

**SEPTEMBER 14, 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 September 14, 2009.

PRESENT: Neil P. McGovern, Mayor; Letty Rudes, Cheryl Paestella, and Del Cook, Trustees; James Desrochers, ROC/Systems Foreman; Roger E. Blanchard, Jr., DPW Supt.; and Bonnie J. Page, Village Clerk-Treasurer. Trustee Munro Collie Smith arrived at 7:05 p.m.

GUESTS: Robert Hoffman, resident.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence was reviewed by the Board and would be discussed later in the meeting.

MINUTES

Trustee Cook made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 24th meeting as presented. Trustee Paestella seconded. During discussion, Trustee Cook made a motion to amend the motion to include the minutes of the September 1st special meeting approved as presented. The amended motion was seconded by Trustee Rudes and passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, and McGovern – aye; nays – none.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

JAMES DESROCHERS, WATER-WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Mr. Desrochers reviewed the report which is made a part of these minutes (Attachment #1). Mayor McGovern said that 45% Rural Development grant funding isn't what they used to offer and that more players would have to be added to make the sewer extension project feasible. Moffitt's Beach campsite was mentioned again. Mayor McGovern said the Village should get it to the Village line irrespective of what the Town does or doesn't do if the funding isn't forthcoming. Some discussion ensued.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Page noted that the PERMA representative had been to the Village to do the annual review. The Village's total was 600 out of 630. She noted that the broker carrying the NYMIR liability insurance would be reviewing that policy at the Village office September 15. There was some discussion about adding Oak Mt. back on the insurance and Mayor McGovern said it should get back on the policy as soon as possible as he expected workers to start clearing to prep for the coming season very soon.

Regarding the Workplace Violence Policy, Trustee Rudes made a motion to adopt the Workplace Violence as made a part of these minutes and to designate Bonnie Page, Village Clerk, as the administrative contact person (Attachment #2). Trustee Paestella seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

ABSTRACTS

Trustee Rudes made a motion to pay Abstract #7 in the following amounts: General Fund - \$9027.72, Water Fund - \$951.71, Sewer Fund - \$1989.55 and Oak Mt. Special Revenue - \$33.83. Trustee Smith seconded. Trustee Rudes mentioned the number of trips taken to Stephenson's Lumber and recommended the Departments make a list. Discussion ensued and Mr. Blanchard said some of it was due to finding a need after a project is commenced. He also said that if a truck is coming from the transfer station, etc., he has them stop on the way so that an additional trip isn't required. A lengthy discussion ensued on surplus. The motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

OLD BUSINESS

The Village Hall remains on the Old Business. Trustee Paestella said the Beautification Committee met on September 1. She distributed copies of the replies on the survey through a Hamilton County News article and an email to members of the Lake Pleasant Sacandaga Association. She said that they would like to change the name of the Committee and the following motion resulted.

Trustee Cook made a motion to change the name of the Beautification Committee to the Speculator-Lake Pleasant Community Revitalization Committee. Trustee Paestella seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Mayor McGovern read a motion from Bob Camoin who is spearheading the application for a 50/50 grant through the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. Some discussion ensued.

Trustee Paestella made a motion to adopt the resolution pertaining to a joint application through the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program as made a part of these minutes (Attachment #3). Trustee Smith seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Regarding Oak Mt., Mayor McGovern brought up the matter of the 2009 service school for the Pisten Bully at \$100 per person for the Board's discussion. Trustee Smith made a motion to appropriate up to \$200.00 for two people to attend this training to be paid from the Oak Mountain Special Revenue account. The attendees will be determined at a later date. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Trustee Cook reviewed the matter of a point-of-sale system for Oak Mountain. He said he'd discussed it with the Mayor and the system he'd found was a touch screen system that he felt would be best to keep it relatively error free. The pricing he got was approximately \$1820. Trustee Cook said he bought it on his personal account and offered to donate \$500 of the cost.

Trustee Paestella made a motion to approve the total purchase of a point-of-sale system at approximately \$1820 less a \$500 donation offered by Trustee Cook. Trustee Cook would be reimbursed for the balance. Trustee Smith seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Mayor McGovern said he'd received a call asking how the Village would feel about have events such as a large retirement party at the lodge. Some discussion ensued. Trustee Paestella made a motion to allow the Parker/ Abrams families use of the Oak Mt. facility for October 17 for a fee of \$200 for the use of the property. Trustee Rudes seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith and McGovern – ayes; nays – none. There was some discussion of having the quad chair lift ready for rides for a fee.

Mayor McGovern read a portion of the email on the pumphouse property. Mr. Desrochers said the line would be straight instead of around the building. A lengthy discussion ensued. Trustee Smith made a motion to accept Lawrence Smith's proposal that he purchase the property at \$3,000 and he moves the lines. Trustee Cook seconded. Mayor McGovern said that the Village Attorney will include in the deal that the work is done to municipal standards and that the installation is overseen by the Water Department. Further discussion ensued and the matter will be referred to the Village Attorney. The motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Regarding the pavilion use, some discussion took place on how to formulate a policy on how to have dates added to the schedule. A lengthy discussion ensued. Trustee Cook made a motion to advise the perennial users of the pavilion that they could have preference to be on the calendar. Trustee Paestella seconded. Trustee Smith said the most of them are local non-profit civic organizations and one is a partisan political party and the Board agreed that the political party should not be part of the list. The motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

ORDER OF THE DAY

The president of the Lake Pleasant Library trustees submitted a letter regarding the temporary signs. Mayor McGovern said that the temporary sign regulation is one that has exemptions. The Library sees their A-frame as temporary signs. Trustee Cook had an issue with sandwich signs being if two areas of the definitions. The Board agreed that it is not clear. It was suggested that the matter be turned over to the Village Attorney for suggestions on possible revisions.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor McGovern said the Assembly Minority Leader sent a letter recommending a People's Convention to Reform New York Act. He said he'd spoken with the Senator and Assemblywoman who supported this matter.

Trustee Smith made a motion to adopt the resolution that the Legislative Body of the State of New York acknowledge the need for state government reform and pass the "People's Convention to Reform New York Act" the text which is made a part of these minutes (Attachment #4). Trustee Rudes seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Smith, Cook, and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Mayor McGovern said he'd been approached about the price of plowing and sanding for the school district. Some discussion ensued. The Board agreed that the pricing was minimal at \$60 per plowing and \$25 per sanding and that the Lake Pleasant Central School be advised that it would not change.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Paestella made a motion to enter Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter with the DPW Superintendent. Trustee Rudes seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Trustee Rudes made a motion to adjourn Executive Session at 8:53 p.m. Trustee Smith seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Mr. Blanchard said he'd talked with the NYS Dept. of Transportation representative about purchasing road equipment on CHIPS and the response seemed positive. If it's allowed, the Department could purchase the Skidsteer and he will look into it further. Mr. Blanchard asked about keeping the summer help through the end of September. The Board agreed that it was budgeted to allow for the month of September.

Trustee Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Rudes, Paestella, Cook, Smith and McGovern – ayes; nays – none.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Attachment #1 – Water-wastewater report
Attachment #2 – Workplace Violence Policy
Attachment #3 – Revitalization Grant resolution
Attachment #4 – People's Convention to Reform New York Act

Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – September 28, 2009