

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, NY was held on Monday, April 21, 2014 at the Municipal Building, Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

The following officials were present:

Deputy Mayor Gallelli	Trustee Davis
Village Manager Zambrano	Trustee Levitt
Village Attorney Feldman	Trustee Slippen
Village Treasurer Bullock	

The following Officials were absent:

Mayor Wiegman

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Deputy Mayor Gallelli called the meeting to order at 8:15pm.

2. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Davis made a motion to approve the following Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Vouchers. The motion was seconded by Trustee Slippen and approved unanimously with a vote of 4-0.

General Fund	\$ 76,922.49
Water Fund	\$ 26,398.79
Sewer Fund	\$ 3,091.88
Capital Fund	\$383,076.98
Trust Fund	\$ 2,443.32
Total	\$491,933.46

3. PRESENTATION:

Shery Brauman described to the Board the NAMI's (National Alliance on Mental Illness) county-wide "Ribbon Campaign" for May 2014. Ms. Brauman advised that NAMI is a grassroots organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for all individuals and families whose lives are affected by mental illness. Ms. Brauman advised that May is Mental Health Awareness month and they are requesting to display their ribbons throughout Croton.

Trustee Slippen suggested reaching out to the Special Education PTA; she is concerned that the community might not know what these ribbons mean and this is a way to get the word out through the school community.

4. PUBLIC HEARING:

A motion to open up a Public Hearing to hear comments as it pertains to a Local Law Introductory No. 1 of 2014 Authorizing the Use of the Best Value Procurement Standard was made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Slippen with a 4-0 vote.

There being no comments to come before the Board a motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Levitt and seconded by Trustee Davis with a 4-0 vote.

Trustee Davis stated that this gives the Village more flexibility and will not restrict the Village of having to go with the lowest bidder and be forced to use a company that many not provide the best service.

Deputy Mayor Gallelli stated that the decision not to take the lowest bidder would need to be justified with backup data.

Village Manager Zambrano advised that this gives the Village more options to conduct the business of the Village in a more efficient way.

Trustee Slippen stated that she feels this is very positive especially having watched the School District being forced to take the lowest bidder and the issues and problems that they have encountered.

On motion of TRUSTEE DAVIS, seconded by TRUSTEE SLIPPEN the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York; with a 4-0 vote.

WHEREAS, the Village Board wishes to add Chapter 79 to the Village Code to enact the use of the Best Value Procurement Standard pursuant to Section 103 of the NYS General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, Local Law Introductory No.1 of 2014 has been drafted to enact the Best Value Procurement Standard; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held and closed on April 21, 2014,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Board of Trustees hereby adopts Local Law Introductory No. 1 of 2014 to add Chapter 79 to the Village Code

to enact the use of the Best Value Procurement Standard pursuant to Section 103 of the NYS General Municipal Law; and upon adoption will become Local Law No. 1 of 2014.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letter from Janet T. Langsman, CEO Arts Westchester dated April 2, 2014 advising that they are compiling a list of summer music concerts throughout Westchester and invited the Village to participate.
- b. Letter from New York State Senator Gregg Ball dated March 26, 2014 advising of a Roundtable discussion to be held on April 24, 2014 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm called "Combating the Heroin Problem throughout New York State".
- c. Letter from David Chen, New York State Department of Transportation dated March 24, 2014 advising that the comment period for the "High Speed Rail Empire Corridor Program Tier 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement" has been extended until April 30, 2014.
- d. Letter from Douglas Elfner, Director of the Office of Consumer Policy dated April 3, 2014 advising that they will be holding Information Forums and Public Statements on April 23rd and April 30th regarding an application by West Point Partners, LLC for a certificate of Environmental Compatibility to construct and operate a 345 Kilovolt transmission line known as the West Point Project.
- e. Letter from Dan Ahouse of Cablevision dated April 1, 2014 advising of changes to the "select video service rates"

6. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION-AGENDA ITEMS

Bob Wintermeier, 43 Radnor Avenue, Croton on Hudson, thanked the Board for keeping salaries within the 2% Cap; asked that the Board pay close attention to employee benefits; address overtime and suggested that the DARE Program be a volunteer program instead of paying a Police Officer.

Deputy Mayor Gallelli stated that a lot of the overtime is contractual and is subject to negotiated contracts. Deputy Mayor Gallelli stated that the Youth Officer spends part of their time in the Croton Schools and part of the time in the Cortlandt Schools which Croton gets reimbursed for. Trustee Gallelli added that drug abuse has reached an all time high and deserves the best kind of education by appropriately trained personnel.

Village Manager Zambrano advised that the DARE Program consumes a lot of hours and is a full time program for our Officers.

Trustee Davis advised that there are some benefits for having Police involvement in the DARE program and has a positive influence on our Drug Education Program.

Paul Steinberg, 35 Old Post Road, Croton on Croton, asked if there are any changes planned for the compensation to the Board and how does this affect the Mayor since he is working thirty plus hours. Mr. Steinberg thought that the Village would have to pay the Mayor for those additional hours.

Deputy Mayor Gallelli advised that the compensation for the Board has not changed; the Village is only following the requirements of the Affordable Health Care Act.

Trustee Levitt stated that the stipend that the Board receives is not based on an hourly rate; it is a different situation for the hours that are accumulated for purposes of being eligible for the Affordable Health Care Act and the number of hours worked is looked at for purposes for insurance only.

Village Manager Zambrano stated that there are certain requirements through the New York State Retirement Systems that requires those elected officials that are in the system to keep track of the number of hours that they spend on Village business. Mr. Zambrano stated that the Mayor receives credit for the \$5,000 stipend he receives; elected officials are not subject to minimum wage.

Sadie Longobardi, Croton on Hudson stated that she does not understand how the new health care program works and asked for a straight answer and does not understand why the Board needs experts.

Deputy Mayor Gallelli stated that in defense of the Board, the Board cannot make decisions when dealing with complicated issue such as the new Federal Affordable Health Care Act without advice from experts in the field. Deputy Mayor Gallelli added that our employees are not Human Resource experts and we only act after advice from our experts who understand the very complicated Affordable Health Care Act.

Village Manager Zambrano advised that the issue is extremely complex; the experts have gone to Congress to get interpretations of the law as well. Mr. Zambrano stated that every municipality in the State is dealing with this

issue. Mr. Zambrano suggested that anyone with questions regarding this issue or any other issue should contact him directly and he will have the question researched and have an answer prepared by the next meeting.

7. RESOLUTIONS

- a. On motion of TRUSTEE DAVIS, seconded by TRUSTEE LEVITT the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York; with a 4-0 vote.

WHEREAS, in November of 2011 the Village Board of Trustees authorized a contract with Mid-Hudson Ambulance District to provide supplemental Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) services to the Croton Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and

WHEREAS, the Village wishes to continue to provide supplemental services to the Croton Emergency Medical Services (EMS), a group of well-trained, highly capable, and dedicated volunteer emergency responders, and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Director of Emergency Management and the Village Manager that it would be in the best interest of the Village to extend the contract with Mid-Hudson Ambulance District for a period of one year;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton on Hudson believe it to be in the best interest of the Village to maintain services with the Mid Hudson Ambulance District and authorizes the Village Manager to sign the contract for EMT services from the Mid Hudson Ambulance District, at a rate of \$19.058 per hour, for a period of one year with a renewal provision of three one-year terms.

DISCUSSION:

Deputy Mayor Gallelli stated that over the past several months we've had meetings with the Ambulance Corps and this represents a very good contract for the Village.

- b. On motion of TRUSTEE LEVITT, seconded by TRUSTEE DAVIS, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York; with a 4-0 vote.

WHEREAS, Rey Mussa has applied for a special permit to operate a convenience store located at 205 S. Riverside Avenue; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been referred to the Planning Board for its recommendation and review; and

WHEREAS, in its April 15, 2014 memo to the Village Board of Trustees, the Planning Board has recommended issuing a special permit to operate a convenience store subject to certain considerations,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Board of Trustees hereby schedules a Public Hearing to consider the special permit application to operate a convenience store located at 205 S. Riverside Avenue in the meeting room of the Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building at 8 pm on May 12, 2014.

- c. On motion of TRUSTEE DAVIS, seconded by TRUSTEE SLIPPEN, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton on Hudson; with a 4-0 vote

WHEREAS, D. D. R. Construction, Inc. is the property owner of 1210 Albany Post Road, Croton-on-Hudson, NY; and

WHEREAS, D. D. R. Construction, Inc. will be installing on said property a wastewater collection and pumping system that will connect to the Village's sanitary sewer system force main and then into the Ossining Sanitary Sewer system; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to set forth their agreement as to the rights and obligations of each of the parties with respect to the wastewater collection and pumping system on D.D.R.'s said property,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Village Manager to sign the Sewer Connection Agreement with D.D.R Construction, Inc. to connect the property located at 1210 Albany Post Road to the Village's sanitary sewer system.

DISCUSSION:

Deputy Mayor Gallelli advised that it is her understanding that this is a necessary agreement because this piece of property currently does not have access to our Sanitary Sewer System and they are seeking to connect to it.

e. On motion of TRUSTEE LEVITT, seconded by TRUSTEE DAVIS the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York; with a 4-0 vote.

WHEREAS, the house located at 170 Grand Street, Section 68.17 Block 004 Lot 045 was damaged in a fire and the building has been classified as an unsafe structure; and

WHEREAS, a variance from the NYSDOL was issued to allow the building to be demolished without removing the asbestos siding; and

WHEREAS, the Village has issued a demolition permit; and

WHEREAS, the owner has hired a contractor to demolish the building and was scheduled to be demolished on April 2; and

WHEREAS, due to a business dispute between the owner and contractor the building has not been demolished; and

WHEREAS, the Village Engineer under the Emergency Powers section of Chapter 90 of the Village Code has taken steps to have the building boarded up to eliminate unsafe conditions; and

WHEREAS, if the dispute continues between the owner and the contractor the Village will need to take action and have the building demolished; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board, under Section 90-4 of the Village Code must assign an "Engineer" to conduct a survey of the property; and

WHEREAS, Tom Quartuccio, P.E has submitted a proposal to survey the property at an hourly rate of \$200.00 with an estimate of time to be between 12 to 20 hours; and

WHEREAS, the Village Engineer recommends retaining Mr. Quartuccio to survey the property,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Board of Trustees authorizes the hiring of Tom Quartuccio, P.E. to survey the property located at 170 Grand Street at the hourly rate of \$200.00

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that in accordance with section 90-10 of the Village Code all cost and expenses incurred by the Village in connection with any and all of the above proceedings will be added to the Village tax bill for 170 Grand Street.

DISCUSSION:

Village Manager Zambrano stated that he was advised by the Village Engineer just prior to this meeting that the owner has reached an agreement with a contractor and the work should begin this Wednesday. Mr. Zambrano stated that he felt it was necessary for the Village Board to move forward with this resolution thereby giving the Village Engineer the next step if this does not materialize.

Trustee Slippen stated that some of the neighbors are upset and requested that this be communicated to them.

Trustee Davis stated that this had an impact on the business owners as well as the residents.

Trustee Gallelli stated that this kind of post-fire building has had a big impact on the community.

8. CITIZEN PARTICPATION-NON AGENDA ITEMS – none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Slippen made a motion to approve the minutes as amended of the Regular Meeting held on April 7, 2014. Trustee Davis seconded the motion. The Board approved; with a vote of 4-0.

Trustee Davis made a motion to approve the minutes as amended of the Quasi-Judicial Meeting held on April 9, 2014 at 10:45am. Trustee Slippen seconded the motion. The Board approved; with a vote of 4-0.

9. REPORTS

Village Manager Zambrano thanked the Board for spending the countless hours working on the Budget; it was a very difficult Budget to work with and budgets are getting tighter and tighter. Mr. Zambrano stated that we spend the money very cautiously and we are trying to cut corners wherever we can and the reflection of this is that over the last several years we have been able to add money back to our Fund Balance that we had appropriated. Mr. Zambrano added that he hopes that he has the Board's support if at any time during the Fiscal Year he needs to come to them for additional funding.

Trustee Davis advised that this Saturday at Vassallo Park from 11:00am to 2:00pm Village Earth Day Celebrations will be held and urged everyone to attend.

Trustee Slippen advised that the Farmer's Market is going to be working with the PTA at the Elementary School to raise awareness with respect to local foods.

Deputy Mayor Gallelli reminded everyone that this Saturday from 7:00pm to 10:00pm the Yacht Club will be holding their annual Pasta Dinner which supports their Fellowship Scholarship Program which is awarded to a Croton Senior who is planning studies in Maritime, Marine or Environmental Studies.

Deputy Mayor Gallelli advised that the Yacht Club is participating in the Hudson River Stripped Base Derby Competition; a youth Cat Fish Derby will also be held this Saturday and Sunday

Deputy Mayor Gallelli advised that "Drug Take Back Day" will be held at the Croton Commons this Saturday; all prescription drugs are then taken to federally supervised locations; the Croton Police Department also has a drop box in their lobby for other times of the year.

There being no further business to come before the Board; Trustee Slippen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Davis seconded the motion; approved 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25PM

Respectfully submitted

Judy Weintraub, Board Secretary

Paula DiSanto, Village Clerk