

## Village of Rhinebeck Board of Trustees

### Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

7:00 PM

Attendance: Mayor Gary Bassett, Deputy Mayor Ric Lewit, Trustee Howie Traudt, Trustee John Rossi, Trustee Brant Neuneker, ZEO John Fenton, and Karen P. McLaughlin, Treasurer.

The mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The mayor issued a statement regarding the POW-MIA flag decision to fly the flag as per the State guidelines: He read his statement as follows:

#### Message from the Village of Rhinebeck Board on the POW-MIA flag

In response to numerous requests regarding the status of the POW-MIA flag at the Village Hall, located at 76E. Market street, Rhinebeck, NY. The Village Board is issuing the following statement.

The request was in regard to protocols specific to why we only fly the POW-MIA flag at the Municipal building and do not have our flag lighted at night at the Municipal building.

As with all requests this matter was discussed at our next scheduled board meeting on Feb 27th. During this meeting the board entered into a discussion investigating the protocols for the American flag and the POW-MIA flag. After considerable discussion on the guidelines and with for respect for those Missing in Action and Prisoners of War the board made the following resolution.

During the meeting the Village Board discussed its compliance with NYS policy for "Flags on State Office Buildings". Based on this review it was apparent the Village was inconsistent with the State policy.

1. Our Village National Flag was being flown 24 hours without proper illumination.
2. Our Village POW-MIA Flag was flown 365 days which is in contrast with State policy

The Village Board voted 4 - 0 with one abstention to immediately adhere to State policy with the contingency that Trustee Traudt, as a member of the Sons of the American Legion to communicate these same issues with the local American Legion. The Board was prepared to listen to the recommendation from Trustee Traudt at the next meeting. To date, that information and feedback has yet to be furnished and discussed in a public meeting.

The New York State Office of General Services flag policy:

1. Flags that are illuminated can fly 24 hours per day
2. The POW-MIA flag is to be displayed over all state buildings and facilities on Memorial Day, POW Remembrance Day and Veterans Day. The flag should be displayed beneath the national flag if there is no third staff available.

Shortly after the February 2th meeting the Village replaced a burned-out bulb which restored illumination and assured Village compliance of this section of the policy

The board also identified that the MIA-POW flag flies at the Village's American Legion Park at all times at this

memorial. The board has determined that it too shall continue to fly the POW-MIA flag while proceeding with its efforts to assure compliancy and create a policy for the Village.

It is also our desire, as the Village board to faithfully exhibit respect for our Veterans and those either missing or prisoners of war and shall restore the POW-MIA flag to the staff at Village Hall.

To that end we also seeking additional alternatives to where the POW-MIA Flag along with the National Flag can be flown at all times in the Village and are looking to work with any organization on this.

He also reported that the flag pole was unlit and that part of it was taken care of. He did not know what the villag policy was about flying the POW flag. He read the state statute and the question was what do we do on the other days? He said, "Our intent was to establish a policy for flying of the flags". He reported that the POW flag flies at our American Legion Park, a village owned park. We are looking forwarded to working with Denny McQuire when he returns.

Trustee Traudt questioned the mayor's response and said he said he did speak with the legion the next day and read the following statute:

**New York Consolidated Laws, Executive Law - EXC § 403-a. Display of prisoner of war and missing in action flag**

- 1. Every county outside the city of New York, city, town, and village is encouraged to display the prisoner of war and missing in action flag at the building housing its local legislative body on all days on which the flag of the United States of America is displayed.**
- 2. Every state police facility, including but not limited to the head-quarters, substations, and training academy, is encouraged to display the prisoner of war and missing in action flag on all days on which the flag of the United States of America is displayed.**

The mayor opened the floor to comments:

Joe Curthoys, resident asked why would someone want to take the POW flag down? He stated that a lot of people that have been here their whole lives have lost members of their family and have someone that has been affected by war. "If people want NYC rules they should go back to NYC". "This really hit us hard and this is unfair". He went on to explain his empathy for military families and what this means to everyone.

Melodie Molinare went on to say that the board should be ashamed for what they did. She said, " I understand there is a conflict of why it was taken down. I know all about the american flag and the POW-MIA flag and you are hanging Howie out to dry. You, as board members disrespected all service members and I hope at the next election you are voted out."

Tina Lamonica got up and stated, " I am a navy veteran and served on the USS Bataan." Tina explained her service and asked, " If this was brought to your attention, why didn't you go to seek the answer before you made this decision?"

Peter Sipperly- "I was mayor for 30 years and highway superintendent. I served in Germany and Korea. I heard through the grapevine that you got one complaint. I think you made a huge mistake to act on it. You need to know what a good complaint is and what is not. I look on that flag for what it represents, taking it down was disrespectful. I don't care what the Town does. We are the Village."

The mayor stated that he appreciates all comments and stated, "I try to get it right. Hopefully we can move forward and create a policy."

Nicole North stated that she is from this town and that flag should have never been taken down. She said she wanted her kids to raise their kids here, "Now I don't."

Trustee Lewit asked about other flags and what if someone comes to him about flying it.

Tina Lamonica stated that the comment was made that you learned your lesson. What are you going to change? Trustee Lewit stated that we should have gathered more input and let people make more comments.

Mayor- I agree with Mr. Sipperly, think about the request and the problem and questioning, Is it big enough to act on immediately?

Gary Kiss, Military veteran- "This flag represents the people that fought and died and are missing for this country and that flag better stay up."

Joe Curthoys said that by not being a vet, you should have asked a Vet and maybe you learned from this that you should ask more questions of people that know more of a topic than you do.

Melodie Molinare- "I just want to thank all the veteran men and women who have fought for us."

Mayor- I thank everyone here and we so appreciate everyone's input.

**County Legislator-** Joel Tyner invited everyone to his next forum at the Town Hall, Thursday March 29th, it will include the opioid epidemic. He talked about getting heroin addicts treatment, through PAARI- The Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative. Tyner said, "Please look it up, its online. People are afraid to come forward because they might have to do time. They need to know that they are not going to be arrested. Until we bring these people out of the shadows, it won't happen. we are spending too much incarcerating non-violent drug users, when they need help."

Local Progress- Tyner discussed that learned a lot of innovative things like Tops or grocery stores going into bankruptcy and the community coming together to buy them. "We need to stick up for the working people."

### **Environmental Committee Reports**

Dan Shapley, director of Riverkeepers gave a status update on Source Water Protection. There is very good news on the anchorage issue, that proposal from the industry has been stopped. He reported that

information sharing between the municipalities has been great and together we can apply for grants, intermunicipal agreements and shared collaboration projects.

What are the next steps: Form a municipal council, and formally request from the state an assessment of drinking water. He presented the first step, which is to pass the Hudson River drinking Water intermunicipal council memorandum agreement. The council is hoping to have an answer by April so they can apply for funding in June.

Shapley gives credit to Mayor Bassett for bringing 7 municipalities together for this clean drinking water inter-municipal agreement.

The mayor thanked him for the information and will put it on the agenda for the next village board meeting.

**Food Waste Reduction Program-** Matt Stinchcomb first discussed food waste in general. "Wasted food contributes much of the carbon in the atmosphere. In the US, the US wastes 1/3 of their food." He also identified that as there is all this waste, there are also many people that go hungry. He presented getting food to people that need it. He proposed bringing on a graduate student at Baird to study and explore how we are dealing with food waste. He is proposing that we move forward with this intern, it is funded by a grant and all that the village would need to do would be to provide a desk or place for them to work at the Village Hall, when needed. There is state funding for food waste initiatives. He said the intern would be working from the Village Hall a few days a week. Part of the internship is to design a pilot program to establish and define a composting program also looking at food waste, as well as distributing it to those in need before it becomes food waste.

Motion made by Mayor Bassett to host an intern from the Food Waste Reduction Program at the Village Hall. Trustee Lewit seconded and all were in favor. Motion passed.

**2017 CDBG Legion Park update-** Ryan of Crawford and Associates discussed the Legion Park project. It is for handicap accessibility, a new dock and address some parking issues at the Legion Park. This will be bid early this spring and hopefully completed by the fall. Ryan went through the plan and the options given. Trustee Traudt stated that this plan was established by the former mayor and is the plan that was presented. Traudt asked when do you decide to make the pathway concrete. Ryan stated that when the bids come in, make it with options or see if there is any grant money left over after the bidding. The mayor asked about snow removal and making sure access issues are addressed. Trustee Lewit asked about benches. Ryan was not sure that they are included in the grant. He also asked if the dock had to be removed seasonally- yes. Trustee Traudt asked if it was a floating dock- yes. John Fenton said that the Highway Department can remove it. The mayor asked if it can be permanent so people can go out there in the winter on the handicapped accessible dock and said that we can review the bid specs at the next meeting.

**Porchfest** - Liz Mazarella reported that she sent in the event application last month and explained why she wanted to change it from Sunday to Saturday. She would like to have it September 29th. She also said she met with Sgt. Dunn to go over safety issues and agrees they need to be more diligent blocking

the walking ways, providing more signs and parking. She has spoken with a lot of people that agree to keep it small and a community event not a big thing. After 5:30 pm, when they close down, they want to have a gathering at the municipal parking lot for an hour or so, this will bring them back to the village to eat and shop. Porches end at 5:30 pm and the municipal parking lot gathering will be 6:00-7:00 pm.

The mayor stated that he appreciates the work she has done to coordinate this with the Village. Mayor Bassett made a motion to approve the application for Porchfest on September 29, 2018, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor to approve the application for Porchfest on September 29, 2018.

**Response to Recent Storms** – Mayor Bassett reported on the last two storms Riley and Quinn. He read his newsletter as follows:

Back to back nor'easters have dumped more than 2 feet of snow, which dropped trees onto power lines, lawns and streets, and knocked out power to many people not once, but TWICE. I am truly amazed at the resiliency of all of you. Each storm brought its own set of issues, and the biggest one was the loss of power.

This is a huge public safety issue, and we were working non-stop on getting the power restored as quickly as possible. In the meantime, Police, Fire and EMS emergency services were standing by at the Firehouse at all times in order to deal quickly with emergencies. Our crews from the Village and Town Highway Departments kept the roads open, and made sure first responders could get where they were needed quickly. Meanwhile, behind the scenes, we worked hard with the County Executive who was getting us county assistance, as well as putting continuous pressure on our utility providers. We had a direct line to a County Emergency Operations Center to report outages, road closures and downed power lines. We were also in constant contact with the Governor's office.

One of our water plant operators spent the night at the plant for fear of not getting in at 3 am when the pumps need to be restarted to replenish the reservoir. We were all in constant communication with each other so that everyone was in the loop and we could respond to problems as soon as they were discovered. I am so thankful for this team of people who were dedicated to doing whatever was needed. And, I am thankful to all of you who helped us, and helped neighbors as we made it through these storms.

I know that in some cases it felt as if it was an eternity to get power restored, but you have my commitment that you were never forgotten. In order to communicate with people, I ended up taking to the streets and going door to door. Looking ahead, I believe we must establish a better communication plan with residents for potential storms. One important thing that many people were not aware of is that we had the Village Hall open to anyone who wanted to come use the kitchen, bathrooms, charge cell phones, or go online. We will make a point of developing a system for getting this information out to everyone in the future.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**Treasurer's Report-** Treasurer McLaughlin presented the monthly report as follows:

		PERIOD:	28-Feb-18
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TREASURER'S REPORT				
	BALANCE			BALANCE
	02/01/18	RECEIPTS	DISBURSED	02/28/18
TAX COLLECTOR's Account	\$1,325,599.91	\$302.56	\$300,000.00	\$1,025,902.47
GENERAL Fund	\$67,951.07	\$321,003.14	\$174,216.39	\$214,737.82
WATER Fund	\$756,611.53	94,195.84	57,380.54	\$793,426.83
SEWER Fund	\$832,025.17	34,359.25	70,981.19	\$795,403.23
Capital -FIRE	\$61,142.39	16.14	0.00	\$61,158.53
Capital - STREETS	\$223,448.59	59.05	0.00	\$223,507.64
Capital - POLICE	\$33,447.37	8.89	0.00	\$33,456.26
Capital - OFFICE	\$10,674.51	2.85	0.00	\$10,677.36
Capital - PARKING	\$41,230.31	10.87	0.00	\$41,241.18
Capital - PARKS & REC	\$30,154.38	8.01	0.00	\$30,162.39
Capital - SIDEWALKS	\$15,011.73	3.95	0.00	\$15,015.68
Capital - WATER	\$164,588.84	7.56	800.00	\$163,796.40
Capital -SEWER	\$11,477.73	0.44	0.00	\$11,478.17
Gardens-Sewer Bond	\$114,711.23	30.33	0.00	\$114,741.56
HRA Account	\$30,328.87	0.00	3,023.10	\$27,305.77
Consolidated Cking	\$34.84	205,717.02	203,558.46	\$2,193.40
Trust & Agency	\$8,098.14	97,514.10	96,841.86	\$8,770.38
Escrow	\$48,242.26	0.00	0.00	\$48,242.26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,862,058.69</b>	<b>\$753,240.00</b>	<b>\$906,801.54</b>	<b>\$3,621,217.33</b>
<b>VOUCHERS:</b>				
	<b>Prepaid</b>	<b>Mar-18</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	
<b>General</b>	\$0.00	\$87,654.74	\$87,654.74	
<b>Water</b>	\$0.00	\$34,647.03	\$34,647.03	

Sewer	\$0.00	\$29,854.44	\$29,854.44
Capital- New Highway Truck	\$0.00	\$180,939.00	\$180,939.00
Capital- 2017 CDBG Legion Park	\$0.00	\$3,140.50	\$3,140.50

**MONTHLY OPERATING STATEMENT**-An Operating Statement is provided for the expenditures through March 13, 2018

**WATER & SEWER**- Adjustments have been reviewed and signed off by the Water and Sewer Dept liaisons and are presented for authorization.

**BUDGET ADMENDMENTS**- As presented.

**FEMA** - Blizzard Stella rquest for reimbursement has been submitted.

**BUDGET 2018-2019**-

On behalf f the Village Clerk, I submit the tentative budget for fiscal year 2018-19 to the Village Board.

The **Monthly Operating Statement** was presented with the on-line attachments.

**Water and Waste Water Adjustments-**

<b>FEB 2013 BILLING &amp; WATER ADJ</b>				
<b>Water</b>				
<b>Acct #</b>	<b>DM (balance)</b>	<b>CM</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Zone 2	\$52,272.29		\$52,272.29	billing
Zone 4	\$26,459.80		\$26,459.80	billing
Zone all penalty	\$1,219.57		\$1,219.57	penalty
FIRELINE-semi annual	\$4,800.00		\$4,800.00	billing
HYDRANTsemi annual	\$6,750.00		\$6,750.00	billing
TOWN HYDRANTS	\$18,000.00		\$18,000.00	billing
44W	\$177.60		\$177.60	FINAL
44W	\$25.00		\$25.00	NEW OWNER
424W	\$14.80		\$14.80	FINAL
424W	\$25.00		\$25.00	NEW OWNER
496W	\$14.80		\$14.80	FINAL
496W	\$25.00		\$25.00	NEW OWNER
	\$500.00		\$500.00	Tap-in fee
338W		\$3.60	\$3.60	remove FC - received same day
376W		\$32.50	\$32.50	remove FC - received same day
568W		\$5.40	\$5.40	remove FC - received same day
640W		\$17.94	\$17.94	remove FC - received same day
21058W		\$7.95	\$7.95	remove FC - received same day
21164W		\$9.84	\$9.84	remove FC - received same day
21287W		\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00	S/H/B INACTIVATED FOR SEASON
21379W		\$5.40	\$5.40	remove FC - received same day

21452W		\$45.00	\$45.00	S/H/B INACTIVATED FOR SEASON
21470W		\$75.60	\$75.60	S/H/B INACTIVATED FOR SEASON
7279W		\$75.00	\$75.00	village owned
31419W		\$54.00	\$54.00	village agreement - main
485W		\$5.40	\$5.40	remove FC - postmarked on time
21357W		\$8.64	\$8.64	remove FC - postmarked on time
21039W		\$5.40	\$5.40	remove FC - postmarked on time
21095W		\$8.01	\$8.01	remove FC - postmarked on time
21231W		\$5.25	\$5.25	remove FC - postmarked on time
<b>FEB 2018 WASTE WATER BILLING &amp; ADJ</b>				
<b>Waste Water</b>				
<b>Acct #</b>	<b>DM (balance)</b>	<b>CM</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Zone 4	\$27,538.30		\$27,538.30	billing
Zone 4 Assmnt	\$6,227.33		\$6,227.33	billing- assessment
Zone all penalty	\$176.16		\$176.16	billing

There were no adjustments this month for the Waste Water. Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Neuneker and all were in favor to authorize the Water adjustments as presented above.

**Budget Amendments -**

	Meeting 3/13/2018			
	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>Increase</b>		
	71102.05 CAP 2017 CDBG Legion Park		-\$3,140.50	2017 CDBG Legion Park - GEN
		200.01 GENERAL Cash	\$3,140.50	2017 CDBG Legion Park - GEN
	<b>BUDGET AMENDMENTS</b>			
	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>			
	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>Increase</b>		
		16202.01.000.00 Buildings EQ	\$2,611.00	new Time Clock
	19904.01.000.00 Contingency		(\$2,611.00)	new Time Clock
		16404.01.000.02 Garage CE	\$6,395.00	Safeco Alarm System
	19904.01.000.00 Contingency		(\$6,395.00)	Safeco Alarm System
	16202.01.000.00 Buildings EQ		(\$500.00)	trnsf to Garage for over budget
	16404.01.000.00 Garage CE		\$500.00	trnsf from Bldgs EQ over-budget
	<b>WATER FUND</b>			
	<b>Decrease</b>			
	14204.12.000.00 Attorney		(\$2,780.00)	unused
		83202.12.000.00 Source	\$2,780.00	Safeco Alarm System

		Power EQ		
	14404.12 Engineer		(\$3,000.00)	unused
		83404.12.0.25 Trans.Distrib repair/maint	\$3,000.00	over-budget (Jeff Decker services)
	<b>SEWER FUND</b>			
	<b>Decrease</b>			
	99509.13.000.00 tranf to CAP		(\$10,960.00)	trnsf to cover UV upgrade & repair
		81304.13.000.25 Sewer Repair/Maint.	\$10,960.00	trnsf to cover UV upgrade & repair

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Rossi and all were in favor to authorize the above budget amendments. Motion passed.

**Police & Court** - The mayor gave the monthly report as follows:

February Monthly Summary:

- Total # of Incidents – Town: 26
- Total # of Incidents- Village: 80
- Total # of Tickets – Town: 27
- Total # of Tickets – Village: 87
- Total # of Arrests: 4
- Total # of Accidents: 9

Notes:

- Snow Ordinance: 9 Tickets Issued

The mayor read the following request from Sgt. Dunn for the hiring of Kyle Jennings at a rate of \$21.00 and after 6 mos 21.50. Mayor Bassett made a motion, seconded by Trustee Rossi all in favor. Motion passed to hire Kyle Jennings at a rate of \$21.00/hr.

To: The Rhinebeck Village Board

From: Sergeant Pete Dunn

Date: 3/13/2018

RE: Part Time Police Officer Position

I am requesting that the Village Board approve the hiring of Kyle Jennings as a part time police officer. Kyle worked for the Rhinebeck Police Department from July 2015 to July 2016 and was an exemplary employee. He resigned to pursue a full time position with the Kingston Police Department. Kyle has transferred to the Kingston Fire Department which allows him the ability to return to the Rhinebeck Police Department as an officer. I am also requesting the Kyle be hired back at the rate of \$21.00/hour. Per the Collective Bargaining Agreement (Article 7 Section A), after one year of employment the pay rate should be \$21.00 and then increased to \$21.50 after 18 months of employment.

Department- The mayor read the Fire Department report as follows:

- For the month of February 2018 there were a total of 59 alarms for the FD: 16 fire, 37 EMS and 6 MVAs. The ambulance did not respond to 9 calls; therefore, our response percentage was 79%.
- We have 2 new applicants that need village board approval; Frank Dietrich and Ryan Eighmy.

Trustee Neuneker announced that he is comfortable with their recommendations.

Motion made by Trustee Lewit, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor to accept the 2 new candidates as members: Frank Dietrich and Ryan Eighmy

**Building/Planning/Zoning** - Trustee Rossi read the monthly report as follows:

PLANNING / ZONING / BUILDING  
**FEBRUARY MONTHLY FEES REPORT 2018**

BUILDING DEPARTMENT (2555)	
(6) CO SEARCHES.....	\$700.00
(2) BUILDING PERMITS.....	\$960.00
(8) FIRE INSPECTIONS.....	\$600.00
PLANNING BOARD (2115)	
(1) ESCROW.....	\$500.00
(4) APPROVALS.....	\$1050.00
ZONING BOARD (2110)	
(1) VARIANCES.....	\$250.00

ZEO John Fenton presented a proposed fee schedule. He reported that the last one was 5 years ago and did not include solar pannels. We have also discovered that we had made the escrow thresholds too low. He explained that he looked at other Villages of similar size. The B&B's and short-term vacation rentals were not in the fee schedule previously. With the increase of the cost of living and what contractors are charging, the presented schedule is very reasonable and in most cases only up \$0.05. There is more to be done with Planing, Zoning and Building information now. All of it has to go the assessor's. Our renovations were all based off of square footage. Now, it also includes the cost of the project. Trustee Lewit asked about the B&B fees. As the law has not been passed yet, should this be put in here? Yes, as the fire inspection fee will apply to all who open their house to the public.

The mayor asked the board to review the proposed fees and if the Short Term Vacation Rental law goes into effect, that can be added. Trustee Traudt would like to compare the new with the old fees. They will review it for discussion at the next meeting.

The operating permit was a question and John Fenton will do some more research on it and report back to the board.

Trustee Rossi discussed the expansion of the historic district and also brought to the board sample legislation of passing an moratorium of one year for demolition. He used Tarrytown's moratorium as an example. He would like to take that language and apply it to the Village of Rhinebeck to assist in keeping the character of the Village and stop the current demolitions. He explained that step one is seeing what streets would be included in the expansion of the historic district. The moritorium would be village-wide and work in conjunction with the plan to expand the Historic District. Trustee Rossi will get the wording and he reached out to Shelby Frank from Dutchess County Planning for consultation. Trustee Lewit would like to know how this has worked for Tarrytown.

On another note, Trustee Rossi stated that he was very impressed with the way Ryan Dowden was running the meetings.

**Highway Department** - Trustee Lewit gavethe report as follows:

**Monthly Duties:**

- Snow Removal
- Mechanical maintenance.
- Sign replacement
- Catch-Basin clean-out and repairs.
- Assist in water repairs.
- Tree trimming and removal.

Normally brush pick up starts in April, however due to the storms they will get started on brush pick up early.

**Water Department** - Trustee Neuneker gave the water report as follows:

***Low lift pump station***

Disassembled and cleaned check valve on Raw pump #2

**Water Treatment Plant:**

Total water treated was **11,198,000** gallons.

Hach on site for calibration of turbidimeters

Phosphate and liquid cl2 delivered

**Distribution System:**

2nd Quarterly Samples delivered to Albany

**Violet Hill Storage Tank:**

Normal Maintenance

Trustee Neuneker asked that if the big water project goes through, Should we replace the storm drains on Route 9? He said that while we have the road open we can address some of the old ceramic pipes and tree roots are infiltrating the storm drains. Mayor- "We definately should look into it."

**Wastewater Department** - Trustee Traudt presented the monthly report as follows:

**Rhinebeck Waste Water Treatment Facility**

**February 2018**

**Waste Water Treated : 3.7 million gallons**

**Gallons of sludge processed : 32,500 gallons**

**Pounds of sludge processed : 5,067 lbs**

The report included a daily activity log.

Trutee Traudt reported that Chief Plant Operator Rathjen is getting prices on the new loading dock.

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Lewit and all were in favor to accept all the department reports as presented.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Tree Committee-** Trustee Lewit reported that the village is a Tree City USA again and reviewed the Tree Commission minutes as follows:

**RHINEBECK TREE COMMISSION - MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 08, 2018**

Meeting called to order @ 7:03pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Meg Crawford, Nataalka Chas, Connie Lown, Tom Johnson;

and Ric Lewit - Village liaison

MEMBER ABSENT: Walter Cotter

Acceptance of Minutes from the February 6th meeting was moved by Connie and seconded by Nataalka; all in favor.

**REVIEW OF TREE SITES ACCEPTED & TREES SELECTED FOR SPRING PLANTING**

As Walter is unable to be at this meting, we await advice on the homeowners that he canvassed; Meg advised that Lavender has sent in her signed paperwork for one (1) tree. Nataalka reviewed the list which she & Connie canvassed; paperwork received for six (6) trees to date.

Ric advised that Chancellor Livingston School is interested in trees, but prefers time of planting to be in the Fall -- planting location would work better for us this Spring, so Meg will follow up with Walter and Sheldon, the Building & Grounds person.

Meg requires a list of the trees needed, with street address & species, asap in order to adjust the order she has tentatively placed.

NOTE: In Pat Coon's absence, Nataalka is holding the folder of signed paperwork from the homeowners.

Announcement details for the Spring planting will be discussed next month; ie: meeting location, poster, promotion on Village website, community service for school students, etc.

#### APPLICATION REVIEWS

Audrey & Thomas Nuhn, 59 Chestnut St. -- Pruning/removal of large Sugar Maple which is dropping large branches onto the street. Trees loose limbs as they get older; at this time we recommend pruning as do not see the tree failing. Homeowners need to be advised that the work is at their expense and to be done by a certified Arborist with insurance.

Rick Duvall & Lisa Rubenstein, 55 Livingston St. -- Request by owner to plant two (2) Pink Spire Crabapple trees in the median. Meg will look into whether our nursery has this species available so we could order them at the homeowner's expense.

#### HAZARDOUS TREE LIST

What is the status of this list? We need the Right-of-Way (ROW) list from John Fenton in order to review the hazardous trees; the Tree Commission can only recommend action, we cannot inform the homeowners. It is irresponsible on part of the Commission not to address the hazardous tree situation in the Village of Rhinebeck.

NOTE: We hope to be able to write a grant for a new tree inventory and also to help defray the cost of maintaining our Community Forest.

#### TREE CITY USA AWARD

We await the date & time in order to establish who wants to go to the ceremony in Albany.

#### REMOVAL OF TREES & SHRUBBERY IN LEGION AND LION PARKS

Meg was very pleased to see this work done.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Given the frequency of storms we are experiencing, and the aging population of our trees, the Tree Commission recognizes there are many hazardous trees in the Right-of-Way which either need to be removed or pruned.

Whereas the trees in the Right-of-Way were almost entirely planted by the municipality years ago;

whereas while said trees benefit, and increase the value of, the homeowners' properties they also increase the quality of life in the Village of Rhinebeck;

whereas the Commission believes that they cannot responsibly maintain our Community Forest without the pruning and removal of these trees;

and whereas we are concerned that the present law, which puts the onus for this maintenance solely on the homeowner, has resulted in many of these trees not being addressed due to the expense to the homeowners.

The Tree Commission wishes to ask the Village Board to revise the law back to a 50/50 shared cost factor for pruning or removal of trees within the Right-of-Way.

Meeting was adjourned @ 8:30pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wed, Apr 4th, 2018 @ 7pm

Respectfully submitted by Connie Lown, Secretary

The tree commission asked the board to consider making the cost of tree maintenance a 50/50. Trustee Traudt discussed that it was all in concert with the sidewalk maintenance, which is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. The question is that there are some residents that cannot afford to take care of either the trees or the sidewalk. The mayor asked Trustee Lewit to look at the sidewalk plan as well. Trustee Lewit asked if the board was amendable to changing the law. The mayor said that he thinks they should look at it on a case-by-case basis and asked Trustee Lewit to look at it with the sidewalk campaign and if he would like, make a proposal.

The tree commission has accepted half of the sites for the spring tree planting, which is done on Arbor Day, April 27th.

Audrey and Thomas Nuhn- 59 Chestnut Street requested a tree removal but still needs to do some things on the applicaiton.

**Ethics Committee-** No report

**SVR (Short-term Vacation Rental) Committee-** Trustee Neuneker announced a workshop scheduled for Thursday, March 15th at 7:00 pm to continue discussions.

#### **Environmental Committee Report-**

Environmental Meeting Report - March 13, 2018

Food Waste Reduction-Proposal for a plan and pilot program for the Village and Town of Rhinebeck

The Joint Town and Village of Rhinebeck Environmental Committee, a group consisting of the Village Mayor, the Town Supervisor, and a number of volunteer community members is seeking a CEP student to lead the development of a food waste reduction strategy and plan, and to help pilot a municipal compost program in Rhinebeck. This position will be located at Village Hall in Rhinebeck, and will work closely with elected officials and committee members. A stipend courtesy of the Good Work Institute, will be offered.

**Parks Committee-** No report

**Grant Advisory Committee-** Trustee Rossi requested to bring on a new member, Sonjat, who has expertise in the area of finance and will be an asset to our committee. Motion made by Trustee Rossi, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor to appoint sonja to the Grant Advisory Committee.

Trustee Rossi reported that he is meeting with a representative from The NYS Empire Grant and is exploring many avenues for grants.

Motion made by Mayor Bassett to approve all Committee Reports, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor. Motion passed.

#### **SPECIAL REQUESTS**

**Peddling Permits-** Boy Scout Troop 228 is requesting a peddlers permit for a Food Drive for 2 local food pantries at the Rhinebeck Reformed Church and the Rhinebeck Church of the Messiah. Motion made by

Mayo Bassett, seconded by Trutee Lewit and all were in favor to approve the permit applicaiton.

**EVENTS-**

**Memorial Day Parade-**



"FOR GOD AND COUNTRY"  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
MONTGOMERY POST No. 429

6361 MILL STREET  
P.O. BOX 429



RHINEBECK  
NEW YORK 12572



March 6, 2018

Village Board of Trustees  
76 East Market Street  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572

Dear Board Members,

As May approaches, we are again in the process of organizing our annual Memorial Day ceremonies and parade scheduled for Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 10:30 A.M.

We request permission to conduct the parade and ceremonies, and would also request that Mulberry Street north of Platt Avenue be closed to all non-participating traffic during line-up. The parade will line-up on Mulberry Street, north of Platt Avenue, and utilize the fields at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds to the corner of Platt Avenue and Mulberry Street, as well as the large field next to the former Village Police Headquarters. The parade will step off promptly at 10:30 A.M., and proceed south on Mulberry Street to East Market Street, then west on East Market Street to Route 9, then south on Route 9 to the Rhinebeck Cemetery, where ceremonies will take place following the conclusion of the parade.

We would like to request that the Village Police Department be on duty for the line-up, parade and ceremonies, and would like the Village Police car to lead the parade if possible.

If permission is granted, we would like to invite the Village Board to participate in the line of march, which is planned to form on Mulberry Street at 9:30 A.M. If any member of the Board requires a vehicle, please make the appropriate arrangements. We do not have the capability of providing vehicles for participants.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation, and we look forward to seeing you on Memorial Day.

John Spencer  
Parade Chairman  
American Legion Post #429

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor of the above presented Memorial Day parade plan plus having a contingency rainy day plan to be worked out with Sgt. Dunn and the Police Department identifying an alternate plan to reschedule, change route, etc.

### **Parkinson Disease Awareness Month Proclamation-**

Mayor moved for the following Parkinson Disease Awareness Month of April proclamation:

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological movement disorder of the central nervous system, which has a unique impact of each patient; and

WHEREAS, according to the Parkinson's Action Network, the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, the American Parkinson's Disease Association and the National Institutes of Health, there are over one million Americans diagnosed with Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, symptoms include slowness, tremor, difficulty with balance and speaking, rigidity, cognitive and memory problems; and

WHEREAS, although new medicines and therapies may enhance life for some time for people with Parkinson's, more work is needed for a cure; and

WHEREAS, increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and ultimately a cure for Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary approach to Parkinson's disease care includes local wellness, support, and caregiver groups; and

WHEREAS, April has been proclaimed as World Wide Parkinson's Awareness Month for all to recognize the need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating effects of Parkinson's disease.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, We the Village of Rhinebeck Board of Trustees do hereby proclaim April as Parkinson's Awareness Month in the Village of Rhinebeck.

This was seconded by Trustee Lewit and all were in favor. Motion passed.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Thomas, Drohon & Waxman presented a letter explaining an increase in their attorney fees of \$5.00 per hour. Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Rossi and all were in favor to accept the new fee schedule.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The village received a Thank-You from the family of Henry Campbell for the flowers and everyone's thoughts and prayers at his funeral.

Whitbeck, Benedict & Smith, LLP submitted an introduction letter of interest for attorney services for the Village of Rhinebeck. The mayor would like to seek additional interests. Trustee Traudt stated that he is happy with current attorneys. Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor to stay with the attorney firm we currently use.

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Neuneker and all were in favor to accept the minutes of 2/13/18, 2/20/18, 2/22/18 with the following corrections: STVR minutes page 4 should be Committee Member Kevin Curry not Chair and on the 8th or 9th paragraph it should say 40 nights per year and up to 6 people per stay. Motion passed.

#### **PERSONNEL**

Motion made by Mayor to increase Bryan Alix a \$2.00 an hour pay raise starting next pay period, as per the discussion at February 27th's Budget meeting, seconded by Trustee Rossi all in favor. Motion passed.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Rossi and all were in favor to go into Executive Session to discuss union contract negotiations.

Entered Executive Session at 10:08 pm.

Motion made by Mayor Bassett, seconded by Trustee Neuneker all were in favor to exit Executive Session and re-enter the regular meeting.

Re-entered the meeting at 10:09 pm.

No action was taken

#### **ADJOURN**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Bassett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Traudt and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen P. McLaughlin, Treasurer

