

MEETING HELD APRIL 11, 2012

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Port Chester, New York, was held on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 6:00 P.M., in the Senior / Community Center, at 220 Grace Church Street, Port Chester, New York, with Mayor Dennis Pilla presiding.

Present in addition to Mayor Pilla, were Trustees Saverio Terenzi, Joseph Kenner, and Luis Marino.

It should be noted that Trustees Daniel Brakewood and John Branca were absent and Trustee Didden arrived at 6:40 p.m.

Also present were Village Manager, Christopher Russo; Village Clerk, Joan Mancuso; Village Attorney, Anthony Cerreto; Village Treasurer, Leonie Douglas, Director of Planning & Development, Christopher Gomez; General Foreman, Rocky Morabito and Village Engineering Consultant, Dolph Rotfeld.

* * * * *

At 6:02 p.m., on motion of Trustee Kenner, seconded by Trustee Marino, the meeting was declared opened.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Marino, Kenner and Mayor Pilla
NOES: None
ABSENT: Trustees Brakewood, Didden and Branca

Mayor Pilla briefly spoke about the budget and moving towards looking at alternate ways to carve out services for example what the Board is doing with the sewer rent project. He continued and spoke about the idea of carving out services for sanitation and recycling and other services which are allowable and that by doing this it would be equitable for Homestead and Non-Homestead properties but other municipalities and the County are considering revaluation of properties so we need to put on hold, the consideration of any other services.

* * * * *

Executive Session:

The Mayor said that before the scheduled budget work sessions, he would ask for an executive session for the purpose of consultation with counsel, Justin Miller, Esq., regarding the bulkhead.

At 6:07 p.m., Trustee Terenzi made a motion for the executive session, Trustee Marino, seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Marino, Kenner and Mayor Pilla
NOES: None
ABSENT: Trustees Brakewood, Didden and Branca

Included in the executive session were the Village Manager and the Village Attorney.

No action was taken in the executive session.

On motion of Trustee Kenner, seconded by Trustee Marino, the executive session was closed at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Marino, Kenner and Mayor Pilla

NOES: None

ABSENT: Trustees Brakewood, Didden and Branca

* * * * *

Budget Work Session: Sewers and Capital

The Mayor and the Board of Trustees held a budget work session regarding sewers and proposed capital projects with Christopher Russo, the Village Manager, Dolph Rotfeld, the Village Engineering Consultant, Rocky Morabito, the General Foreman and Christopher Gomez, the Director of Planning & Development.

Mr. Russo informed the Board that about 3.7 million has been spent in the last several years on the Village’s sanitary sewers and storm drains.

Mayor Pilla noted that a meeting was held today with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that included himself, the Village Manager and Mr. Rotfeld regarding an order that the Village is complying with and that the representatives of the EPA are impressed with how the Village is moving on this project.

Mr. Russo spoke about the analysis done comparing the raising of taxes opposed to a sewer rent project on the amount of 1.4 million.

Leonie Douglas, the Village Treasurer reviewed the analysis information further with the Board.

Trustee Bart Didden arrived at this time.

Mr. Russo then reviewed with the Board the Five Year Capital Improvement Program noting that for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year the following projects and amounts are being proposed:

Equipment:

Fire Chief’s Vehicle	\$29,000
12 foot Cutting Deck Tractor	\$50,000
Hot Box	\$21,000
Hydro Bunker Rake	\$16,000

Facilities:

Bush Homestead Rehab	\$100,000
Municipal Facility Project	\$1,500,000

Infrastructure:

CDBG Sidewalks	\$100,000
Municipal Sidewalks	\$200,000
Road Resurfacing	\$500,000
Sewer Improvements	\$3,000,000
Steel Cathodic (Bulkhead)	<u>\$300,000</u>

Total Appropriations: \$6,016,000

Revenues:

CHIPS	\$170,037
Road Resurfacing – transfer from Existing Capital Project	\$254,920
Sidewalks – transfer from existing Capital Projects	\$200,000

Community Development Block Grant	
Sidewalks	\$100,000
Storm & Sewer Improvements	<u>\$150,000</u>

Total Revenue; \$874,957

Difference: (\$5,141,043)

Trustee Terenzi asked what are the improvements that will be done for the Bush Homestead in the amount of \$100,000 for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Mr. Russo said that the rehabilitation project for the Bush Homestead would include a new roof, painting and exterior repairs.

It was inquired what the municipal facility project entails. Mr. Russo said that this is for consideration of acquiring property and making into municipal use and has amounts for over two fiscal years.

Mr. Russo noted that the municipal sidewalk project funding is from money left over from close out of other sidewalk capital projects and will be spread out over four years. He said that the municipal sidewalks to be completed are for several parks.

Trustee Didden asked if the Manager had looked into his suggestions of cutting into the Putnam Avenue sidewalk along Lyon Park between Putnam Drive and Parkway Drive to open the road more.

Mr. Russo said that further reviewed would be needed on that proposal.

Mayor Pilla said that Trustee Didden's suggestion may require additional process if there is a removal of any parkland.

Trustee Didden said that there could be consideration to move back the curb and just remove the area between the current curbing to the existing sidewalk.

Mr. Russo then reviewed the proposed road resurfacing schedule for the five years noting that we are also using close out funds from old road resurfacing capital projects.

Dolph Rotfeld, the Village's Engineering Consultant said that last year all the roads were reviewed and put on the GIS system per priority. He and Christopher Gomez, the Director of Planning and Development told the Board that they have the road resurfacing information mapped out. There was a brief discussion between the Board and staff regarding the roads.

Mr. Russo then spoke about the sewer improvements project. He said that three million is being proposed for each year and that the Village has spent about \$880,000 on the EPA Order.

Trustee Didden asked what is the amount of the order?

Mr. Russo, Mr. Rotfeld and the Mayor said that the total project is about 12 million.

Trustee Terenzi noted that minus the sewer district the Board would need to borrow just over two millions on the rest of the proposed Capital Projects for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Mr. Russo told the Board about the proposed project regarding the steel cathodic for the steel section of the bulkhead. He said that this cathodic process is a sealer to deter rust and other elements to help maintain the life of this portion of the bulkhead. He continued the review of the proposed Capital Projects with the Storm Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$200,000. There was further discussion about these improvements and Mr. Rotfeld explained that the Village has some smaller catch basins that require additional work and told them of some of the areas that they are in.

Mayor Pilla asked about the use of rudderized asphalt stating that this material is longer lasting.

Mr. Rotfeld said that this project includes other material primarily old tires with the asphalt but noted that locally this product is made only on Saturdays and cost more because it is not as much in demand. He said that this material has to be put on the raw ground and cannot join with other surfaces. There was further discussion on this product and it was noted that it is more widely used in areas of the country that does not have winters like us in the northeast. Mr. Rotfeld said that a test patch could be done with this material.

Trustee Terenzi started the discussion about the total costs of these Capital Projects and what would need to be borrowed this coming fiscal year. He said that he would recommend a BAN for \$2 million.

Mr. Russo said that once the budget is finalized there will still need to discuss and review the Capital Budgets.

Mr. Gomez displayed to the Board the map that shows the 5 year (2012-2017) plan for the road resurfacing project and that the Board members were provided with individual maps showing the locations for each year of the 5 year project.

Mayor Pilla said that once these indicated streets are done for road resurfacing what would be the next phase or would all the streets be completed.

Mr. Rotfeld said that all the roads were reviewed and categorized from bad, poor etc., and that once the proposed streets are done there will still be more streets for resurfacing.

Mayor Pilla and the Board thanked the Manager, Ms. Douglas, Mr. Rotfeld and Mr. Gomez for their information regarding the capital projects.

* * * * *

Budget Work Session: Department of Public Works

The Board continued the meeting with the next Budget Work Session with the Manager and Rocky Morabito, the General Foreman regarding the budget lines for the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Russo said that this budget holds the line for this department noting that they are doing more than ever before under General Foreman Rocky Morabito. He spoke about the catch basin project and noted that for the Central Garage budget there is an increase to the fuel line due to increase gas prices.

Mr. Morabito noted that last year the cost for diesel fuel was over \$2.00 a gallon now it is over \$4.00 a gallon.

Trustee Didden spoke about equipment and the idea that instead of for example buying pieces of equipment like a snow blower that instead consider a snow blower skid that could be attached to a front loader. There was further discussion about equipment and Trustee Didden's suggestion.

Mayor Pilla asked Mr. Morabito about the DPW manpower status and if there are any areas that need more personnel.

Mr. Morabito said that DPW is holding their own regarding the number of personnel but they could always use more. He did note that they have the maximum number of mechanics – four.

The Manager then reviewed the budget lines under Street Parking and noted that there is an increase amount for meter repairs and materials & supplies. He said that these increases are needed in these lines because of the increase use of the parking meters.

Mayor Pilla spoke about continuing with the replacement of single meters with multi- space pay stations.

Trustee Terenzi stated that the Town of Rye would like for a pay station to be placed in their parking lot on Pearl Street with the proposal that the Town keeps the parking revenue and the Village would continue enforcing the lot and keep the ticket revenue. There was further discussion about parking.

Trustee Kenner asked what the materials and supplies consist of that is being increased.

Ms. Douglas said that the pay station machines require batteries and paper and that they were installed and used for only a portion of the current fiscal year so with this budget have increased this line because this will be the first full year of their use. There was further discussion regarding the batteries for the multi-pay stations.

The Board continued the DPW budget review with the Street Administration lines and Mr. Russo said that these budget lines are flat this year with no changes.

They then reviewed the Street Maintenance lines that are for the Highway Department. Mr. Russo noted that they increased the materials and supplies line for the in house repairs for catch basins and other items instead of using outside contractors for emergency repairs. He stated that this has saved the Village between \$35,000 and \$40,000 so far this year.

Mr. Russo said that the next budget lines for DPW are the Snow Removal lines and because of the lack of snow this year these lines are under budget.

The Board continued this budget review with the Street Lighting lines. Staff stated that the light and power line went up because of a rate increase.

Trustee Didden said that the City of Stamford has switched over to LED lights because of the reduction of the electric use and life of these lights and how the vendors provides the lights and received a percentage of the cost savings. There was further discussion about these types of lights and would it be cost effective to consider a review

to switch. Trustee Terenzi noted that the rates from the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY) which is where the Village gets its electricity from would not make it equitable for the vendors. Mayor Pilla said that there are grants funds available for these types of upgrades in lighting systems.

No discussion was required regarding the budget lines for Street Cleaning.

The budget discussion continued on the Parks lines. Trustee Didden asked about turf maintenance in the parks and there was further discussion on this subject with the Board, Mr. Russo and Mr. Morabito.

Trustee Kenner asked if the seasonal line amount spent this year was due to the hurricane last fall. Mr. Morabito said that yes it was.

Mr. Russo continued with the budget review on the Sewer and Pump Station lines and noted that everything has been taken out from this budget because of the Sewer Rent Project except for stormwater in the amount of \$5,000.

The Board then discussed the Refuse & Garbage budget lines and asked about the amounts for the personnel services line. Mr. Morabito explained that some of these funds are used toward seasonal employees.

Mr. Russo then spoke about the Transfer Station lines and the reduction of the solid waste fees noting that the tonnage is down in reference to the tipping fees that are paid to the County and that the revenue for the transfer station is up. There was further discussion on these costs and revenues.

Mayor Pilla asked what resources are used downtown.

Mr. Morabito said that the street sweeper operates seven days a week in the downtown, that the trash cans are dumped two or more times a day and there are four employees on this detail.

The Board thanked Mr. Morabito for this information on the DPW budget and said that he is doing a great job as the General Foreman for this department. Trustee Marino said that Mr. Morabito always is working above and beyond and maybe it should be considered that he be provided with comp time.

There was further discussion between the Board and staff regarding the sewer rent project costs.

The Mayor spoke about the downtown area and the need for a Business Improvement District (BID) and that the Village could do all the sanitation for the downtown and that cost can be taken out of the budget and be part of the cost for the BID. He said that there could be a saving for the downtown businesses going to municipal pick up under a Bid instead of private carters picking up their garbage. Trustee Terenzi said that if you do a BID with a parking garage include all the commercial sanitation for that district, charge for all the services. There was further discussion about this topic of a downtown BID.

* * * * *

Resolution: Setting Public Hearing – Chapter 195 – Hawking, Peddling & Soliciting

SETTING PUBLIC HEARING ON CHAPTER 195
HAWKING, PEDDLING AND SOLICITING
WITH REGARD TO ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

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

RESOLVED, that a public hearing is to be held on April 23, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Justice Courtroom, 350 North Main Street, Port Chester, New York 10573, to consider the advisability of adopting a local law to amend Chapter 195 of the Code of the Village of Port Chester with regard to additional restrictions of locations for hawking, peddling and soliciting.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Didden, Marino, Kenner and Mayor Pilla
NOES: None
ABSENT: Trustees Brakewood and Branca

* * * * *

At 7:50 p.m., on motion of Trustee Didden, seconded by Trustee Marino, the Board of Trustees adjourned to an executive session to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment or promotion of a particular person(s) in reference to the Village Clerk’s Office. Included in the executive session was the Village Manager.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Didden, Marino, Kenner and Mayor Pilla
NOES: None
ABSENT: Trustees Brakewood and Branca

No action was taken in the executive session.

There being no further business, on motion of Trustee Marino, seconded by Trustee Terenzi, the executive session and the public meeting was closed at 7:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Trustees Terenzi, Didden, Marino, Kenner and Mayor Pilla
NOES: None
ABSENT: Trustees Brakewood and Branca

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Mancuso
Village Clerk