

**INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PIERMONT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
November 19, 2019**

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

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

Mayor Bruce Tucker requested an Executive Session for personnel matter.

Item #1 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

Deputy Mayor Blomquist made a motion to approve the minutes for October 5, 2019. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #2 – Approval of Warrant

Deputy Mayor Blomquist made a motion to approve Warrant #110719 in the amount of \$16,082.00 and Warrant# 111919 in the amount of \$93,417.65 for a grand total of \$109,500.65. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #3 – Department Reports

Department of Public Works - Highway Superintendent Tom Temple turned in his monthly report. The truck exclusions signs have been installed on Paradise Avenue and the Northshore Walkway signs have been changed to reflect the gate close time due to end of daylight savings. Leaf collection runs through December 6th. Lastly, the Village's Workers Comp carrier did safety walk through and reported DPW is in overall good condition. The Village Hall floor is scheduled to be redone the end of December.

Police Department – Sgt. James Hurley, Officer in Charge, reported that their scanners are almost complete, and he is hoping to impellent them by January 1st. The Officers will soon be going to bail reform training. PAL will be delivering baskets to 14 families in the Village next week and they are also accepting toys and gift cards for Piermont families for Christmas which can be dropped off at PD or the Clerk's office.

Building Department - Building Inspector Charles Schaub was not present.

Parks Department – Dan Sherman was not present.

Fire Department – Daniel Goswick, Jr. informed the Board the PFD/Piermont Dive Team will be having a memorial service at the end of the Pier for a fallen fellow firefighter on Thanksgiving morning. Additionally, beginning Thursday November 21, 2019 through January 1st from north or Rite Street to Tappan Zee Bridge, 27 fire hydrants will be out of service due to the water main repairs on River Road.

Item #4 - Old Business

Village Clerk-Treasurer reminded the Board the Solar Panel public hearing was moved to December 17, 2019 due to the Planning Board meeting. Further, Connect One Bank submitted a proposal with their rate currently at 1.5%. Our rate with Sterling Bank is .25%. Mayor Tucker

Village of Piermont Board of Trustee Minutes
November 19, 2019
Page 2 of 6

made a motion to transfer all of the funds from Sterling Bank into Connect One Bank and to make Connect One Bank an authorized depository for the Village. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays. Additionally, S&S Fire Suppression was previously inspecting the sprinklers at the Firehouse for \$1,060/year and is no longer in business. The Fire Department would like to use W & M Fire Protection Services for sprinkler inspections at \$1,150/year. Trustee Burns made a motion to enter into contract with W & M Fire Protection Services. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mark Blomquist and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays. Lastly, we are going to BAN \$1.2 mil for the 2020 capital items and roll over two renewing BANs. She advised the board our advisor, Beth Ferguson, has a new company, Fiscal Advisors, and we would like to stay with her. Trustee Burns made a motion to sign an agreement with Fiscal Advisors. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Village Attorney had no old business to discuss.

Mayor Tucker received a letter from Rockland County Drainage that the remediation on Gair Street is complete, the equipment should be removed in about two weeks and they will be installing a fence over the winter.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist had no old business to discuss.

Trustee Alpert had no old business to discuss.

Trustee Burns told the Board the photo boards are complete for Village Hall.

Trustee Mitchell had no old business to discuss.

Item# 5 New Business

Village Clerk-Treasurer told the Board Camdru productions has requested to film December 5th and 6th overnight at the end of the Pier with a boat and two small barges. They will be paying dockage fees, police fees and regular application fees.

Mayor Tucker stated he had no new business to discuss.

Village Attorney had no new business to discuss.

Trustee Burns had no new business to discuss.

Trustee Alpert had no new business to discuss.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist had no new business to discuss.

Trustee Mitchell had no new business to discuss.

Item #6 Resolution to appoint James T. Hurley as Provisional Chief of the Piermont Police Department and Officer in Charge

Deputy Mayor Blomquist made a motion to appoint James T. Hurley as Provisional Chief of the Piermont Police Department and Officer in Charge. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Mayor Tucker swore in Sgt. Hurley as Provisional Chief of the Piermont Police Department and Officer in Charge.

Item #7 7:45pm Public Hearing to amend Section 190 of the Code of the Village of Piermont, entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” specifically as pertains to regulating parking at electric car charging stations within the Village of Piermont

Village Attorney stated this is a local law to accommodate the new EV charging station to ensure vehicles that park in that spot are utilizing the charger.

Trustee Burns made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:54pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Public Comment: None

Trustee Burns made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:54pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Burns made a motion to adopt the regulations. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Blomquist and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #8 7:45pm Public Hearing to Adopt the Local Law #11 of 2019 – A local law to amend the Village Code to regulate Garage and Yard Sales in the Village of Piermont

Village Attorney stated this is an amendment to the Village code for garage and yard sales in residential neighborhoods with the view toward controlling traffic and impact on residential properties in the event the garage sales cause an imposition on neighbors.

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 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Public Comment:

Mayor Tucker stated the idea is not to eliminate garage sales but limit them to two per year per SBL.

Kathleen Puder, 234 Ferdon Avenue- She is in favor of the proposal, but asked if Saturday and Sunday count as one? Village Attorney responded yes.

Mitchell Warren, 462 Piermont Avenue - He asked the Board to consider more than two garage sales a year. He is trying to eliminate 12 years of accumulation at his Barn sales and believes these items become unnecessary waste when cannot be repurposed/sold. He gave examples how yard sales reduce the environmental impact of our throwaway society and if not sold, the items create a burden on bulk trash and landfills and how casual sales bring people to the Village.

Steve Moscatello – He enjoys garage sales would like to see four per year instead of two.

Kevin Fagan, 590 Piermont Avenue – He thinks two is not enough days, especially for families who are trying to move/estate sales. He asked if businesses that sell on the sidewalk are now going to have to abide by this? Village Attorney responded, no, this applies to the residential district.

Lori Jacobs, 169 Piermont Avenue – She read a letter from Carol Cameron asking for five yard sales per year and also discussing how yard sales help keep waste out of landfills.

Village Clerk- Treasurer – Read a letter from resident Barbara Besso-Moore of 720 Piermont Avenue who was against regulating garage sales.

Trustee Burns made a motion to close the public hearing at 8:08pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Burns stated after listening to the residents, he is in favor of increasing the amount of yard sales to six.

Trustee Burns made a motion to amend the local law to six garage sales, a weekend considered one day. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #9 7:45pm Continuation of Public Hearing to vacate/discontinue a portion of Main Street (Piermont Avenue) right of way adjacent to 493 and 499 Piermont Avenue

Village Attorney gave background on this property and stated it was put over from the last meeting for any additional documentation to be submitted to the Board.

Trustee Burns made a motion to open the public hearing at 8:11pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Public Comment

Sandra Kosman, Orangeburg – She is before the Board to support Ki Park (494 Piermont Avenue) as she believes Ms. Park has proved through recorded documents that she owns the land in question, and it came with her property purchased in 2013 which she pays yearly taxes on. She asked since the Village has not provided any documentation to prove otherwise, would they consider discontinuing and not pursue this issue? She discussed a deed from 1975 and the owner of such, which Village Attorney asked her to provide a copy of same.

Trustee Burns and Village Attorney discussed the issue of title insurance company providing coverage. Village Attorney has not received such letter and no taxes have been paid on this alleyway. Village Attorney indicated he asked Don Lynch to look into back title search on this property.

Trustee Burns made a motion to continue the public hearing to December 17, 2019 to get an answer from Mr. Lynch. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #10 Piermont Fire Department proposal for new ladder truck

Alan Bartley gave an information packet to the Board and members of the audience. The estimated cost of the truck they are looking at is approximately \$1,061,000. The Village will save approximately \$32,000 by ordering by February 1st as there is a 3% increase every February. The Bloomingburg Fire Department is interested in purchasing their current ladder truck for \$70,000. The Pierce Pumper and Ambulance were previously purchased by Empire Hose members Mr. & Mrs. Henderson, not the Village and the company is no longer able to continue purchasing trucks and ambulances using their own funds. Mayor Tucker asked why? Mr. Bartley responded they are no longer in a financial position to do so.

Trustee Alpert asked if we do not have a ladder trucks and we are relying on Sparkill and Nyack, how does that change response times and why do we need one if they have the trucks. Mr. Bartley responded per Standard Operating Procedure, the ladder truck is at the front of a call and if we have to wait for Sparkill or Nyack to come, that causes a big delay. They take pride in what they do and realize this is a lot of money, but they can't hang onto a 30-year truck that much longer.

Chief Daniel Goswick, Jr. stated during the day for a volunteer Fire Department, it is very hard for people to get out and they cannot rely on another Village to get to a structure fire. The ladder truck is a key piece of equipment at a fire that they cannot wait for.

Captain Daniel Goswick, Sr. stated they cannot raise funds like in the past because their training is constant. EMT classes, dive training, angle rescue training and fire training is every week, so they do not have time to fundraise. A local Fire District is looking to have a paid department during the day, and we are very fortunate to get people out in this Village and we cannot rely on other Villages.

Deputy Mayor Blomquist stated they are aware this is a lot of money, but it will be paid off over 30 years. It works out to about \$37-\$47/year per household for 30 years.

Mayor Tucker made a motion to allow the Piermont Fire Department to go out to bid for a new ladder truck. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burns and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #11 Review proposed 2020 Village Board meeting schedule

Trustee Burns approved the proposed 2020 Village Board meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #12 Authorize the Mayor to enter into agreement with Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc.

See New Business.

Item #13 Resolution to accept proposal from Revize for website development and support for the Village of Piermont

Village Clerk-Treasurer reminded the Board of the proposal from Revize for the new Village website, with a proposed amount of \$4,228 for the 1st through 3rd years and \$1,975 after the site is established.

Trustee Burns asked how this compares to what we pay now. Village Clerk-Treasurer responded it doesn't as Tim doesn't charge strictly for web services.

Trustee Alpert asked Village Clerk-Treasurer if she got estimates from other companies and how did this compare? Village Clerk-Treasurer stated she did, but no one else offered a payment plan, except Revize.

Trustee Mitchell asked if the \$4,228 is for web hosting and web development? Village Clerk-Treasurer responded both and it should take about a year to get up and running. Trustee Mitchell stated his concern is any other charges that may arise and how to opt out should we wish to down the road. Village Clerk-Treasurer will send the proposal to Village Attorney to review.

Trustee Mitchell made a motion to accept proposal from Revize for website development and support for Village of Piermont, subject to acceptable termination language. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Blomquist and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Item #14 Public Comment

Mitchell Warren - Requested putting the public hearing notices/agendas in the box outside Village Hall and online earlier than the Friday before a meeting. Mayor Tucker stated they would try to have them posted the Thursday before a meeting.

Jim Elling, Sparkill Creek Watershed Alliance – He was before the Board to discuss the issue of the water chestnuts in Sparkill Creek and thanked Nate Mitchell and the Fire Department for removing 1,000 pounds of water chestnut. He said Lindsay Yoder, who is funded by the DEC, has offered to bring 5 people to remove the water chestnuts in mid-June when they bloom at no cost. He also gave a packet to the Board.

Patricia Habas, Attorney representing YP Properties LLC (Ki Park)– She would like the Village to reconsider their position on this as the Village has not provided a deed or any other evidence. Village Attorney stated the purpose of the public hearing continuance was to allow Mr. Lynch time to research back title on this property. Ms. Habas asked that Mr. Lynch reach out to her.

Item #15 Executive Session to discuss personnel matter

Trustee Burns made a motion to enter Executive Session at 9:01pm. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Blomquist and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Trustee Burns made a motion to exit Executive Session at 9:20pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitchell and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Item #16 Adjournment

Trustee Burns made a motion at 9:21pm to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alpert and so carried with a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer DeYorgi,
Clerk-Treasurer