

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, NY was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at the Municipal Building, Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

The following officials were present:

Mayor Wiegman	Trustee Gallelli
Village Manager Zambrano	Trustee Olver
Village Attorney Staudt	Trustee Restuccia absent
Treasurer Bullock	Trustee Murtaugh

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Wiegman called the meeting to order at 8:45 p.m. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Gallelli made a motion to approve the vouchers as follows, subject to review by the Audit Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murtaugh and approved with one absent.

General Fund	\$ 53,795.20
Water Fund	4,614.30
Sewer Fund	1,196.85
Capital Account	2,292.94
Trust & Agency	<u>3,255.22</u>
Total	\$ 65,154.21

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

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

- a) A memorandum from Village Engineer O'Connor requesting an extension of a building permit for 48 Prospect Place. Trustee Murtaugh made a motion to approve the request, extending the expiration date to 7/26/10. Trustee Gallelli seconded the motion, approved with one absent
- b) A message from NYS Governor, David A. Paterson, announcing the Excelsior Jobs Program; more information can be found on their web site:
<http://www.ny.gov/governor/press/2010stateofstate.html>.
- c) An announcement from the Croton Free Library regarding the documentary screening of "Before They Die" with a Q&A session following to be held on Sunday, February 28th at 2:00 P.M.
- d) A letter from Margaret G. Hadad, LMSW, Program Director, Mental Health Assoc. of Westchester regarding the NYS Long Term Care Ombudsman Program which will begin on April 13, 2010. Trustee Gallelli stated that this is the second time this

program has been brought to our attention and a number of residents have become volunteers.

- e) A letter from Robert Hoch, Cablevision, Director Government Affairs, regarding the discontinuance of the free TV Guide Magazine through Cablevision; as of March 3rd there will be a charge of \$3.99 per month for the publication.
- f) A letter from Robert Hoch, Cablevision Director, Government Affairs, regarding the discontinuance of their service protection plan effective March 3rd.

4 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (agenda items):

- a) No participation

5. PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:

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

WHEREAS, the Village of Croton on Hudson has benefited from several Inter-Municipal Agreements with the Town of Cortlandt over the years with respect to bidding by the Town Purchasing Director, shared use of equipment and the removal of appliances containing Freon; and

WHEREAS, the Village is desirous of continuing these Inter-Municipal Agreements for another year;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to sign the three Inter-Municipal Agreements for the year 2010 which deal with bidding by the Town Purchasing Director, shared used of equipment and removal of appliances containing Freon.

b) Trustee Gallelli stated that because of a possible effect on property that is adjacent to her property; she will recuse herself from all discussion on the following matter; she left the room for the duration of discussion of this resolution

On motion of TRUSTEE Murtaugh, seconded by TRUSTEE Olver, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York with the vote of 3 yeses, 1 recusal and 1 absent:

WHEREAS, the Village adopted a new Comprehensive Plan in January 2003; and

WHEREAS, many of the recommendations in the Plan have been studied and implemented in zoning amendments, and

WHEREAS, there were recommendations in the plan that had not been studied or implemented; and

WHEREAS, in order to complete the study of the remaining recommendations, the Village Board requested a proposal from Buckhurst Fish & Jacquemart, to evaluate and update the Village's zoning regulation; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan Committee, Buckhurst Fish & Jacquemart and the Board of Trustees met on October 26, 2009 to review the Comprehensive Plan Committee's recommendation on zoning changes; and

WHEREAS, these recommendations included rezoning certain sets of parcels to Parks, Recreation, and Education use (PRE) and certain other sets of parcels from higher residential density to lower residential density use (RA-60); and

WHEREAS, Buckhurst Fish & Jacquemart has provided a proposal to (1) implement the Comprehensive Plan Committee's recommendations of October 26, 2009 and (2) conclude for on-going work in 2010 with the Committee; and

WHEREAS, the on-going work includes potential improvements in the definitions of home occupations, off street parking and retaining walls; and

WHEREAS, the cost for implementation of the Comprehensive Plan Committee recommendations are not to exceed \$10,000 and the cost for the remaining 2010 work with the Committee will not exceed \$9,250;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is authorized to sign the proposal with Buckhurst Fish & Jacquemart for \$19,250 for implementation of the Comprehensive Plan Committee's recommendations and future work,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that this amount should be charged to account number H8020.2107.10210.

Discussion: Trustee Murtaugh the basic intent of this resolution is to make sure certain lands will remain forever park use; if this protection is not in place, they could find in 20 or 50 years unforeseen development at Croton Point Park; this will protect future residents of the Village. Trustee Olver added that these changes also will address the potential overdevelopment of housing in the north end of the Village. Mayor Wiegman stated that this is closing out the third phase of work of the comprehensive plan and adjusting the zoning to lower scale density or park use; it is also asking the consultant to study the definition of home occupations, off street parking and also the height of retaining walls.

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

WHEREAS, the Village Treasurer wishes to open both sides of the General Fund budget to record the receipt and subsequent disbursement associated with insurance recoveries; amending the 2009-2010 General Fund budget as follows:

GENERAL REVENUE
 Increase A1000.2680 \$12,318.00

GENERAL EXPENSES
 Increase A1440.4710 \$ 935.00
 Increase A3410.4710 3,168.00
 Increase A5110.4710 1,759.00
 Increase A5110.4710 1,456.00
 Increase A7140.4000 5,000.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Treasurer is authorized to amend the 2009-2010 General Fund budget to reflect these changes.

d) 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 with one absent.

WHEREAS, the Departments delivered the budget adjustments to the Treasurer pursuant to the mid-year review in which some non-property tax revenues lagged behind projection, and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer recommends the following budget appropriation reductions for the remainder of fiscal 2009-2010 as detailed below,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Treasurer is authorized to make the following amendments to the 2009-10 General Fund budget to reflect these changes:

GENERAL FUND

DECREASE

Dept	Item	Amount	
A1110	1100	1,000.00	Justice Court
A1110	4000	600.00	
A1230	4000	1,500.00	Manager
A1325	4000	1,900.00	Treasurer
A1355	2000	500.00	Assessor
A1355	4000	300.00	
A1410	4000	300.00	Village Clerk
A1440	4000	750.00	Engineer
A1440	4200	500.00	
A1620	4200	1,000.00	DPW
A1620	4710	1,000.00	
A1640	4600	500.00	DPW
A1910	4000	10,000.00	Liability Ins.
A3120	2000	2,000.00	Police

A3120	4000	1,152.00	
A3120	4200	4,479.00	
A3120	4250	2,370.00	
A3310	4200	500.00	DPW
A5140	2000	500.00	DPW
A5140	4210	500.00	
A5182	2000	1,000.00	DPW
A7140	1100	1,000.00	Recreation
A7140	4000	1,000.00	
A7310	1100	5,000.00	Recreation
A7310	4000	3,000.00	
A8090	4200	1,500.00	DPW
A8140	4200	1,000.00	DPW
A8560	4200	500.00	DPW
A9060	8010	10,000.00	Health Ins
Total Decreases		\$ 55,351.00	

REVENUE

A1000	2401	55,351.00	
Total Decreases		\$ 55,351.00	

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

WHEREAS, at the April 6th, 2009, Organizational Meeting the Village Board designated the Journal News and Gazette Newspapers as official newspapers of the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has decided that it would be more efficient and economical to have only one official newspaper of the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Gazette is weekly publication with a wide circulation in the community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Board hereby designates the Gazette Newspaper as the official newspaper of the Village

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Journal News an alternate newspaper to be utilized on an as need basis effective February 16, 2010.

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

WHEREAS, Sky View Rehabilitation & Health Center located at 1280 Albany Post Road has applied for an amended special permit to construct an addition to their existing Physical Therapy Facility and the addition of an outdoor sitting patio; and

WHEREAS, this has been referred to the Planning Board for their review and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has now recommended that the Village Board grant the permit subject to certain conditions,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Board of Trustees hereby schedules a Public Hearing at 8pm in the meeting room of the Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building on March 15, 2010 to consider the application from Sky View Rehabilitation and Health Center for an amended special permit.

- g) On motion of TRUSTEE GALLELLI, seconded by TRUSTEE MURTAUGH, the following resolution was adopted unanimously, with one absent, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, the Village has 3,284 tax parcel records and the Town of Cortlandt, which includes the entire Village, has a separate set of around 15,000 tax parcel records; and

WHEREAS, both sets of records are based on hand-written or typed notes on paper cards, and

WHEREAS, the Village and Town have a strong interest in being able to explore more efficient record keeping, more accessible records for the public, and more flexible paths to searching these records and connecting them to the County records, and

WHEREAS, the solution may lie in, among other solutions, creating an accurate transcription of the Village's smaller set of tax parcel records to establish the best practice for rendering a digital, searchable database of all the tax parcel records, and

WHEREAS, this modernization would be the first step toward the study of how to gain efficiencies in the assessment function between the Village and Town, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of State has a program for Local Government Efficiency grants, and the Village and Town wish to collaborate in seeking a grant to effect cost savings in the our assessment functions and explore the options for potential consolidation of this function between Village and Town,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is authorized to sign and submit a joint application with the Town of Cortlandt for the Local Government Efficiency grant program.

Discussion: Trustee Gallelli stated that this is another example of trying to achieve shared services and cost efficiencies with the Town and it will synchronize information between the Town and the Village. Mayor Wiegman stated that this will take hand-written information from the Village and Town and put it into a public data system; it will eliminate two separate assessment tools and two separate accounting packages; the deadline for the grant application is next Wednesday and this resolution will be sent to Chris Kehoe in the Town to do the scoping work.

6. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (non-agenda items):

None

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Murtaugh made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting held on February 1, 2010 as corrected. Trustee Gallelli seconded the motion. The Board voted approval with one absent.

Trustee Murtaugh made a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on February 1, 2010. Trustee Olver seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimous approval with one absent. The minutes of the Executive Session held on February 1, 2010 were corrected after being approved; Trustee Murtaugh made a motion to approve the corrected minutes; second by Trustee Gallelli, approved with one absent.

8. REPORTS:

Village Manager Zambrano reported that the Quaker Bridge was opened on Friday, Feb. 11th and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held. He also reported that the Village will participate in the youth police academy; the police chief has 5 students from the High School who are interested.

Village Treasurer Bullock no report

Trustee Olver reported that Presidents' Day was yesterday; both Presidents Washington and Lincoln led this country in times, essentially, of virtual civil war with the inability to hear each other, listen, reach out and look for common ground; today we are facing a similar situation where we just don't seem to want to get along with each other; he hopes we can get beyond partisanship here in Croton and look for common ground based on common sense. He mentioned the job opportunities for the census who has part time, short term jobs available; log on to www.2010censusjobs.gov or call 1 866 861-2010; various positions are open. Trustee Olver urged everyone to cooperate with the census so everyone is counted and we get our fair share of various programs. Trustee Olver reported that tonight we trimmed \$55,000+ from this year's budget; it is not a great deal, but is in the right direction; planning saves money and he is discomfited by comments he has heard against planning; in order to do a job right, it must be planned right; this Board is committed to doing things right and avoiding costly overruns as seen in the past.

Trustee Gallelli reported that today is Grievance Day; from 4 pm until this meeting started tonight, the Board met with 21 or 22 persons, but have not gotten to the stack of grievance applications where the applicants did not attend; she has never seen so many come to Grievance Day; it is a reflection of declining market values all over, not just in Croton; they are facing another 2 or 3 lengthy meetings for the final assessment role which must be completed before the budget can be presented; everyone comes in feeling the pinch, but most people do not have an appreciation that the Village tax portion is approximately 30% of the total taxes paid and school taxes are the largest portion; the overall dollar amount for the Village has gotten lower. Trustee Gallelli reported that she, Village Manager Zambrano and Mayor Wiegman met with new County Executive Rob Astorino along with other invited representatives from the northern county; it was fairly informal and his key staff were there; he presented his initiatives and how he intends to approach things; he spent about 1 or 1:20 mins listening and seemed to treat the information as useful information; the biggest issue is revaluation; other items covered were issues regarding the watershed in the northern Westchester area and the recent settlement of the housing discrimination suit. Trustee Gallelli reported that since the last meeting, the Village had a wonderful EagleFest; the Trustees, Mayor and Village Manager were there and had the ribbon cutting for the EagleCam; there were a lot of people there on a very cold day.

Trustee Murtaugh reported that he had nothing to add to what his colleagues have reported.

Mayor Wiegman reported that the EagleCam is a web camera that can be moved remotely; it can be found on the Village web site at www.crotononhudson-ny.gov and hit the EagleCam button. The Mayor reported that there was a very nice turnout for Hearts for Haiti which was organized by several businesswomen on Grand Street; his complements to the local business community for bringing this together. Mayor Wiegman thanked Lindsay Auden and Susan Lunden for preparing the grant applications for the State Energy Agency for things which the Village has to do; this is asking the government to share the cost through federal stimulus dollars; he is impressed with the packages they put together.

Trustee Olver made a motion at 9:50 pm to adjourn to Executive Session for advice of counsel; Trustee Murtaugh seconded the motion; approved by all with one absent.

Trustee Gallelli made a motion to adjourn the regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Trustee Olver seconded the motion; approved unanimous with one absent. The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis A. Bradbury

Phyllis A. Bradbury, Secretary

Village Clerk