

MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York, was held on Monday, September 3, 2013, in the Court Room of the Police Headquarters Building, 350 North Main Street, Port Chester, New York, with Mayor Neil Pagano presiding.

Present in addition to Mayor Pagano, were Trustees Gregory Adams, Daniel Brakewood, Saverio Terenzi, Luis Marino, Joseph Kenner and Gene Ceccarelli.

Also present were Village Clerk, Janusz R. Richards; Village Attorney, Anthony Cerreto; Administrative Aide, Christopher Ameigh, and Mr. Terry O'Neill, Labor Council.

On motion of Trustee Adams, seconded by Trustee Marino, the meeting was declared opened at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:05 p.m., on motion of Trustee Marino, seconded by Trustee Brakewood, the Board adjourned into an executive session for consultation with legal counsel regarding Police Department matters.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

Also present were Village Clerk, Janusz R. Richards; Village Attorney, Anthony Cerreto; Administrative Aide, Christopher Ameigh, and Mr. Terry O'Neill, Labor Council.

No action was taken in executive session.

At 7:14 p.m., on motion of Trustee Ceccarelli, seconded by Trustee Adams, the executive session was closed.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

Following the Executive Session the Board of Trustees proceeded with the regular scheduled meeting.

Before start of the meeting the Mayor asked for a moment of silence to acknowledge two Village residence Fernanda Gomez and Juliana Restrepo who died in a car crash on Sunday morning, Sept. 1st.

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York, was held on Monday, September 3, 2013, in the Court Room of the Police Headquarters Building, 350 North Main Street, Port Chester, New York, with Mayor Neil Pagano presiding.

Present in addition to Mayor Pagano, were Trustees Gregory Adams, Daniel Brakewood, Saverio Terenzi, Luis Marino, Joseph Kenner and Gene Ceccarelli.

Also present were Village Clerk, Janusz R. Richards; Village Attorney, Anthony Cerreto; Director of Planning and Development Christopher Gomez; Village Planner, Jesica Youngblood; Administrative Aide, Christopher Ameigh, and Capitan John Telesca.

On motion of Trustee Adams, seconded by Trustee Brakewood, the meeting was declared opened at 7:19 p.m.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

Opening comments

Mayor Pagano asked for the Boards indulgence to make a comment regarding Port Chester Police department.

As most people know by now, the PCPD reported that there was a breach of security and the disappearance of certain evidence from the evidence property room in police headquarters sometime in early July.

At that time the Board was timely briefed by Chief Krzeminski in executive session and an investigation was commenced immediately. Subsequent to the initial investigation, and at the request of this Mayor and the entire BOT, an outside agency, was contacted to become involved in the investigation. That process remains ongoing and is still underway.

Every member of the PCPD has been affected by this incident that arose out of the selfish and illegal act committed by an individual or individuals. Every good honest cop – who is on the street every day – protecting you and me - and continues to do his/or her job in a dedicated and serious manner is taking the hit for this incident. Every honest and hardworking civilian that is employed by the Department and who has access to the building is also in the line of fire. The careless, insensitive and off-handed comments and disparaging remarks that I've seen and heard from some of the participants in the various social media and on the street paints all of the PAD with a broad brush. That's not only unfair....it's just plain wrong and irresponsible. As this matter progresses, and it will progress to the point of wherever it takes us, please be rest assured that your BOT will take whatever steps it may have to take in order to bring this matter to a conclusion. It will not be quashed!

With regard to this evening's BOT proceedings and the BOT proceedings that will follow in the coming weeks - please be advised that I will not entertain any questions or comments from the public in connection with this matter nor will any further questions from the press or other similar media be entertained by responses other than or similar to "no comment" until such time as the investigation has reached a point where there is something material to report. I would encourage the members of this Board to follow the same guideline.

Make no mistake - silence on the part of the Village and/or its elected officials does not mean that matters have come to a halt – whether it takes weeks or months. We do not intend to let this matter go quietly into the night.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Pagano asked if there was anyone from the audience who would like to make any comments.

Ms. Goldie Solomon commented on the accident that took the lives of two residents Fernanda Gomez and Juliana Restrepo; and asked that residents attend their wakes and funerals. She also requested that residents attend the Sept. 11th remembrance at Lyons Park.

Mr. Terranova thanked Heather and the Rec committee for making Port Chester Day a success. Commented on the negative comments about the Police Department in the PATCH.

Ms. Dina Goren said that on September 14th at Abendroth Park there will be tours and a community tag sale and raffles.

Mr. Reavis said he looking for information on what's going on with Starwood.

Mayor Pagano commented that there is not enough information to give a status report.

Ms. Madeline Luzzi thanked the people of Port Chester for the fundraiser for her nephew Rocco Morabito.

Mr. Richard Abel spoke on parking in front of the Police Department and that people should not have to feed the meter in order to attend public meetings.

Ms. Bea Conetta commented about the Village Police Department and we should be proud of our Police Department and that comments should not come out before the case is heard. She spoke about Amnesty and the State codes.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Terranova spoke to the Board on behalf of the Park Commission regarding 201 Grace Church Street property and the Dog Park Group. Mr. Terranova presented to the Board the following letters from the Park Commission:

August 14, 2013

Dear Mayor Pagano and Board of Trustees:

At a Special Meeting of the Park Commission held on August 7, 2013, the Park Commission discussed their recommended use for the property known as 201 Grace Church Street.

The Commission requests that this land be dedicated as park land. The Commission would like to see the existing building demolished, the utilities capped off and a gravel parking lot installed to accommodate 25 to 30 cars leaving the other areas of the property untouched at this time.

Chairman Jerry Terranova and Chris Gomez of the Planning Department have submitted a grant application to New York State requesting funds to aid in developing this property. In the hope that this grant is received, the Commission will then sit down and develop a more thorough plan for this property.

The Commission requests your approval regarding their recommended use for this property.

Very truly yours,

Jerry Terranova and Park Commissioners

August 8, 2013

Mayor Neil Pagano and the Board of Trustees
Port Chester, New York

Dear Mayor Pagano and Board of Trustees:

At a recent meeting of the Park Commission a request from Tarin Gonzalez for the Port Chester Dog Park Group to use Abendroth Park for a tag sale was discussed.

The original date for this event was set for July 13, 2013, but a second request was received in which the Group asked to change the date to September 14, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Commission has approved this request with the requirement that although the Park Use fee has been waived, the \$200 refundable deposit must be paid. The Group is also required to present a Certificate of General Liability Insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 naming the Village of Port Chester as co-insured.

The Dog Park Group understands the Park facility will be left in the condition it is found or additional fees maybe incurred. The have also been made aware that **NO DOGS WILL BE ALLOWED.**

The Park Commission asks the Mayor and Board of Trustees to support their recommendation in granting the Board's approval.

Very truly yours,

Jerry Terranova and Park Commissioners

August 14, 2013

Mayor Neil Pagano and the Board of Trustees
Port Chester, New York

Dear Mayor Pagano and Board of Trustees:

At their meeting held August 13, 2013, the Park Commission reviewed a request from Dina Goren of the Dog Park Group regarding posting dedication plaques on the fence of the Dog Park.

The plaques will be no larger than 5 ¼ inches by 8 ½ inches and will be placed inside the Dog Park fence.

The Park Commission recommends this request to the Board for their approval.

**RESOLUTION
GIVING PERMISSION TO THE INSTALLATION OF PLAQUES
ON THE FENCE OF THE PROPOSED DOG PARK IN ABENDROTH PARK**

On motion of TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, seconded by TRUSTEE CECCARELLI, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

WHEREAS, The Dog Park Group has made request that the Board of Trustees permit the installation of plaques to recognize donors that would be installed on the fence of the proposed dog park in Abendroth Park; and

WHEREAS, the proposed plaques would be no larger than 5 ¼ by 8 ½ inches and will be placed inside of the fence; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission has reviewed the request and favorably recommends same to the Board of Trustees. .Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby grants conceptual approval for the installation of plaques to recognize donors that would be installed on the fence of the proposed dog park in Abendroth Park.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

The second presentation was made by Mr. Aldo V. Vitagliano representing 110 Westchester Avenue on application for License Agreement regarding Village Lot at 7 East Broadway.

Mr. Vitagliano stated that I represent Chung Hwan Kim and his wife Chang Myun Kim, owners since 1997 of 110 Westchester Avenue. The property consists of a two story currently vacant building. A recent prior use of the property was as a retail furniture store.

After studying efforts to vitalize this property, I recommended to the client that we seek a license agreement from the Village of Port Chester to improve the rear yard area and access the adjoining Village Shoppers Parking Lot at 7 East Broadway from the second floor of the property. Initial meetings with former Manager Chris Russo and Planning Consultant Pat Geary, it was determined that the appropriate way to secure approval was through the Site Plan Process with the Planning Commission.

An application for Site Plan approval for this improvement was filed and presented. Preliminary Approval was granted on July 29ⁿ, 2013, subject to the grant by the Village of Port Chester of a License Agreement. The plan calls for the installation of a new exit door, a lit walkway with new fencing and lawn. Access to the parking lot would be through the existing Village of Port Chester fence. No parking spaces would be lost.

The Board of Trustees asked the Village Attorney to draw up the license agreement for the next regular meeting.

AWARD PRESENTATION

To Reliance Engine and Hose Company # 1.

Over 190 years ago, in April 1823, by an act of the state legislature The Clinton Engine Company #1 was organized for the purpose of providing fire protection for the hamlets of the Sawpits and Lyons Point in the Town of Rye and operated as the sole company of the department until Putnam E & H was organized in 1854. The HHH & L #1 joined these companies in 1858. John Lounsbury, a prominent local businessman and member of Reliance was elected the first Chief Engineer of the PCFD and served as such until the end of 1862.

The first piece of fire apparatus was a 10 year old condemned, hand drawn-gooseneck style engine purchased from the City of New York for \$300 without any other equipment or hose. This engine even with a “defective” cylinder went on to serve the company for over 40 years. In 1837 the company minutes record the first official use of the name of Port Chester for the hamlet, when it was voted by the residents to spend \$250 for hose and other implements. Clinton later acquired a used hose reel from the city in the early 1850’s. In the mid-1870s Clinton Engine Company #1 was reorganized and changed its name to “Reliance” and then once again in 1886 when its name was changed to its final version “Reliance Engine & Hose #1”

Since its inception, there have been 11 members of the Company who have held the position as Chief Engineer – the most recent being Bob Drought who served from 2009 - 2010. The Company also honors 6 of its members who served the department as Ass’t Engineers without reaching the office of Chief Engineer. Three of its members went on to attain the office of President of the Westchester County Volunteer Fireman’s Association. Sadly, one member – Joseph Hamilton – perished in the line of duty in 1938

Through those years many community families – generation after generation - have volunteered and supported the operation of the Company in its mission to protect our Community - Names like , Peck, Lounsbury’s, Studwells, Lyon’s,

Connolly's, Brundages, Wenkenbach's, Moger's, Underhill's, Archers, O'Briens, Lewin's, Kelly's, Thalheimer's, Santucci's, McDades, MacPherson's and Loizzo's and many many others – have come together not only as part of the Firematic brotherhood but have become a family in the truest sense of the word.

On Sunday September 22, 2013– Reliance E & H and its member will celebrate and commemorate their 190th anniversary with a parade that will commence at 2PM.

I, along with the members of the Village BOT and staff of the Village of Port Chester would like to congratulate and thank all of the members of the company for the many years of service to our Community.

The Current Firematic and Parliamentary officers are
Captain Christopher Santucci
1st Lieutenant Louis Monti
2nd Lieutenant Brendan Loizzo
Head Driver Daniel Hickman

President John P. "Sean" Powers
Vice President Andrew Voelkel
Secretary Bryan A. Santucci
Treasurer William Irwin, Jr.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION #1 RECOGNIZING OCTOBER, 2013 AS ANTI-BULLYING AWARENESS MONTH

On motion of TRUSTEE BRAKEWOOD, seconded by TRUSTEE KENNER, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York:

WHEREAS, it is fundamental that children are raised in an environment that holds promise and security; and

WHEREAS, many organizations, school districts, educators and parents have publicly expressed concern about the bullying of children; and

WHEREAS, each day an estimated 160,000 children refuse to go to school because they dread the physical and verbal aggression of their peers, and

the loneliness that comes from being excluded and made the target of rumors and cyber-bullying; many more students attend school in a chronic state of anxiety; and

WHEREAS, it is important that we acknowledge and heighten awareness about the serious issues and the negative effects of bullying, including the long-term damage it can cause in our youth as well as the risks of teenage suicide; and

WHEREAS, providing a safe physical and emotional environment is a significant goal and a personal responsibility of each individual. Now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees does hereby designate the month of October 2013 as Anti-Bullying Awareness Month in the Village of Port Chester as a symbol of our commitment to the year-round struggle against bullying, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

DISCUSSIONS

The Board discussed different options regarding meter parking in front of the Courtroom (350 North Main Street) during the BOT, ZBA, etc. meetings.

CORRESPONDENCES

From Reliance Engine & Hose Company No. 1 on the resignation of Brett Lyons and Augustine Diaz.

The Board accepted the correspondence.

From Aldo V. Vitagliano for site plan approval at 110 Westchester Avenue seeking license agreement with regard to rear access to the East Broadway municipal parking lot.

The Board accepted the correspondence.

From the Traffic Commission regarding the request of the East Coast Greenway Alliance for a change in their route and signage.

The Board accepted the Traffic Commission recommendations.

From Stephen Neilsen regarding his interest in joining the Taxi Commission.

The Board accepted the correspondence and requested the Clerk to provide the Board with an updated list of current members of the Taxi Commission.

From the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary for a police escort to lead and one to follow their procession on October 20, 2013.

The Board referred the correspondence to staff regarding a possible new route.

From Whole Foods requesting permission to locate a food truck during the opening day in the parking lot outside the store's entrance until Sunday.

The Board accepted the correspondence.

From Saint Peter's Episcopal Church asking permission for a procession on September 14, 2013 at 5:00 P.M. starting from 45 N. Regent Street turning right on Irving Avenue, processing unto Poningo Street, then turning right to cross Westchester Avenue to enter Saint Peter's Church.

The Board referred the correspondence to staff.

From Daniel & Josephine Colangelo regarding the increase in heavy duty commercial vehicles traversing Betsy Brown Road.

The Board referred the correspondence to staff.

MINUTES

Minutes from July 1, 2013 and July 15, 2013.

Trustee Marino made a motion to combine the minutes of July 1, 2013 and July 15, 2013 of the agenda for the purpose of casting one vote for all three minutes by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ceccarelli.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

On motion of Trustee Kenner, seconded by Trustee Ceccarelli, the minutes of July 1, 2013 and July 15, 2013, were adopted.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND BOARD COMMENTS

Public:

Ms. Bea Conetta questioned the idea of having to pay \$2 to park to attend the Village Meetings. Suggested that there be a sign-in sheet and those tickets would be excused. People who come to the meetings should not have to pay to park.

Board:

Trustee Adams expressed sympathy for the accident victims and to the Estrapos and Gomez families. Thanked the firemen present at the meeting.

Trustee Brakewood said the accident victims were lovely and caring young women. Said he would not comment on the investigation of the Police Department, out of respect for our good Police Department. Commented on with schools reopening people should be cautious in driving.

Trustee Marino will be with both accident families and asked for any help to the families.

Trustee Kenner said the families will be in his prayers.

Trustee Ceccarelli thanked Trustee Marino and the public who helped with the Brazilian fundraising.

Mayor Pagano thanked Trustee Marino for his help in guiding the accident victims' families through their arrangements and asked Trustee Marino to be the main contact for monetary help to the families.

At 8:51 p.m., on motion of Trustee Marino, seconded by Trustee Adams, the Board of Trustees adjourned.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Adams, Brakewood, Terenzi, Marino, Kenner, Ceccarelli and Mayor Pagano

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATE: September 3, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Janusz R. Richards
Village Clerk