

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PIERMONT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES METING**  
**November 18, 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:

Joel Rappelfeld advised the Board that he ran an inline skate store in Manhattan and would like to offer rollerblading birthday parties at the Community Center in the gym. He was also interested in using the outdoor basketball court and possibly run a summer program.

Chief O'Shea said that most Saturdays and Sundays are booked by PAL

Mayor Sanders asked the Board how they felt about this request.

Trustee Devan asked if this would effect the floor and Mr. Rappelfeld replied not at all since there are no exposed bolts on the skates and the scuffing of the brake had no effect. Trustee Devan further questioned how many hours the parties would be and would food be served. The parties would average 2 hrs. and any food served would be cleaned up by Mr. Rappelfeld.

Trustee Gussow said that it sounds great and the Village could try it once and see how it goes before committing.

Trustee Moran advised that she is a roller blader and thinks this is a great idea.

Trustee Blomquist said the Village is looking for additional revenues and agrees with Trustee Gussow on the trial skating.

The Mayor stated that each use would be a trial needing individual approval each time.

The agenda was moved to #11. Richard Esnard, representing the Sidewalk Bistro with Alain Eigenmann, spoke to the Board about closing Piermont Avenue on Sunday, July 12, 2008 between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. from Tate Avenue to Ash Street for a Bastille Day Quadricentennial Festival. The Business Association is in agreement and the event also has the Quadricentennial Committee approval.

When asked by the Mayor, Mr. Eigenmann advised that he has held the celebration for 10 years in another location and it is similar to a street fair. It would be for local Piermont businesses only, maybe a live band, bocce tournament and stores selling merchandise on the sidewalks.

Trustee Devan stated that Chief O'Shea calculated a cost of \$5,000 for police coverage of the event. He advised that that is taxpayer's money.

Trustee Gussow added that she was also concerned with the cost.

Chief O'Shea said he would also have the Sheriff's mounted patrol available, officers at Tate and Ash to redirect traffic and walking patrols due to alcohol being served. The estimate is based on other special events. This event being a 12 hour event would also need EMTs and DPW support to the Police Department.

Trustee Blomquist felt this would be a terrific event but also feels the cost is a concern.

Chief O'Shea replied that he has no event overtime in his budget when asked. The Oyster Festival paid for the police coverage in the past.

Mayor Sanders said that a surcharge for special events had been discussed in the past but never acting on. He asked that this be put on next agenda of December 2, 2008.

Trustee Moran said that she like things that bring color to the community and wondered if there was grant money available. If the Village can do it without additional cost she supports it, especially with the economic condition.

The Mayor echoed what Trustee Moran said and is looking towards events for next year with the business district. Starting before noon on a Sunday is not a good idea and the Mayor suggested that Saturday may be a better idea. The Mayor also felt that 12 hours may be a bit too long.

Alain Eigenmann explained that he always finds sponsors for big events but needs to put the event together for the first time. He is currently working on finding sponsors.

Rich Esnard added that sponsors look at the new location and if the event is successful, the sponsors are more readily willing to take part.

The Mayor stated that the Village is not in the promotion business; it manages taxpayer's dollars. He said everyone needs to figure out how to offset some of the expenses and this will be continued at the December 2, 2008 meeting.

The Mayor reopened the Public Hearing on the Cingular Wireless application and advised that the applicant requested this be continued to the December 2, 2008 meeting.

A motion to continue this Public Hearing to December 2, 2008 at 8:15 p.m. was made by Trustee Devan and seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

There are four (4) vehicles to be surplus by the Village and sold at auction with Auction Internationals.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to surplus and sell at auction the 2003 Fire Department Durango, the 2003 Police Ford Crown Victoria, the 2000 Building Department Crown Victoria and the 2000 DPW Chevy Dump Truck. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the motion carried.

The Fire Department 1982 Rescue Vehicle was auctioned off at \$2,700 but the buyer reneged. It is scheduled to go back on auction this week. However, the Mayor advised that Detective Brian Holihan approached him about the Police Department using the Rescue Vehicle.

The Mayor advised that the Village may be able to stop the auction.

Chief O'Shea said that the Police would use the vehicle during DWI and commercial vehicle traffic enforcement checks during which they currently use the Sheriff's Department and State Police Trucks. The vehicle would be painted at no cost and a computer will be put it at no cost also. This brings in about \$5,000 in violations and offenders would not need to be booked on the street. Chief O'Shea further stated that it would be good to have for special events.

Mayor Sanders said that the vehicle sold once for \$2,700 and the Village may get less when it is auctioned a second time. While the Village needs the revenue, we don't want to sell available equipment if another department can use it.

Trustee Moran was in favor of wherever it will be best used.

Trustee Gussow said she was anti-continual acquisition, the Police Chief said he didn't need it and that this was an opportunity not a need.

Trustee Devan commented that the Chief said the department would be more efficient on violations and special events and may generate revenue. The vehicle can always be excessed in future.

Trustee Devan made a motion to remove the Fire Department Rescue Vehicle from the surplus list. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow and upon vote the motion carried.

A Community Playgroup representative was requested to attend this meeting. No one was in attendance. The lease is only paid through August and is to be paid up by the end of November to include December. Mayor Sanders stated that if the tenant is not paying, the Village needs to find a tenant that will. This will be discussed again at the December 2, 2008 meeting.

With reference to the barrier on Hovey Lane, a lawsuit was filed by a resident and a letter from a Sparkill resident's attorney was sent. Both are attempting to compel the Village to remove the barriers. The Village Attorney will answer the court within the time limit. There is nothing further to discuss at this time.

Trustee Devan advised that the Audit for the Fiscal Year 2008 was not yet final but should not be much different from the draft. There is a projected Fund Balance of \$270,163 which is an increase of \$197,250 over the previous year. This occurs when revenues exceed expenditures.

The Management Statement prepared by the Chief Financial Officer advises that future Capital Improvements have been reduced.

Rehabilitation of dam retaining wall – Cal Mart Enterprises submitted a proposal in the amount of \$59,400 for the rehabilitation of the Ferdon dam retaining wall. This project could be performed with labor from the DPW and potentially be paid by CHIPS money. The Board is not considering this at this time, the Highway Supervisor will seek another bid from Cal-Mart with a reduced scope of work.

Trustee Devan made a motion to amend the Agreement between the County of Rockland and the Village of Piermont for the rehabilitation and maintenance of the Bridge Street drawbridge. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran and upon vote the motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Devan to approve the employee agreements with the Highway Supervisor, the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, the clerk-Typist/Spanish speaking, the Court Clerk and the Clerk to Planning and Zoning. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the motion carried.

The Mayor indicated that there were no signed agreements with the Building Department, the Fire Inspector, the DPW Employees or the Village Clerk-Treasurer.

A discussion was held on increasing the limit for Purchase Orders through the Clerk's Office. Trustee Blomquist made a motion to increase the limit for Purchase Orders from \$250.00 to \$500.00. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote the motion carried.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the Clearwater to dock at the Pier April 27 to May 3, 2009 and the Mystic Whaler to dock from May 12 to May 14, 2009. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan and upon vote the motion carried.

A request for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation to hold their 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Strides Walk at the Pavilion on May 3, 2009 will be discussed again on December 2, 2008.

Trustee Moran made a motion to approve the minutes of October 21, 2008. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote the minutes of October 21, 2008 were approved.

Trustee Gussow made a motion to approve the minutes of November 6, 2008. The motion was seconded by Trustee Devan. Upon vote the minutes were approved with Trustee Moran abstaining.

Trustee Devan made a motion to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$379,750.32. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gussow. Upon vote the warrant was approved.

Trustee Gussow and Mayor Sanders met with the Village Engineer on the North Parking Lot plan and feel positive on the outcome.

The Village Holiday Festival will be on Sunday, December 7, 2008 with the tree lighting at 4:00 p.m.

A menorah will be donated for display outside Village Hall by a group of families at no cost to the Village.

The Village Attorney received permission from the Board to move forward on the right of first refusal on the sale of YUDA units and reviewed at the Board immediately preceding or following the notification.

Al Bartley advised that the desilting of the skating pond would be finished November 19, 2008.

Mr. Bartley told the board that he would be filing his retirement papers with New York in April 2009 and retiring effective November 27, 2009. He further advised that Tom Temple took and passed the MEO II –Maintenance Supervisor test.

On December 2, 2008, proposals for drainage repairs to the North Parking Lot will be discussed.

Mayor Sanders asked Al Bartley to once again look into programmable thermostats for the Community Center building.

Chief O'Shea gave his report to the Board and advised that his Sales Tax from the County is higher than expected. He will be looking into downsizing another vehicle for his department to something smaller similar to the Dodge Charger. To date, R.C. Sales Tax to the Police Department is just over \$38,000.

Trustee Devan made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Moran. Upon vote the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.