

## **A regular meeting of the Village of Newport board – June 17, 2013**

The Village of Newport board meeting was called to order on June 17, 2013 @ 7:02PM by Mayor Hennings. With the following members present:

Mayor – Ashley Hennings

Trustee – Heidi Worden

Trustee – Kim Farrell

Others present: Tricia Foster (clerk), Tom Roberts, Erin Roberts, Kathy Asaro, Roy Woods, Barb Curran (historian), Chris Wood (ZBA), Linda Hennings, Peg Garlock, Bill Keiffer, Carson Marko, Steve Woods (ZBA), Dick Foster, Mike Woods (Water Supt.), Audrey Dunning (village Lawyer), Herm Harris (Street Supt.), George Farley (zoning and codes), Mr. Reed (interim Village treasurer), Craig Fehlhaber, Bill Wilder, Jack Dodson (water project)

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hennings welcomed Jack Dodson to speak for a 30 minute window:

Mr. Dodson went over a few key points since that last time he was here. He told us that both closings on the properties had been done and filed. He told us that the paperwork was sent to the local Health Dept. 3 weeks ago. What we are waiting for now is for written letter from Health Dept. and EPA; once we received this paperwork then we would be able to go to bid for the project. Said that the project would go out to bid in phases but that we would need the EPA approval before we can sit down and see what needs to be done, but there needs to be a final approval from the Health Dept. before anything can be done.

Long discussion followed.

Review of May 20, 2013 regular meeting minutes: minutes were read aloud by Mayor Hennings. Motion made by Trustee Worden, seconded by Trustee Farrell, to accept to the minutes as written. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Review of June 3, 2013 Special meeting minutes: Minutes were read aloud by Mayor Hennings. Motion made by Trustee Farrell, seconded by Mayor Hennings, to accept the minutes as written. All Ayes. Motion carried.

### **Department head report:**

**Historical Society:** Barb Curran gave her report and it will be placed on file.

**Revitalization:** Hanging baskets have been hung and the shrubs have been removed by Asaro's Service.

**Water Superintendent:** Mike Woods gave his report and it will be placed on file.  
18 new water meters have been ordered to replace the ones that were picked up for credit.

**Street Superintendent:** Herm Harris gave his report and it will be placed on file.

**Zoning and codes:** George Farley gave his report and it will be placed on file.

**Planning Board:** Still going over zoning laws to update them. Haven't heard anything from Jeremy Pellani on what his plans are for his building.

**Fire Dept.:** Mayor Hennings talked to Chief Butler about the concerns about use of the fire Dept. building and how can rent it out. She was told that the decision would be made by the Fire Company.

**Playground:** They are currently looking for a director for the summer youth program. Mayor Hennings spoke to them last week and they had no applications. They are hoping that application would come in this week as the school year ends. First aide would take place on June 23, 2013 @ 7:00PM. This date was changed due to graduation.

**Treasurers Report:** Dave Reed gave his report and it will be placed on file.  
Dick Foster asked as we closed out the 2012-2013 budget wanted to know what the surplus was. Mr. Reed said the Annual Financial report was not final as of then. There was no transfers had been done yet and that the transfers do not need to be done during is financial year. Any transfers that need to be made will need a resolution to be done and that they have 60 days after the end of financial year is over to complete.

#### Resolution #44

Motion made by Mayor Hennings, Seconded by Trustee Farrell, RESOLVED, that after doing research with a lawyer at NYCOM to appoint Michele Weakley to the position of Village Treasurer for a Term starting June 20, 2013 and ending March 31, 2015.

All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Farrell

Opposed: Trustee Worden

Motion carried.

Downtown parking update: the shrubs by Asaro's have been removed. Are still working on moving the no parking line on Main St. farther down.

The Village is looking into have a secured lockbox at the fire Dept. to drop off water bills and tax bills. Mayor Hennings has been doing some research on prices. Found out that the box would cost around \$400.00 to \$450.00. And then it would need a pedestal to sit on and they run around \$100.00. Trustee Worden suggested looking at U Line, who is a supplier that does this. Mayor Hennings said that she would look into what they have and prices.

Village posting board: Mayor Hennings thought about the wall by the post office behind the bench that is already there. Are going to look into price but still need to finalize location and size first.

Office Furniture: The office manager at Hummel's doesn't remember any furniture being there that was ordered by the previous board. Will look to see if we have a copy of the invoice, and if its standard they it should be able to put back into stock.

Time Warner: Needs to be completed by end of July. Need to have enough time to Village lawyer to look at it.

#### Resolution # 45

Motion made by Trustee Farrell, Seconded by Trustee, RESOLVED, to move the ZBA monthly meeting to the firehouse due to handicap acceptability. Meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month @ 6:00PM before the Village regular meetings.

All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Farrell, Trustee Worden

Opposed: None

Motion carried

#### Resolution #46

Motion made by Trustee Worden, Seconded by Trustee Farrell, RESOLVED, to have the Planning Board Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month @ 7:00PM to be held at the firehouse

All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Worden, Trustee Farrell

Opposed: None

Village received a letter from Jim Seward about a \$50,000.00 grant still being available to us. Mayor Hennings asked Trustee Farrell to follow up on this.

Had a complaint about a wall on East St. Homeowner says when the new sidewalks were done that dirt was taken out and is causing the wall to fall. Herm told us that it is going to be fixed next week; he is going to replace about 4 inches of dirt. He also told us that a mark needs to be placed there so the plows don't hit it during the winter months.

Sidewalk: \$7,000.00 left. Some of the money is going to be used to put some pipe in.

Herm wants to know if we plan on putting in new sidewalks. Sidewalk in front of the post office needs to be fixed. Would like to see the sidewalks from in front of the health center to into front of Flowers for You done over.

Trustee Worden asked George Farley about the West ST. address. Wanted to know if they are out of compliance. The property grass is overrun and think that is has animals living in it. She would like to see this property mowed and cleaned up by July 15<sup>th</sup>, the Village needs to look good for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Newport Firemen Field Days.

Notice to be sent by Audrey. We should attach it to the building and serve Roy Meyer at the same time; Roy is the lawyer of the owner of the property. Bill Wilder says that he knows the owner and that he would relay the message as well.

Old School Property: Have cited 2 people, second cited by Audrey (village lawyer) last week. Audrey told us that the judge adjourned this June 25<sup>th</sup> and re-schedules this.

Public Comment:

Dick Foster asked the lawyer if we gave 30 days' notice to both and then cites them. Audrey said that they wanted other parties cited, the judge adjourned it. He wanted to know if Mayor Hennings had exhausted all avenues in the search for a new treasurer and deputy clerk. He said that he can't get ahold of the Mayor and she doesn't return calls from him and his wife Nancy. He thinks that the mayor and clerk should hold office hours. Wanted to know if the mayor had enough time to be the mayor? Also thinks that she doesn't include Trustee Worden in any discussions. He thinks that by next meeting office hours should be made for the mayor, clerk and treasurer. Mayor Hennings said that hours for the Mayor and Clerk will be made by next meeting, but doesn't think that there is any reason for the treasurer to have office hours. He also said that the clerk isn't the one that should be collecting the village taxes that this is the treasurer's job and that according to real tax that office hour need to be held during business hours.

Craig Fehlhaber asked if minutes from the planning board meeting on June 10, 2013 are done. Thinks that planning board members should be trained and they all are currently not. The agenda to the Village board meeting should be posted prior to the meeting. Mayor Hennings hope to do this in advance so that we can have beforehand. Wanted to know why the deputy clerk position was only posted on the village web site, said that him and his wife would have done this free of charge and thinks that we are going down the wrong path.

Bill Wilder wants to know what the law is on open fires in the village. He says that he has a neighbor who has open fires and the ashes are getting into this pool and the air condition in his house. He said that he has contacted the State Troopers and the DEC. The DEC said that they had to catch them in the act and the State Troopers said that there was nothing that they could do. Wants to know if the village can look into this. Mayor Hennings told him that she didn't know what the law was and that she would look into it. He also asked was the law was on wood burning outdoor stove, wanted to know if they needed to stop in April.

Craig Fehlhaber wanted to know if the appointment of the treasurer living outside if we could choose that for any position. Dick Foster said 5 years ago that Charlene Crossett was told that she could no longer be the deputy Clerk because she moved outside of the village.

Motion made by Mayor Hennings, Seconded by Trustee Worden to go into executive session @ 9:24PM.  
All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Worden, Trustee Farrell  
Opposed: None

Motion made by Mayor Hennings, seconded by Trustee Worden to come out of executive session @ 9:40PM.  
All in favor: Mayor Hennings, Trustee Worden, Trustee Farrell  
Opposed: None

Motion made by Mayor Hennings to adjourn meeting at 9:41PM

Respectfully submitted

Tricia L Foster  
Village Clerk