

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PIERMONT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES METING**  
**December 2, 2008**

Present: Mayor Christopher Sanders, Deputy Mayor Fred Devan, Trustees Joan Gussow, Audie Moran, Mark Blomquist, Walter Sevastian, Esq.-Village Attorney, Denise Ehrhart-Village Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Sanders called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: NONE

The agenda was moved to #3 – the Board had previously discussed a surcharge for police overtime during special events. The Police Chief suggested a fee of \$1,500 to cover Overtime and \$200 to cover Dispatch for high impact events (closing streets) and \$750 for Overtime and \$200 for dispatch for low impact events.

The requested Bastille Day celebration was estimated to cost the Village \$5,000 for the closure of Piermont Avenue for the entire day. Chief O’Shea stated that there will be issues of redirecting traffic .

Trustee Moran asked how many events are fundraisers and how many support the merchants in the Village. The Chief said that most are fundraisers.

Trustee Blomquist said he was concerned with the cost and agrees that the Village needs a policy.

Trustee Gussow understands the merchants need business but does not see that groups running through the Village bring any business. She asked if anyone has asked the merchants about any impact.

Mayor Sanders said that although all events may not bring in business for the merchants, he is not sure the investment of taxpayer dollars into events is appropriate.

Nyack’s events were questioned by Trustee Moran and Walter Sevastian advised that the event pays DPW and Police Department overtime.

There was to be a continuation of the discussion on a request for Quadricentennial/Bastille Day in July 2009. There was no one in attendance for the discussion and this will be continued on December 16, 2008.

There was also no one in attendance to discuss the annual Dennis P. McHugh Run in May of 2009. This also will be tabled to December 16, 2008.

Trustee Devan said that this has come up over the years but no decision is ever made and taxpayer dollars continue to be spent.

The Mayor stated that he wants to resolve this tonight; \$1,500 for a road closing event and \$750 for a low impact event. He would like to get an opinion from the DPW.

Trustee Gussow commented that the cost is surprisingly high and she does not believe that the runners are shopping.

Dennis Hardy suggested that the Board be careful and judicious before imposing a fee especially for Bastille Day. He said he hasn't heard an outcry about the expense to the Village for special events and that many clubs donate to PAL and the PBA.

Trustee Moran said that the Board needs to know how many events there are in one year and that she never thought about it until now. Chief O'Shea said she could review his Overtime reports that include all of the events.

Mayor Sanders said that not charging is a charitable contribution of taxpayer's money and he applauds the donations made by some organizations, but the Village needs to be sensitive to the taxpayer. He asked that this discussion be continued at the December 16, 2008 meeting.

Continuation of a Public Hearing on the New Cingular Wireless application for site development was tabled to January 20, 2009 at 8:15 p.m. at the request of the applicant who is appearing before the ZBA on December 18, 2008.

Proposals for drainage repair in the north parking lot were received from Calmart in the amount of \$19,950 and labor of \$3,600 for a subcontractor for the check valve vault. A bid of \$15,401.40 was received from Precast for the two catch basins. Tideflex put in a proposal for a check valve in the amount of \$11,734.

All of these amounts are under the \$20,000 threshold for public bid and may be approved by resolution.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the proposal from Calmart in the amount of \$19,950. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan and upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Moran made a motion to approve the proposal from Precast in the amount of \$15,401.40. The motion was seconded by Trustee Blomquist and upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the proposal from Calmart for a subcontractor in the amount of \$3,600. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran and upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the proposal from Tideflex Technologies for equipment in the amount of \$11,734. The motion was seconded by Trustee Blomquist and upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Devan made a motion to approve a proposal from Calmart for the Sparkill Dam repair in the amount of \$19,800 for labor and equipment. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow and upon vote the motion carried. It was added that some of the expense for the Sparkill Dam repair will come from CHIPS money.

An update on the Community Playgroup finances was scheduled for this meeting. No one from the Playgroup was in attendance this evening. The Village received a check to cover September. Through contact with the Village Clerk's office, someone was planning to attend the December 16, 2008 meeting. They had previously told the Clerk that they would be paid up in November from a grant that was due in to include December.

A request has been made for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's Annual Walk at the Pavilion on May 3, 2009. Due to pedestrian safety on the Pier during the event the Police Chief advised that the Pier would need to be closed.

Trustee Blomquist said this was the first request from this group and he agreed with closing the Pier.

Trustee Devan was in agreement with Trustee Blomquist and in favor of this event.

Trustee Moran said she was in favor of seeing something like this happen but not in favor of closing the Pier.

Trustee Gussow also stated that she was not in favor of closing the Pier.

The Mayor stated that the Pier would be closed at Paradise Avenue and Ferry Road until 11:00 a.m. on May 3, 2009 when the walk was over. The fee for this event would be in accord with the Chief O'Shea's recommendation of \$750.00.

Trustee Moran suggested advising Our Town and the Journal News regarding the closing of the Pier to vehicles until 11:00 a.m. that day.

A request to have a wedding with 100 in attendance on the Pier on Friday, August 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. was received. The Board was not in favor of this large event taking place on the Pier. It was suggested and agreed that the Pier be used after the wedding for photographs only.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2008. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan and upon vote the minutes were approved.

Trustee Devan made a motion to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$310,511.36. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran and upon vote the Warrant was approved.

The Mayor reported that the final payment was made to Bellavista for the sidewalks and that the disputed amount was split.

The Mayor and the Village Clerk met with Cost Control Associates regarding the energy study recently done. There were no recommendations for electric savings. The Village is staying with Verizon for phone service but will receive a better price under State Contract.

The list of eligibles for the position of Building Inspector has been received from R.C. Personnel. The Mayor would like to make the Building Inspector position 20 hours a week. The current employee is among several tied for second place which is considered reachable. Mayor Sanders advised that he was looking into options to share hours with another village and Trustee Gussow suggested keeping the present arrangement with the Town of Ramapo. The discussion will continue on December 16, 2008.

The Village Holiday Party is planned for Monday, December 15, 2008, from 7-11 p.m. at Cornetta's. The Board will share the expense of a buffet and there will be a cash bar available.

Trustee Moran said she attended a meeting of the Piermont Historic Society and they are trying to get an electric meter installed by O & R. but they keep getting put off. Trustee Moran called a supervisor at O & R and the only question remaining is who would receive the bill. It was agreed upon that the "Village of Piermont" should be billed.

Al Bartley reported by memo that the silt removal at the skating pond was complete and Mayor Sanders said he would like to have an Opening Ceremony in mid-January.

Trustee Devan made a suggestion to enhance revenue by securing the parking lot across from Village Hall. The question is who is the owner. Trustee Devan made a motion to invest up to \$750.00 to find the owner. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

The Mayor reviewed a letter from Elisabeth Tapley regarding the maintenance of Lot D.

The Police Chief asked that the Code Committee please review the Village Code to add no parking of Recreational or Commercial vehicles in the Village.

Trustee Devan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.