

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PIERMONT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

July 17, 2007

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

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

Public Comment:

Dennis Hardy requested permission from the Board to have amplified music at the Pavilion on Sunday, August 5, 2007 from 1-5 p.m. He is willing to quiet down or stop if the music disturbs anyone.

The Board did not approve.

Mike Miller – with reference to the new sidewalk on Gair Street Mr. Miller recalls Walter Sevastian stating in March that the Village cannot work on private property. Mr. Miller also asked why the HOA of Piermont Landing was not notified. As of now, the HOA plows and maintains Gair Street and he asked who will clean the new sidewalk.

Walter Sevastian advised that the Village understood it was Phil Griffin's property.

Mr. Miller said that the Village paid for half of the work and it was said that was not proper. Walter Sevastian advised that a licensing easement was given to the Village.

Chief O'Shea introduced Pete Powers of the Marine Corps League. Mr. Powers advised the Board that they would like to honor Art Rittenberg by the addition of a bronze plaque on a stone commemorating him as a decorated Marine. The plaque will be about 18" X 20" and paid in full by the Marine Corps League. They would like to dedicate it on November 10, 2007 which is the Marines' birthday.

Mayor Traynor asked that they please work through Al Bartley and that the Village Board will approve upon receipt of the final drawing.

Trustee Sanders moved to approve the plaque commemorating Art Rittenberg pending approval of the final drawing. Trustee Gussow seconded the motion. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Moran to open the Public Hearing on amendments to Zoning Code. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow and upon vote the motion carried.

The Village Attorney advised that the Code Ad Hoc Committee has been reviewing the Village code for problem areas and has suggested amendments to the following:

1. definition of "Accessory Use"
2. definition of "Dwelling"
3. definition of "Building or Structure"
4. definition of "Accessory building and accessory structure"
5. Creation of a new R-80 Zoning District

#1 through #4 were approved by the R.C. Planning Department and recommended modifications to #5 were noted.

Walter Sevastian suggested holding off on the R-80 Zoning District for further review. The Board agreed.

Board comments:

Trustee Devan asked Trustee Sanders if these amendments are the result of the Ad Hoc Committee and as head of that committee would he comment on these amendments.

Trustee Sanders replied that he felt that the purpose of these were to completely clarify the issues for the Building Inspector and Planning & Zoning Boards.

During the Public Comment portion, a resident asked how many comments were made on the R-80 District and what were they.

The Attorney advised that there were 6 comments – buffer between houses only, a clear indication as to site plan approval for single family homes, preservation of the tree canopy on the ridgeline of the Clausland Mountain had a sentence missing, parking requirements, require maximum development coverage and standards needed to waive requirements of subdivision in R-80 Zone.

Trustee Gussow moved to close the Public Hearing on items #1 through #4. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion to declare no environmental impact and to adopt as drafted was made by Trustee Devan and seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the amendments to the Village code were adopted.

Discussion will continue on the R-80 District at a future meeting.

A motion to open the Public Hearing on Stormwater Management was made by Trustee Sanders and seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the Public Hearing was opened.

The State requires the following:

- developers to contain storm water on sites being developed to protect neighboring property,
- appointment of a Storm Water Management Officer. The Village Board needs to decide who to designate, either the Building Inspector or the Village Engineer,
- a definition of what constitutes land development,
- stormwater pollution prevention plan will be required from any contractor.

Pat Esgate of 733 Rt. 9W advised the Board that all the work she did was negated by the County and their installation of a concrete berm. She said that the Board needs to keep this in mind for the law.

A motion was made by Trustee Devan to continue the Public Hearing to September 25, 2007 at 8:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

A brief discussion was held on the updated Employee Agreements. Trustee Devan suggested that the Board review all aspects that have developed over the years. He added that some issues have no relationship to what the rest of the County is doing. Trustee Devan recommended Phase I to get the basics consistent in their fairness to the employees and the taxpayers. He further suggested Phase II to be a list of criteria for the next Administration.

A workshop was scheduled for August 28, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. begin review of the proposed Employee Agreements.

Rutgers University requested use of the Pier to set up vacuum samplers and other equipment during the day from the 2nd to 4th weeks in August. They are planning to set up and remove equipment each day most of which will take place in the middle of a week depending on the tides. A motion to approve was made by Trustee Gussow and seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

Phil Griffin made a request of the Village Board to extend the sidewalk on Ash Street eliminating 2 parking spaces which would extend the outdoor dining area.

Walter Sevastian stated that this is an amendment to a site plan. John Angelis advised the Board that it would have no negative impact on the area.

Trustee Devan made a motion to amend the site plan as requested which was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

Before escrow is returned to Phil Griffin the Village needs an easement for Gair Street. The Board will have one last meeting to decide what the escrow return will be.

A Bond Resolution in the amount of \$225,000 for Phase I street paving was moved by Trustee Devan and seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the Bond was approved.

With reference to the RFP's for renovations to Village Hall Trustee Devan advised that the Village is working to hire a project manager for the renovations but before the Village refurbishes an obsolete building we are exploring other options. The Board is looking at the Plasterfold property (1/2 acre) to see what can be done and also, the north side of Gair Street grassy area was offered by Phil Griffin.

Veteran's Exemption Levels – the Board will review the numbers in detail at a later date. On August 14, 2007 discussion will begin and a Public Hearing will be scheduled.

Chief O'Shea requested "FOUL BALL AREA – PARK AT YOUR OWN RISK" signs at the Pavilion due to an incident of a car parked at the ball field being hit by a foul ball and being damaged. The Village would limit the liability with these signs. There have been three (3) incidents over the last few years. The Chief requested six (6) signs but will look at the area again to try to reduce the number.

Trustee Sanders made a motion to approve the signs. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

The following Resolution was moved by Trustee Gussow and seconded by Trustee Sanders:

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Piermont acknowledges the conduction and receipt of the most recent audit of the Village of Piermont Justice Court as required by the Uniform Justice court Act (Section 2019-a).

A copy of this resolution and audit report will be forwarded to the NYS Office of Court Administration.

Upon vote the resolution carried.

A motion to transfer the fire boat title from Empire Hose Co. to the Village of Piermont was made by Trustee Sanders and seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gussow to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Moran to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sanders. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gussow to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gussow to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gussow to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sanders. Upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gussow to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sanders. Upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Devan moved to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$240,901.90. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the Warrant was approved.

Trustee Devan made a motion authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to move Village funds into two 30-day CDs in the amount of \$1 million each at 5.25% and to renew at the highest available rate as obtained from at least three banks. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

Brooker Engineering developed a plan for repairs at the Esgate property, 733 Rt. 9W. A bid was received from Calmart in the amount of \$106,000, part of which should be covered by FEMA/SEMO as part of the Nor'easter of April 2007.

Trustee Devan made a motion to authorize Calmart to do the repair work at 733 Rt. 9W pending review and approval of the Brooker Engineering plan by the homeowner and her attorney. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow and upon vote the motion carried.

A meeting was scheduled on the Esgate property at 733 Rt. 9W for Thursday, July 26, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be with the homeowner, Al Bartley, the Village Attorney and Trustees Chris Sanders and Joan Gussow.

Chief Michael O'Shea reported that there will be another baseball camp from July 23 through July 27, 2007. Motion to approve made by Trustee Devan and seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Devan made a motion to approve a new softball league for September and October, run by pro ballplayers, funded by a donation of \$500 per team and all proceeds of the concession stand will go to the Piermont PAL. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

Chief O'Shea further reported that Police Officer Kenneth Marren was injured and out on Worker's Compensation. The Chief also advised the Board that he has discovered that to hire a part-time Officer, he will need to hire from the County list.

A motion was made by Trustee Gussow to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan and upon vote the meeting adjourned.