

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 14, 2011**

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting of March 14, 2011, at the Village Municipal Building, 167 North Main Street, Liberty New York. Mayor Winters opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Richard Winters, Trustee Joan Stoddard, Trustee Shirley Lindsley, Trustee Corinne McGuire and Trustee Luis Alvarez. Also Present: Langdon Chapman, Attorney for the Village and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Henrich Strauch, Daniel Ratner Sr., Daniel Ratner Jr., Peter Parks, William Cogswell, Edward Philpot, Etta Barbanti, Deb Manley, Jack Tompkins, Dave Ohman (Delaware Engineering), Kevin Norris (Delaware Engineering), Nick Piatek, George Stang, Jeremy Gorlick, Daniel Ratner Sr., Daniel Ratner Jr., Dale Vandenberg, Ronald McGrath, Daniel Fagnani, Charlie Barbuti, Etta Barbanti and Roger Horihan.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Trustee Lindsley, seconded by Trustee Stoddard and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

**PUBLIC HEARING - FEBRUARY 14, 2011**

Motion by Trustee Lindsley, seconded by Trustee McGuire and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

**REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 14, 2011**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mayor Winters said the Village has received and sent the following correspondence and it is available for review in the Clerk's Office:

### **INCOMING**

- Check from NYSERDA Re: Pump 2/22/11
- Check from Sull. Cty Re; DWI Reimbursement 2/24/11
- Letter from SC Manager Re: ProAct Prescription Card 2/25/11
- Letter from Rante Re: Envizn Services 2/14/2011
- Letter from P. Meltzer Re: Yeshiva Ahavas 2/24/2011
- Letter from McGoey, Hauser and Edsall Re: Professional Services 2/9/2011
- Letter from NYS Re: CHIPS 3/7/2011

### **OUTGOING**

- Letter to M. Vanyo - LCHS Re: Fire Lane 2/16/11

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor Winters opened the meeting to comments from the Public.

Henrich Strauch - Liberty CDC

Henrich discussed the Emergency CDBG Loan Program and the fact that he has been asked to research the possibility of doing it again to help Village businesses that have had a rough winter. He suggested the loans be for \$3,000 at two (2%) percent interest with a repayment of twelve (12) months.

CONSIDER VOTE ON CDBG EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAM

Motion by Trustee McGuire, seconded by Trustee Lindsley and unanimously carried approving the Emergency CDBG Loan Program to Village businesses that qualify to receive the funding. The loans will be for \$3,000 each with an interest rate of two (2%) percent and a repayment of one year.

The program will be earmarked at \$30,000 maximum and will contain the following amendment from the previous program:

If the business is in an installment tax contract to bring their taxes current they will be eligible to apply.

Roger Horihan - 6 North Main Street

Roger Horihan (Fast Tax Service located at 6 North Main Street) voiced his displeasure over the issues he has been having with the building owner (Mark Hersh) and his management staff. He informed the Board that in late December he was told they were going to shut the building down and he had one day to vacate. After that he said they came back to him and asked for money for the elevator and utilities if he wanted to stay. He said he runs a good business in the Village and knows he will find another location, however he is very displeased with the way they are treating their tenants.

Ed Philpot - Our Way Car Service

After last month's conversation with Ed Philpot, Village Attorney Langdon Chapman drafted a local law for the Board to review regarding medicad taxi medallions. The local law includes ten (10) medallions strictly for that purpose.

The Board said they would review the proposed law, add their comments and discuss it at the next meeting.

### Jeremy Gorlick - Liberty Pride

Jeremy Gorelick and Dan Ratner Jr. (Liberty Pride) addressed the Board about their vision to develop a park behind the Town of Liberty Performing Arts Stage on Main Street.

They explained they have applied for a Category C grant in the amount of \$5,000 from Sullivan Renaissance to begin the project.

The Board said they liked the idea very much.

### **CONSIDER VOTE IN SUPPORT OF LIBERTY PRIDE'S PROJECT TO DEVELOPMENT A GREEN PUBLIC SPACE CONGREGATION AREA (PARK)**

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Lindsley and unanimously carried to support Liberty Pride's concept to develop a park behind the Town of Liberty Performing Arts Stage on Main Street providing Village insurance carrier has no objections.

**ATTORNEY** Attorney Chapman had no comment  
**COMMENTS:**

**TREAS. REPORT:** Treasurer Zurawski informed the Board that she had only received one bid for the air conditioning replacement in the Clerk's Office from Erts Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$6,800.00.

The Board discussed some options the Village might have, including GE Zone lines.

**TABLED BUSINESS:** **UPDATE ON REVONAH HILL WATER TANK**

Mayor Winters said a letter has been received that funding for 2011 is unavailable and a letter has been sent to George Popp at the USDA requesting the project remain active for possible fiscal year 2012 funding.

### **UPDATE ON GREEN LANE SEWER PROJECT**

Mayor Winters said that flooding became an issue over the weekend and TAM Enterprises came and put a pump in. Mayor Winters said he would like to see Village personnel rehabilitate the line one piece at a time.

### **PROGRESS ON REVIEW IN NON-UNION PERSONNEL POLICY**

This item will remain tabled until the next Regular Board meeting.

**CONSIDER VOTE ON – LOCAL LAW #1-2011 – JUSTICE COURT**

This matter will remain tabled until after the March 15, 2011 Village Elections.

**CONSIDER GOING OUT TO BID FOR SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

This item will remain tabled until the next Regular Board meeting. The Board asked that a memo be sent to each Department requesting a list of surplus vehicles/equipment be supplied to Clerk/Treasurer Zurawski no later than March 31, 2011.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION FOR OFFICIALS IN RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

This item will remain tabled until Trustee Alvarez completes the required paperwork.

**CONSIDER SURPLUS SALE TO JENNIFER ADAMEC – TAX MAP # 112-4-23 AND 112-4-24**

Attorney Chapman said he is still waiting on the appraisal for this sale of surplus land.

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Lindsley and unanimously carried to approve the surplus sale as long as the purchaser follows all the Planning Board stipulations and restrictions regarding parking lots and sidewalks.

**UPDATE ON VILLAGE INSURANCE – MARKETS**

The Board discussed the insurance markets and agreed to give Houston Casualty to Owen McKane of the McKane Group and David Bodenstein of Mike Pries Insurance will be given the markets of Selective and NYMIR.

**CONSIDER MEMORANDUM FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER PAMELA WINTERS RE: LOCAL LAW**

Attorney Chapman said he would prepare a local law pursuant to Code Enforcement Officer Pamela Winter's memorandum. He said once it is prepared the Board can review it and set a Public Hearing next month if they so desire.

This local law pertains to Fire Lanes.

**CONSIDER CORRECTION OF ERRORS RE: LIBERTY SENIOR HOUSING**

**RESOL.#** Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee McGuire and  
**#8-2011:** unanimously carried approving Resolution#8-2011.

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 550-2© of the Real Property Tax Law concerning claimed clerical error on the 2009/2010 tax roll;

**WHEREAS**, this clerical error claimed by Liberty Senior Housing described as Tax Map #124-1-3 on the tax roll for the Village of Liberty;

**WHEREAS**, it is found that this clerical error does exist;

**WHEREAS**, this clerical error is failure to apply partial exemption pursuant to GML 696 and PHFL 33 on the 2008 final assessment roll;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that pursuant to Section 556 of the Real Property Tax Law, the taxpayer is entitled to a new tax bill in the amount of \$9,600.

**CONSIDER VARIOUS FEES FOR VILLAGE**

Trustee Stoddard said that Judy Zurawski has been researching some fees for the Village and a couple of fees that stand out are for title search and duplicate bills. She said that title companies no longer come in and do the title work, instead they just call and have the girls in the office do it.

Dan Ratner Sr. said he has a whole list of fees from New Hyde Park that he will share with the Clerk.

Judy said she would bring her suggestions to the next meeting.

**CONSIDER REQUEST FROM PETER BELAGRAD RE: TAX MAP #108-5-3**

The Board received a letter from Peter Belgard stating he had purchased a parcel in the 2010 County Tax Sale known as tax map #108-5-3 (former owner Aaron Meyer). He explained the title is encumbered by a lien on the property that originated from the removal of a structure. He asked the Board to consider removing this lien.

The Board discussed the fact that Mr. Belgard is an excellent property owner in the Village, however, they could not legally remove the charge.

Clerk/Treasurer Zurawski said she would send a letter to Mr. Belgard.

## **CONSIDER SETTING WORKSESSIONS FOR 2011/2012 BUDGET**

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Lindsley and unanimously carried to hold a Special Department Head Meeting on Friday, March 18, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. to begin discussions on the 2011/2012 Budget.

### **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

Mayor Winters opened the meeting to comments from the Board.

Trustee Stoddard discussed the following issues:

- ❖ The letter received from Rante regarding the services offered by Envizn.
- ❖ Informed the Board of the IDA's decision regarding Ideal Snacks and their PILOT payment.
- ❖ Discussed the letter received from Congregation Ahavath Israel regarding the tax exemption on their parcel.
- ❖ Suggested that a Special Meeting be set after the Election to discuss the transition of the Court if in fact the vote is in favor of the proposition.

Attorney Chapman said the Mayor has the right to call a Special Meeting if necessary.

- ❖ Discussed the possibility of a three-installment tax payment for the Village.

Trustee McGuire discussed the idea of using MTA Tax Services in the future for the foreclosure process, as they seemed to have much more success than the County. She said she would contact them to see if they have an interest in giving us a presentation.

Trustee Lindsley said she was happy to hear about the new Park project.

Mayor Winters said it was a pleasure working with everyone over the last two years and gave a public thank you to everyone.

**APPROVAL** Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee McGuire and  
**OF BILLS** unanimously carried approving Voucher #10-917 to Voucher #10-997 in the  
**FOR PYMT:** amount of \$178,520.49.

Post Audit Vouchers

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee McGuire and unanimously carried approving Post Audit Voucher #10-911 to Voucher #10-916 in the amount of \$308,793.10

**EXECUTIVE** Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee McGuire and  
**SESSION:** unanimously carried to go into Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue of a particular employee in the Police Department.

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Lindsley and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 9:35 p.m.

**AJOURN:** Motion by Trustee Lindsley, seconded by Trustee Stoddard and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:36 P.M.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**JUDY ZURAWSKI, CLERK/TREASURER**