGER BLANCHARD, DPW SUPT.

Mr. Blanchard asked if he could put the spreader out to bid. The Board reviewed the specs and agreed to put it out to bid. *Trustee Cook made a motion to advertise for bids for the spreader with a date to open bids of June 14 at the regular meeting. Trustee Tracy seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; nays – none.*

Mr. Blanchard said they will start working on the wash-out at the beach next week. Regarding the garden, he's spoken with Nancy Welch who will be approaching the Town about space on their property. They will be taking down the holiday lights and putting up the banners soon.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Paestella made a motion to enter Executive Session to review and recommend hiring summer personnel at 7:10 p.m. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; nays – none.

Trustee Cook made a motion to adjourn Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. Trustee Tracy seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; nays – none. The regular meeting was reconvened.

Trustee Cook made a motion to hire Paul Alfieri, Russell Harrington, and Trevor Blanchard as seasonal laborers at the current temporary laborer rate of pay. In accordance with the Nepotism Policy, Trevor Blanchard will be supervised by Wayne Lucas. Mr. Alfieri will start work as soon as possible. Trustee Tracy seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; Paestella - nay.

Trustee Paestella asked if Mr. Blanchard's work was behind with being short handed and he said they are catching up. Further discussion ensued.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Page presented an additional form required to be part of the village budget that assesses the impact of exemptions as percentage of the total assessment.

Trustee Paestella made a motion to increase water and sewer base and usage fees by 1% to the following: Water – from \$12.16/mo. and \$4.50/mo. to \$12.29/mo. and \$4.55/mo.; Sewer – from \$28.48/mo. and \$4.40/mo. to \$28.76 and \$4.45/mo. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – aye; nays - none.

ABSTRACTS

Trustee Paestella made a motion to pay Abstract #22 in the following amounts: General Fund - \$23301.39, Water Fund - \$3683.25, Sewer Fund - \$5626.27 and Oak Mt. Special Revenue - \$3323.41. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Cook, Paestella, Tracy and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Smith said the Village Hall remains on the Old Business. There was discussion on Oak Mt. and cutting off the utilities and closing out the insurance. Mayor Smith said he would speak with Neil McGovern regarding taking anything out of the building that belongs to him or was rented. The Board agreed to have the power, phone, and liability insurance discontinued immediately.

Mrs. Page provided an update on the Gross Receipts Tax issue from information received from NYS Conference of Mayors for the Board's review.

Trustee Paestella made a motion to send a letter of support for NYCOM's recommendations for changes to the dissolution/consolidation law. Trustee Tracy seconded. The letter will include wording on the Village's experience in the matter. The motion was passed by the following vote: Cook, Paestella, Tracy and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

The matter of the street light on Woodard Drive was discussed. Mayor Smith said there are a couple of people on the street that do not want the light. A letter from Mrs. Brewer supporting keeping the light was received and reviewed by the Board. Mayor Smith asked the village attorney

what took precedence. Mrs. Smith said the Board has general powers for the protection of its properties and public safety and general welfare. She said if the Board as a whole thinks that a street light for the cul-de-sac is appropriate for the area. Trustee Paestella said that for safety reasons on that road, the light should stay.

Trustee Cook made a motion that for safety issues for current and future residents that the new light on Woodard Drive remains. Trustee Tracy seconded. Mayor Smith suggested a letter from the village attorney be sent to the residents who oppose the light. The motion was passed by the following vote: Cook, Paestella, Tracy and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

Trustee Cook made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Trustee Tracy seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, and Smith – ayes; nays – none.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – May 10, 2010