

Village of Hamilton
Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 9, 2007

APPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: Sue McVaugh, Mayor and President; Trustees Collins, Albrecht, Bona, and Miller; Director of Utilities and Public Works Sean Graham; Ronda Winn, Clerk Treasurer; Randy Weaver, Department of Public Works; Paul Sheneman from PLS Engineering; Tom Cooney, Kurt Wendler, and Greg Widrick from Sphere Development.

Mayor McVaugh called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda – Trustee Collins made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Trustee Albrecht, and carried.

Minutes – Trustee Albrecht made a motion to approve the minutes of the 9/11/07 regular meeting, with changes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Miller, and carried. Trustee Collins made a motion to approve the minutes of the 9/27/07 special meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Trustee Albrecht, and carried.

Public Comment – No members of the public were present.

Board News and Reports

Mayor McVaugh's Report

At the last special meeting, Walt Jaquay requested that the Village consider supporting Communities Against Regional Interconnects (CARI) with a donation. Mayor McVaugh emailed Eve Ann Shwartz, Co-Chair of Stop NYRI, Inc., a member of CARI, regarding the use of donated funds, but had not received any information at the time of the meeting. Clerk Treasurer Winn stated that funds have been budgeted for Stop NYRI. Chris Hoffman, Communications Manager for Stop NYRI, Inc., offered to send Mayor McVaugh information on funds raised and monies spent by Stop NYRI, which she did after the meeting.

Mayor McVaugh announced that she had attended the dedication ceremonies for the new Robert H.N. Ho Science Center at Colgate University on September 15, 2007.

Mayor McVaugh announced that she will attend the Local Government Efficiency and Competitiveness meeting in Buffalo on October 24th.

Mayor McVaugh reported that she met with the consultant for the Picker Art Gallery and Associate Provost Trish St. Leger. Mayor McVaugh noted that a downtown or off-campus location would serve as a bridge between the Village and Colgate.

Mayor McVaugh has sent a letter to Colgate regarding the issuance by the Village of future noise permits. Dean of the College Charlotte Johnson has requested that we notify her if we issue a

sound permit, to make sure the party is officially registered with the appropriate authorities at Colgate.

Trustee Miller inquired whether there had been a discussion about the DJ language problem, and Mayor McVaugh indicated there had not been.

The Cancer Relay request for amplified sound has been withdrawn, as it has been moved inside to allow entertainment later in the evening.

The Partnership for Community Development meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2007. Mayor McVaugh shared a copy of an email (attached) dated October 4, 2007, from Jim Bays, Executive Director of the PCD.

Town of Madison Supervisor Jim Goldstein informed Mayor McVaugh about a meeting at the Madison County Industrial Development Agency in Canastota on October 18 at 3:15 pm to discuss the exploration for natural gas by Nornew. Trustee Albrecht added that Nornew wants to export gas out of the area, and there is much we need to learn before acting. Trustee Albrecht also noted that there could be a tax issue, and that the country road supervisors are the approving authority. Mayor McVaugh, along with Trustee Collins and Director Graham will plan to attend the October 18th IDA meeting.

Mayor McVaugh received a report from Carolyn Todd about the upcoming elections. Mayor McVaugh will report further at a later date under New Business.

Mayor McVaugh reported that she had received the following suggestions as to how the Village can be improved: no fireworks; outlaw noisy motorcycles; allow lawn mowing only between 1 and 4 pm on Sundays; establish a cat leash law.

Mayor McVaugh reported that she had received an email from a Madison Street resident regarding student apartments. Trustee Collins noted that 96 Lebanon Street has also been a problem, and Trustee Bona mentioned there have been problems as well on Kendrick Avenue.

Trustee Miller's Report – Public Safety

Trustee Miller reported that she had attended a police staff meeting on September 27, 2007, to discuss the speed of Colgate cruisers, the concerns of residents about parking issues, the continued use of digital speed sign trailer, cell phone usage, use of the shooting range, receipt of a grant for the new substation, the post office crosswalk and the possible elimination of two parking spaces on Broad Street, and the new computer system to be installed in police vehicles.

Trustee Bona has spoken with Paul Frick at Colgate about the cruiser speed, and he will investigate.

Trustee Miller and Chief Tilbe have reviewed the civil service applications for the police officer vacancy. The Chief believes he has one resume worth pursuing. Clerk Treasurer Winn noted that fringe benefits for another full-time officer have not been budgeted. Mayor McVaugh noted that filling this full-time position would negatively impact the current part-timers, and that because of the inclusion of fringe benefits, it would cost more to pay one full-time person than it

would to pay three part-time people. Mayor McVaugh suggested that we could cover the hours with four full-time people and hire part-time people to cover the D line.

Trustee Miller met with the fire chief; the siren has been shut off during nighttime hours, and a training session was hosted with Morrisville.

There was discussion about adding key boxes to the Village buildings. Each would cost about \$250. Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham suggested that they should be added to Village buildings, including the library and the airport.

Trustee Miller reported that three members of the fire department attended a prebuild session, which was very helpful.

Trustee Miller had nothing new to report from Campus Safety at Colgate.

Trustee Miller reported that Justice Arnold Fisher at the Village Justice Court has been very busy.

Trustee Miller reported that the tree removal process has begun, with six on Madison Street and three on Madison Street having been removed so far. A letter has been sent to residents asking them to plant replacement trees.

Trustee Bona's Report – Parks and Recreation

Trustee Bona reported that the Great Chocolate Wreck weekend went well. Trustee Bona attended the sign dedication and people liked the talk, which was attended by about 45-50 people.

Trustee Bona reported that the library board met to discuss the removal of paint from the old bricks. They want to do a brick test on shellacking and would like the Village to pay for it if the test is favorable. Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham noted that we had applied for a grant to cover the cost of lead paint removal, which was rejected. Clerk Treasurer Winn noted that the grant application for lead abatement has now been reactivated.

Trustee and Deputy Mayor Collins' Report – Streets and Public Works

Trustee Collins met with Randy Weaver on September 26, 2007, regarding the work DPW is doing. Shared services were also discussed. Trustee Collins visited the cemetery, which looks great with the new road in the back. Trustee Collins also discussed with Clerk Treasurer Winn the possibility of adding the cemetery to the national historic register, which could make grant money available for repairs.

Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham suggested that money might also be available from the Veterans Administration, as a Medal of Honor recipient from the Vietnam War is buried there. Trustee Collins will contact the VA for information.

Trustee Collins reported that Paul Sheneman of PLS Engineering had reviewed the repairs on the wastewater treatment plant and has recommended removing the domes. Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham noted that the Village of Clinton has removed theirs, which are in very

good shape and are ten years older than ours. Director Graham will get three quotes from Paul Sheneman for repairs to the inside, to the doors and walkway, and to the power plant.

Trustee Albrecht's Report – Economic Development

Trustee Albrecht reported that Jim Goldstein, Town of Lebanon Supervisor, informed the Village by email about an IDA meeting on October 18, 2007. One of the agenda items will be the potential for natural gas sales to Southern Madison County customers, including Hamilton's airport/airpark. Jim Goldstein's email was forwarded to Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham and to Clerk Treasurer Winn.

The PCD did not have a board meeting in September, and the next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2007. PCD Director Jim Bays will attend the IDA meeting on October 18th.

Working with Ben Eberhardt, Vice President of the Hamilton Business Alliance, Trustee Albrecht has kept the HBA informed of developments on the Sphere Development proposed project north of the village. The HBA is opposed to the establishment of a water/sewer district for this development because they view it as a tax disadvantage for village businesses. However, the HBA would support annexation.

Trustee Albrecht attended the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on September 20, 2007. Two noncontroversial variances were granted. One was approved for a "falling down" noncompliant garage, with the requirement that the walls be constructed with fire retardant materials. The other was approved for Dr. Lutz's sign on Utica Street, the size of which would match the size of Sue Urben's "Floral Treasures" sign.

The Pedestrian Safety Committee had no meeting in September. The regular meeting schedule will resume in October. Sue Bauman has been approached regarding a senior citizen nominee.

Trustee Albrecht debriefed the Planning Board on the Sphere Development project/issues, as well as the progress of the airport construction.

Trustee Albrecht reported that the Airport/Airpark Commission met on September 27, 2007. The commissioners approved the proposed AWOS maintenance contract and authorized Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham to proceed with procurement of a replacement wheeled fire extinguisher. The meeting included discussions about the status of the sales of Lots 6 and 10, and the ongoing GTC deposit issue. Since both attorneys for both parties are still engaged in seeking resolution, the matter will be left exclusively in their hands. Trustee Albrecht reported that the runway construction work is proceeding on schedule, and that the commissioners toured the work sites after the meeting. The estimated time of completion is now mid-October, with some flexibility for limited operations while final work is completed (e.g., grooving runway, etc.).

Trustee Albrecht briefed the Rotary Club on the airport two weeks ago at their regular meeting. The briefing was well received, and the PowerPoint presentation Anne Clauss helped develop will be the framework for future presentations.

Clerk Treasurer Winn's Report

Clerk Treasurer Winn reported that the pole inventory is now completed. She has received pending items from the audit. She attended the Hamilton Business Alliance meeting, and the Village is now a member.

Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham's Report

DPW – David Ryde reported that there is a new circuit on Route 12B, only one lead sample failed, and a letter to Tom Cain regarding grease traps in the fraternity houses has been sent. He is waiting for two installation quotes on the window replacement project.

Director Graham reported that the library toilets are slow. The sewer main is OK, but depending on where the clog is, it could be a serious repair problem. Will know the extent of the problem after October 10th.

MUC – Director Graham reported that the \$93,000 has been received from Airtricity. The windmills are in testing mode now, but won't go online until December because of serious voltage problems.

Director Graham reported that Stanwyck Avionics has installed AWASP, under part of a grant from FAA, which requires quarterly maintenance checks. The cost of a five-year maintenance agreement is \$19,800. The Airport/Airpark Commission has recommended that the Mayor sign the agreement, which amounts to \$990 per quarter. Trustee Albrecht inquired whether airport revenue could be used to pay for future maintenance.

Trustee Miller made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the maintenance agreement. The motion was seconded by Trustee Albrecht, and carried.

Director Graham reported that no paving could be done at the airport today because of rain. Additionally, the windmills were obscured by fog this morning. They are still aiming for a date of October 15 to re-open the airport. The Chemung foreman is very impressive, very effective with his crew.

Director Graham reported that he had received an email from Ingrid Hale regarding the possibility of students helping to clean up the Village, possibly on Sunday, October 28th. Director Graham will talk to Randy Weaver about possible projects for the students. Ingrid would supply rakes if we wanted them to rake.

Director Graham stated that Sue Baughman had reported debris and overgrowth around the Payne Street Bridge, which was obscuring the sidewalk.

Approval of Claims – Trustee Collins has not yet reviewed the claims for September, due to office staff vacations. Trustee Miller made a motion to approve the claims pending Trustee Collins' approval. The motion was seconded by Trustee Basher, and carried.

New Business

DPW Garage – Mayor McVaugh reported that the Village is looking for a site to build a garage to house Village vehicles. At this point, there is no specific timetable, and funding is uncertain.

Trustee Collins stated that she had discussed different possible locations with Randy Weaver. Paul Sheneman shared a drawing with the Trustees of one way of designing a 120' x 200' steel frame building plus a 30' x 110' shed. This structure would accommodate one space for each vehicle currently owned by the Village, plus maintenance spaces, washrooms, a lunch room, etc., with radiant floor heating, ventilation, and insulation. At about \$85 per square foot, this 28,000 sf building would cost about \$3 million. The current building is about 4,000 sf.

Trustee Albrecht questioned whether there would be room for snow blasters at the airport, and Mr. Weaver replied there would not be.

Mayor McVaugh added that the new, larger building would not fit on the current location, and the lot next to Hillman's at the airport is not large enough either.

Other possible building sites were discussed: the Ryde property on Eaton Street, the corner lot at Airport Road and Wings Way, a lot on the west side of the airport.

Mayor McVaugh also noted that it would be good to locate it out of the residential areas. Some discussion took place about the possibility of attaching the new building to the grant-funded proposed substation.

Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham noted that the FAA probably would not allow building on the Ryde property, but they probably would approve a building on the west side of the airport if the Town increased the width of the road.

Trustee Albrecht inquired if that area would be fenced with a security gate. Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham replied that a gate could probably be put at Eddy Road, but that would require a change to the Master Plan.

Clerk Treasurer Winn inquired whether it would be possible to store some equipment in the existing building so that the new building could be smaller than the one Sheneman shared plans for.

Trustee Albrecht inquired why the plans for the proposed building included four maintenance bays. Paul Sheneman of PLS Engineering explained that one would be for washing vehicles, one for down time, one for in-service maintenance, and one for a maintenance/fabrication area with welding curtains, etc.

Mayor McVaugh inquired if there was anything we could do to cut costs, and Randy Weaver suggested that site preparation would be one way to do so.

Mayor McVaugh will check funding sources with Clerk Treasurer Winn, and Trustee Collins will check possible sites with Trustee Albrecht and the Airport/Airpark Commission. D's Auto site on the east side of the airpark was suggested. John Morris owns the business only, and Prudential Realty is handling the sale of the property.

Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham suggested the Brink building as a possibility. Paul Sheneman thought it would be wide enough, but wondered if salt shed would be an issue.

Mayor McVaugh noted that some funds might be available from Senator Valeski's office.

Resolution to Join Madison County's Workmen's Compensation Plan – Trustee Miller made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a Resolution to Join the Madison County Municipal Group Self-Insurance Program. The motion was seconded by Trustee Albrecht, and carried. The resolution is attached.

Joint Meeting with the Municipal Utilities Commission – Mayor McVaugh would like to schedule a joint meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Municipal Utilities Commission to reconsider the position on water and sewer services and sales to Sphere Development. October 22, 2007 at 4 pm at the library was suggested as a possible date. Clerk Treasurer Winn will confirm.

DOT Sidewalk Grant – Clerk Treasurer Winn spoke with the Utica office of the Department of Transportation regarding sidewalk grants. We will be notified of next year's application dates, as this year's application deadline has passed.

Village Election – There has been discussion about turning over the elections to the County. A decision must be made by December.

SOMAC – Mike Ogden – Mayor McVaugh reported that a police/ambulance district is being considered, although they are in the preliminary stages of discussion. Trustee Miller noted that it would have to be created by referendum. Such a district would allow the Village to provide advance life support, similar to the library tax. Mike Ogden requested a meeting with the Mayor, not the full Village Board of Trustees.

Sphere Development/Lead Agency Resolution – Mayor McVaugh noted that the Village of Hamilton is situated in three Townships: Madison, Hamilton, and Eaton – and that working together is in the best interests of all. At the recent Madison Town Board meeting, Mayor McVaugh stated that the Village of Hamilton would withdraw its application to be named lead agency provided the Village is kept informed of all developments regarding the plans of Sphere Development. A draft resolution to that effect was drawn up by Village Attorney Jim Stokes, and is attached hereto. Trustee Miller made a motion to approve the Resolution. The motion was seconded by Trustee Collins, and carried.

Mayor McVaugh stated that she is counting on Trustee Miller's Planning Board and SEQR experience to represent the interests of the Village, as well as that of Director of Utilities and Public Works Graham in representing the Village at the Madison Planning Board meetings and on the SEQR application by Sphere Development.

Relevy of Village Taxes – Clerk Treasurer Winn presented the unpaid taxes. Trustee Miller made a motion to relevy the taxes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Basher, and carried.

Longyear Museum of Anthropology Banner Request – Permission was requested to hang a banner across Utica Street between the Bookstore and Maxwell's from October 12 through October 30, which would announce the Native American Arts and Culture Festival. Trustee Miller made a motion to allow the hanging of the banner. The motion was seconded by Trustee Collins, and carried.

Fountain Fire Company Members – Trustee Collins made a motion to accept the new student members into the volunteer fire department. The motion was seconded by Trustee Basher, and carried. The new student members are:

Nicholas Chen, from Pound Ridge, NY
Seth David Green, from Brooklyn, NY
Brian Martin, from Gansevoort, NY
Sarajane McMahon, from Coral Gables, FL
Alex Montgomery, from St. Louis, MO
Nicholas Pollock, from Sagamore Hills, OH
Nicholas Sasso, from Miami, FL
Christopher Sheline, from Atlanta, GA

Old Business

Backup for Court Clerk – Clerk Treasurer Winn will ask Judge Fisher about the preferred hours for training.

Hamilton Central School Sign Request – It was noted that this request should properly go before the Planning Board.

Executive Session – postponed

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Trustees, Trustee Miller made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Albrecht, and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hoffman

824-5604

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hamilton consent to the Town of Madison Planning Board acting as lead agency with respect to the SEQR review of the proposed Sphere Madison Retail Center upon the agreement of the Town of Madison Planning Board to provide the Village of Hamilton reasonable advanced notice of all meetings, formal and informal, regarding the project, that copies of all correspondence, reports and submissions regarding the project be provided to the Village, and that the Village of Hamilton be given advance notice and reasonable opportunity to comment prior to any scoping statements, determinations of significance or other findings being made under SEQR.

Sean - Call me if any questions 415-4327