

8/3/09 - Board of Trustees Meeting

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 3, 2009

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Inc. Village of Brightwaters was held on Monday, August 3, 2009 at 8:00 pm at Village Hall, 40 Seneca Dr., Brightwaters, NY, with the following officers present:

Joseph A. McNulty	Mayor
Charles Fischer	Trustee
Robert W. Fischer	Trustee
John Valdini	Trustee
John P. Finnerty, Esq.	<i>Village Attorney</i>
Christine O'Shea	<i>Village Clerk & Treasurer</i>
Absent: Mary Susan Belford, Trustee	

At 8:04 pm, Mayor McNulty called the meeting to order followed by a salute to the flag. After the Pledge of Allegiance, a motion to approve the minutes of July 6, 2009 as written was offered by Tr. Charles Fischer, seconded by Tr. Bob Fischer and all approved 4/0.

Suffolk County Police Dept. Third Precinct

There was no officer present at this meeting. The July 2009 incident reported had been faxed to the village office and copies were given to the board to review.

Trustee Reports

Highway Dept.

Tr. Bob Fischer read his report for this meeting.....

Preparations for the opening of day camp were completed during the first few days of July. Repaired steps and rail at cabin.

Weekday seaweed clean up at Walker Beach.

Prepared for the Cross Bay Swim as well as the Ice Cream Social.

On going grass cutting and weed-whacking throughout village.

Cleaned drains due to the heavy rains.

Painted village office buildings.

Bulkhead installed around duck-island by Stout Construction.
Restoration is to follow.

Cold patch continued around village.

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The village purchased a new F-550 Ford Cab Chassis with a Stellar Hook System which will be utilized by the highway department.

Tr. Bob Fischer also thanked the hwy. crew for removing the seaweed for the Cross Bay Swim and making the park look beautiful.

Mayor McNulty added that Wohseepee Park looked gorgeous and beautiful for the Ice Cream Social held on Saturday, August 1. After the social and band concert was over the hwy. dept. cleaned up the park and you would never know that hundreds of people had been there.

Lakes and Parks

Tr. Belford was not at this meeting. Mayor McNulty stated that Duck Island had been bulkheaded with treated wood and the cascades have been done and we will trim the lakes later on.

Administration

Tr. Charles Fischer talked about the State of the Village. Our fiscal year ended May 31 and the Village continues to be financial sound and debt free and even allowing us to purchase two new vehicles. We are approaching the 2009 -2010 fiscal year with caution.

Tr. Charles Fischer states that we see many conflicting signs in the economy. It appears the recession may have peaked according to the federal reserve and that it possibly will end by the end of the year. The economy won't turn around unless housing market goes up and unemployment goes down. And unemployment remains high at 9.5% nationwide and is continuing to increase and could hit 10%. However, unemployment in Suffolk County is below the national average at 7.5%. Unfortunately, Long Island is losing jobs at a faster rate than the state (about 3.5% from June 2008).

At the federal level unemployment is growing – unfortunately on our dime. Debt continues to grow exponentially. Gross domestic Product is down, the Federal Deficit is up and growing out of control. Health Care and a new energy policy will not come cheaply either. And don't forget the clunkers program.

At the State level, recently red flags went up too. Sales and state tax revenues are down significantly more than expected... another deficit looms...

At the county and town levels, they too are feeling the pinch. Lower sales and property tax revenues have created budget deficits that will need to be dealt with.

Unfortunately the response at the federal, state and county level is predictable – raise taxes.

At the village level we have not seen any increase in the number of tax delinquencies from previous years and thus we expect tax revenues to be stable. We have concerns that tax revenues may shrink going forward due to lower re-assessments. Revenues from the canal are lower due to

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higher vacancy rates. We remain worried about costs from the MS-4 Stormwater mandates. To date, we have still not seen any stimulus money despite efforts to secure monies. We as trustees have a fiduciary responsibility to you the residents. That will remain one of our primary focuses. As such, we continue to focus on a zero based budget approach that have allowed us to keep taxes down. We are very proud to have eliminated the village debt during these challenging times, and have no plans to change this course of action. Unlike the federal, state and local governments around us, we will continue to balance the budget just like we have done for the last 12 years. And you can be sure that we as trustees will continue to do what is necessary to make this the most desirable village in New York State.

Tr. Charles Fischer moved to approve Abstract Report #3253 for accounts payable vouchers totaling \$38,547.73 - The primary drivers this month were health insurance \$16,000, SCWA hydrant rental charges of \$7,800, and village street sweeping \$4800, - other wise business is as usual and Tr. Bob Fischer seconded and abstract was approved for payment 4/0.

Security

Tr. Valdini mentioned that a neighbor saw someone break into a car at 11:30pm and the neighbor tackled him and held him till the police showed up a half hour later. A resident stated that Iroquois Drive had a car break in too. Another resident stated that she had a disturbing experience at Wohseepee Park; she had seen a boy urinating on the slide. Tr. Valdini said that maybe installing cameras at parks would helpful.

Tr. Valdini stated that Orinoco Drive businesses had graffiti on them from one end of Orinoco to the other.

Carmine Chiappetta said that maybe we should increase the code officers and hire better quality people.

Tr. Valdini continued in saying that garbage had been left at the cabin and neither the hwy. dept. or code officers picked it up. He stated that construction signs are being overlooked and that the code officers should be better in their enforcement. Twelve fence violations were found and letters will be issued. He spoke with Hwy. Forman George Peterson about repainting the crosswalks in the village. Tr. Valdini stated that 32 summons had been issued last month.

Mayor McNulty added that there was no drug sale on record at Walker Park.

Treasurer Report @ July 31, 2009

<i>Municipal checking:</i>		
General Fund	\$	13,688
Payroll Fund		241

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Trust & Agency Fund	1,500
Restoration Fund	552
<i>Investments:</i>	
CLA\$\$ General Fund	1,820,840
CLA\$\$ B.I.G. Fund	12,073

Public

Mayor McNulty opened the floor to the audience for any questions and/or comments, and several issues were discussed –

- Sign pollution
- Top ten code violations should be listed in newsletter
- KeySpan trucks fly down Lombardy Blvd. and don't stop at stop signs
- Stop signs should be installed on cross streets from Concourse West to Bay Way Ave.
- Allways Electric traffic
- Pod permit should be for more than 7 business days
- Geese poop and massive seaweed problem @ beach
- Pedestrians @ crosswalks should be obeyed

Adjourn

At 9:55p.m., there being no further business before the Board, the Mayor called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tr. Charles Fischer made the motion; Tr. Bob Fischer seconded and unanimously carried 4/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine O'Shea
Village Clerk & Treasurer

Public attendance: 20