

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, NY was held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at the Municipal Building, Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

The following officials were present:

Mayor Schmidt	Trustee Brennan
Village Manager Zambrano	Trustee Gallelli
Village Attorney Staudt	Trustee Olver
Treasurer Bullock	Absent: Trustee Konig

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Schmidt gave an overview State of the Village report which included:

- Improvements to roads and water.
- Recent appointments to Village staff
- Different modes of communication with residents
- Ongoing projects and the tracking of projects
- Consolidation of shared services with the Town and the school
- Efficiency increased within departments
- Coalition with the School Board
- Energy use studies; free energy study of the Municipal Building
- New projects: High Street, Batten Road and Parking Lot Repair Projects to start soon.
- Financial State of the Village report from the Village Treasurer
- Several new initiatives are in the discussion stage

2. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Brennan made a motion to approve the vouchers as follows, subject to review by the Audit Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gallelli and approved unanimously.

General Fund	\$ 156,917.86
Water Fund	25,226.95
Sewer Fund	3,702.54
Capital Account	412,624.11
Trust & Agency	-0-
Total	\$ 598,471.46

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

Village Manager Zambrano read the following correspondence (full text available at the Village Office):

- a) A letter from Gerard E. Mulligan, Westchester County Department of Planning, stating that they will decline participating in the Scenic Byways Project and also decline acceptance of grant monies from NYS Dept. of State through the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. Village Manager Zambrano stated that the Village will have to rescind a resolution approved several months ago-which will be done at a future meeting.
- b) A memo from Peter Costa, Westchester County, regarding Earth Day Westchester 2009, to be held on Sunday, April 19, 2009 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla, NY. This will be posted on the web site.
- c) An email from Ted Bowen, Manager, MTA Customer Service, regarding a complaint of overnight noise at the Harmon Yard Train Station, including the MTA reply. Village Manager Zambrano stated that 212 672-1273 is the phone number for the MTA Customer Service and this number will be posted on the Village web site.
- d) A letter from Fred W. Koontz, Exec. Director, Phyllis Bock, Director Of Education and Lisa Fine, Event Consultant, Teatown Lake Reservation, with a thank you for the Village's contributions to the 2009 Hudson River EagleFest on Saturday, February 7, 2009.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (agenda items):

- a) Don Daubney, 45 Bungalow Road, cleared up that at a recent board meeting what he said was that his observation was that there was no groundswell of support for the Harmon redevelopment. He added that he feels in recent weeks he has seen a groundswell against it.
- b) Adam Cohen, Lounsbury Road, asked about the Nursery's project on Highland Place. He suggested that residents should force a referendum for the Village to purchase the land; the Nursery needs the money to expand, but this property could be something that serves the Village better than four houses. He asked what his options are. Mayor Schmidt replied that perhaps he could work with a land trust to see if they would purchase part of the property. Trustee Gallelli added that this property is owned by the Croton Community Nursery School on Lower North Highland and backs up to Lounsbury Road; it is a four lot subdivision proposal that has been before the Planning Board; the Nursery did approach the Village when they decided to sell, but it was determined that the Village could not purchase it at that time; he could possibly approach a land trust non-profit organization to see if any are interested. Mr. Cohen spoke about a petition for a referendum to keep it open land. Trustee Brennan suggested that Mr. Cohen should go to the Planning Board meetings to track the progress of the project. Village Manager Zambrano added that he believes that getting signatures would not force a referendum; a land trust approach would be the way to go and he will follow up on this.

5. PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:

- a) On motion of TRUSTEE Brennan, seconded by TRUSTEE Gallelli, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2006 the Village Board approved a proposal from Hahn Engineering for construction services for the Riverwalk/Croton Landing Project in an amount of \$125,000; and

WHEREAS, on September 15, 2008 the Village Board approved an additional proposal from Hahn Engineering in an amount of \$35,000; and

WHEREAS, the amount in the second proposal has been reached and Hahn Engineering has supplied us with an additional proposal to complete the work at Croton Landing and on the Riverwalk Trail; and

WHEREAS, the proposal states that Hahn Engineering will bill on an hourly rate based on the attached salary schedule for all additional construction services; and

WHEREAS, the total amount paid to Hahn to date is \$158,001.31 of which the Village has paid \$57,544.78; and

WHEREAS, the County has agreed to pay 100% of all additional invoices from Hahn Engineering beginning with payment number 24; and

WHEREAS, the Village will continue to process the payments and receive reimbursements from the County for these invoices,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to approve the proposal from Hahn Engineering for construction services for the Riverwalk/Croton Landing project.

- b) On motion of TRUSTEE Gallelli, seconded by TRUSTEE Olver, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, the Village Engineering department would like to increase the number of approved electrical inspectors that can conduct inspections within the Village of Croton on Hudson; and

WHEREAS, all electrical inspectors must be approved by the Village Board of Trustees in accordance with Section 113-6 of the Village Code,

WHEREAS, the Village Engineering department has received three proposals to perform electrical inspections within the Village of Croton on Hudson; and

WHEREAS, Swanson Consulting Inc. and Electrical Underwriters of N.Y., LLC (E.U.N.Y.) are first time applicants, and

WHEREAS, Westchester Rockland Electrical Inspection Services, Inc. had been approved to work in Croton, but the right was rescinded after a letter received by the County Clerk's Office, which cited the agency engaging in questionable practices; and

WHEREAS, the Village Engineer has reviewed the three proposals and recommends that the Village Board approve the two new applications, Swanson Consulting Inc. and Electrical Underwriters of N.Y., LLC.; as well as the reinstatement of Westchester Rockland Electrical Inspections Services, Inc. which now appears to be in good standing.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Board of Trustees hereby approves Swanson Consulting Inc., Electrical Underwriters of N.Y., LLC. and Westchester Rockland Electrical Inspection Services Inc. to be official electrical inspectors for the Village of Croton on Hudson.

c) On motion of TRUSTEE Brennan, seconded by TRUSTEE Gallelli, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, the EMS Department has an opportunity to purchase an ambulance from Mount Kisco at the purchase cost of approximately \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, the cost of fitting it for Village needs including repainting, re-lettering, and restriping, would come to approximately \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, Gary Diggs, the EMS Chief, has examined the paperwork for this vehicle and has determined that it is a viable option for a replacement vehicle for his department; and

WHEREAS, the EMS Chief has agreed to forego the Chief's vehicle that was approved in the 2007-08 Capital Budget; and

WHEREAS, the funding (\$31,000) for the Chief's vehicle has already been appropriated; and

WHEREAS, the cost of a new ambulance in the amount of \$145,000 had been scheduled for the 2009-10 fiscal year,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to appropriate up to \$29,000 from Fund Balance to pay the balance of the ambulance from Mount Kisco,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the EMS Chief duty vehicle will not be purchased and a new ambulance will not be purchased.

- d) On motion of TRUSTEE Brennan, seconded by TRUSTEE Olver, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, the Silver Lake Dam is in need of repair work; and

WHEREAS, Clough Harbour & Associates LLP has provided a proposal to develop construction plans and specifications, and provide bid and construction related services for the repairs of the Silver Lake Dam; and

WHEREAS, the project was discussed with the Board of Trustees at a work session on Wednesday, February 4, 2009

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to approve the proposal from Clough Harbour & Associates LLP to develop construction plans and specifications, and provide bid and construction related services for the repair of the Silver Lake Dam.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the cost for this project is \$24,500 and should be charged to Capital Account H7140.2106.05129

- e) On motion of TRUSTEE Brennan, seconded by TRUSTEE Gallelli, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2009 in accordance with section 15-116(1) of the Election Law the Village Board appointed the following persons inspectors of election to preside at the Village Election on March 18, 2009:

DEMOCRATIC: Laura Seitz, Chairperson  
Linda Potthast  
Carol Shanesy  
Peggy Cunningham  
Cornelia Cotton

Alternatives:  
Julie Evans  
Paul Rolnick

REPUBLICAN: Regina Montana, Chairperson  
Mary Santella  
Nancy Goetz  
Lucy Agosta  
Marian Costello

Alternatives:  
Chuck Trendell  
Estelle Calcutti

; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for corrections

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: in accordance with section 15-116 (1) of the Election law the following persons are hereby appointed inspectors of election to preside at the Village Election on March 18, 2009:

DEMOCRATIC: Laura Seitz, Chairperson  
Linda Potthast  
Carol Shanesy  
Peggy Cunningham  
Cornelia Cotton

Alternatives:  
Paul Rolnick

REPUBLICAN: John Brown, Chairperson  
Mary Santella  
Nancy Goetz  
Lucy Agosta  
Marian Costello

Alternatives:  
Regina Montana  
Estelle Calcutti

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the compensation for each Election Inspector shall be a fixed rate of \$200.00 for the day and \$225.00 for each Chairperson on Election Day.

6. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (non-agenda items):

None

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Brennan made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting held on February 2, 2009 as corrected. Trustee Olver seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimous approval.

Trustee Brennan made a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the Board of Trustees held on February 2, 2009. Trustee Gallelli seconded the motion; approved unanimously.

8. REPORTS:

*Village Manager Zambrano* reported that he will be attending the NYCOM legislation meeting in Albany on February 22, 2009; being addressed is State funding to the municipalities; NYCOM, as a result of the economy, has set up a web site [www.stopheshift](http://www.stopheshift).

*Treasurer Bullock* reported that she is busy working on the upcoming budget; looking at submissions she has received from department heads.

*Trustee Olver* congratulated everyone who contributed to the successful EagleFest; they saw lots of eagles. He noted that school children are out of school this week; please drive carefully. Trustee Olver stated that the tax grievance numbers this year have been very high; this is a harbinger of things to come; the next fiscal year and the one after does not look good; a number of fixed contractual costs and state mandates will continue to increase while mortgage tax receipts, sales taxes and state aids will continue to go down; the homeowners' burden will increase; it is essential to broaden the tax base and attract new business to Croton.

*Trustee Gallelli* reported that she has done a number of grievance days and this is the largest turnout she has seen; another sign of the times is that bid documents the Village put out this week, within 1½ days twenty to twenty-five contractors showed up to pick up the bid specifications; this shows a huge need for work among contractors. Trustee Gallelli reported that the stimulus bill was signed by the President today; the Village has attempted to get the parking lot project on the list of possible projects and the Village has been going through Congressman Hall, but funds are going to be allocated by the State; Gov. Patterson has set up a committee to determine where the NYS share of money will be sent; she was able to pass the name of one person on the committee along to the Village staff. Trustee Gallelli added that on Saturday evening she was in the vicinity of Croton Commons where there was a fire; she thanked the Fire Department for their usual prompt response and excellent service to the Village.

*Trustee Brennan* stated that we have to be realistic about the economy; it has been a 14 month recession; the Village needs to keep an eye on the budget; he was pleased that Village Manager Zambrano got the police to pay for part of their health care, these innovated things will save the Village budget; they are trying to be fiscally responsible and will continue to do that. He stated that the stimulus bill is lower; the school district will receive just \$410,000, only \$40,000 will go to the schools; that money is borrowed and will require pay back for a long time.

*Mayor Schmidt* reported that he attended a shared services forum hosted by Sandy Galef, looking at cutting costs and more opportunities for shared services. Mayor Schmidt reported that EagleFest was exciting and interesting; he thinks the community needs to be looking at how to tap into the events that take place in the Village and how to get merchants to tap into them. Mayor Schmidt added that his was Grievance Day, but it does not mean that everyone who submits a grievance gets a reduction in taxes; the applicant needs bonafide documentation of

why the tax should be lowered. He reported also that he has received several letters from fifth graders in PVC who were working on a project to suggest what to do with empty spaces in Croton and he read excerpts from some of the students' letters.

Trustee Olver made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Brennan seconded the motion; approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

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Phyllis A. Bradbury, Secretary

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Village Clerk