

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PIERMONT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
January 22, 2019**

Present: Mayor Bruce Tucker, Trustee Ivanya Alpert, Trustee Rob Burns, Trustee Nate Mitchell, Walter Sevastian, Esq. -Village Attorney and Jennifer DeYorgi-Village Clerk-Treasurer.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist was not present.

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

Item #1 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

Trustee Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes for January 8, 2019. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #2 – Approval of Warrant

Mayor Tucker made a motion to approve Warrant #012219 in the amount of \$98,613.52. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #3 – Department Reports

Department of Public Works - Highway Superintendent Tom Temple was not present.

Police Department – Chief Michael O’Shea stated they have a new reporting system from a Dominican lottery, so it didn’t cost anything. It has been very effective. He went over his report with the Board. They are going to have 3 police drone pilots and 2 fire department pilots. He awarded Officer Peter Boutros with Chief’s day for his efforts the last 5 months of 17 DWI arrests. They are working on drug programs. They had a very good year and that is going to continue and improve and most of that is because of the new officers.

Building Department - Building Inspector Charles Schaub was not present.

Parks Department – Dan Sherman was not present.

Fire Department – Chief Don Hardy was not present.

Item #4 - Old Business

Village Clerk-Treasurer stated DASNY has requested that we sign a new agreement before the issue of payment for the train station grant. Trustee Burns made a motion for Mayor Tucker to sign the agreement with DASNY so we can receive the remaining grant funds for the train station. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Village Attorney stated a resident wrote saying they had an easement that they thought the Village should be maintaining on their property boundary at 900 Piermont Avenue. He wrote to them asking for a copy of the Easement Agreement or their survey and did a follow-up letter. He was contacted, and it does indicate the Village is not responsible for the easement.

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Also, the LWRP code revision language is in process. He has been talking to Bob Galvin to bring that up to speed.

Mayor Tucker had no old business to discuss.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist was not present.

Trustee Alpert had no old business to discuss.

Trustee Burns had no old business to discuss.

Trustee Mitchell had no old business to discuss.

Item# 5 New Business

Village Clerk-Treasurer informed the Board we received the letter from Una McHugh today stating she wanted to have her Fun Run on May 18th which is a Saturday and the day before Gran Fondo. She spoke to Una and she is willing to move her event to May 11th, which is the Saturday earlier. She will amend her letter and submit for May 11th with an Economic Development Application, which she will give also give to the Chief to review. Also, the Village of Grand View's lease expires on January 31, 2019, it is a one-year lease. They are currently paying \$3,000 a month. Mayor Tucker suggested a \$100/month increase, which is a 3.3% increase for the year. Trustee Burns stated costs are going up. Trustee Mitchell asked how much square footage they are renting? Mayor Tucker stated it is two large rooms. Mayor Tucker made a motion to increase Village of Grand View lease 3.8% for \$100/month. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays. Village Attorney will draft a new lease and give same to Village Clerk-Treasurer.

Village Attorney had no new business to discuss.

Trustee Burns had no new business to discuss.

Mayor Tucker asked Village Attorney if Piermont has a mandatory recycling law? Village Attorney stated not to his knowledge, he never wrote one. Mayor Tucker stated the Town of Orangetown has one. Trustee Alpert asked how you enforce that? Mayor Tucker stated he would like to look into this, he thinks it might be a State law. Trustee Alpert stated she doesn't know how they would know unless they are looking through your garbage bags. Trustee Mitchell stated some place do give you a ticket if you have recyclables in municipal waste. Village Attorney stated he will look into this. Mayor Tucker requested an executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

Trustee Alpert stated they spoke about the 15-minute spots and what to do about the signage at the Traffic Committee meeting and there is a big difference between stores (wine shop and market) that don't feel like they are getting their needs met because everyone is staying longer in those spots and other stores that need longer parking (salon, etc.). The committee came up with doing 4, 15-minute spots and 4, 2-hour spots. She spoke with the Chamber of Commerce and they felt like that probably wasn't enough of the 2-hour parking. They recommended 2-spots on one side by the market and one spot by the wine shop, which ends up being a lot more signage. A compromise is to increase the 15-minute to 30-minute. Mayor Tucker's suggestion is to discuss at the next traffic committee and come to the Board with a proposal.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist was not present.

Trustee Mitchell had no new business to discuss.

Item #6 Other Non-Agenda Items:

None.

Item #7 Presentation to the Gerhardt Family

Mayor Tucker stated, unfortunately, Mrs. Gerhardt is still not feeling well, and this item will be postponed pending confirmation from the Gerhardt's.

Item #8 7:45pm Public Hearing for Rental Registry

Village Attorney stated the idea of a rental registry in a municipality is if people are renting out their properties and the Village doesn't know about it, it would be helpful for emergency service responders and give the Village the opportunity to inspect for fire safety standards what doesn't really qualify as a multi-family unit (3 units and above) one and two-family homes. Many municipalities are looking at these rental registry laws that require when you rent out all or part of your home to register with the Village. There are penalties in the law, but it can be difficult getting it off the ground from an administrative standpoint. The building department is the key element in this as they are aware of a lot of rental properties. The law essentially requires them to fill out a form and notify the Village they have a rental property on their premises and allow us to come in once a year to make sure it is safe. He drafted a local law and a form letter to be sent out to owners. The question is how this will be done. It makes sense to do this through the Building Department, but they don't have full time people there. In the beginning it is labor intensive. We cannot get a big fee out of it. Mayor Tucker asked if we post a notice for this? Mayor Tucker stated we can post it on our website, announce it at meetings. Some people resist because some apartments aren't supposed to be there. Village Clerk-Treasurer suggested we can put a notice in with the tax bills at the end of May also.

Trustee Burns made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:53pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Public Comment

Margaret Grace, 22 Stevenson Street – Asked if this applies to a single-family house with two units?

Village Attorney stated yes, under the State Law we do multiple residence inspections in the Village if there are 3 or more units in a building. We do not have an opportunity to go in unless we have granted a special permit. A pre-existing non-confirming 2-family would now require rental registry to ensure it complies with fire codes.

Trustee Burns made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:55pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Mitchell made a motion to accept the resolution as drafted. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #9 8:00pm Public Hearing 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program

Trustee Burns made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:56pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

No public comment.

Trustee Burns made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:57pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Burns made a motion to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #10 Discuss proposal for Firehouse addition

Al Bartley, on behalf of the members and officers of Empire Hose Company, stated they have reached a point where they need to make some necessary safety changes at the firehouse and he is here on their behalf to reach out to the Mayor and the Board to set up a meeting in the near future to discuss the ongoing issues they have at the firehouse today. The firehouse is two buildings. When you face it, the right side is a two-story brick building, which is owned by the Village. It was built in 1851 and is 168 years old. It was built and owned by the Village of Piermont. The firehouse to the left of it, was originally a one-story brick building built in 1954 that belongs to the Empire Hose Company, which is a social organization within the fire department. Empire Hose Company is not tax payer money, it is membership money. Piermont Fire Department is Village taxpayer money.

Mayor Tucker asked the bays where the trucks sit is owned by who?

Al Bartley stated the biggest part of the building, which is Empire Hose Company, houses the 4 pieces of apparatus and the Village owned building houses the ambulance and second story on the building that the fire company owns was built by the fire company by their man power. Both stories were built by their man power in 1984. They have some safety issues they have been concerned with for a while. They had discussed amongst themselves in the Fire Company, one of the main issues is they are housing 4 pieces of apparatus on the lower floor. There is a maximum 2 feet between each truck. How do you have all these men and women gearing up trying to get ready for a call. As a driver, he grimaces every time they try to pull out. They are used to doing this for so many years, but they have had so many near misses with calls. People getting hurt. They would like to set up a meeting with the Mayor and the Board and their committee and some point, either at Village Hall or the firehouse, they could make a more formal presentation. It is a serious matter. They never ask for anything. They give of themselves and always will. They are asking for the Board's help and want to discuss options as well as residents and taxpayers.

Mayor Tucker asked if there is any room to expend the present building?

Al Bartley stated the only place is on the southside. They have briefly discussed that with an architect and it 14 feet, by 52 feet upper and lower, but it is too premature to discuss that now, but they need to make more room downstairs somehow.

Item #11 Request for Gran Fondo New York to hold their annual bike event on Sunday, May 19, 2019

Chief stated we are all set with this. They come through at 7am and even the small riders are done at 9:30am and the afternoon are up top and don't affect the downtown businesses. They are well run and do it every year. They pay for everything. There is no cost to us. This year it will be closer to 6,000 riders.

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Trustee Burns made a motion to approve the Gran Fondo's application to hold their annual bike event on Sunday, May 19, 2019. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #12 Public Comment

None.

Item #13 Executive Session to discuss personnel matter

Trustee Burns made a motion to enter Executive Session at 8:04pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Mitchell made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:42pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Item #14 Adjournment

Trustee Alpert made a motion at 8:42pm to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 4 ayes and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer DeYorgi
Clerk-Treasurer