

**February 24, 2005**

A meeting of the Village of Horseheads Board of Trustees was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Patricia Gross, Trustees Earle Catlin, Howard Miller, Ronald Swartz and Kevin Sullivan, Village Manager Vincent Azzarelli, Clerk-Treasurer Sharron Cunningham, DPW Chris Lawrick, Police Chief David Kole, Fire Chief Dick Sullivan, Planning Board Member Mike Stenpeck, and Manager's Assistant Rachel Baer. Also present were: Tess Banfield, 134 Catalpa Dr.; and Jamie Johnson from STEG.

Resolution by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Swartz

BE IT RESOLVED, that the reading of the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of February 10, 2005 be dispensed with and the same stand approved as entered by the Clerk.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Gross:	Aye
Trustee Catlin:	Aye
Trustee Swartz:	Aye
Trustee Miller:	Aye
Trustee Sullivan:	Aye

Resolution by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Catlin

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clerk-Treasurer is authorized to transfer the funds indicated on the attached sheet.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Gross:	Aye
Trustee Catlin:	Aye
Trustee Swartz:	Aye
Trustee Miller:	Aye
Trustee Sullivan:	Aye

Resolution by Trustee Swartz, seconded by Trustee Catlin

BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of February 9, 2005 be received and placed on file in the Village Clerk's Office.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Gross:	Aye
Trustee Catlin:	Aye
Trustee Swartz:	Aye
Trustee Miller:	Aye
Trustee Sullivan:	Aye

Chief Sullivan - The St. Patrick's Parade will be at 2pm on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. It will form at the high school parking lot, proceed on Fletcher, up S. Main, disband at Pudgies. I'm not sure of the proper name, but the highlanders band will lead parade and perform after over in the section of the square on Franklin St. Irish step dancers also.

Trustee Sullivan - have you notified the media? Dick - twice, they did it once already. Will do another article, the night before.

Discussion.....painting shamrock.

Dick - Then on St. Patricks day we will have the traditional dinner at fire station.

Resolution by Trustee Sullivan, seconded by Trustee Miller

WHEREAS, the Village Fire Department submitted a Parade Permit Application to the Village Manager for a St. Patricks Day Parade to be conducted on March 13, 2005 at 2:00 p.m., and

WHEREAS, said application has been reviewed by the Village Traffic Commission, having recommended approval of same, and

WHEREAS, the Village Manager has thoroughly reviewed the application and approved same.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Public Works Department is hereby authorized and directed to close the following streets for said event from 2:00 p.m. until the parade ends on March 13, 2005:

- S. Main St. at Franklin St. south to Fletcher St.
- Franklin St. from Hanover Square west to Grand Central Ave.
- Fletcher St. from the school parking lot east to S. Main Street

STREETS TO REMAIN OPEN TO TRAFFIC

- N. Main, southbound, turning east on Ithaca Road
- Ithaca Road, westbound, turning north on N. Main St.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Gross:	Aye
Trustee Catlin:	Aye
Trustee Swartz:	Aye
Trustee Miller:	Aye
Trustee Sullivan:	Aye

At this time, the Village Manager declared open a public hearing on the proposed amendment to the Empire Zone, adding the former LRC property and Leprino property, both on South Avenue.

Jamie Johnson - Vice president of STEG, distributed details on amendment. For sometime we have been working with a prospect for Leprino facility - Northland Process Piping out of Minnesota. That is one of the projects we have been working on. We are putting acreage from Village of Horseheads and Town of Big Flats in the Zone, to include a number of projects. Not removing anything from Empire Zone, just adding. Land bank for our zone is 341 acres. This will add 7.03 acres, bringing total zone acreage for the Village to 42 acres.

As nobody else came forward, Village Manager Azzarelli declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Gross - will they be asking for a payment in lieu of taxes program? Jamie - nobody has approached us on this. There has been some discussion. One of the things we are debating with Elmira City is the ability to approve some of this acreage outside City of Elmira, may bring a pilot agreement to be approved. It is the City's empire zone. They are asking to receive some kind of compensation for the zone outside the city. New company coming in would receive a refund of 100% property tax abatement. To compensate City of Elmira the proposal that is being discussed would be the municipality would receive tax payment, but a portion would go to the City of Elmira.

Village Manager - so the Village would be reimbursed. Jamie - yes. The pilot would be for whatever the tax liability is, the pilot would be written for 100%. It would just be the distribution. If a portion goes to the City, everyone would get a piece of it - schools, villages, county.

Mayor Gross - do we know what they are asking?

Jamie Johnson - 10% is what they are asking, details are being worked out, with sewer fees, etc.

Trustee Sullivan - is this debatable? Jamie - depends who you are asking. It is debatable. Originally the City asked for a much higher amount, have been able to negotiate that down. Many metropolitan areas with Zones have these pilots.

Mayor Gross - haven't heard anything from Northland recently. Jamie - We have been working to increase their grant amount, but it shouldn't hold anything up. The Pilot would be for whatever the tax bill would be - no abatement, company will receive revenue back from the state. Only impact on tax revenue is going to be the 10% that would come off the top and be redistributed. Won't be losing anything.

Resolution by Trustee Swartz, seconded by Trustee Sullivan

WHEREAS, New York State has created the Economic Development Zone program to encourage industrial and commercial development in selected municipalities across the State, and

WHEREAS, the City of Elmira, as an eligible municipality, received designation of an Economic Development Zone made up of sub-zones including portions of the Town and Village of Horseheads, Town of Elmira, Town of Chemung, Town of Southport, Town of Big Flats, Village of Elmira Heights and City of Elmira, and

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WHEREAS, the City of Elmira intends to revise the City Economic Development Zone boundaries (now referred to as Empire Zones) to encourage industrial and commercial development, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Horseheads, New York is committed to the development of new business within the proposed sub-zone, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Horseheads, New York wishes to support and concur with the Empire Zone revision application,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Horseheads Board of Trustees, in its capacity as governing body of the Village, does hereby support and concur with the City of Elmira Empire Zone revision application.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Gross:	Aye
Trustee Catlin:	Aye
Trustee Swartz:	Aye
Trustee Miller:	Aye
Trustee Sullivan:	Aye

Motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Catlin, that an item regarding the Village Clock Project Update be added to the agenda.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Gross:	Aye
Trustee Catlin:	Aye
Trustee Swartz:	Aye
Trustee Miller:	Aye
Trustee Sullivan:	Aye

Update on Village Clock Project - Trustee Swartz: we have not had a meeting since my last report, however we received a quote from Verdin company for a clock. Four-sided clock, quote is for \$24,560. We have a meeting scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup> here at village hall in the Manager's Office. In the process of taking pictures of areas where a clock might go, and laying over a picture of a clock to see what it would look like. We will do a fundraiser, sell miniature versions of the clock. We sent a sample of the Horseheads log to Verdin, they will try to put on clock.

Village Manager - I've given you copies of our website layout plan. Please review and bring additions to next Board meeting. Website similar to County and City websites.

Mayor Gross - Big Flats is very happy with their website.

Village Manager - Several things we have been working on. Parking situation on Gardner Road, by ball park. Belosky is putting housing units in. Chris and I have discussed making the lower field a parking area. Might call Cinderella people in to discuss this. Try to get done before next Board meeting. Rec'd letter from Little League, they want to buy back their ball field on Thorne Street.. John and I have discussed. According to NYS law we can't sell a piece of a park, and this field may actually be part of Thorne St. Park. We would need state approval. We are looking into this. There were agreements made years ago on money spent on upkeep of the field. They don't think we keep field according to agreement. Only other thing is we do have some organizations that have exclusive use of parks during their playing seasons. Why we don't make pay fee, I don't know. Does the Board want me to consider that, do a study.

Trustee Swartz - these organizations maintain the fields.

Village Manager - President of Little League has come in, this is a deal that goes back many years - more of a verbal agreement.

Mayor Gross - have we got a plan for the pit? Chris Lawrick - we will probably be opening before spring, but no conclusions yet.

Mayor Gross - I'm concerned that Village residents can continue to use it. Can we get a report at the end of march?

Village Manager - yes.

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Mayor Gross - Hanover square pedestrian issue. I know you did the handouts, what else is going on out there.

Chief Kole - out in plain clothes but have not found any violations, either on pedestrians or motorists. As the weather allows, we continue to monitor. To date we've had positive feedback from both. Education helped a lot. Can't control opinions on paper. Everyone has one.

Mayor Gross - have some concerns on the No Parking Here To Corner areas and people still parking in these areas. That to me is a much bigger hazard. When I go up Grand Central, I can't see to turn.

Chief Kole - will monitor, but all these problems would have been eliminated if the State built the project to spec. Bump outs would have eliminated blind spots. Would have brought crosswalks closer together.

Mayor Gross - we didn't have control over that. Same thing is happening in the morning with traffic. Lots of times on Main Street you cannot see around illegally parked cars.

Chief Kole - officers can go walk the square, then 10 minutes after they leave people will park there. Trying to do the best we can with the manpower we have.

Mayor Gross - this is more dangerous than people trying to cross streets. Sometimes I'm almost in the middle of Franklin Street before I can see a car. Sometimes I see police cars driving by, and cars are illegally parked and they don't stop.

Chief Kole - they might be on call.

Mayor Gross - please make a concerted effort.

Trustee Swartz - I think the biggest problem is northbound traffic on Main Street does not stop. They are not speeding, but they don't stop and don't give the other intersections an opportunity to get out. Parking by the train shop was eliminated, but cars are still parking

Mayor Gross - they are still parking there. Not speeding but parking issues.

Trustee Sullivan - could we get some temporary signs by Fire Department when backing in fire truck to slow traffic down

Chris Lawrick - we can get signs - don't need law for informational signs.

Chief Kole - will have Comm Service Officer look at square a couple times a day .

Mayor Gross - and start ticketing people for illegal parking.

Chief Kole - don't be surprised if some are merchants

Chris Lawrick - we finished ceiling tiles and lighting for Council Room, costing only \$900.00 . My staff did a nice job.

Chief Kole - Recently we had some cars broken into and stolen items. Officers tracked suspects in snow to Bethany and were able to apprehend.

Mike Stenpeck - Replica clock is beautiful, should be big hit.

Tess Banfield - Haven't been to a meeting recently. If you want something you have to do it yourself I guess. My request of \$1000 for senior tax exemption has not been answered and wondered when it would be considered.

Mayor Gross - we are still working on budget.

Tess Banfield - exemptions for seniors not only concerns school but also the Village. County did not raise the amount for seniors. School lowered to 13,200 and feels that the Village Manger was representing not only Village but school. Last communication was in Sept with Congdon, Azzarelli, Weigle and thought it was going to raise it to 16,500 and possibly up to 18000 in upcoming years. Want to know what this Board thinks about it. Maybe through the media whatever will be challenging school. Need to do something for seniors.

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Chris Lawrick - Village is not assessing unit and exemptions goes through Town. Assessor makes decision on exemptions.

Mayor Gross - please explain to me to make it a little clearer.

Tess - I will leave petition regarding senior exemptions for the Board to read. Has to be done by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Gross - I will talk to John Patten.

Tess Banfield - found out today the School amount will be only 14,200 not 16,500 which was what she thought it would be.

Mayor Gross - Board will set up meeting with John Patten and discuss this senior exemption issue

Tess Banfield - she doesn't like to be strung along. Village should take some responsibility. When I call the Manager I expect to be called back the same day.

Mayor Gross - Board and Department Heads are doing our best on the budget to not put a burden on the older generation and keep the services.

Tess Banfield - I'd like a copy of the proposed budget. People are complaining to me about increase water rates. Has anyone called the Village?

Sharron Cunningham - I received two phone calls only and after explained the situation, they were okay with it.

Mayor Gross - people need to call the Village or come to a meeting to discuss. If residents don't contact us we can't explain the reasons.

As there was nothing further to bring before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharron Cunningham  
Clerk-Treasurer

/rmb

TRANSFER LIST 2/24/05				
<u>GENERAL</u>				
<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	
\$35.00	1325.411	1325.450	CLERK'S POSTAGE	
\$3,000.00	1620.114	1620.440	VILLAGE HALL CONT. SVCS.	
\$6,500.00	5110.410	1620.442	GAS/OIL	
\$520.00	1990.477	3410.484	INSPECTION DINNER	
\$107,999.42	9060.866	9010.810	RETIREMENT	
\$314.00	1990.477	9050.850	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	
\$3,000.00	5182.486	8989.420	SOUTH AVE UTILITIES	
<b>\$121,368.42 TOTAL</b>				
<u>WATER</u>				
\$11,438.99	1990.477	1620.200	VILLAGE HALL EQ. (GENERATOR)	
\$2,464.00	9060.860	9010.810	NYS RETIREMENT	
<b>\$13,902.99 TOTAL</b>				