

May 26, 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, Ronald Swartz, Howard Miller and Kevin Sullivan, Village Manager Vincent Azzarelli, DPW Chris Lawrick, Clerk-Treasurer Sharron Cunningham, Village Justice Richard Moriarty, Court Clerk Jan Zeigler, Planning Board Member Mike Stenpeck; Police Officers Mike Barton, Scott McGrain, and Dave Ruhmel, and Manager's Assistant Rachel Baer. Also present were: Andrea Schumaker, 535 Watkins Road; Don Zeigler, 535 Watkins Road; Georgia Reynolds, Grand Central Plaza; Kim Ruhmel; Raymond Stewart, 31A Lorraine Blvd.; George Kastenhuber, 519 John St.; Ray and Lorie Cass, 22 Red Wing Lane; and Ray Zeigler, 417 Shelbourne St.

Resolution by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Sullivan

BE IT RESOLVED, that the reading of the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of May 12th, 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 Swartz, seconded by Trustee Catlin

BE IT RESOLVED, that the application from Conifer Realty for a Special Sign Permit for their parcel on Grand Central Ave. and Roosevelt Ave. be received and forwarded to the Village and Town Planning Boards for their review and comment, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing regarding same is hereby scheduled for Thursday, June 9th, 2005 at 7:05 p.m.

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 Sullivan

BE IT RESOLVED, that the application from Grossman's Bargain Outlet for a Special Sign Permit for their parcel in Grand Central Plaza be received and forwarded to the Village, Town, and County Planning Boards for their review and comment, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing regarding same is hereby scheduled for Thursday, June 23rd, 2005 at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

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

At this time, Village Manager Azzarelli declared open the Public Hearing on Grand Central Plaza, Inc., Special Sign Permit application.

As nobody came forward , he declared the public hearing closed.

At this time, the Board reviewed and completed Part 2 of the SEQR form regarding the Grand Central Plaza, Inc. application, and found there to be no significant negative environmental impacts, and declared a Negative Declaration.

Resolution by Trustee Swartz, seconded by Trustee Miller

WHEREAS, Grand Central Plaza, Inc. is the owner of real property located on Chemung Street, Horseheads, NY identified as Tax Map Parcel #59.13-3-3, and

WHEREAS, said property is situate in a Commercial District in the Village, and

WHEREAS, said applicant seeks approval of the installation of new wall mount signs and free standing signs exceeding the square foot limit requiring the issuance of a Special Sign Permit, and

WHEREAS, the application is subject to SEQR, being an Unlisted Action, pursuant to SEQR regulations, and

WHEREAS, the applicant has submitted a Short Environmental Assessment Form, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Horseheads Board of Trustees is informed and believes that the Village is the only involved agency with respect to the SEQR review of this action, and

WHEREAS, this Board of Trustees has conducted a thorough review of the application, the Short Environmental Assessment Form and all of the environmental consequences of same as more specifically delineated on that portion of the form to be completed by the Board as Lead Agency, and finds that the Action will not have a significant environmental impact, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on May 26, 2005 regarding the application for the special sign permit at which time all interested or affected parties were afforded an opportunity to present their views regarding the application, and

WHEREAS, this application has been reviewed by the Planning Board of the Village of Horseheads, Town of Horseheads, and Chemung County, such Boards having recommended the approval of same, and

WHEREAS, this application has been thoroughly reviewed and given thoughtful consideration by this Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that 1) a public hearing on the environmental aspects of this action is waived; 2) Mayor Gross is authorized and directed to sign the Short Environmental Assessment Form finding there to be no significant environmental impact; and 3) the application of Grand Central Plaza, Inc. for a Special Sign Permit at their retail plaza on Chemung Street be and the same hereby is approved.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Presentation by Chief of Police - Visibility:

Chief David Kole - I was directed to conduct a presentation regarding visibility for police officers. I apologize for not being here at the last Board meeting, but my family comes first. I had a graduation I had to attend, and I also had to attend a funeral. Written recommendations and suggestions made by Officer Nowlan has already been submitted to you, but I've brought more copies of it. (Distributed more copies of written report.) We've secured several grants: \$18,000 for STOP DWI; \$1,000 for pedestrian safety and crosswalk enforcement, may get more; \$1800 for aggressive driving; and \$1200 for seatbelt enforcement. We'll be expending these monies throughout the summer, during road checks and regular patrol functions.

Chief Kole - My first question is do you really feel we're not that visible? I truly don't believe this is a major issue. We can always strive to be more visible, but I don't believe it is a major crisis. But these are some of the ideas and suggestions. We will try to add more bike patrols on specific days. Wednesdays most likely. We have been cut one police officer position so we can only do the bike patrol when we have enough manpower.

Mayor Gross - Wednesday day, night, what are you talking about.

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Chief Kole - All three shifts normally. Sometimes if officers take vacation, it's a lot easier rather than to create overtime the officers will be decent enough that they'll take vacation on a Wednesday and I don't have to pay overtime to cover for the two men on the shift. Wednesday is the heavy day.

Chief Kole - Community meetings is another thing, related to specific issues. These would be used to educate both residents and merchants. It would be driven by specific concerns. For example a year ago, we did a meth presentation for merchants and also for the general public. Some other things might we could cover would be senior citizens scams, etc. Can accommodate whatever the topic is. Part of the plan I'm going to institute is one, possibly two officers assigned to what we will refer to as Community Relations. I will work closely with this officer.

Mayor Gross - what will the officer be doing.

Chief Kole - Above and beyond his regular functions and duties, we will be determining and getting input from the community to ascertain what types of community education programs people need.

Mayor Gross - how is he going to do that.

Chief Kole - by gathering input, and depending on what the hot topics are. For example, summer is coming now. We may be trying to educate families on bicycle safety and helmet education. We're going to continue to conduct walk throughs in elementary schools on a monthly basis. Regarding our newsletter, two days ago I secured a deal with the Shopper to include our newsletter for a significant discount compared to what we were paying to Star-Gazette. We will also have more coverage. Initially we were being distributed to about 2200 residents. Now we'll have about 5900 residents seeing the newsletter.

Mayor Gross - I haven't received the Shopper probably in 6 months.

Chief Kole - I was told to try to reduce costs. It cost \$700 with the Star-Gazette. On 2 occasions I sent out 34 letters asking for donations from all the area merchants. I received two checks, each for \$50. We do the newsletter every two months.

Trustee Miller - I had to call to get the Shopper.

Chief Kole - The old owner had for some reason dropped 1/2 of the Horseheads residents. New owner assured me it will get resolved. We will also conduct bicycle rodeos. It costs about \$1000 to do this, including overtime, handing out bicycle helmets, and safety flashers for the back of the bicycle. We will continue to conduct road checks for seatbelt compliance. Another topic that we'll start to address is cell phone usage while driving.

Mayor Gross - how many bike rodeos can you do with \$1000.

Chief Kole - between 4-6 a year. A lot of time we utilize the CSO for this activity to offset the cost of the overtime.

Mayor Gross - Will this be posted on website.

Chief Kole - yes. Then once the website is up, I want to also put newsletter in there, then we won't have to spend money getting it printed. We are also continuing our campaign to educate and enforce crosswalks in Hanover Square.

Chief Kole - We had looked into a motorcycle program. Officers Nowlan and McGrain were instrumental in checking into this. Then we were told that we probably shouldn't look into it, that there probably wouldn't be any interest. So we didn't look any further. Wellsboro PA just did it, and they got a lot of PR out of it. That is what we were looking for. The other reason that the officers felt it was important is that each year on I86 our response time becomes greater and greater - have to way 5-10 minutes to get across the highway. With a motorcycle we would have a lot easier access getting in and out of traffic, not to mention the public relations.

Trustee Swartz - how much would it cost.

Chief Kole - I don't have the exact cost, but I believe it was going to be less than \$600.

Officer McGrain - We had several businesses willing to donate the money for the motorcycle, equipment, etc. It would be a lease program with Harley Davidson. Businesses would be donating considerable amount of money.

Mayor Gross - What has happened is, same with the bike program, we have to incur overtime. So

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the problem is the monies are drying up and I think you have to realize that fine, its good for one year, but what happens after that.

Officer McGrain - lease program is year to year. Then you can decide if you want to continue it. Whatever officer is using it, would have to go out and find the funding for it. Also it would be used during normal shifts - would not create overtime.

Mayor Gross - In winter the program wouldn't be used, like the bike program. Even with the dog, every time we need the dog it costs us overtime. So I hesitate to say why try another program. Lets do with what we have.

Officer McGrain - These are just ideas. Chief went to the officers and asked for ideas to improve response time, improve community relations. I know in Owego, officers actually use their own motorcycles. There is no down time. The Village just pays them extra money to use them. Owego has 6 officers certified in motorcycles, and they are a smaller department than we are.

Mayor Gross - what is the certification.

Officer McGrain - It's a one week program. Owego has instructors who were willing to donate time certify us.

Mayor Gross - you would have to go for one week.

Officer McGrain - yes, whatever number of officers you feel need to be certified. They could take time off for it. Or it could be a situation where if I feel it could help the Village, I might take time off to do it myself.

Mayor Gross - how many times would you need to be certified.

Officer McGrain - I believe its just one time. This is just another idea to help the Village. We felt with I86 going through, a motorcycle could get through intersections a lot faster than a patrol car, SUV, etc.

Chief Kole - Again the reason we did this is because the entire Board did not feel we were visible enough. For \$600 it is a bargain.

Mayor Gross - I am just concerned about all the overtime we have to incur with each of these programs. I'd like to see the programs we have stay in place.

Officer McGrain - That was just one idea we brought up. Harley Davidson would take the cycle back each year and we would get a new one every year and renew the lease. Other departments have taken advantage of this because the cost was so minimal. Gas prices are going up. Motorcycles are a lot cheaper to run. I can run a whole week with a tank of gas, where you might get one or two days with a car.

Trustee Sullivan - You said that this got shot down.

Chief Kole - we were told to stop looking into this any further.

Officer McGrain - We actually put together a PowerPoint presentation. We could also bring one of the bikes here so the Board and residents could take a look at this. I also had officers who were willing to escort one of our parades so you can see the response from people. But after speaking to the chief, we felt it probably wasn't a good idea to bring it to the board at this time.

Chief Kole - one of the other comments we hear is that we used to walk the square. We still do that, check businesses, etc. I've been here 21 years. I was born and raised in the Village. The reason we used to walk more frequently wasn't for community policing. It was because of parking meters that needed to be emptied. One of my suggestions is, and I know we get mixed input from the merchants, lets implement parking meters again. Bring in some revenue. Lets think about implementing two hour parking in Hanover Square. We could implement some type of monthly or annual parking permits for the municipal lots - for merchants and tenants. Maybe its time they don't get free parking anymore. Atty. Groff has been helpful in coming up with a way for charging for the impound lot. When we impound a car for a DWI, it goes to our impound lot at the old LRC building. City of Elmira charges for their impounds.

Officer McGrain - Permits for municipal lots, like the high school, is a good idea. They just do it to regulate who is in their lots. Instead of someone who lives in the Town of Horseheads leaving one

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of their cars in our lots for a week at a time. It is more of a way to regulate the lot, and maybe bring in a little bit of revenue to help take care of the lots that these people are parking in. I think this is a great idea.

Chief Kole - I don't want to be redundant, but I feel we are pretty visible given the number of officers we have. Just to give you an idea of the man hours required for one felony DWI - it is approximately two hours from the time of the stop, does the field test out on the road, comes back to station, does video tape, advises defendant of his rights, does another field test on video, then another 20 min or more for the breath test, purging the system, and then a good hour or more to complete and process the defendant, fingerprinting, arrest report, DWI Miranda, all the paperwork, and then contact the judge. That does not include waiting for the judge to do arraignment. If they ask for a blood test, we have to take them to the hospital, wait for blood to be drawn, secure it, and bring back to station. This ties two officers up for at least a half hour of that time, because the same arresting officer cannot conduct the test. Unless its an emergency and he has no other alternative, the policy is that the officer that makes the arrest does not do the test.

Chief Kole - I mean no disrespect by this, but I do need to bring this to the Board's attention. It gives me and my officers mixed messages. We are confused on what the Board wants based on what the comments were in the Village Manager's last weekly report. As you know the morale of the Village is low, and the Police Dept. is no exception. These types of comments really don't help the morale of the Police Department at all. (Distributed copies). Where I'm confused is, I'm told the Board feels we need to be more visible in the community. I've been asked to deal with that. I too care about this Village. I was born and raised here. My grandfather was a Horseheads police officer. I live in this community, I own property in the Village. Everything I do effects my family as well. Where I'm confused is where it says that we might want to look at eliminating bike patrol, and the K9, and do we still want to continue to walk the square. So if we eliminate those things...the K9 program is probably one of the biggest public relations tool we have. We do presentations in the schools, as a matter of fact we set something up for Mayor at Ridge Road School next week. Bike patrol - that is one-on-one and that is where we can really interact with community. If we eliminate those things, its going to be very difficult to be more visible in the community.

Mayor Gross - I think part of that was based on the fact that a while ago you gave us a list of the bike patrol, and you also gave us the amount that it would cost for overtime, and what we were trying to say to you was we don't want to incur a lot of overtime right now. We're trying to reduce expenses. And that is what you gave to us.

Chief Kole - I believe what I had clarified was that I gave you worst case scenario. I would be irresponsible if I said we could do it for free. Will it cost that, no as I said before, it probably won't cost that much, but it's the responsibility I have to at least prepare for worst care scenario.

Mayor Gross - but at the same time, I believe we'd like to know what you can do. You give us the best case scenario.

Chief Kole - The reason I did that is because I was trying to fight to replace the officer we lost.

Mayor Gross - We're trying to tell you that its not going to happen right away.

Chief Kole - And I'm trying to explain to you that we will do the best that we can with what we have to work with, but that I make no promises that we can have a bicycle patrol officer out there everyday. I can't guarantee you we can do everything we were doing before.

Mayor Gross - no one is asking for everyday.

Chief Kole - Well it seems to me that we have been asked to try to do more with less, and I feel that its my obligation to support these officers. They are still out there doing their job, under the conditions they've been asked to work under, I think it says a lot for them.

Mayor Gross - are you suggesting that this Board is not supporting them.

Chief Kole - sometimes I feel they are not being supported.

Mayor Gross - Maybe we should sit down with them, and I think we did do that before.

Chief Kole - I am concerned that we will lose officers....because they don't know if their jobs are secure. I read things like this in the weekly report from the Manager, and I can see why they may feel threatened, and not have a job possibly. I need to know from this Board if we're going to have your support. These officers do an awful lot. And its my responsibility to support them, and do

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what I can to make sure that they're safe.

Mayor Gross - would you like to poll the board and see what they feel about the officers?

Chief Kole - yes.

Trustee Swartz - I certainly do support them. I've never had a phone call saying there is no visibility of the Police Department. I've said that before, I have not received a phone call, I support this Police Department 100%.

Trustee Catlin - Me too. I support them 100%.

Mayor Gross - Ron, you did say in a meeting that this was one of your objectives, that is why this came together, when we were in a meeting doing plans for the Village, everyone agreed we would like to see increased visibility.

Trustee Swartz - I don't recall that. Would like to see the minutes of it.

Mayor Gross - we all agreed on that.

Trustee Swartz - well you asked if I support the Police Department, and I certainly do. I think there are a lot of problems. I think that the Board needs to get together and discuss this. When we say the whole Board of Trustees does not support the Police Department, it is not the whole Board of Trustees. It should not state that the whole Board of Trustees. We don't vote on it.

Mayor Gross - I'm not sure what your saying.

Trustee Swartz - Your saying that these memos are coming from the Board of Trustees. I'm on the Board and I don't agree with a lot of these. We never had a meeting saying we need visibility, we need this, we need that.

Mayor Gross - Oh but we truly did. When we were setting up goals and objectives for the Village this year, that is where it came from.

Trustee Swartz - well I beg to differ.

Trustee Miller - I am 100% behind the Village Police, anything we can do

Trustee Sullivan - you have my full support. Safety first, you guys are always there to make our streets safer. However, I have heard a merchant in the Square say they hadn't had an officer stop in a year or so.

Chief Kole - I'm glad you mentioned that. How many merchants came to you and said what happened with the drug bust. Three weeks ago the officers worked several days to make a significant arrest on a mid to high level drug dealer above Poppy's. Nobody said good job guys, or anything. But that is fine. We don't work for that pat on the back. But we'll have the merchants say how come that cop didn't write that parking tickets. We can't be everywhere at once. We have limited resources just like everybody else. Another example - we had an armed robbery at the corner bar a month ago. Within 12 hours the officers caught the guy and made an arrest. Part of the reason was dispatcher Jane Stewart. We only had a partial plate number, she typed in 100's of possibilities, and finally after over an hour got a hit. We identified the car and from there we tracked him down and the officers made an arrest. Within 12 hours we got the guy. We heard nothing positive about this. All we heard was we only got 50% because the initial report was there were 2 guys. As it turns out there was only one. Those are the things that send a bad message, their afraid to go out and do their job because their scrutinized for every little thing. I feel like some days I can't do my job, and everyone is waiting for me to screw up. I would like to be able to be left alone and do my job.

Mayor Gross - your own visibility is important too, I've been asked several times. No one really sees you.

Chief Kole - If I wasn't continuously badgered about every little thing, like having to spend hours doing this report because people said that we're not visible. I have to do that. When someone calls to complain to a Board member, then I'm called in and asked to check into it. That takes time.

Mayor Gross - I would really like to sit down with the officers, because as you well know there was a directive that the officers couldn't speak to me. There is another policy that came out recently that

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this Board isn't aware of but will be made aware of tonight later, I don't understand why they can't come and talk to us.

Chief Kole - that policy was put into place before I became chief.

Mayor Gross - but you can change it. We need to be able to talk to the officers.

Chief Kole - I don't have a problem with that.

Mayor Gross - will you rescind that publicly then.

Chief Kole - it doesn't have to be public. Officers have had ride alongs with Board members. These Board members as well as you have always been encouraged to come in and ride with my officers. How many of you have gone over to the high school to see what our school resource officer does.

Mayor Gross - I've been there.

Chief Kole - how long ago.

Mayor Gross - probably a year ago.

Chief Kole - He does an awesome job. I still encourage that.

Chief Kole - That policy was put in place way before me. I don't have a problem with rescinding that policy, but my concern is the officers should be able to do their job without worrying about getting crucified for making little mistakes. That is how we learn. Same with me. I should be able to come in and do my job. I'd love to be out patrolling with my guys.

Mayor Gross - we'd like to see that.

Chief Kole - I'd like to do that, if you guys would get off my back.

Mayor Gross - one of the things that is very critical, sometimes when we go to meetings....meetings you've been attending, and their on homeland security.

Chief Kole - we meet as Zone 12 for counter terrorism.....that is so Mike Smith and the County can get their grant money.

Mayor Gross - Chris is going to one on water security, and your not working together. I guess that is what I'm asking for. Chris, weren't you doing something with water security.

Chief Kole - I know what your talking about. Chris, its that report you submitted that I wasn't aware of. These are the things I'm talking about.

Mayor Gross - these are the things we need to come together on.

Chief Kole - I understand that. But if something happens in the Village of Horseheads, the Horseheads Police Department is just a small entity. The entire County will be at risk, not just the Village.

Mayor Gross - But what I don't want is for us to be fragmented, would like us all to be together.

Chief Kole - I agree. That is one of the reasons that I tried to explain to this Board that when the County tried to take my money, money I've set aside for security for the Village Hall, I had to give them that money for radios. I really didn't want to give that money to them, our radios are fine.

Mayor Gross - but would ours still be in sync with the county

Chief Kole - they would have to be. Whose going to buy all new radios for the state police, they don't have the money for that. The County will have to leave a channel open to other agencies, like the state police, so they can contact them.

Mayor Gross - I would like to set up a meeting with the PBA so we can talk back and forth...all of us.. I think that is going to be very important for us to have a good relationship. Are we always going to agree - no.

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Trustee Swartz - I think it's a great idea.

Trustee Catlin - absolutely

Trustee Swartz - will the Chief be invited.

Mayor Gross - yes, like tonight we should all be able to say what we have to say without being nasty. Because the concerns that are being said are being expressed throughout the community. We need to be honest.

Chief Kole - I would ask that you tell me this, when people complain, so I can contact these people and make it right. Because I've been finding that these people don't exist or its just one person. We always try to solve problems. But it would be nice to have names associated.

Mayor Gross - sometimes confidentiality is an issue. Because people aren't going to come to us.

Chief Kole - If someone comes to me with a personnel complaint, if they are not willing to sign a complaint, I won't entertain it. Will be much easier for us to relate to these people.

Mayor Gross - one of the biggest compliments I've had for your department is Brian Nowlan because he's out there walking and people see him. Whether he does anything or not it makes your department look good. People would like to see you out once in a while.

Chief Kole - as long as I'm allowed to do my job and not be buried with a lot of these silly things.

Mayor Gross - now, can you tell us what you plan to do with visibility.

Chief Kole - as I've said already, we're going to do the best we can to accomplish as many of the goals as the Board's established. We're down an officer and summer is here, some officers go on vacation...and calls for service go up every year.....so we'll try to do the best we can to give the Village the same service they have been used to. Thank you.

Officer McGrain - myself and the other officers, we do our job because we love the Village. We don't do it because someone is paying us. We do it because we care about the Village. When I have a case I do the best I can because I care about what happens to the people of the Village, including the Board because you are Village residents. We put our life on the line every night so everyone can get a sound sleep. We have to get the courage to go after that armed robber. We do it because we care. Every officer on this department supports our Chief 100%.

Mayor Gross - I don't think there is any doubt of that. Yourself personally I have seen do things in this Village Hall. I don't think there is any doubt about what you guys do. I've seen officers stand duty at fires, terrible accidents, etc. Not a job that any one of us would want to do.

Officer McGrain - myself and my officers do care about each and every one of you, and Village residents, and do the job the best we can, but we hear negative things and it makes it hard.

Mayor Gross -We don't want the negative things. I don't think I've ever heard anyone on this Board every say anything negative about a police officer. Visibility came up because people weren't seeing you. We just want to introduce you to them. The COPS program, that was a good program, and we don't have that program anymore. We are just trying to make you visible. We know your doing an outstanding job. We want to make sure people know who you are and respect you.

Trustee Swartz - It costs money for police, etc. More visibility costs more, it goes hand in hand.

Mayor Gross - but not necessarily for walking through the streets.

Trustee Swartz - I'd like names of people that say that. So that I can talk to these people.

Mayor Gross - I'll give them to you, but its not necessary for you to share them.

Trustee Swartz - well I'd like to talk to them.

Mayor Gross - you can talk to anybody on the street you want to.

Trustee Swartz - I'm not hearing it at all.

Village Manager Azzarelli - thank the Chief for his presentation. We've installed the new dog

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stations, and they are being used. The Teal Park bandstand rehab came in under budget. We will workout a schedule so it doesn't interrupt the band concerts. Website - still need bios from the Board. In your packets are several memos and some emails with communications I'm having with the County on the National Incident Management System that we're all obligated to fall into and abide with. I'm working with Mike Smith on this. There is also a letter from IDA about a public hearing in June to discuss the Horseheads Holiday Inn project, requesting pilots and some other stuff.

Village Manager Azzarelli - I'd like to request an executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

Trustee Swartz - teal park bandstand, will you be replacing the floor?

Chris Lawrick - it should be replaced.

Village Manager Azzarelli - we'll be recommending replacing the floor, sanding to bare wood...replacing the entire floor and also refinishing the entire bandstand....stripping and repainting.

Chris Lawrick - Crest Corp. will be doing the work. Specializes in restoration.....will be using mahogany.

Trustee Catlin - I'd like to reiterate my comments to the Police. I see in the newspaper the things they do everyday. I would shudder to do that. I don't think I'd take that job if I was starving to death.

Trustee Miller - nice presentation by Chief. I support the police department.

Trustee Sullivan - I was approached by a resident regarding campers. Can they be parked on the street for a couple days, then in the yard.

Chief Kole - You mean down on South Avenue.. We've checked that out and there are no violations. He's been told that. Where he parks it is not in violation, he parks out in the street, but there is no violation. We've talked to the person a couple times.

Trustee Sullivan - thank the Chief for your department. I trust you all with our lives. You guys do a great job.

Chris Lawrick - We've had a leak survey crew in the Village since last week and all of this week. Surveying the water system. We do it every year. They've done the sections near the highway. Worked his way up Windsor Gardens. We do it every year. Already repaired 9 water main breaks.....going to repair 3 more next week. One big one is next to the highway...Wenzel said if its their fault they would do the repair.

Chris Lawrick - dog stations - put out five last week. Today I found that 3 of them were used. Most used one was in teal park.

Mayor Gross - we certainly have had an issue with that.

Chief Kole - I'd like to thanked the people who came to support the Police Dept.

Mayor Gross - There is a pothole on Thorne as it goes into Franklin, it's a big one.

Chris Lawrick - that is actually off the road. You should be able to negotiate that turn without hitting the hole.

Mike Stenpeck - I recently served as a juror on a DWI case. I talked to Chief Kole about my findings, and Mike Barton. I'd rather have the Village Police serving me, rather than the sheriffs or state troopers.

Ray Stewart - 31A Lorraine Blvd. - On the utility tax, I'm on the budget, how will they figure that on my bill. And when they had the public meetings they never said anything about it being on the phone bill. But when it came out in the paper, it said it would be NYSEG and the phones. I've called O'Maras office, he didn't call back. Winner's office called me back. They said the people they need to talk to in Albany were not available. How are they going to do that with cell phones, and time warner phone. I don't think it should be on the phone bills. Water rates went up, which I don't mind. But on the phone, I don't see why it should be on there.

Don Zeigler, 535 Watkins Road - I came here to speak about a particular issue. But I was quite

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surprised about the police issue. As a business man and a resident, I can't drive from my home to Hanover Square without passing a police officer. Why is there emphasis on walking Hanover Square. All we hear is Hanover Square, what about the plazas, the other areas, etc. Motorcycle - I would donate \$100 dollars right now on the motorcycle idea. That is a cost effective way to be visible. I would hope this is not a hostile environment that's been created with the Police Dept. What I've heard tonight is a very uncomfortable situation. They need to do their job. My son and friends are retired or active police officers. State, federal, local. Let them do their job. I didn't see anybody in here tonight saying something is wrong. If you want them on the road, leave them alone. What I did come to speak was on zoning. I'm here with my brother Ray. He has an aluminum carport next to his house. Been there since 1992. He got a letter from code enforcement officer that it had to be removed. Is it right, or wrong, that is not why I'm here. My question is where were the zoning officers since 1992? I also had a conversation with the Village Manager who has a long list of violations that he has noticed in the last two or three days. What I'm asking the Board to do is get involved with each one of these people. Certain situations should be looked at as they are. Your looking at a structure that was put up in 1992. Everyone turned their back on it, or didn't see it, or didn't drive by the street, but now it's an issue, makes me wonder why. Look at the Manager's list, drive around with him and be involved. This is a 200 year old community. Houses are close together. I can show you houses built down on Fairfax that are built one foot from the boundary line. This cannot be Salt Lake City. This cannot be a perfect community with 100% ordinances. We have to live in a civilized community and talk. I don't mean turn your back on situations. And I'm not saying turn your back on Ray's building, but why was it let go for so long. And the other issue is, we have new neighborhoods being developed with strict guidelines. Last year it was houses with chipped paint, and they were issued tickets. Help these people of Horseheads. Don't sit and point fingers and make your house look like mine. I'm seeing a hostile environment created with our police officers. I hope this gets in the news media. This is not a healthy thing to create. How many people are on blood pressure medicine that weren't 3 months ago. Am I going to answer questions - no.

Mayor Gross - you were on the board at the time.

Ray Cass, 22 Redwing Lane - I was asked to be here on May 12th by the Village Manager. I already wrote a letter to the Mayor. I tried to get something in the Elmira paper, they said this was personal. This is not personal. The young man, I guess I pronounced his name wrong. He came up to me after the meeting, and there was a whole bunch of people back here that saw it. He gave me a lecture. I'm sorry that I pronounced your name wrong. So I'm going to call you the Village Manager. I want to know why I was ordered to be here on May 12th. You don't act like a public official and come point your finger like this. I was here on the 12th. You did not get up or anything. I've had no answer from my letter to the Mayor. I don't want to be run down by a Village official.

Mayor Gross - you may speak to all the Board members. The matter was taken care of by the Village Attorney and myself personally.

Mr. Cass - I just don't think it was right that somebody point their finger at me.

Mayor Gross - I just want you to know that the issue that you asked to be addressed was handled immediately.

Mr. Cass - so why was I called to be here on the 12th. Nobody talked to me. All I got were stares from the Village Manager through the whole meeting.

Mayor Gross - I didn't order you here sir.

Mr. Cass - He ordered me here. I'm not in the service anymore. He's not in the service anymore. He's lucky that I was running for the school board. If he'd done it to other people he'd probably end up on the floor. I got no apology, I got nothing from nobody. That is wrong.

George Kasthuber, 519 John St. - I came just to hear the Police Dept. presentation. I wholeheartedly support the police department. You may not agree with what I'm going to say, but the best way to increase visibility at no cost is to put the blotter in the paper.

Mayor Gross - we submitted that. The Chief said he's submitted it every week but they don't publish it.

Mr. Kasthuber - You should get a hold of star gazette. Blotters show the community that we are dealing with the issues, and to the criminals that if you mess up your name will be in the paper. That is the most powerful tool for visibility. If your going to go with a public image, a motorcycle idea is wonderful. Just from the standpoint of money savings alone would certainly outweigh any

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costs in manpower. You look at the cost of gas, maintenance, etc. Wonderful vehicle for the community. Easier in an emergency situation. Underlying thing here is we have merchants in the square. Only time they want you is when they want to complain about something. I see the officers in the square, I see them up and down my street, I see them everywhere. I don't know how much more visible they need to be. You really can't effectively do your job on foot, if you need to be in your car chasing somebody down. I'm not saying you should forsake foot patrols. But there are alternatives. I don't know what the merchants' beef is with the police dept., but it would certainly raise a question to me, why is the underlying tone such that everything has to be pointed at the square.

Mayor Gross - it wasn't just the square. It was also a concern with a plaza.

Mr. Kasthuber - well I encourage you to try to get the blotter in the paper.

Mayor Gross - will you talk to the editor?

Chief Kole - Yes, as soon as school is over, we will contact the press on a daily basis. Our new software has what is called a press log. We can print out everything everyday on a log for the media. Barton and Zelko for months every night would fax everything to every media source. They just pick and choose when they print. We want people to know that we are out there doing our job. The Village is still a safe place to live, but it's not a Peyton place. We do have our issues. Our guys are out there doing a heck of a job.

George Kasthuber - It is frustrating. People will think there is no crime in this community.

Judge Moriarty - I taught police and patrol procedures at CCC for 20 years. I can tell you that the most costly form of patrol is foot patrol. These people should know they have to pay for it. It's something that they did 60 years ago. But over the years they have stopped doing it, not only because it is the most costly, it is the slowest. If you have people out walking and something happens, they can't get there. Bike and motorcycle are great alternatives. More contact with the people. You have here in the community something that I tried to do in the state police, that is community policing. Try to get people involved in the community. Most of the crimes in this community are solved, because you have dispatchers that will punch in 100's of numbers, and also because you have cops that know everybody, plus people will tell them things. That is the value of a local police dept. Big departments try to localize their officers into small areas because they realize that is what to go. You already have that here. I'd rather have them walking foot patrols at the hotels where the drugs are being sold, than in Hanover Square. There's not too many drugs being sold in Hanover Square that I know of.

Mayor Gross - they just said there was a crime in the square 3 weeks ago.

Chief Kole - can't compare to Motel 6. We are there on a nightly basis to pick up handguns or drugs left under a mattress. These things are in this community. Majority of problems are here and in old Howard Johnsons. They pay cash. The people who run these hotels are just concerned about getting cash.

Judge Moriarty - I agree with the blotter idea. I don't know why they don't print anything. We used to submit court info too. You see the Town of Erwin, every traffic ticket they write is in there. It's been a while because they would never print it, so what was the sense. They asked us to do it by email, we did, and they still didn't do it.

Mayor Gross - this could be my own personal project. Could take you and the Chief with me. Marty Harrigan visited them weekly until he got what he wanted. He was persistent. We should do that.

Lori Cass - The newsletter in the Shopper. We like that. Then we can read all about what the police were doing. I'd like to see that.

Mayor Gross - yes we agree. We had to stop it only because of the cost.

Chief Kole - next one will be in July.

Motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Swartz, that this Board and the Village Manager move into an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter of a particular person.

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Roll Call Vote:

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

At this time, the Board and Village Manager moved into an Executive Session, the minutes of which are attached hereto and made a part hereof.

At 8:55 pm, the Board reconvened back into its regular meeting of this date.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sharron Cunningham
Clerk-Treasurer

/rmb

Executive Session

May 26, 2005

An Executive Session was held on the above date beginning at 8:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Patricia Gross, Trustees Earle Catlin, Ronald Swartz, Howard Miller and Kevin Sullivan. Also present was Village Manager Vincent Azzarelli.

The Board and Manager discussed a personnel matter of a particular person.

At 8:55 p.m., on a motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Catlin, the Board closed this Executive Session and reconvened back into its regular meeting of this date.