

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PIERMONT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

January 22, 2008

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

Absent: Trustee Audie Moran

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

Public Comment:

Bob Samuels asked what had happened with Al Bartley reaching Connie Coker about the silt remediation in the pond, dam repair (south side) and overflow pipe at the Rockland Road Bridge.

The Mayor commented that he spoke with Ed Divine and that the Board needs to decide what approach to take – one item at a time or all projects as a whole. Al Bartley mentioned that the Ferdon Dam Remediation plan is in place and that the Village Engineer will submit the plan to the Army Corps and DEC.

Tom McArdle – will be holding the annual Charity Bocce Ball Tournament on Saturday, July 12, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Pavilion. The Village Clerk will check the calendar for the date. Mr. McArdle requested a waiver of the rental fee, the deposit has already been paid.

Motion to waive the rental fee for the Charity Bocce Tournament made by Trustee Gussow and seconded by Trustee Blomquist. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

Al Bartley advised the Board that work on the Bridge Street Bridge was to start in two weeks. The Mayor agreed with Mr. Bartley to notify the residents and to schedule a field meeting for Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at the bridge.

The Mayor moved the agenda to #8 – approval of minutes.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the minutes of November 27, 2008. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote the motion carried 3-0 with Trustee Blomquist abstaining and Trustee Moran absent.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the minutes of January 8, 2008. The motion was seconded by Trustee Blomquist. Upon vote the motion carried 4-0 with Trustee Moran absent.

The Piermont Rowing Club requested the use of Village Hall on Saturday, February 2, 2008 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Trustee Devan made a motion to approve this use. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

Genesis Adventures requested to have their 2008 Running Relay event on Saturday, May 10, 2008. Chief O'Shea advised that it would have no impact on the Village. Trustee Gussow made a motion to allow the running relay. The motion was seconded by Trustee Blomquist. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Rockland county Police Emerald Society, Inc. has requested to hold their annual 5k run on Sunday, May 10, 2008. Trustee Devan made a motion to approve and Trustee Blomquist seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to open the Public Hearing on proposed amendments to Chapter 210 – Zoning Code. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote, the Public Hearing was opened.

Mayor Sanders advised that there has been over a year's worth of work done by the Code Revision Committee to clean up open gaps in the code. The Committee has amended many sections of the code already and there are still areas where cross references need to be eliminated. He then read a summary of the amendments on the table.

Mayor Sanders opened the floor for public comments:

Curt Lowey asked if the WF2 District was excluded from this amendment and the Mayor replied yes, it was excluded.

There being no further public comments, Mayor Sanders advised that the Village received a letter from R.C. Planning with 9 modifications recommended. The Village Attorney advised that the Board could override all recommendations and review after the law is adopted.

Trustee Devan thanked the ad hoc code committee for their hard work and the hours put into this proposed amendments. Trustee Gussow added that Chris Sanders deserves most of the praise since he kept the committee going even after his election as Mayor.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan and upon vote the Public Hearing was closed.

The Negative Declaration was prepared by Brooker Engineering and was moved by Trustee Gussow and seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote the motion carried. (copy attached)

A motion was made by Trustee Gussow to adopt Local Law #1 of 2008 as amended. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote the Local Law was adopted.

The Clerk gave the Board a 2009 Budget Calendar that will be given to the Department Heads.

The Board set a Workshop meeting for February 12, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss Village Hall space needs.

Proposed FOIL Procedures have been written by the Village Attorney and will be reviewed again and adopted at the February 5, 2008 meeting.

Now that the Village of Piermont is the lease holder for the Skating Pond on Valentine Avenue the Board is concerned about safety issues. There are currently three (3) signs with red or green flags. The Board feels that there is a need to determine who decides if skating is safe. It was added that the area where skating is allowed is very shallow.

Karen Brown commented that there has been a lot of skating on the creek in the past few years in the deeper areas.

Richard Stark told the Board that they were creating a problem that doesn't exist. He asked how someone can be stopped from skating or what if someone skates when red flag is up. Chief O'Shea replied that the Officer on duty will ask them to leave. Mr. Stark then suggested putting up a sign reading "skate at your own risk" and also during freezing conditions "do not drive onto the river".

Walter Sevastian said we should flag the area we have the lease for since most of creek is private residences

A motion was made by Trustee Devan to submit applications to the 2008 Community Development Block Grant Program for an elevator at the Community Center and curb cuts at the Library. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

With reference to the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, the Rockland County Drainage Agency is asking for support to participate in a grant application for improvements to end of Pier by way of a Board Resolution.

A resolution acknowledging that the Village of Piermont will participate as a Lead Agency in the Hudson River/Rockland County Proposed Watershed Management Plan was moved by Trustee Devan and seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried. (copy of Resolution attached)

A motion was made by Trustee Devan to allow the Piermont Rowing Club to use Village Hall on Saturday, February 2, 2008 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

Genesis Adventures has requested to hold their 2008 Running Relay event through Piermont on Saturday, May 10, 2008. Chief O'Shea advised that it would not have an impact on the Village. Trustee Gussow moved to approve. The motion was seconded by Trustee Blomquist.

Trustee Devan made a motion to allow the Rockland County Police Emerald Society to hold their 5k run-walk on Sunday, May 4, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion was approved.

Trustee Devan made a motion to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$69,264.29. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow and upon vote the Warrant was approved.

The Mayor would like to sit down with the Board to review the current assessments and any recommended changes prior to the tentative roll being prepared. The Board will meet at a Public Workshop on Monday, January 28, 2008 at 11 a.m.

There have been some complaints with regard to limiting construction on weekends and holidays which is not covered in the current Noise Ordinance. The Village Attorney will prepare a draft for the February 19, 2008 meeting.

Phase III Sidewalk specs are needed from the Village Engineer. The Mayor advised that he received a memo from Ken DeGennaro that the specs were 50% complete and would be finished by the end of the month.

Al Bartley asked the Board if they would allow the foot bridge on Paradise Avenue to be made handicap accessible. Trustee Devan moved to authorize a cap of \$300 for the conversion. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

Mr. Bartley advised that the railing on the North Shore Walkway was missing 40 spindles. He estimated \$300 to replace them combining materials and labor. Trustee Devan moved to authorize the replacement of the spindles at a cap of \$300. Trustee Blomquist seconded the motion and upon vote the motion carried.

Al Bartley advised the Board that the 2000 Light Weight Dump Truck needed to be replaced. He found a Ford F350 on State contract at a cost of \$59,022 with an aluminum body, deliverable in approximately four (4) months. He also estimated that the old truck could be sold at auction for somewhere between \$4,000 and \$5,000. Trustee Devan made a motion to authorize Mr. Bartley to order the truck and to pay in June possible by a BAN. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow and upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sanders officially presented the minutes of the Ad Hoc Code Committee to the Village Clerk for filing. Those minutes include December 21, 2006 through December 4, 2007.

Mayor Sanders recommended appointing Greg Toner to the position of Chair of the Ad Hoc Code Committee and to appoint Maureen O'Connell a member. The appointment was moved by Trustee Gussow and seconded by Trustee Blomquist. Upon vote the motion carried.

The Village is appealing the FEMA decision on 733 Rt. 9W to award only \$56,000. While waiting to hear something about increasing that amount by another \$56,000, the Village owes Calmart over \$16,000 for work done at the site.

Trustee Devan made a motion to make four (4) installment payments to Calmart from Contingency with the option to BAN the funds if FEMA denies further funding. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Devan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the meeting adjourned.