

VILLAGE OF BREWSTER
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4 February 2015
REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Brewster held a Regular Meeting February 4, 2015 at 7:30 PM at Village Hall, 50 Main Street, Brewster, NY 10509.

Attendees:

Mayor: James Schoenig
Deputy Mayor and Trustee: Christine Piccini
Trustees; Mary Bryde, Tom Boissonnault, Terri Stockburger
Village Counsel: Anthony Molé
Clerk & Treasurer: Peter Hansen

Absent:

Pledge to flag.

Notation of Exits

Regular Meeting

Mayor Schoenig motions to open the regular meeting, Deputy Mayor Piccini 2nd all in favor 5 to 0.

1. Budget report Year to Date FY 2015
 - 1.1. Budget continues on target with the previously mentioned anomalies; urban renewal and capital expenditure for police cars – waiting for information on grant reimbursement timing and direction from contracted Village Accountant.
2. Return of Wholly Unpaid Taxes in the amount of \$172,282.46
 - 2.1. Deputy Mayor Piccini motions to return the wholly unpaid taxes to Putnam County for reimbursement, Trustee Stockburger 2nd all in favor 5 to 0.
3. Minutes for approval;
 - 3.1. January 21, 2015 Regular Meeting – Trustee Bryde motions to approve the January 21, 2015 minutes, Deputy Mayor Piccini 2nd all in favor 5 to 0.
4. Vouchers Payable – Trustee Bryde reviewed the vouchers and found everything in order.
 - 4.1. A - GENERAL FUND \$29,270.28
 - 4.2. C - REFUSE & GARBAGE 479.87
 - 4.3. F - WATER FUND 7,298.37
 - 4.4. G - SEWER FUND 85,204.39
 - 4.5. H61 WELLS BROOK RETROOFIT 2,500.00
 - 4.6. H62 TONETTA BROOK RETROFIT 2,500.00
 - 4.7. T - TRUST & AGENCY 1,907.62

Total Vouchers Payable \$129,160.53

Mayor Schoenig motions to approve vouchers payable as written, Trustee Stockburger 2nd all in favor 5 to 0.

5. Other Business
 - 5.1. Trustee Stockburger – Suburban Carting has proposed one bulk pickup as an on-call basis and the 2nd annual pickup will be village-wide. Mayor Schoenig mentions limiting the days of the on-call pick-up and limiting the advance placement of bulk. This spring, village-wide bulk pickup will be scheduled for 4/15/2015. Trustee Bryde asks about the garbage pickup being changed this week due to the storm, apparently unilaterally by Suburban Carting. Trustee Stockburger will work with Suburban to improve communications when pick-up days may be changed due to weather or other circumstances.
 - 5.2. Trustee Stockburger says she and Jack Gress are working on finding, pricing, and budgeting for new flag poles.
 - 5.3. Trustee Bryde
 - 5.3.1. Trustee Bryde says it was a great idea to declare a “state of emergency” – it kept everyone off the streets and enabled a quicker than normal cleanup with the first storm.
 - 5.3.2. Trustee Bryde asked if budget discussions have taken place with Tony Hay. Mayor Schoenig says they have not happened yet.
 - 5.3.3. Trustee Bryde clarifies the joint Putnam County and Pace Land Use Leadership alliance program’s first meeting is February 9th at Putnam County Golf Course. All are welcome to attend but only sitting board members will earn training credits.

- 5.3.4. Trustee Bryde says there was an excellent article in the Putnam Courier about our newly appointed Village Historian, Danielle Cylich.
- 5.3.5. Trustee Bryde asks the clerk to provide the more frequently used email addresses for Board members to the Historian. Clerk Hansen says it has already been done.
- 5.3.6. Trustee Bryde asks Mayor Schoenig if he notified Putnam County of our Historian appointment. Mayor Schoenig says he has done so.
- 5.3.7. Trustee Bryde asks if our staff has completed the “Preventing Violence in the Workplace” annual online training. Clerk Hansen says the response has been excellent with most everyone turning in their certificate of completion promptly. The few stragglers will be reminded. Clerk Hansen also said that Liz Rau of Putnam County suggested the Village piggyback on their Sexual Harassment training and will provide access to this program in the near future.
- 5.3.8. Trustee Bryde commends the DPW for a job well done and their continuing efforts to remove the snow build-up from the streets and sidewalks.

5.4. Trustee Boissonnault

- 5.4.1. Trustee Boissonnault notes the Wells Park Rolling gate and fence are not parallel and the front fencing should be moved back to line up with the gate so we can improve the “curb appeal” of the park.
- 5.4.2. Trustee Boissonnault notes we will need a part-time seasonal staff member to maintain the park on a daily basis. This will be discussed as the budget unfolds.
- 5.4.3. Trustee Boissonnault reminds everyone that there is a meeting on February 12, 2015 at 7PM at Village Hall to attract community input for the Wells Park initiative.
- 5.4.4. Trustee Boissonnault notes that he has witnessed private plowing companies pushing snow into the street. We need to get the message out to the contractors and homeowners to keep snow and ice out of the streets. The village does not have the resources to keep plowing and re-plowing streets while accumulated snow needs to be addressed prior to another storm moving in.

5.5. Mayor Schoenig –

- 5.5.1. Regarding the snow-covered sidewalks, the code enforcement officers are notifying homeowners of their responsibility to shovel adjacent sidewalks and issue violations for non-compliance.
- 5.5.2. There are some complaints about MTA property and LAZ Parking – Mayor Schoenig will email Metro North reminding them to keep the station and sidewalks clear.
- 5.5.3. Mayor Schoenig notes the DPW is using Wells Park as a snow detention center.
- 5.5.4. Mayor Schoenig mentioned the meeting held regarding grants available for eligible home improvements. Connie Fagan led the meeting with NYSERDA discussing the available programs and qualification criteria. NYSEG also sent a representative offering information on their unique programs. The meeting drew about 4 or 5 families and it was decided we will jointly solicit more beneficiaries as money is available for additional work.

6. New Business

6.1. Trustee Stockburger

- 6.1.1. Can we put solar panels in our fields? We can but the capital investment might not be worth it as our electric usage may not be sufficient to provide economic returns. We remain open to the idea.

6.2. Trustee Bryde

- 6.2.1. Trustee Bryde says we received information regarding the St. Patrick’s Day Parade event from the Northern Westchester – Putnam St. Patrick’s Day Parade Committee inviting us to attend and or sponsor the event. The Board has no interest at this time.
- 6.2.2. Trustee Bryde advises the Board that the Town of Southeast informed us they will be charging \$100 per year for annual code updates. Counsel and Board agree there is no need as code is available online
- 6.2.3. Trustee Bryde asks if UCPA is being used as an emergency shelter again this year? Mayor Schoenig spoke with the organization and it is available for use should it be needed.
- 6.2.4. Deputy Mayor Piccini asks about the Suburban Carting Bulk pickup contract change. Is it ready to be voted on? Discussion ensued regarding garbage pickup times and reported late-night/early-morning disturbances in the neighborhoods. It was pointed out that it could be commercial haulers and or Suburban Carting residential haulers. Trustee Stockburger will contact Suburban Carting and see if we can move the pickup times later in the morning and encourages people who are disturbed by late night pickup to call the office and let us know the time and location. Suburban Carting has been receptive in the past to moving the schedule around within reason to accommodate our needs.

- 6.3. Trustee Stockburger motions to adopt the contract change to add one on-call bulk pick up per residential unit one of the two annual times, with the proviso that the bulk items be put out no earlier than Sunday, calling the carter for a pickup on the following day, Monday, before 1PM requesting a pickup. Suburban Carting will then pick up on the following day, Tuesday, Trustee Bryde 2nd discussion: Deputy Mayor Piccini says this change is not in the best interests of the Village as she believes there will be mountains of bulk all year round instead of just twice per year, Trustee Boissonnault says this should be tried and see if there are negatives. Motion amended to try this alternative to the contract until December 31, 2015 and then revisit, all in favor 4 to 1.
7. Public Comment
 - 7.1. Rick Stockburger asks if the codes hotline is in place. Clerk Hansen says it is. Mr. Stockburger suggests the line be used for general complaints, not just code violations. Mr. Stockburger says that property lots at the east end of Main Street below grade are not shoveling their Main Street sidewalks. Mayor Schoenig says the code enforcement officers are working on ensuring compliance with the law.
8. Mayor Schoenig motions to enter Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel, Deputy Mayor Piccini 2nd all in favor 5 to 0.
9. Trustee Bryde motions to end Executive Session, resume the regular meeting and adjourn, Trustee Boissonnault 2nd all in favor 5 to 0.