

PRESENT: Mayor Youmans, Trustees Lauren Tackman, Joseph Domachowske, John Hinds and William Hamacher, Clyde Lewis, Cathy Kline, Joni Hinds, Elwood Engelbrekt, Paul Baxter-Tug Hill Commission, Mal Davis, Robert and Shirley Overend, Dawn Morse, Anne Hinds, Charlene Weed, Ethel Hayes, Debbie Kite, Bonnie McCollough, Jerry Erler, Carl Avery, Paul Brown, Jack Cottet, Andrea Cottet

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mayor Youmans at 6:30 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Davis commented that he had a long history in public service and that as such he had an understanding of government and he was concerned with Trustee Hamacher being sworn in prior to the village board meeting, as well as the clerk performing duties prior to her appointment. He was also concerned with oil spill that occurred in the village in the past and that no fine had been levied against the homeowner. The Mayor thanked Mr. Davis for his comments.

VILLAGE RESIDENT: Inquired about speed limit signs put up on Gale Road. Town of Constantia has put up signs and she asked if the village was going to put up signs. Trustee Hinds said he spoke with Doug Riggs and will see that the signs get put up.

VILLAGE RESIDENT: Inquired as to the status of Doug Riggs position with the village. The Mayor stated he is a carryover appointment and he is paid everyday.

CHARLENE WEED: Commented that there has been a lot of vandalism in the village and asked what was being done. The Mayor stated he was aware of it and the NYS Troopers are also aware and asked that all village residents be vigilant and to please report anything they might witness to the authorities.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ALARM REPORT: Chief Avery read his report. He stated there are many boat calls continuing to come in. He also asked the board for direction on the de-commission of 2 vehicles that are in need of repair. He asked what is the procedure to sell these vehicles and take them off of our insurance. The board will look into this.

SPIRIT COMMITTEE: Joni Hinds gave her report. The Elvis impersonator/cruise-in was a great success even though it was not held in the park due to the weather. There is an upcoming concert with refreshments to be sold. The 9/11 Remembrance has not been finalized, she is hoping to receive more help on this. The garage sale applications are available in the village hall. The Mayor commented the Spirit Committee is doing a great job! Joni stated there has been some dwindling membership and the Mayor suggested possibly some fun activities just for the group to bring in more membership.

OFFICE HOURS: The Village Clerk will be open 8:30-4:30, Monday through Friday, the doors are always open. The Mayor invited residents to come in and see the clerk and say hello.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: The Mayor stated that 51 Bridge Street was now gone and a great job was done in removing the building. He also commented the terrible fire at the wire mill, but went on to state what a wonderful job the Ransom family has done in the cleanup of the site. We appreciate their contribution to the village.

Zach Avery will complete his job as Code Enforcement Officer on August 31, 2012. Trustee William Hamacher has agreed to take over the position. He has one year to complete the required training. The Mayor and Trustee Tackman checked with Albany in regard to the legality of this appointment and found there is no issue with him holding the position. Mayor Youmans stated Zach has done a great job for the Village. His effort as a Fireman, DPW worker and Codes Officer are greatly appreciated and he wanted to commend him for stepping into the position and for the all the work he has done. Resident Andrea

Cottett asked about what happens until training is complete. The Mayor stated that NY State law allows a person to work as a code officer while training. Zach will help Bill as long as needed. Trustee Hamacher will attend training in Clay. The Mayor stated that NY State runs the training and commented that this training still saves the village over hiring outside the village for a code officer. Trustee Hinds commented that it's difficult to hire people who need training. Discussion regarding re-hiring previous codes officer John Illingsworth on an interim basis was suggested, and the Mayor stated that his cost was too high, and he wanted to move all the Village records to the Town of Constantia because he didn't want to come into the Village office. Trustee Domachowske stated that in 2008, he sent letters to residents with no follow-up, including 134 Center Street. Stephanie Hamacher stated Mr. Hamacher lives in the village, raises a family here and therefore is invested in the village, making him a good choice. The Mayor is confident that Mr. Hamacher can do the job. A motion to pay the new codes officer \$4,000.00 a year starting September 1st, 2012 was made, second by Trustee Domachowske, Trustee Tackman yes, Trustee Hinds, no, Trustee Hamacher, abstained. Motion carried.

MAINTENANCE MEMO: Trustee Domachowske read a memo he gave to the Village Board. He stated last year we approved a new law, and it has been approved by our attorney, to clean up properties. He stated that the letter sent to the owner of 134 Center St. was the old law, and he will be sent the new letter. He stated we need to condemn the property. Trustee Domachowske listed all the properties, starting on Center St. that need something done, approx. 10-15 properties, just on Center St.

The new policy is that the Village will send a letter to the homeowner stating they have 10 days to respond. They will meet at the Village Hall and a committee will discuss how to go about cleaning up their property. If they chose not to do anything, the Village will hire it to be done, and it will be billed to the homeowners taxes. The goal is to cleanup yards and have the community look decent. Trustee Domachowske asked if any of the residents in the village were willing to be on the committee. Trustee Domachowske read off the properties on Center St. that need to be cleaned up. He will go street by street and take pictures that are date stamped to address these issues.

MAL DAVIS: Stated that to condemn a building, the codes officer needs to give a letter to the Board stating the residence is a hazard, hold a public hearing and then condemn it and tear it down and bill the owner or county. Action needs to be taken now.

THANK YOU: The Mayor wished to thank Clare Haynes and Nancy Butler from the Town of Constantia as well as Marie Loran from Central Square in helping to train the new clerk.

SOFTWARE: Williamson Law Book Company made a presentation to the Village regarding its software packages for Municipalities. This software is used in many surrounding towns and villages. The Village has no accounting software and Williamson offers Tax Collection, Payroll and Accounting Software. Trustee Domachowske explained some of the procedures as it is done now, sending reports back and forth to Fiscal Advisors thus duplicating work. The new software complies the reports currently done by Fiscal Advisors. The software will produce the report needed for the NY State Comptroller. The Village already has Water and Sewer Software with Williamson. The new software will be far more efficient. Currently Fiscal Advisors is paid \$5600.00 per year, and Paychex is paid \$65.00 per month and the new software will be paid for by the savings of eliminating these services. The Tax Collection software will take the records from the County and produce tax bills automatically rather than being calculated manually they way they have been done in the past. Trustee Tackman stated \$7250.00 is the total cost including yearly maintenance agreements. By eliminating Fiscal Advisors (saving \$5600.00 and changing phone companies, saving \$1400 per year, and the new clerks salary saves \$2080 per year) the software will be paid for. The software will integrate all aspects of the village accounting and track expenditures. Joni Hinds inquired as to tech support and if there are other programs out there. The Mayor stated this is the one most used by other municipalities. Charlene Weed inquired as to grant money available for this purchase also. Mayor Youmans made a motion to purchase this software at a cost of \$7255.00 with the stipulation to research other vendors. Second Trustee Tackman, Trustees Domachowske and Hamacher Yes, Trustee Hinds wants to table it till next month. Motion carried. Trustee Domachowske stated the cost would be split between the three funds.

FISCAL ADVISORS: Trustee Domachowske reported he found a couple errors in the report from Fiscal Advisors in the Revenue section. Everything else was fine. These errors have been corrected. Trustee Domachowske made a motion to accept the report from Fiscal Advisors, second by Trustee Hamacher, all in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 24, 2012 MEETING: Mayor Youmans made a motion to accept the minutes, second by Trustee Tackman, all in favor, motion carried. The Mayor would also like to see the minutes on line and put in the newspaper. A question was raised if we can utilize the website to get our minutes on ourselves. The clerk stated she would work with Paul Baxter to get them online.

PAY BILLS: Approval of Abstract #3, Vouchers 99-144, Mayor Youmans made a motion to pay abstract #3, second by Trustee Domachowske, all in favor, motion carried.

PROCUREMENT POLICY: The Mayor and Trustee Domachowske went over the old policy and made a few changes. The Mayor stated these policies are dictated by the state. Discussion followed. The Mayor stated we want to be able to keep track of spending, put more controls in place, and avoid favoritism. Mayor Youmans made a motion to accept the procurement policy, second by Trustee Hamacher, all in favor, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING: September 11, 2012 at 6:30pm.

MAL DAVIS: Mr. Davis asked how much the new clerk was being paid and how much extra it is costing the village to be open the hours stated earlier in the meeting. The Mayor responded that the new clerk is being paid \$1.00 an hour less than the previous clerk. He went on to state there was no extra cost involved and the only difference is that the clerk is open all day rather than closed to the public half the day as was the previous clerk. Mr. Davis also asked about the cost of new attorney and the Mayor stated his rate is \$135.00 per hour.

NEW LIGHT ON SIGN: Joni Hinds commented on how nice the new sign looks lit up. Trustee Hinds commented that a new light to illuminate the flagpole will be coming as well. The Mayor also stated a new flag is needed, and village resident Bonnie McCollough offered to donate a flag to the village.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Mayor Youmans made a motion to adjourn, second by Trustee Hamacher, all in favor, motion carried.