

Board Meeting

March 26, 2007

The Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees met in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York on March 26, 2007.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pontieri with Trustees Crean, Dean, Devlin, Hilton, McGiff, Village Treasurer Krawczyk and Village Clerk Seal present. Trustee Krieger arrived for Executive Session. Village Attorney Snead was not present.

The flag salute was led by Maria Hendrickson.

Mayor Pontieri read the safety message

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried with Trustee Krieger abstaining, the Board approved the Special Board Meeting minutes of March 19, 2007 with corrections noted by Attorney Snead.

Village Treasurer Krawczyk presented bills for the period ending March 26, 2007 totaling \$323,425.79.

General Fund	\$247,065.96
Trust & Agency Fund	\$13,221.42
Capital Projects	\$13,805.01
Sewer Fund	\$22,132.87
BID Fund	\$7,553.75
Housing/Code Fund	\$2,139.32
Community Development Fund	\$14,529.05
General Bills	\$2,978.41
Total	\$323,425.79

Trustee Hilton stated the bill to Atlantic Fire Sprinkler for \$6,950.00 was for anti-freeze in the system which allowed us not to have to replace the furnace which is old and it also allowed us not to have to heat the building. The \$3,500 spent on anti-freeze allowed us to save money on fuel and obviously replacing the furnace. We also had to install an RCP valve which prevents a backflow of anti-freeze into the Village water system and we also had to replace a broken butterfly valve...

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the bills as presented.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request to appropriate \$3,600 from the BID surplus to purchase holiday lights and additional light bulb decorations—this was approved at a BID meeting on Feb. 6th.

Treasurer Krawczyk stated: I have for the Board and Mayor's purposes before you the cash balances as of Feb. 28th. That is something our auditors would like for you to see every quarter.

Village Clerk Seal stated: on Grievance Night, Feb. 20, 2007 the Village Grievance Board voted to reduce the assessed value on the following properties as follows: 204-13-9-1.1, 138 West Ave., Reduced from 134,140 to 115,140; 204-9-7-36, 17 E. Main, Reduced from 75,040 to 67,500; and 204-4-5-14, 107 Lake Shore Rd., Reduced from 26,070 to 20,374. No other complaints were deemed to be excessive or unequal.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request as presented above.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Devlin, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the telephone bid for a new Village Hall phone system that will be put in once the renovations are done to Tele Verse Communications at a base bid price of \$42,860 with a possible alternate not to exceed \$8,000.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the Board set a Public Hearing to be held on April 9, 2007 to amend Art. 3 of Chapter 79 to provide continuing exemption from taxation to the un-remarried spouses of volunteer fire fighters and volunteer ambulance workers. These provides basically that upon their death, it would be a lifetime benefit. It is something that we had in place that has to be re-certified.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Mayor to enter into and sign an easement agreement with Capital Management Development LLC to assign a permanent and perpetual easement that runs with the land as described in the attached scheduled C1 and C2. That's for the Capital Management program for the sewer line which is Bay Village and it's an easement to use the sewer line through Village property.

B.I.D. Report – Dennis Smith stated: the BID at its last meeting approved the annual budget for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year. The tax rate and operating budget was kept the same as previous years even though the BID has committed \$25,000 per year for the next five years for the dredging of the Patchogue River.

In February the BID approved \$500 to test valet parking at the Theatre for the Performing Arts for major venues. It was decided by the Theatre that a good test for this idea would be the Nelson Ritter Orchestra Show to be held on April 22nd. If this proves successful, other events will be added and of course that would help with parking on Main Street and Maple Ave. and it would add a little cache—a little pizzazz to various venues at the Theatre. Again, if that's successful, valet parking would be included in the future and it's always to be included in advertising for these major events.

Las week the BID was approached by All American Cruise LLC and their intent was to ask if they could hold weekly vintage car rallies each Saturday night in the Village from Memorial Day through to Labor Day. I met with them and there is a lot of details that needs to be worked out before this could happen. I will keep everybody apprised. They were trying to work this out with Riverhead, but it didn't come to fruition. I happen to think if we can do it tastefully, it may be an event that will help draw people to the Village on a Saturday night—good for restaurants and businesses. He can get 80 to 100 cars to come. If they had a wish list, they would close Main Street from 5 to 6 p.m. every Saturday night, which is not possible. And, the place that they would like to be is the Brookhaven building on West Main Street--the lot behind there because it's fenced on two sides--they could control the front, it's a family oriented event, there is going to be no alcoholic beverage. It's slated to go from approx. 6 to 6:30 when the cars would arrive and would be over by 10 p.m. and the lot would be cleared by 10 p.m. But, there is a lot of detail that needs to be ironed out.

The BID has appropriated \$1,200 for the purchase of new receptacles and planters that we have throughout the Village. We did agree to purchase a dozen more candle wreaths to enhance the decorations throughout the holidays on Main Street. With this additional purchase we will be able to go much further down on the west end of the Village and

certainly down to Bay Ave. on the east end and possibly start to make the turn to go down Waverly Ave. and Medford Ave. as well, if not this year definitely next year.

Mayor Pontieri stated: once Copper Beech Development has been done, they will be purchasing and we will be putting in single lamp period lighting going down Gerard and up Railroad. Because it's single lighted, maybe there is a small wreath we could add to that as well. Pulte is going to purchase the lamps; we are going to put them in and we are going to plug them in--a combined effort on both parts of ours.

Trustee Crean stated: I had the opportunity to meet with the property owner of 38 West Main Street, the old Colony Shop. There was a change of a lease so that when J&R came on board, they had to make certain modifications to the kitchen and get some Board of Health approvals which are now in place. They resumed the work downstairs to allow J&R to operate and they hope to get in there by mid to late summer. The apartments upstairs work is continuing. Their plumbing, sheetrock and electric work has been done and the apartments upstairs will be quite appealing--unique apartments with high ceilings, very nice frontage and is looking at having that completed within about 6 to 8 weeks—2 bedroom and 2 bathroom apartments. There are two apartments on the second floor and two apartments on the third floor—large, spacious, nice woodwork—a real good job in that building.

Trustee Crean stated: I spoke to Carolyn Faith from Jim Morgo's office from the County's Economic Development Office. We've been awarded a grant for that mast arm to go over the pedestrian crosswalk and we are waiting for the return of a contract from their office before we can go forward and actually purchase the materials that we need.

Trustee Crean stated: We had a meeting with the property owner of Madam Guiri's at 170 East Main Street. This property owner had come to us to get approval to perhaps knock the building down and build something of a commercial nature which we weren't too receptive to. With Artspace looking to come to town, we have seen the first ripple of the benefits of what Artspace might bring to our community. He is going to be looking to create studio and gallery space in that building. He has some pretty exciting ideas that he will be presenting to the Work Session of the Planning Board tomorrow night and look to be converting that building into a mixed use of gallery studio space. He is looking to put a great deal of money into that property and open the back to our Village municipal parking lot which greatly enhances the accessibility to the property. I think it is the first of many spin-offs from that. It is a neat idea and will allow us to preserve that building on Main Street.

Mayor Pontieri stated: he came to the idea because his wife had received a card from Artspace announcing the feasibility studies being done at this time. If you went on line to Artspace-Patchogue, there is a survey that you can take if you happen to be an artist--what aspects of the community you would want, the type of art that you use, the kind of art space that you need. His wife happens to be a working artist who has a collection and who has actually been looking for studio space and working space.

Deputy Mayor McGiff stated: in terms of that building, Gerry was contacted by the attorney for the owner saying they wanted to knock it down. And I want to commend Gerry for saying no and I said no also. It's the last building left on Main Street of that character. Because of his persistence, it forced that property owner to get creative, and hopefully that creativity will benefit the Village.

Mayor Pontieri stated: I have said to a number of people that I am fortunate to have a Board that will say no when they have to or be able to deal with problems from the practical, personal side of it. Mr. McGiff is correct. Gerry said no to the guy from the

beginning and obviously we all stood behind him--shoulder to shoulder with him. That building will stay.

Trustee Hilton stated: I would like to compliment the Parks Department for their work at the St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday. It went very smoothly, the attendance was great, it was well received.

Trustee Hilton stated: at the Halycon Manor we had some asbestos removal which allows us to leap forward on the back addition where the Parks Department is going to move as soon as possible. This allows us to close up the walls, sheetrock and put some windows in.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request by the Congregational Church of Patchogue to hold their annual Easter Dawn Service at Mascot Dock on Sunday, April 8th from 6 to 7 a.m.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for the Patchogue Rotary Club to use Shorefront Ballfield on Monday, May 28th from 5 to 10 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request by Emanuel Lutheran School to use Rider Avenue Park on June 12th and June 14th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Trustee Devlin, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for the Church of Christ to use Shorefront Ballfield on Sunday, July 1st from 4 p.m. to dusk.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for Grace Ministries to use the bandshell for a church concert on Sunday, July 1st from 5 to 8 p.m.

Request for Grace Ministries to use Shorefront Park on Monday, Sept. 3rd from noon to 6 p.m. was tabled.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for Fireworks by Grucci Show at Shorefront Park on Saturday, July 28th.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the Board approve a request by Sembrando Fuerza to use Village Hall starting Friday, April 13th from 4 to 7 p.m. They will be sponsoring a weekly outreach service to better foster communication between your community, your schools and your home. During this time you will have the opportunity to have individualized attention pertaining to your specific questions and needs. This could include Village information, community information, and/or school information.

Deputy Mayor McGiff stated: last week Newsday had an article about some of our structure closings. It was a good plug for what we are trying to do in terms of quality of life. It said we had closed ten houses. It also said we had garnered a win over the Coalition which has been a nemesis to the Village in prior administrations. It was great press for what we are trying to do here.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Devlin, and unanimously carried, the Board set a Public Hearing for May 14, 2007 to address some of the definitions of our Village code, more specifically Article 56, the rental code. We are running into problems as to the definitions of kitchens--what is a kitchen? In a lot of single family homes, residents are adding what I would term a kitchen, but it's not defined in the Village code. Another example which definitions that have to be tightened up is designated parking spaces--people using their backyards as volley ball courts and parking lots. It's really not defined in the Village Code.

Deputy Mayor McGiff stated: the Mayor and I have met with Inspector Quinn of the 5th Precinct in an effort to keep our channels of communication open. It is something I think the Mayor has done quite effectively and Inspector Quinn has been very cooperative and has an open door to us as an administration. They are increasing their patrols within the confines of the Village and they are increasing some anti-crime patrols now that spring and summer is coming up--an increased presence on Main Street and surrounding areas. The 5th Precinct is renewing their commitment to us as a Village. There is not a foot patrol every day, but last summer Inspector Quinn did put a body on Main Street—more so than I have seen in past years. And also, we had Diedre who is probably on Main Street five to six hours and that is also a presence. I think once the weather warms up, Inspector Quinn will have foot patrols like he had last year.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Devlin, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request to have members of Zoning and Planning Boards to attend a training forum on April 24th which is something required by NYS.

Trustee Devlin stated: as suggested by Josephine Miller had an idea to set up a group as Friends of Halycon Manor. I will be meeting with her and some other interested individuals this Saturday. I will get back to you with what type of proposals we will have to raise funds for the renovation.

Trustee Devlin stated: Marion Russo and I met with a group of concerned citizens about the possibility of establishing a doggie park in Patchogue. Apparently, other communities have done this successfully where they set aside an acre or two where dogs could play. It is just something that I would like to get the opinions of other Board members as to whether you think this might be something we would like to look into. Originally, I thought we had enough room in the Rider Ave. Park, but Marion pointed out there were too many ball games going on. Another is Father Totoro Park might be something we might want to convert.

Mayor Pontieri stated: let's take a look around. There has to be an area. There has to be a spot.

Trustee Dean stated: we submitted a letter of intent to the State Emergency Management Office about possibly applying for a grant to raise the roads at Brightwood, Beach and Roosevelt Streets, similar to what we did on Campbell, Argyl, Laurel and Pine. J.R. Holzmacher was instrumental in preparing that letter and submitting it. We received notification back that it seems like a project that would be fundable by this. Marion Russo and Steven Uccellini will be attending a conference on the grant application process. We look forward to hearing back from them. We have some severe flooding problems down there and this could, hopefully, see some results like we have seen on Argyl and Laurel. We still see some localized flooding during rain events, but it drains quickly and works real well. I think it has improved the neighborhood there.

Marion Russo, Director of Community Development: stated I would like to emphasize that J.R. Holzamacher's firm was instrumental in creating a hazard mitigation plan which is one of only two in Suffolk County that has been approved by FEMA. That enables our Village to be able to go forward with this application and get that favorable indication from FEMA that this application would be considered. I think we paid \$15,000 for that report. That report is well worth over \$100,000 with all the time and effort and expertise that went into it. We are benefiting from the fact that J. Holzacher put in that time and that we do have this hazard mitigation plan and can use this plan to be able to deal with issues such as has been happening on Brightwood Street.

Trustee Dean stated: we will be able to use that plan to access funds from FEMA and SEMA going into the future to take care of a number of other issues that we have in regard to hazard mitigation.

Mayor Pontieri stated: Steve Uccellini and Holzacher have really been a partner on a lot of what's been happening, from the heavy rains of a year ago and dealing with those issues to the Argyl Lane Project as a hard construction project. That partnership is something we hope to continue.

Trustee Dean stated: I attended a conference held by the Cornell Cooperative Extension on Walkable Communities and creating them. It was informative and helpful and hopefully we will get a report that is going to give us the opportunity to access the DOT funds to implement some of the ideas that we came up with in the Walkable Communities Conference that we held in the Theatre a few months back. It will be another piece of information that we can put together in our application process.

Trustee Dean stated: Stacy Jensen of the Army Corps. Of Engineers sent an e-mail which is a copy of an e-mail she received from the National Fishery Service. The National Fishery Service was the last agency we were waiting to comment on our dredging permit application. As long as we adhere to a couple of conditions, dredging may begin at the applicant's convenience and that would be now. We are ready to go. We just need to get some contracts in place.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request to declare two sewer ejector pumps as surplus for use by resident Paula Murphy for properties located at 194 and 200 West Avenue.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for the Patchogue Lions Club to hold the Annual Independence Day Parade on Wednesday, July 4, 2007.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for the neighbors of Highland Avenue to hold their 10th annual Block Party on Saturday, July 14, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (rain date July 21st). and suspend the open alcohol ordinance.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for the Greater Patchogue Historical Society to hold a community walk on Friday, December 14, 2007 and use of the Village bus for the event.

Maria Hendrickson presented "Friends of Shorefront Committee" report.

Public to be Heard: None

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the Board reconvened from Executive Session.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the Board voted to bring Debra Newham to the salary level of Senior Clerk.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hilton, seconded by Trustee Devlin, and unanimously carried, the Board voted to bring Nancy Auer to salary level of Account Clerk.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Hilton, and unanimously carried, the Board moved to adjourn at 8:56 p.m.