

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Date: June 13, 2022

Present Mayor Brian Johnson, Trustees Doug Cropper, Larry Ostrander, Debra Gitterman-present remotely, and Jason Detzel, Clerk/Treasurer Jessica Thomas, Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons, BOA Grant administrator Sally Baker, OIC Vernon Doyle, DPW Superintendent Dave Siter and Multiple Members of the Public.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Motion: to approve the minutes from the 5/9/22 Board Meeting; made by Trustee Ostrander, 2nd by Trustee Cropper.

All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to approve the meeting minutes from the 5/31/22 Special Board Meeting; made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Detzel. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to approve the preliminary May Budget to Actual Reports; made by Trustee Ostrander, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to approve the payment of bills from the May 25th and June 13th Abstracts; made by Trustee Detzel, 2nd by Trustee Ostrander. All Ayes, No Nays

Public Requests

Nabal Camacho spoke about employment issues and requests a handbook with the policies. It was decided to have an executive session later in the meeting to be discussed further.

Attorney Fitzsimmons: He reports he has been working on ongoing projects with The Woods, had a Union grievance arbitration, and sent a proposed short term regulation draft for the board to review.

Clerk/Treasurer Report: Given by Jessica Thomas. A full copy of the report is available in the office for review or upon request. Tax bills were mailed out on May 31st and are due by July 1st without penalty. We have been extra busy with walk-ins, recording, and depositing in relation to the taxes. The office will be closed on Monday July 4th in observance of Independence Day. Meter cards are currently being recorded for Water / Sewer billing. Water/Sewer bills will be mailed out by the close of day on June 30th and are due by July 31st without penalty. Robert Patterson will be preparing work on the AUD (Annual Update Document) at the end of this month. Benefit deductions and accruals have been updated with payroll.

Building Inspector Report: A full copy of the report was not given to the office prior to the meeting.

Library Report : Given by Trustee Detzel, as submitted by Director Tobi Farley. A full copy of the report is available in the office for review or upon request. Asbestos has been completely removed. There is a bid for carpeting from Lowes. It will take about 4 weeks for the carpeting to arrive. We have had about 25 patrons check out seeds so far. A neighbor dropped off a table full of vegetable starts and most were taken in three days. AVG will start harvesting produce and vegetable starts for the back table next week. The raised bed raffle with PBInc went to two families. Implementing NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act Webinar on May 16th had about 40 people attend and 32 watch the recording. Upcoming programs in June include seed starting and collection planning June 11th, Habitat for Humanity Workshop June 28th, Compost virtual program June 23rd, and Story Crafters at the Town Park June 28th. We are approved for \$3,000 for the Summer fieldtrips with the Claverack Library and The Town of Claverack Summer Camp. Field trip

programs are Mad Science at the park camp program, Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk, CT ,USS Slater, Albany, NY , and Hudson-Athens Lighthouse. Claverack Library received full funding for all the other joint Summer Reading programs including; Tuesday programs at the town park, craft kits and reading logs and registration forms for both libraries. We are applying for 501c3 and applied for funds from Berkshire Taconic as a new non-profit to pay for the costs associated with filing and promoting the association. We will have a shared table at the Climate Smart Fair on the Columbia County Fairgrounds on July 16th. We will be attending the Columbia County Fair on Labor Day weekend. Philmont's slot is Wednesday, August from 10:30am-4:30pm.

Community Center Report: Given by Trustee Cropper, as submitted by Director Veronezi. A full copy of the report is available in the office for review or upon request. The center has been checked regularly during the month by Doug Cropper and Julia Veronezi. Thank you again to George Brehm for the beautiful hanging flower basket, flowering bushes and annuals planted in front of the center. Trustee Cropper installed new LED light bulbs and picked up water equipment for the gardens. Girl Scout, Cub Scouts and Scout Leaders used the center for meetings. On May 11th there was a bird house building program for the Girl Scouts led by Doug Cropper. The girls also learned about Blue Birds, the positive environmental impact of birds and how to protect birds. Contact was made with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia County in regards to a program this summer. A CPR and first Aid course is tentatively scheduled for the end of June. This will be open to Philmont residents free of charge. Sign up will be required. Check the village website for details as they become available. A letter was written about former employee Sara Jampol-Auerbach requesting that she be terminated. She has not returned her key or responded to emails or phone calls for the past year. She needs to be terminated because she cannot be found.

Police Report: Given by OIC Vern Doyle. A full copy of the report is available in the office for review or upon request. For the month of May we had, we had 27 calls for service, 2 arrests, 77 property checks, 11 UTT, and 26 V&T warnings. Discussion continues about how police presence in Philmont has been nice and helpful. It is nice to see the Philmont Police, Sheriffs, and State Police working together to increase presence. Emails, calls and texts have all been followed through and addressed.

Summit Lake & Its Watercourse (BOA) Report: Given by Grant Administrator S. Baker. A full copy of the report is available in the office for review or upon request. Attended the BOA Co-Chair standing meeting with Trustee Ostrander and Barbara Sagal, Chair of the Agawamuck Creek Watershed Management Plan. Mayor Johnson could not attend. Reported PBI is continuing to draft the Request for Proposals for the scope of work identified in the Work Plan for the BOA grant funding. The Project Initiation Meeting has been scheduled with the DOS for the BOA grant to be held in June in the Village Office. BOA Grant Committee and members of Subarea 1 Working Group are to attend. The two potential developers in contract to purchase Summit Mill joined the meeting to discuss their plans and intentions. They are diligently canvassing neighbors and residents for input and ideas the community may have for the development of the mill and are getting to know the community. Both developers have other development projects in the City of Hudson and have been local for several years to Hudson, and the Hudson Valley. Six community members have submitted requests to join the Heritage Working Group. The group now consists of 12 members. 26 responses were submitted to the survey inserted into the April mailed water bill. Progress is being made nicely with a meeting held in Zoom every month. Members are listed on PBI's website for the Historic District. Reported PBI has produced the 1st Draft of the Request for Proposals for the scope of work identified in the Work Plan for the LWRP grant funding. The Watershed Advisory Committee consisting of the municipal participating towns of Claverack, Ghent, Hillsdale, and Austerlitz have received the RFP and will be meeting on June 8th to review and discuss for comments. Updates of Summary Notes of WAC meetings, approved by the DOS and the WAC, are available on PBI's website for the Watershed Management Plan.

DPW Report: Given by Dave Siter. A full copy of the report is available in the office for review or upon request. Patching potholes, picking up garbage and recycling, repaired packer on garbage truck, picked up brush for the month of May on Mondays, mowing and weeding, started blacktopping on some road edges, put up banners for Memorial Day, OSHA training, watered flowers and sidewalk edges were painted on Main Street. The roads were swept prior to the holiday weekend. Water Sewer Dept, took samples for DEC and Health Dept., all passed. The disinfection project is completed, Baldwin hauled 20,000 gallons of sludge to Albany, mowing and trimming at the waste water plant, reading meters, and monitoring water samples from the disinfection tank. Also have caught up on communications and working on getting prices for chip sealing some roads in the Village.

Mayor Johnson: He reports it has a busy month. He called an engineer's firm in Albany (Laberge) and will be having a discussion at the workshop meeting on June 22nd. He did all of the regular things and had a phone call with the Ghent Supervisor in regards to passing the resolution about the Rail Trail. He also met with Robert Fitzsimmons and the labor lawyer.

Trustee Cropper: He reports he has been working with Debra in regards to the trail issue. This included in person meetings and phone calls. Debra got a grant for a bench and a better approach to the dock across the lake and he met with Mark Rountree in regards to design for this. Attended the planning board meeting, workshop meeting, and went to a meeting with the climate smart people from Claverack in regards to hydro. Also attended the Memorial Day Ceremony. Had a tour of the disinfection plant at the sewer plant. He also swore in the new officers for the fire department.

Trustee Detzel: Talking about having a truck wet down for two trucks that never had one 4720 and 4719. Trying to combine that with a possible village day. Met with Carl Quinn about possibly moving the Greener Pathways vehicle from the Community Center back to the parking lot by Family Dollar to get more foot traffic and help with the substance abuse problem. Carl asked if there could be a community forum to address the substance abuse issues in the Village, how it's being dealt with and informing citizens. He also priced dog waste bags and dispensers for the baseball field. Talks about garbage sticker price increase.

Trustee Ostrander: He reports he attended the BOA meeting with Sally. He also attended the planning board meeting, the workshop meeting, and the fire banquet. Spoke to Vern in regards police coverage for the fireman's convention. He also received letters and emails in support of the Essig trail and not doing the land swap.

Fire Department Report submitted by Chief Mark Beaumont

21 Calls for the month. Total fire calls for the year 51. Total EMS calls for the year 47. Drills for the month 3 and 1 truck inspection. Attended firefighter service at New Lebanon Fire Station with 5 members. Attended the annual Memorial Day Parade in Philmont with 11 members. Also attended the wet down in Hudson with 10 members. Truck 47-20 will be out of service for repair on June 13th.

Trustee Gitterman: She reports that she attended the planning board meeting, workshop meeting and the special board meeting with Clover Reach. She also met with the owners of neighboring property of Clover Reach about the Essig Trail. She completed updates to the website and reviewed communication from residents about not allowing the land swap. She also communicated with Dave and Sarah Siter about Community Day and scheduling a meeting. She has also followed up on the sidewalk grant and reviewed the STR regulations.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST provided to the members of the Board and the public

- 1) Email from Doug Quandt dated 5/13 regarding atvs
- 2) Email from Steve Benson dated 5/16 regarding debris from snowplowing
- ~~3) Email from Sally Baker dated 5/17 regarding was deleted but did not save properly. Was not correspondence.~~
- 4) Letter from Eileen Ordu dated 5/16/22 regarding The Woods
- 5) Email from John Mata dated 5/24/22 regarding application for comprehensive plan committee
- 6) Email from Robin Andrews dated 5/24/22 regarding application for comprehensive plan committee
- 7) Email from Julia Sedlock dated 5/24/22 regarding application for comprehensive plan committee
- 8) Email from Allison Hoppe dated 5/24/22 regarding application for comprehensive plan committee
- 9) Email from John Mata dated 5/24/22 regarding application for planning board
- 10) Email from Margaret Hallisey dated 5/26/22 regarding The Woods
- 11) Email from Eileen Ordu dated 5/27/22 regarding application for comprehensive plan committee
- 12) Email from Sophie Wedd dated 5/24/22 regarding application for comprehensive plan committee

- 13) Letter from Carolyn Stern dated 6/6/22 regarding The Woods
- 14) Letter from Carolyn Stern dated 6/6/22 regarding Clover Reach
- 15) Letter from Eileen Ordu dated 6/9/22 regarding The Woods
- 16) Letter from Eileen Ordu dated 6/9/22 regarding The Woods
- 17) Letter from Kate Reese Hurd dated 6/9/22 regarding The Woods
- 18) Email from Jane Wright dated 6/9/22 regarding The Woods
- 19) Letter from Karen Schoemer dated 6/9/22 regarding The Woods
- 20) Letter from George Brehm dated 6/6/22 regarding The Woods
- 21) Letter from Sophie Wedd dated 6/10/22 regarding Clover Reach
- 22) Letter from Sophie Wedd dated 6/10/22 regarding Clover Reach
- 23) Letter from Brandon Finegold dated 6/10/22 regarding The Woods
- 24) Letter from Julia Sedlock dated 6/10/22 regarding The Woods
- 25) Letter from Kate Martino dated 6/13/22 regarding Clover Reach

Motions and Resolutions-

Motion: to transfer the amount of \$470.00 from the sewer fund checking to the general fund savings to replace the amount originally transferred on 8/6/2021 to pay the Legget Invoice for the grant, made by Trustee Detzel, 2nd by Trustee Ostrander. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to appoint Jake Thomas to the Village of Philmont Volunteer Fire Department as a fire support member., made by Trustee Detzel, 2nd by Trustee Ostrander. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to authorize the mayor to sign the annual renewal of CDPHP PPO Traditional Option dental insurance for the Village of Philmont, made by Trustee Detzel, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to authorize the mayor to sign the annual renewal of MVP HDEPO 3900/7800 Silver Plan 8 health insurance plan for the Village of Philmont, made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Detzel. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to remove Sara Jampol-Auerbach from the position of Program Leader for the Community Center per Community Center Director Julie Veronezi, made by Trustee Ostrander, 2nd by Trustee Detzel. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to hire Jess Cropper-Alt for the position of Program Leader for the Community center as a part time non benefited employee at the starting pay rate of \$15.50 per hour, made by Trustee Ostrander, 2nd by Trustee Detzel. All Ayes, No Nay. Trustee Cropper abstains from the vote.

Motion: to allow the Mayor to sign the Contractor's Application for Payment number 4 payable to MCJ Construction, LLC in the amount of \$117,135.00 for work on the Village of Philmont Waste Water Treatment Plant, made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Detzel. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to increase the price of garbage stickers from \$3 to \$5 effect July 1st, 2022, made by Trustee Detzel, 2nd by Trustee Ostrander. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion: to authorize the acquisition of Sophos Firewall software for the Police Department from the Police Department funds, made by Trustee Detzel, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. All Ayes, No Nays

Village of Philmont
County of Columbia
State of New York

At a regular meeting of the Village of Philmont duly called and held on the 13th day of June at the Village Hall, 124 Main Street, Philmont, New York.

Resolution 3 of 2022

WHEREAS, the Village Board recognizes the economic and recreational benefits to its residents and visitors which would be occasioned by the extension of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail from its southern terminus in the Hamlet of Wassaic in Dutchess County to its planned northern terminus in the Village of Chatham; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board wishes to acknowledge its support of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Project and its eventual extension to the Village of Chatham;

NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of the Village fully supports the collaborative efforts of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, Inc. in all of their efforts for the establishment and extension of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail through Columbia County.

Resolution by: Trustee Ostrander

Seconded by: Trustee Cropper

Upon the question of the foregoing Resolution the following Board members voted "aye" in favor of the Resolution:

Debra Gitterman

Douglas Cropper

Larry Ostrander

Jason Detzel

The following Board members voted "nay" in opposition of the Resolution

None

The Resolution having been approved by a majority of the Village Board, the same was declared to be adopted by the Mayor of the Village of Philmont.

I, Jessica Thomas, do hereby certify that resolution #3 was passed at a meeting of the Village of Philmont held on June 13th, 2022, and is incorporated in the original minutes of said meeting, and that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

Jessica Thomas
Village Clerk

Unfinished Business and New Business:

Trustee Ostrander discusses parking for the fire convention parade.

Mayor Johnson discusses receiving \$10,000 for the Police force. He spoke to Trustee Cropper and it was decided to apply that money to new cameras on Main Street.

Mayor Johnson discusses grant for the sidewalk repair.

MOTION to go to Executive Session to discuss employment history of a particular person made by Trustee Ostrander, 2nd by Trustee Cropper. All Ayes, No Nays

MOTION to come out of Executive Session, made by Trustee Ostrander, 2nd by Mayor Johnson. All Ayes, No Nays

MOTION to go to Executive Session to discuss employment history of a particular person made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Mayor Johnson. All Ayes, No Nays

MOTION to come out of Executive Session, made by Trustee Cropper, 2nd by Trustee Detzel. All Ayes, No Nays

Motion to adjourn –made by Trustee Detzel, 2nd by Trustee Ostrander All Ayes, No Nays.

Adjournment 8:42

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Thomas
Clerk/Treasurer