

VILLAGE OF BREWSTER  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
05 JULY 2017  
7:30 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Brewster held a Regular Meeting on July 5, 2017 at Village Hall, 50 Main Street, Brewster, NY 10509.

Attendees:

Mayor: James Schoenig

Deputy Mayor and Trustee:

Trustees; Mary Bryde, Tom Boissonnault

Village Engineer:

Village Counsel: Anthony Molé

Clerk & Treasurer: Peter Hansen

Absent:

Christine Piccini

Erin Meagher

Todd Atkinson

Pledge to flag.

Notation of Exits

**Regular Meeting**

Mayor Schoenig motions to open the regular meeting, Trustee Bryde 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.

1. Trustee Erin Meagher, Request for Immediate Resignation – Mayor Schoenig motions to ask for the immediate resignation of Trustee Erin Meagher due to her charge and conviction of stealing almost \$3,000 through deliberate falsification of accounting records from the Mahopac Carmel Chamber of Commerce, a clear ethics violation of the Village Employee manual and breaking of trust with the voters of the Village of Brewster who elected her to the position, Trustee Boissonnault 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0. Mayor Schoenig says we have a duty and an obligation to act, repeatedly if necessary, on behalf of the public in this matter.
2. DPW Report – Dan Crawford delivers the Department of Public Works report for the month of June, 2017. Mayor Schoenig says this is the first time we have added the DPW to monthly reports so we will learn as we go. Superintendent Crawford said Church is in working on Well #2 today and will start on Well # 3 when they complete that. The wells should be back on line in about 3 weeks. The dedicated circuit that communicates between the pump house and the water tank is intermittent again to the point of unreliable and we are looking at alternatives for communication and or backup. If pricing is within reason we will put it forward for approval or it might wait until next year’s budget. Friday night a tree came down on a power line and NYSEG came in Monday morning to remove. Additional tree work needs to be done at the pump house and storage tank by a private tree service. The usual seasonal work is ongoing, lawn mowing, weed whacking, pot holes, - there is no specific schedule as we are dependent on weather and emergencies that crop up. Mondays and Fridays are brush days, potholes we try to keep up with but it is an ongoing problem. Street signs are almost completely changed over to new signs and posts. Parking lot signs need attention. Line painting is not complete and is dependent on weather. Some of the routine work takes the crew off of Main Street and they are not visible to the community but it doesn’t mean they aren’t working. Maintaining the wellfield, the lagoon, drainage, grass, at the wellfield and water storage tank takes time and is not “visible” to the average observer. Mr. Crawford said when looking for projects he usually look for specific things, like potholes. He doesn’t look for potholes and weeds and grass and fifteen other things so he won’t see everything in one pass. Trustee Bryde asks if everyone works together. Mr. Crawford says they usually work individually on projects when possible. Trustee Bryde asks if there is a list of tasks for the flags and other things that re-occur annually. Mr. Crawford says there is a list of many tasks regarding water sampling and testing, parades and events, flags, water quality report, and other cyclical things and he will forward that list to the Board for their review. Trustee Bryde asks about the level of involvement with paperwork. Mr. Crawford says the paperwork load is constantly growing. Water

meters have added a good deal of work before meter reading and after, learning what is needed in advance of the request through experience allows me to prepare in advance. Maintaining the ledgers for all invoices and expenses by budget line helps me to manage the budget and prepare the following year's budget. Trustee Boissonnault asks if we have the resources, labor and equipment, to maintain the Village at a higher level when the renovations take place. Mr. Crawford says as he has repeatedly said there should be a capital replacement program for roads and sidewalks utilizing CHIPS money and whatever other monies we can find which would go a long way toward maintaining the appearance of the Village. Mr. Crawford said when tasks continue to be added to the crew with the limited time they currently have to complete the tasks that need to be done working around time off, weather delays, equipment malfunctions, it is very difficult to get everything done that needs to be done. Mayor Schoenig motions to accept the DPW report, Trustee Bryde 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.

3. Founders Day – Coalition for a Better Brewster

3.1. Parade/Event Permit – Jack Gress says that the Coalition is excited about this year's Founder's Day and asks the Board if there are questions about the material we sent in for the Board to review. Mayor Schoenig motions to issue the Founder's Day permit for the Coalition for a Better Brewster from 6:30AM to 5PM on September 24, 2017 on Main Street from Wilkes to Railroad to waiving all fees, Trustee Bryde 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.

**PARADE PERMIT APPLICATION**

Applications shall be filed with the Village Clerk at least 60 Days in advance of the event and applicant is required to appear before the Board of Trustees at least 30 days in advance of the event:

Name of Parade Chairman: LAURIE MANNING	Telephone Number: 279-1400
Email: INFO@BrewsterFoundersDay.COM	Cell Phone: 646-208-3519
Organization Name: COALITION FOR A BETTER BREWSTER	Org. Telephone Number: 914-646-4049
Organization Address: 12 MAIN ST #305	Brewster NY 10509
Head of Organization: JACK GRESS	Email: JACKGRESS@Verizon.NET
Parade Date: 9-24-2017 Rain Date: NONE	Number of Participants: 95 Vendors
Starting Time: 7:00 AM Ending time: 5:00 PM	Number of Vehicles: 10-TRUCKS
Assembly Street and assembly time: MAIN ST - Assembly 6:30 AM	
Details: Setup starts at 7:00 AM Entrance through the Gold lot. Fair starts @ 10:00 AM Through 4 PM Road Re-opens at 5PM after clean up	
Starting Point: RAILROAD AVE	
Termination Point: WILKES ST	
Parade Route: STREET CLOSING + STREET FAIR	

4. Fire Department Parade Permit – Ken Clair represents the Fire District. Trustee Bryde says the parade permit application is supposed to come in to the Village at least 60 days prior to the event. Ken Clair says he is stepping in at the Mayor's request and he understands that the ball was dropped and is working to impress on the current Chief and his team the importance of maintaining these organizational issues on a continuing basis. Mr. Clair submits the parade permit application on behalf of the Brewster Southeast Joint Fire District and requests a parade permit for the annual Firemen's Inspection Parade. Mr. Clair apologizes for the lateness of the application. Trustee Bryde continues to discuss the need to improve communications between the Village and the Fire District so that we can work closer together on the Fire District Service Awards, the Village Women of Distinction and NYS Senate Veteran's Honor Roll and the numerous other activities at both organizations that have an impact on each other. Improving

communications between our two organizations would be a win-win. Trustee Boissonnault suggested using Wells Park as a venue for some events and invited Mr. Clair to come take a look and talk to us about possibilities. Mayor Schoenig motions to authorize the parade permit for Wednesday July 26, 2017 from Marvin Avenue along Main Street up N. Main Street to Markel Park from 6:00PM to 8:30PM, waiving all fees, Trustee Boissonnault 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.

5. Minutes for approval -

5.1. June 21, 2017 Regular Meeting - Trustee Bryde motions to approve the June 21, 2017 minutes, Trustee Boissonnault 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.

6. Vouchers Payable – Fiscal Year 2018 – Trustee Bryde reviewed the vouchers and found everything in order.

6.1. A -	GENERAL FUND	\$7,535.98
6.2. C –	REFUSE & GARBAGE	366.08
6.3. EN -	ENGINEERING FEES ESCROW ACCOUNT	2,387.50
6.4. F -	WATER FUND	5,163.46
6.5. G -	SEWER FUND	52,887.71
6.6. TA -	TRUST & AGENCY	1,025.65

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Total Vouchers Payable \$69,366.38

Mayor Schoenig motions to approve vouchers payable as written, Trustee Boissonnault 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.

7. Other Business

7.1. Trustee Bryde says that Clerk Hansen and I attended the Women of Distinction ceremony and were very proud of Amy Campanaro as our nominee and it was a pleasure to be there. Trustee Bryde asks if the medallions were put on the taxicabs. Mayor Schoenig says the numbers are on the cabs and the medallions are in process. The unique numbers for the cabs begin with a 'V' and that number identifies the cab as a Village of Brewster licensed cab and associates it with a unique medallion number issued to a single cab company. With that information in hand we can identify the driver at any given time. Trustee Bryde says the Chamber of Commerce 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Proclamation will be presented on August 6<sup>th</sup> at the event and we should sign and date it for that date. Trustee Bryde notes that Chief Del Gardo issued a public safety notice and will be speaking to the seniors on the subject at their next meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup> and June Offermann is most appreciative.

7.2. Trustee Bryde addresses the Trustee Meagher debacle and reads the following letter into the minutes:

7.2.1. Trustee Bryde: I want to comment on the debacle of the hanging flowers on Main Street. Erin Meagher was Main Street Beautification Coordinator. At two meetings in April the flowers were discussed. Initially Erin said she would ask our former Trustee Teri Stockburger to help her with the project and at the following meeting she said that Teri would help her. We subsequently learned that Teri was no longer in the picture and Erin had contacted Mark Buzzetto at the Brewster Florist who agreed to take care of the flowers at \$100 a basket which we immediately denied authorization. The mayor then learned from Mark that he had said \$50 a basket. Although we were upset with Erin's handling or lack thereof of the process along with the cost compared to previous years we were now into late May therefore we agreed to have Mark handle the flowers. As a Board we realized we were spending an inordinate amount of time discussing the flowers and had all had enough. It became such an endless chore. When the baskets were finally hung due to extenuating circumstances within a week or so many of the plants wilted away. Although at some point Jack Gress recognized our situation, offered to intervene but at the time we just simply couldn't undertake one more discussion about the flowers although we do thank him for his support. After the flowers were taken down Jack Gress spoke to me the other day that perhaps putting up the few salvageable plants at or near the railroad station might work and Tom agreed to take the balance of the flowers to Wells Park to be planted in hopes of possible revival. Ultimately Jack and I together looked at the flowers and mutually agreed they were a lost cause. We have seen flowers on Main Street for years with very little discussion or fanfare. We as a Board are very disappointed. It is important to me to point

this out as simply another example of Erin showing us as a Board and the people of the village who voted for her that the title was apparently more important than the position and the responsibilities as a Trustee. In her statement in the Putnam Examiner after her election in 2015 Erin said "it was about time there was a younger voice on the village board." "My hope is that the mayor and the rest of the board can work with me because I have a lot of fresh ideas for the village". The thoughts and ideas were never brought to the forefront and ultimately the rest of us have had to handle the responsibilities that Erin did not even fulfill throughout her term. It is time for Erin Meagher to resign.

- 7.3. Trustee Boissonnault takes exception to the public comment made at the last meeting saying that we sounded like a former administration of the Town of Southeast with our repetitive calls for Trustee Meagher's resignation. Trustee Boissonnault says we were elected to office to do the best we could by and for the people of the Village and we would be abdicating our responsibilities if we were to ignore this abominable situation that she put herself in by stealing and subsequently dishonored and besmirched the Village with her gross crimes. As such I have no problem asking for her resignation at every meeting until she resigns or until her term is up. Trustee Bryde agrees that we have an obligation to do so.
  - 7.4. Mayor Schoenig said we knew Deputy Mayor Piccini would be absent tonight but Trustee Meagher as usual did not notify us of her absence. This Board is handicapped as long as we have a non-performing member who doesn't show up to meetings, does not do her job, has totally lost the trust of this Board and the vocal majority of active voters in the Village.
  - 7.5. First Baptist event on July 15<sup>th</sup>, the movie, The Incredibles, will be shown and the Animal Rescue folks will be there. The bouncy house will be there and a live band will also play. We have hung the Main Street flowers in Wells Park and they are starting to come back but they will never reach the level of being showcase flowers again.
8. New Business
- 8.1. Spotlights on the Arts – Battle of the Bands at Wells Park on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Boissonnault would like to waive the fees. They will clean, take care of trash, and handle the parking. Trustee Boissonnault motions to waive the fees, Mayor Schoenig 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.
  - 8.2. Buildings at Wells Park for Southeast Museum storage and recreation storage and or electric restoration of the three modular buildings. Mayor Schoenig will look into electric restoration and leans toward authorizing the Town to put a gate in the fence and a door in the back trailer for access as they suggested.
  - 8.3. Clerk Hansen says that the old Beason property on Hillside Park in the Town of Southeast which has been abandoned for a number of years has a large amount of water arrears. We received a call today from an attorney representing the bank that foreclosed on the property wanting to know if they are obligated to pay the arrears. The attorney will send me a scanned copy of the deed showing the bank owns the property. Counsel Molé will research the file and follow up with the attorney when we receive the scanned copy of the deed.
9. Public Comment – No public comment.
10. Mayor Schoenig motions to adjourn, Trustee Bryde 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor 3 to 0.