

**VILLAGE OF TUXEDO PARK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2009
7:30 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Houston Stebbins
Trustee Christopher Hansen
Trustee James Hays
Trustee Charlotte Worthy

Absent: Trustee Shaw

Clerk: John Ledwith, IV

Also: Chief Sanford, Meg Vaught, Mary Graetzer, Mary Grimmig, Dena Steele, Alan Heywood, Michelle & Jake Lindsay, Chiu-yin Hempel, Chris & Sally Sonne, Richard Messer

Mayor Stebbins called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORTS

Mayor Stebbins

Reported that the town supervisor in Chester is upset with the Ravitch Commission's proposal to place a new tax on all State employees to help the fiscally troubled MTA.

FEMA has advised the Village to consider joining the National Flood Insurance program and noted the Village's flood elevation determinations recently developed. The NYSDEC regulates the National Flood Insurance Program. If the Village joins the program, any resident may apply for discounted flood insurance.

Cornell Cooperative Extension is holding a public workshop (2/26) on the mile-a-minute (invasive) weed.

Reported that the financial position of the Village remains strong.

Village Planner Bonnie Franson will assist the Village in applying for Federal/NYS grant funds.

Relocating a water line in the vicinity of the Tuxedo Lake Dam is estimated to cost \$400,000.

Thanked the Environmental committee and the engineers at Princeton Hydro for their work on our lakes and their presentation on their preliminary findings.

Formation of a Precipice and Ridgeline Committee has been able to provide the Board with information never seen before.

Thanked Jeff Voss and Sgt. Sanford for their efforts in keeping the Village running smoothly.

Deputy Mayor Hays

A meeting was held 2/9 in the Town of Tuxedo with regard to Tuxedo Reserve having road access in the area immediately outside of the South Gate. The Town of Tuxedo is considering

changing the designation of this road from an emergency access road to a permanent public road. Any comments or concerns regarding this matter, can be sent to the Town of Tuxedo via e-mail.

The Town and the Village have agreed to share the use and expense of a new sewer jet cleaner. The estimated cost of a new sewer jet cleaner is \$250,000. The Board urged Jeff to negotiate the best price.

Police - Chief Sanford gave a synopsis of the January Police activities.

DPW - Jeff Voss asked that the Board declare a 1997 Chevy mason dump truck surplus. He also explained that he may need additional money to purchase sand for \$5,000 and \$2,500 for salt. No Board action was taken since sand and salt purchases are considered DPW operating supplies in the current budget.

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Trustee Worthy that the 1997 Chevrolet dump truck be declared surplus and that it be sold for fair consideration under the New York State Municipal law.

Vote of the Board: Trustee Hansen – aye
Deputy Mayor Hays – aye
Mayor Stebbins – aye
Trustee Worthy – aye

The motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

Advisory Committees

Infrastructure: Chairman Jake Lindsay reported: soil borings on East Lake Road have been completed; a new cover for the sewer plant clarifier has been purchased; a report on the Chlorine building will be given at the next BOT meeting; consideration is being given to installing a concrete, pre-fab salt storage shed; recommends approving additional monies for W&S to complete the GIS and Model Valuation.

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Trustee Worthy that the Board approve the model calibration process, subtask 2B, in the amount of \$7,500 as proposed in the W&S letter of December 2008.

Vote of the Board: Deputy Mayor Hays – aye
Trustee Hansen – aye
Mayor Stebbins – aye
Trustee Worthy – aye

The motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

VIAC: Alan Heywood is working on two items. Orange & Rockland has repaired the street lights. A survey will be conducted to make sure the lights are working. VIAC is working on the placement of a One-Way sign to be installed on Clubhouse Road between Fox Hill Road and East Lake Stable Road. Additional information will be provided at the Trustee meeting next month.

BUILDING PERMITS – John Ledwith, Building Inspector, reported several items are before the Planning Board and the Board of Architectural Review, but no approvals were granted this month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Speakers: Michelle Lindsay, Jake Lindsay, Sally Sonne, Lucy Edwards, Alan Heywood

Comments: Concern for lack of Village representation on the Town Board and attendance at Town Board meetings; the Town is requesting the new road proposal on South Gate road for Tuxedo Reserve; request for the Board to tighten the Village's financial belt and cut expenses; update information on the Village website; Village taxes increase at the rate of inflation but the Town by 50% and the School by 100%; will the Village get assistance with the cost of the Tuxedo Lake Dam repair.

OLD BUSINESS

PRECIPICE & RIDGELINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - FINAL INTERIM REPORT

Chiu-yin Hempel, Chair of the Committee, gave a presentation on the Final Interim Report which includes lighting standards recommend by Susan Harder.

The Committee will prepare an additional presentation detailing their objectives, methodology, findings and recommendations to be given at an upcoming Trustees meeting.

LOCAL LAW INTRODUCTORY #1 OF 2009 - NOISE LAW

A discussion was held regarding amending the noise law in order to prohibit snow blowing with leaf blowers.

LOCAL LAW INTRODUCTORY #7 OF 2008 - FENCE LAW

PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hays that the public hearing be opened. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

There were no comments from the public.

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hays that the public hearing on the Fence Law be adjourned to February 26, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Vote of the Board: Trustee Hansen – aye
Trustee Worthy – aye
Deputy Mayor Hays – aye
Mayor Stebbins – aye

The motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

PARKLANDS – EAGLE MOUNTAIN ROAD – A brief discussion was held. Additional information and clarification is needed from the Village Attorney.

NEW LOCAL LAW FOR COLD WAR VETERANS EXEMPTION FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION – A brief discussion was held. More information is needed from the Assessor.

SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL FEE REIMBURSEMENT OBLIGATIONS

Tuxedo Park School

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Trustee Worthy that the Board accept the proposed negotiated settlement of the Tuxedo Park School professional review fees in the amount of \$2,449.48.

Vote of the Board: Trustee Hansen – aye
Mayor Stebbins – aye
Deputy Mayor Hays – aye
Trustee Worthy – aye

The motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

CALENDAR FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Monthly Meetings

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Trustee Worthy that the Board of Trustees meetings be moved from the third Wednesday of the month to the second Wednesday of the month in order to accommodate Village Attorney Golden’s schedule, beginning with the April meeting on April 8th.

Vote of the Board: Trustee Hansen – aye
Mayor Stebbins – aye
Trustee Worthy – aye
Deputy Mayor Hays – aye

The motion was passed by a 4-0 vote.

Budget Meetings

Will be scheduled to discuss the preparation and finalization of the 2009-2010 Village Budget. Tentative dates are: February 26, March 4, March 11, and March 20.

Special Meeting

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hays to schedule a special Board of Trustees meeting for tomorrow night, February 19, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. to consider the final drafting of the Clean Hands and SEQRA local laws and to discuss litigation. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

CONSULTING ARCHITECT TO THE BAR – A discussion was held on the hiring of a consulting architect with his/her services to be billed to the BAR applicant. To date five resumes have been received by the BAR Chairwoman.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS - Bills in the amount of \$178,924.76 for the General Fund, claim numbers 2-1 to 2-91 and \$29,890.94 for the Water Fund, claim numbers W2-1 to W2-15 were audited and ordered paid.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hays that the Board enter Executive Session at 11:15 p.m. to hold an Attorney-Client meeting and to discuss DEC enforcement action and Village personnel matters. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

RE-OPEN REGULAR SESSION

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Trustee Worthy that the regular session be re-opened at 12:14 a.m. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mayor Stebbins, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hays that the meeting be adjourned at 12:15 a.m. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Ledwith IV
Deputy Village Clerk-Treasurer