

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 23, 2015

PRESENT: Mayor Sellier
Trustee Schwarzfeld
Trustee Annunziata
Trustee-Elect McLaughlin
Manager Pierpont

ABSENT: Trustee Winston

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND FIRE SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Sellier led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and notified those in attendance where the fire exits were located. Mayor Sellier said that an item on the agenda would be taken out of order. The Oath of Office to appoint a new Planning Board member would be moved up on the agenda.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO PLANNING BOARD MEMBER JENNIFER FROST GARROW

Mayor Sellier said that Jennifer Frost Garrow is a life-long resident of the Village of Pelham Manor. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia and Columbia University and has a background in the investment banking industry. He said that her father, who was in attendance, was a retired Mayor of the Village.

The Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Jennifer Frost Garrow and all in attendance congratulated the new Planning Board member.

REPORTS

The Treasurer said that the mortgage tax will not hit the number that was budgeted but sales tax is on track to reach its projected revenue number. He said that the Village received reimbursement for Highway Aid and expenses are running where we expect them to be. He also said that another sixty tons of salt is scheduled to be delivered.

Trustee Annunziata asked when the Village would be reimbursed by the state for snow removal on Route 1.

The Treasurer was not sure when that payment will be received.

Trustee- Elect McLaughlin asked where the salt is stored and was told that it is stored at Spring Road.

The Mayor and Board thanked the Treasurer for his report.

The February DPW report showed that street patching was started. A meeting was held with Con Edison on patches that they need to fix.

Trustee Schwarzfeld said that the Village is recycling sixty two point one zero percent which is very good.

Manager Pierpont said that the Village runs a robust program.

The Mayor and Board thanked the DPW Superintendent for his report.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the reports be and hereby are approved.

RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

Mayor Sellier said that the Tentative Budget has a two point twenty seven percent homestead rate and the Board would like to see that number come in under two percent. The Mayor thought that the sale tax revenues were conservative and thought that they could be pushed up and suggested decreasing the tax levy by ten thousand dollars. He said that the Village is in good financial shape and will maintain services and keep the tax increase within the cap set by the state.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 be and hereby is scheduled for April 13, 2015 at eight fifteen in the evening.

RESOLUTION TO SET DEPOSIT FOR 919 WEST STREET, MIRAL REALTY ZONING ISSUE

Val Rodrigues, 919 West Street, sent a letter to the Village Manager and appeared at the last Board meeting because a potential client is interested in leasing twenty five hundred square feet of warehouse space on the second floor of 919 West Street for use as a recording studio. This would require a special permit. The Board needs to set a review deposit for any costs this zoning issue may generate. Any funds not used by the end of the review will be returned.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the review deposit for 919 West Street, Miral Realty, be and hereby is set at seven thousand five hundred dollars.

RESOLUTION TO AWARD BID FOR ANNUAL CATCH BASIN CLEANING PROGRAM

The Village received two bids for this work. Three hundred sixty five catch basins are cleaned on an annual basis. The results are listed below.

Three D Industrial	\$17,685.00
Fred A. Cook	\$10,295.00

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, that the bid for the Annual Catch Basin Cleaning program be and hereby is awarded to low bidder Fred A. Cook at a cost of ten thousand two hundred ninety five dollars.

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR CANAL ROAD REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Mayor Sellier said that he thought that this was the most important thing that the Board has done in the last two years. Beginning in March 2014, the Village Board had ten discussions on this and a Planning Board meeting was held in November 2014. He said that the scope has been refined. Mr. Fesjian's property has been eliminated from the scope. The Village will be asking for developers to submit proposals by May 29, 2015. The Mayor said that one of the important things is that the Request for Proposals requires respondents to demonstrate their accomplishments. They must provide two to five accomplishments of a similar scale, drawings, and financial capacity. The respondents need to provide a lot of information. The Village will review them based on the criteria in the RFP. Mayor Sellier said that the Village reserves the right to reject any proposal. The Village is hoping a number of qualified developers will be interested in developing this thirteen acre parcel. He said that the Village reserves the

right to use eminent domain.

Trustee Schwarzfeld said that the Village is proposing to de map a roadway and sell it to the developer.

Trustee Annunziata asked what percentage the roadway was and was told that it is one of thirteen acres or fifty thousand square feet.

Trustee Schwarzfeld said that the Village prefers that the landowners come to an agreement but if that is not possible, eminent domain remains an option.

Mayor Sellier said that if the Village wasn't doing this, this plan would be nowhere.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That a Request for Proposals for the Canal Road Redevelopment District be and hereby is issued.

PARK USE REQUEST

Rev. G. Jacob Bolton, Huguenot Memorial Church, has requested the use of Weihman Memorial Park on Saturday, April 4, 2015, from ten o'clock in the morning until one o'clock in the afternoon for the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the Rev. G. Jacob Bolton be and hereby is granted permission to use Weihman Memorial Park on Saturday, April 4, 2015 from ten o'clock in the morning until one o'clock in the afternoon for the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN ABSTRACT OF VOUCHERS NUMBERS 21292-21343

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

RESOLVED, That the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to sign Abstract of Vouchers Numbers 21292-21343.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gianni Magnani, 435 Carol Place, thanked Manager Pierpont and the Department of Public Works for the excellent job of salting and plowing the roads. He asked about the status of Dave & Buster's

Manager Pierpont said that Dave and Buster's was progressing and they are looking for an April opening. They are doing finish work inside and the stair tower has to be completed prior to opening.

Mayor Sellier said that long time resident Ann Gaillard sent a letter dated March 9, 2015 to the Board of Trustees. In the letter she thanked the Village Manager/Building Inspector for his honesty and integrity and expressed dismay at the current negative e-mails being circulated in the Village. The Mayor asked that the letter be made part of the minutes.

To Mayor Bertrand C. Sellier and Board of Pelham Manor Trustees

Re: John Pierpont

According to present day standards, I am a long term resident of Pelham Manor – 42 years. I have seen many mayors and two building inspectors. Indeed I made it my business to go and meet the then incoming building inspector, John Pierpont the first month he started. I liked him immediately at that time. However years later, many permits and issues, he has earned my complete respect.

I can say without any reservations, John Pierpont has impeccable honesty and true integrity. He is a “letter of law” manager, tempered with reason and common sense. I have always been able to meet with John, present the problem, and come away with a considered, straightforward action plan. In my book, that is as good as it gets.

On the flip side I am horrified by the shadowy hate campaign against John Pierpont. They are spreading lies and negative innuendos with the clear intention to harm. There seems to be no way to respond to their god-awful e-mails, but then I am a techno idiot. I do feel that is beyond free speech as the “campaign” is expressly targeting his job. This cannot be lawful. As a clear “hate” campaign, why can’t it be investigated?

Concerned

Ann Gaillard

Mayor Sellier said that he agreed with her about the cowards who are spreading lies and slandering people on websites. He also said that he agreed with Ann Gaillard’s positive comments about John Pierpont.

Mayor Sellier said that he will honor the one hundred twenty year tradition of serving two years as Mayor and then stepping aside to let someone else serve as Mayor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Clerk