

Minutes

Village Board of Trustees

February 27, 2014

A regular meeting of the Village of Horseheads Board of Trustees was held on the above date at 8:30 A.M. Present were:

Village Board and Staff

Mayor Donald Zeigler
Trustee George Koliwasky
Trustee Mike Skroskznik
Village Manager Walt Herbst

Clerk-Treasurer Sharron Cunningham
Village Atty. John Groff
Manager's Asst. Rachel Baer
Police Chief Mike Barton
Fire Chief Arthur Sullivan

Absent

Trustee Ron Swartz

Others Present

Wayne Brubaker, Gardner Rd.
Dave Padgett, W. Franklin St.

Pat Gross, W. Broad St.
Jean Quinn, Gardner Rd.

Resolution by Trustee Koliwasky, seconded by Trustee Skroskznik

BE IT RESOLVED, that the reading of the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of February 13, 2014 be dispensed with and the same stand approved as entered by the Clerk.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Zeigler	Aye
Trustee Koliwasky	Aye
Trustee Skroskznik	Aye

Audience Participation - none.

Extension of Contract - Roemer Wallens:

Village Manager Herbst - Their three-year contract is set to expire. We were paying \$1,300/month. They are asking for an increase to \$2,000, but would settle for \$1,750. My own recommendation is that we consider the \$2,000 because they have been invaluable in dealing with labor relations. In one case we saved 1\$00k a year, each year. They handle all union negotiations which also has saved us money, and continues to save us money, re: salary increases. As I said, my own personal recommendation is \$2,000/month.

Trustee Koliwasky - I understand the savings, but I guess I question that we've had him 3 years, and we were hoping for some resolution to the union contracts. So that's one of my questions. I also have some questions on raising the amount of this contract. I look at what our governor is doing and I wonder do we want to look at someone locally so we can have more contact, instead of emails. I think we should table this until we have a full board.

Trustee Skroskznik - I agree with Trustee Koliwasky. Three years so far totaling \$47K , with no resolution to union contracts. Should look at some other options in addition to the increase of the cost of his services. So I make a motion to table for further discussion and look at other options, possibly other attorneys, preferably locally.

Village Manager -in the first instance we insisted with both unions that there be something on health insurance. That was our direction to him. First year we went through the process of mediation and PERB intervention before the Board decided to impose the contract. That was resolved by the normal course of labor relations. In year 2 we also insisted that before any movement health insurance had to be resolved. The indemnity plan was costing us 4k per person more than PPO. The difference in health benefits at very best is nominal. The max outside cost to employee was \$1k a year. So as a Board we insisted that this would be the strategy. He followed our instructions. CSEA said we're not interested in talking about health insurance, so we just extended term of contract for one year per Taylor Law. Did this again for the 3rd year. We were also faced with the Indemnity Plan being dropped by Chemung County. So to say that there is no resolution with CSEA is not actually correct. He's following our direction. For PBA we also said they have to look at health ins. When we were subjected to demands of PBA, they asked for 13% pay increase, 9% for those after 11 years on. And 4% each year for those less than 11 years. And he has always been accessible.

Trustee Koliwasky - we do need resolution and move forward. We can talk about what direction the Board wants to go. I feel personally that these contracts have held out too long. I make a motion we table this matter.

Trustee Skroskznik seconded the motion to table.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Zeigler	Aye
Trustee Koliwasky	Aye
Trustee Skroskznik	Aye

8:40 a.m. - Public Hearing: 307 John Street, Porch Encroachment

Atty. Groff opened public hearing. The porch steps are approximately 2 feet into street right-of-way. Procedure is a revocable permit to continue encroachment.

Nobody came forward to speak. Atty. Groff closed the public hearing.

Resolution by Trustee Skroskznik, seconded by Trustee Koliwasky

WHEREAS, this Board has been requested by Barbara Swanson, the owner of real property commonly known as 307 John St., Horseheads, NY for authorization to maintain a building encroachment on Curns Streets pursuant to Village Law Section 6-632, and

WHEREAS, Village staff have reviewed a survey prepared by Weiler Associates depicting an encroachment upon Curns Street by a porch and steps approximately two feet, and

WHEREAS, DPW Supt. Matt Mustico has been requested by this Board to inspect the site and present his recommendation to this Board regarding such encroachment and the requested authorization, and

WHEREAS, based upon his recommendation and the review of the situation by other Village staff, this Board made a preliminary determination that granting the request would not have an adverse impact on the users of the street, and

WHEREAS, the owners of property within 500 ft. of the subject site have been given notice of a public hearing, pursuant to Village Law Section 6-632, to be held on February 27th, 2014 regarding the requested authorization, and

WHEREAS, this Board has held a public hearing on this date regarding the request.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. This Board determines that the identified encroachment upon Curns Street does not interfere or impede the right of the public to use such Village street.
2. This Board does hereby grant to the owner of 306 John St., a license to continue to maintain such encroachment under the terms and conditions as provided in Village Law Section 6-632. Said license to be in a form approved by Village Manager Walt Herbst and recorded in the Chemung County Clerk's Office at the expense of such owner.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Zeigler	Aye
Trustee Koliwasky	Aye
Trustee Skroskznik	Aye

Resolution by Trustee Koliwasky, seconded by Trustee Skroskznik

WHEREAS, Raymond Fortier has submitted his resignation as a member of and as Chairman of the Horseheads Planning Board effective immediately, and

WHEREAS, Mayor Donald Zeigler has recommended various appointments and adjustments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, effective immediately, the following appointments be made:

- **Mike Stenpeck**, Grand Central Ave., as **Chairman of the Planning Board**. Mr. Stenpeck's current term as a Planning Board Member expires the first Monday in December, 2015.
- **Robert Young**, Center Street, **Planning Board Member**, to fill the unexpired term of Ray Fortier, said term will expire the first Monday in December, 2017.

- **Dave Helsing**, Pine Street, **Planning Board Alternate**, for a term which will expire the first Monday in December 2014.

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Zeigler	Aye
Trustee Koliwasky	Aye
Trustee Skroskznik	Aye

Mayor Zeigler - Our Planning Board is very important to this Village. Just a little info on outgoing Chairman Ray Fortier. He first got appointed to the Planning Board on 12/3/69. Been there for 44 yrs. He became chairman in 2004. That is a lot of work and dedication. He still gets out, but he said it's time to go. I talked to him at length. He has a lot of respect for Mike Stenpeck. He runs a good meeting. Also I look forward to Bob being on the Planning Board. We have a good board now. Only leaves another alternate vacant.

Manager Herbst reported on the following items:

- Roof work underway. Has been quite an ordeal. MRB looking for potential increase in amount that we contracted for because of the extensive negotiations and follow up on this roof project. Spoke with atty. Groff. Might not be permissible. We'll be looking into that, the increase of their contract and get back to you.

- Request from Tioga County to do a resolution in support of the gaming commission awarding the casino contract to Tioga Downs. Now the question is what the revenue will be. It would have a good economic impact for us - sales tax, tourism revenue, etc. With that in mind I ask that you consider that we support their request.

Trustee Koliwasky - Tioga should take care of Tioga. I realize that they are spreading good cheer. I see tourism, but I guess where the economic boom is I don't know. At this point I'd say no, let them take care of their own business.

Trustee Skroskznik - I agree with George. Let Tioga think about their own business. If we are going to support something it should be influencing this community.

Mayor Zeigler - yes let's wait.

Manager Herbst - very quick comment on outstanding work our Fire Dept. did with fire at Grand Central Fitness. This fire easily had the potential to be a disaster for the whole plaza. Because of how they handled it they confined it to just the fitness center and some smoke/water damage.

Atty. Groff - I attend the public hearing at the Legion for Town of Horseheads. Chief Barton and our Police Sergeants were there to provide security. They did an exemplary job.

Chief Arthur Sullivan - That fire at the fitness center was a major fire, biggest one in 30 years. As myself

as Chief it was easy. They've stressed over the years the incident command system. We've practiced it and it works. That was all in place. New radio system worked well. Key of any incident - clear radio communications. We have the equipment to do it. We called for assistance and that came. Key part of it all was the training. We train all the time and it came through. We have an excellent training officer in Bob Emmick. He's always on us about training. Combination of all that together we saved a lot of property. Didn't have to worry about lives because it was unoccupied. I commend all my men and officers.

As there was nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

/rmb