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VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
FOURTH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

VILLAGE OF TUXEDO PARK
P.O. BOX 31
TUXEDO PARK, NEW YORK 10987

Mary Jo Guinchard
Mayor

January 7, 2016

Dear Residents and Neighbors:

On behalf of the Village Board of Trustees, I hope that you had a joyous holiday season and wish you all a happy and prosperous 2016.

This is the fourth Mayor's newsletter to the Village since I took office on July 6, 2015. Previous versions of these newsletters can be found on the Village website at www.tuxedopark-ny.gov under the heading "Mayor's Newsletter". Going forward, I feel it is in the best interest for our budget to have as many of the mailings, as possible, of the Mayor's newsletter to coincide with the quarterly mailings of the water bill for those on Village water (for those not on Village Water, the newsletter will be mailed separately). In interim months, please check the Village Website periodically for any information that I, the Trustees, or the Village Office feel necessary to communicate to our residents.

Sale of Old Hill Road and two smaller parcels

On December 12, 2015, (1) a majority of the Village Board of Trustees voted in favor of discontinuing a portion of Old Hill Road (and two smaller parcels). On December 17, 2015, a majority of the Village Board of Trustees voted in favor of selling such portion of Old Hill Road (and the two smaller parcels) to Village residents Michael Bruno and Alexander Jakowec. The process for the discontinuance and sale of such "paper" roads/parcels was open and there was a public hearing in addition to open meetings (including public comments) in which such discontinuance and sale was discussed. The agreement can be viewed at the Village Office for specific details.

In 1953, with the creation of the newly incorporated Village of Tuxedo Park, the Tuxedo Park Associates ("TPA") gifted all roads owned by TPA and located within the boundaries of the Village to the newly created municipality. There exists a color-coded map (recorded in Orange County at Goshen, NY) showing all of the roads that were gifted at that time (this 1953 color-coded map can be viewed at the Village office). There were three classifications of gifted roads: "roads", "dirt roads" and "abandoned roads" and each type of gifted road had a different color-coding. Both Old Hill Road and a portion of Brook Farm Road (which connects Old Hill Road to West Lake Road) were both color-coded as two of various "abandoned roads" from the original gifting of the roads in 1953, as well as the two smaller parcels.

To my knowledge, since 1953, at least 5 of these originally gifted roads (or portions thereof) have been sold to Village residents under previous Boards of Trustees. Historically, the sales of such roads were approved by BOT resolutions without public hearings. The ownership of each one of these previously sold Village roads can be viewed at the Village Office.

As a condition for their purchase of a portion of Old Hill Road, Mssrs. Bruno and Jakowec agreed to provide a perpetual easement for Village residents to continue to use such portion of Old Hill Road as a hiking trail. Such permanent easement forms part of the deed and is recorded with Orange County in Goshen, NY.

The prices for the sale of all parcels subject of the agreement were determined by independent appraisal and survey. The agreement provided for a combined purchase price for three of the parcels of \$24,768. Such amount is already deposited in the Village account. An additional \$14,324 shall remain in escrow until the Village conveys an additional parcel identified on the 1953 Map as the abandoned portion of Brook Farm Road (with perpetual easement

as well) to Mssrs. Bruno and Jakowec upon exercise of an option to acquire such parcel (details are also contained in the agreement available at the Village Office).

The “Keep”

Thank you to Tom Salierno and Alan Yassky who are still busy making sure that the project is moving along as smoothly as possible. The Police Gate Guards continue to operate from the “Keep”, which was the original police headquarters for the Village. In response to the New York State Labor Department’s demands regarding working conditions at the Keep, the Village has continued to improve the Keep, such improvements include replacement of two of three roofs with cedar shake (the third roof will also be replaced with cedar shake). The upper window casings have been installed and the upper custom replacement windows will be installed in January 2016. The entire building now has central heating and central air conditioning. All of the pointing of the extensive (3-story) stone masonry structure has been completed. A bulletproof door with a keypad combination lock has been installed and bulletproof glass has been installed throughout the Gate Guard area within the Keep. The scaffolding surrounding the Keep has been taken down. Any further work on the third (lower) roof and installation of upper windows can be done either with ladders or from the interior. Further interior renovation work continues.

Mssrs. Bruno and Jakowec also provided a donation to the Village for \$360,904 for the purpose of improving the “Keep” and other structures at the main entrance of the Village. Such amount is already deposited in the Village account. Many thanks to Mssrs. Bruno and Jakowec for their donation of which will have a lasting impact for Village residents.

We are still planning several Special Meetings of the BOT to discuss the pros and cons with the public of (1) rebuilding a much more reinforced Booth, (2) having the Gate Guards continue to operate from the Keep and (3) any other solutions being put forward by the Village residents, Boards, and employees. Renderings from both architects submitting designs for the police booth etc. will be posted soon on the Village website including location of physical renderings available for public view.

Through our insurance company, the Village has already received advances on the claim. The motorist’s insurance policy has acknowledged the claim and has it under review.

To date, the Village has incurred \$311,854 for improvements to the “Keep”. Of this money, \$135,000 has been received from insurance claims.

Pilgrim Pipeline Update

The NYDEC and the NYS Thruway Authority will serve as co-lead agencies for the environmental review of the Pilgrim Transportation of New York, Inc.’s application currently pending before the Thruway Authority.

Village Code

Local Law Introductory #2 of 2015 prohibiting petroleum pipelines in the Village of Tuxedo Park was reviewed by the Orange County Planning Department. The County stated: “We appreciate the Village’s effort to protect its drinking water source (Tuxedo Lake), its historical value as a National Register for Historic Places District, and its residents’ best interest.” The next step is for your Trustees to adopt it as a local law.

Tree City USA

On December 8, 2015 the Village of Tuxedo Park celebrated Arbor Day and applied to become a Tree City, USA with a ceremony at Village Hall. Chiu-Yin Hempel was honored as the first recipient of the Village of Tuxedo Park Arbor Day 2015 with a Dwarf Alberta Spruce Tree, which was planted at the main entrance on the following day. Special thanks given to Humberto Cavalheiro for the donation of the tree. The ceremony and planting was conducted with the assistance of the Tuxedo Park DPW, the Village Mayor/Board of Trustees, the Tree Committee Chairperson, Humberto, and residents. The Arbor Day ceremony also included the passage of the Village Tree Ordinance, the signing of the Arbor Day Proclamation and the establishment of the 2015/16 Tree Committee. The members of the newly formed Tree Committee include: Chiu-Yin Hempel (Chairman), Dena Steele, Christopher Gow, Jack Kilgore and Jeff Voss. The Tree Committee promotes environmentally friendly maintenance and planting of trees throughout

the Village including applying for grants to support such efforts. Informational updates from the Tree Committee will be forthcoming this spring as well as their official committee name.

Wee Wah Dam

The Wee Wah Dam remains a top priority. Clough, Harbour & Associates LLP (CHA), headquartered in Albany, New York, the Village engineering firm for dams, is proceeding on schedule. With regard to timeline, CHA is hoping that the engineering study will be done by spring 2016, construction by Q4 2016-Q1 2017, and completion by Q2 2017.

Lakes

Unseasonably warm weather during November and December caused a blue-green algae bloom at various areas on Tuxedo Lake. In response, a copper sulfate algaecide treatment was successfully applied on December 18, 2015.

Orange & Rockland (O&R)

Please visit www.oru.com to sign up to receive alerts of power outages that may affect you, to report outages, etc. There is also an O&R mobile app for your smart phone that you will find most helpful. It is critical that when there is a power outage, you always report such outage to O&R directly either by phone (877-434-4100), online, or text. Each report is logged in and helps O & R to locate the areas of impact.

CodeRed

We encourage all residents to sign up to receive CodeRed announcements. If you haven't done so already, please go to the Village website at www.tuxedopark-ny.gov and click on CodeRed to sign up. If you don't have computer access or wish to speak to someone, please call CodeRed at 866-939-0911.

From Deputy Mayor Gluck, TrusteePaul10987@gmail.com, Conservation Easements

In mid-December, agreements were signed for conservation easements involving the land parcels to be transferred to the Village and the Town by affiliates of The Related Companies, the developer of the Tuxedo Farms development, under the Special Use Permit governing the development. The Orange County Land Trust has agreed to be the holder of the conservation Easements, which implement the requirement that the parcels be maintained as "open space". A closing is anticipated early in the year.

From Trustee Guazzoni, TrusteeClaudio10987@gmail.com, Water Utility

Due to the high cost of providing all of its customers clean flowing water, the Board governing the Water Utility owned by the Village voted to raise water rates for all customers (Village of Tuxedo Park and the Hamlet in Tuxedo, Residential & Commercial) after a public hearing regarding this issue was held on December 29, 2016. Residential rates increased from 1.097 cents per gallon to 1.371 cents per gallon. Commercial rates increased from 1.348 cents per gallon to 1.685 cents per gallon. This increase will appear in the water bill for the first quarter of 2016. We have also stepped up collection efforts and are installing shut off valves for customers who never were supplied with them. The increase is regrettable, but unfortunately necessary to have our water.

From Jeff Simet (Chairman, Emergency Response Committee), jssimet@aol.com

I have met with various County leaders in emergency planning, and have come up with a plan to effectively and efficiently ensure our residents' safety in the event of an emergency. I have created "neighborhoods" among our full time residents. I would like to have a volunteer "captain" for each "neighborhood". These captains would be responsible for checking in with their respective neighbors to ensure their safety in the event of an emergency. If you would like to be involved, please email Jeff Simet at jssimet@aol.com.

From Maureen Coen (Chairman, Financial Committee), mrcoen@optonline.net

It's that time of year again--budget time! We wanted to make the residents aware that the next budget workshop will

be held on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 7pm in the Village Hall. There will be many more workshops, a public hearing and as dates are confirmed, they will be posted on the website. The 2016/17 budget must be adopted by May 01, 2016. The finance committee would be very pleased to hear your ideas on expense reductions or ways in which we can increase revenues in the Village. Please submit your ideas by forwarding to Maureen Coen to suggestions@tuxedopark-ny.gov .

Suggestions

Your suggestions are always important. The Board of Trustees will be given all suggestions to review and, if warranted, discussed at the meeting following such suggestion. E-mail to suggestions@tuxedopark-ny.gov, mail, drop off in person, or after hours slide under door to:

Village of Tuxedo Park
Attn: Suggestions
80 Lorillard Road
P. O. Box 31
Tuxedo Park, NY 10987

Reminder

Check the website for updates and dates of various Village board meetings.

Next Board of Trustees Meetings

January 26, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

February 23, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

March 22, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

April 26, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

May 24, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

Village Office
80 Lorillard Road
Tuxedo Park, NY 10987

Mayor of the Village of Tuxedo Park Open House

Come as you are and stop by to say hello or discuss anything on your mind

194 East Lake Road
Tuxedo Park, NY 10987

3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Sunday, March 13, 2016

Help us to be green, to reduce paper use and postage costs. You can elect to receive future editions of this newsletter via e-mail by sending your name(s) and e-mail addresses to suggestions@tuxedopark-ny.gov and requesting to be put on the newsletter email distribution list. Please state whether you will like only electronic, mail, both, or neither.

As always, please call, text, email, or come see me at your convenience. To accommodate your calendar, I am always available at the Village Office by appointment. Please note, I have re-scheduled my standing office hours to Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Regards,



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