

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York was held on Monday, March 17, 2008 at the Municipal Building, Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, New York.

The following officials were present:

Mayor Schmidt                      Trustee Brennan  
Trustee Kane                        Trustee Gallelli  
Trustee Konig                      Treasurer/ Interim Manager Zambrano  
Attorney Feldman

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ann Kennedy advised that the Croton Caring Committee applied for a Research Grant from Westchester County to assist the Committee in determining if there are any areas where Croton residents need assistance in addition to the services that the Croton Caring Committee currently provides. Ms. Kennedy said that the Caring Committee has prepared a questionnaire that will be distributed throughout the community

2. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Brennan made a motion to approve the vouchers as follows; the motion was seconded by Trustee Kane and approved unanimously.

General Fund	\$37,481.77
Water Fund	14,264.09
Sewer	1,000.00
Capital Fund	23,252.50
Trust Fund	600.00
Total	\$76,598.36

3. PROPOSED ALTERNATE SIDE OF THE STREET PARKING

Superintendent of Public Works, Marco Gennarelli advised that this proposal would help address street sweeping, leaf pick-up and snow removal issues. Mr. Gennarelli

said that the plan will target areas where it is virtually impossible to sweep the streets, pick up leaves and remove snow by removing cars from streets in these areas. Mr. Gennarelli stated that one of the main issues is that litter and garbage left on our streets are getting into our storm drains. Mr. Gennarelli explained that in 1990 the EPA implemented a Phase I Federal Storm Water Management Program to limit pollution of streams and estuaries throughout the United States. Mr. Gennarelli advised that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation received delegation from the Federal Government to carry this program out in New York State and in 1999 the Federal Government implemented a Phase II program directed towards Municipal Storm Sewer Systems. Mr. Gennarelli said that every municipality had to implement a Storm Water Management Program in order to comply with the regulations and in 2003 New York State DEC began the implementation by issuing State Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permits. Mr. Gennarelli said that as part of the program each Municipality had to submit a Storm Water Plan and in that plan one of the controlled measures was to implement a "house keeping program". Mr. Gennarelli advised that the Village then selected several "best management practices" to achieve this goal and one of those is a very aggressive street sweeping program and by not carrying out the program, the Village of Croton is technically in violation of their Permit with New York State.

Eric King, President of the Student Faculty Congress at Croton Harmon High School read and submitted a letter signed by approximately 100 students asking the Board to reconsider the proposal because of the difficulty in parking for students.

Mr. Neel, 32 Van Wyck Street said that he has lived in Croton for 30 years and said that he doesn't see the street sweeper come out very often and asked that Van Wyck Street also be included in the street sweeping program.

Bob Wintermeier, 43 Radnor Avenue said he is concerned that it might get confusing because various locations would have different day and time regulations. Mr. Wintermeier said that he was also concerned that cars will get plowed in during snow storms and how would these cars get out.

Mayor Schmidt said that these areas would have appropriate signage indicating when you can and cannot park.

Mark Bass, business owner at 109 Grand Street, said that he is concerned that it will limit parking especially between the hours of 9:00am to 11:00am. Mr. Bass said that there are many businesses that do not have off street parking and asked to take this into consideration. Mr. Bass also said that he felt that alternate side of the street parking is more of a revenue generating avenue rather than getting the streets cleaned and asked that the Board consider cleaning streets on an as needed basis.

Karen Ulanowski, 150 Grand Street, said that there are more cars than spaces on Grand Street and is concerned that there will not be enough spaces for the cars to go

on one side. Ms. Ulanowski said that she also does not want to be woken up at 4:00am by the street sweeper.

Mayor Schmidt said that the Board understands that there are areas that have problems with the number of cars that are on the street overnight and the Village is working on a plan for those areas.

Mark McDermott, business owner at 138 Grand Street said that he has concerns about parking because there has always been a problem on Grand Street.

Peter Sedlmair, 39 Old Post Road South submitted a petition signed by many of his neighbors stating that they are against the proposal because they are currently satisfied with the services that the Public Works Department provide and they do not think there will be any improvements but rather it would be a nuisance. Mr. Sedimair said that their schedule calls for cleaning between 4:00am-6:00am and he and his neighbors feel that it will disturb their quality of life.

Mayor Schmidt said that the Board has also received correspondence from residents throughout the community expressing their problems with snow and leaf removal because they are not picked up on a timely basis because there are entirely too many cars on the street. Mayor Schmidt said that the Village must comply with the Permit Regulations and the Village intends on using the street sweeper far more than it has been used in the past.

Gordon McGhie, employee of Adam West, Inc. stated that Mr. West is concerned about parking on Brook Street particularly on Mondays from 9:00am to 11:00am because it may push parking up towards their building and because they have a lot of vans coming and going and it is a very busy time for them. They are very concerned that this would be disruptive to their business.

Mayor Schmidt thanked everyone for coming and commenting. Mayor Schmidt said that the Board has received many e-mails and will be reviewing those comments along with the comments made this evening before any decisions are made. Mayor Schmidt also thanked Mr. Gennarelli for his presentation and thanked him for moving forward on this issue and many other issues that needed to be addressed.

#### 4. CORRESPONDENCE

Interim Village Manager Zambrano read the following correspondence (full text available at the Village Office):

- a. Letter from Leslie Snyder, Esq. of Synder & Snyder dated March 5, 2008 enclosing a copy of an application submitted to the Town of Cortlandt on behalf of Verizon for a Special Permit to install a personal wireless service facility at 51 Scenic Drive in the Town of Cortlandt.

- b. Letter from Mitchell Klein, President of the Croton Little League dated March 10, 2008 asking for permission to hold the annual Little League parade and ceremony on April 12, 2008.

Mayor Schmidt said that he is sure that Mr. Zambrano has the blessing of the Board to make this arrangement and do whatever has to be done.

- c. Letter from Ronald Wegner, Project Engineer of Cronin Engineering dated February 13, 2008 applying for a Steep Slope Hardship Permit on behalf of John and Donna Nikić for a parcel located at Franklin Avenue.

This was referred to the Planning Board for their recommendation and review.

- d. Letter from Jan Murtaugh dated March 12, 2008 presenting a petition asking that dogs have access to the trail at Croton Landing and for the Village Board to establish specific off-leash hours for dogs at Croton Landing.
- e. Letter from Dan O'Connor dated March 14, 2008 asking for the Village Board to grant an extension to the Building Permit issued to Marcella and Karim Azizi of 75 Thompson Avenue.

On motion of TRUSTEE BRENNAN seconded by TRUSTEE KANE, the following resolution was approved by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

Resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson hereby approves the extension of the Building Permit issued to Marcella and Karim Azizi of 75 Thompson Avenue.

##### 5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - AGENDA ITEMS

Jane Murtaugh asked that the Board do whatever is necessary to address the concerns expressed by members of the community regarding dogs at Croton Landing.

Mayor Schmidt said that the Board understands that members of the community are looking for some sort of relief and the Board is hopeful that they will be able to work something out. Mayor Schmidt said that the Board must also be sensitive to what is being done at Croton Landing and once the project is completed the Board will have a better idea of what we can accomplish there.

Joseph Streany stated that the Recreation Advisory Committee did not get the charge to consider changing the Village law concerning off-leash and cannot do so unless they are instructed to by the Village Board.

Pat Oster, 18 Hunter Street, asked the Mayor to go through the time table of what will be happening at Croton Landing.

Mayor Schmidt said that the biggest part that is not going to be open to the public is the field. Mayor Schmidt said that the Macadam path should be open and functioning by the end of the summer.

Mr. Oster asked what the rule will be with regards to dogs on/off leash when this path opens.

Mayor Schmidt said that the consensus of the Board is that at the minimum we are in favor of allowing people to walk their dogs on the path as long as the dogs are on a leash. Mayor Schmidt said that the Board contacted Westchester County because the County is paying for a large part of the renovations and it is part of the extension of the County's trail and their rule on County Trails is that you can walk a dog as long as the dog is leashed. Mayor Schmidt said that the Board has asked the Recreation Advisory Committee to make a recommendation on how they feel Village parks should be used and these are the questions that were asked of them.

Kevin Davis, 17 Wolf Road, asked what the arguments are against allowing unleashed dogs in Croton Landing.

Trustee Brennan commented that he personally loves dogs but not everyone does and some of our residents including young children in the Village may be apprehensive about being around dogs that are loose. Trustee Brennan said that we should be sensitive to other residents' feelings about this issue.

## 6. RESOLUTIONS

- a. On motion of TRUSTEE GALLELLI seconded by TRUSTEE BRENNAN, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, on December 4, 2006 the Village Board of Trustees approved the IMA with Westchester County which provided for Westchester County to reimburse the Village up to \$1,750,000 for the completion of the Riverwalk Project; and

WHEREAS, \$250,000 of the \$1,750,000 is to be funded through a grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Croton on Hudson owns the property and must approve the grant as guarantor; and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2007 the Village Board of Trustees authorized the approval of the contract between Westchester County and New York State as guarantor; and

WHEREAS, the term of the grant has been extended and this requires an amendment to the contract; and

WHEREAS, as owner of the property the Village must approve the amendment as the guarantor,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to sign as guarantor the amendment to the contract between Westchester County and New York State.

- b. On motion of TRUSTEE BRENNAN seconded by TRUSTEE KONIG, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, Westchester County has received a grant from the New York State DEC for a regional Stormwater Education and Outreach Program; and

WHEREAS, this is a \$200,000 grant from the DEC requiring a \$200,000 local share; and

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2007 the Village Board of Trustees approved a resolution stating the Village's intent to participate in the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Village's obligation to this program will be \$1,325 of in kind services; and

WHEREAS, the County has drafted an IMA that meets County and State requirements,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to sign the inter-municipal agreement with Westchester County for participation in the MS4-Phase II Stormwater Education and Outreach Program.

- c. On motion of TRUSTEE GALLELLI seconded by TRUSTEE BRENNAN, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, the Village intends to apply for a grant under the Safe Routes to School Program; and

WHEREAS, this program provides for funding for infrastructure and education programs that would promote walking and bicycling to schools; and

WHEREAS, the Village's proposed project will provide for the construction of sidewalks along Olcott between Wells Avenue and Glenn Place, Larkin Place between Olcott Avenue and the PVC Middle School, and on Croton-Harmon School District Property between its parking lot and the school as well as improvement to the Olcott/Maple Street intersection; and

WHEREAS, the amount of funding requested will be no more than \$400,000; and

WHEREAS, the program does not require any matching funds from the Village,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Safe Routes to School Program for the Olcott/Maple Street Intersection

7. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Kevin Davis, 17 Wolf Road thanked Trustee Kane for his service, it was a pleasure e-mailing him and discussing Village issues and will miss that one voice of reason on the Village Board. Mr. Davis asked what happened at the meeting at the joint Town/Village Recreation Departments.

Trustee Brennan said that he and members of the Croton Recreation Department met with the Town of Cortlandt and reviewed the plans of their new building and discussed areas where they can share services when the building is completed. Trustee Brennan said it is now in the hands of the Recreation Department to see what services would be best shared. Trustee Brennan recommended that he contact Susan Snyder.

Joann Minett, 5 Van Cortlandt Place, said that she is glad to see school safety issues are being addressed. Ms. Minett said that Van Cortlandt Place is a very narrow street with no sidewalks and it is very dangerous because children are walking in the street and she is concerned with their safety and asked the Board to look into changing some of the streets in that area to one way.

Mayor Schmidt said that this is something that will be referred to the Police Chief and to Mr. Gennarelli to look at those areas to see what recommendations could be made.

Leo Wiegman, Benedict Blvd praised and thanked Charlie Kane for his four years of service to the Village. Mr. Wiegman said that Charlie Kane was instrumental in helping to stop the millennium pipeline and appreciated his quiet resolve in getting things done.

Trustee Kane thanked Mr. Wiegman for his remarks, he enjoyed being a Trustee and working with the community.

Mayor Schmidt thanked Trustee Kane; it has been an honor and a pleasure working with him. Mayor Schmidt said that anyone who serves the Village does it out of the kindness of their heart and appreciates all his hard work on behalf of the Village.

Trustee Kane said that it has been a pleasure serving and working with the members of the Board.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Brennan made a motion to approve the minutes as amended of the Regular Meeting held on Monday, March 3, 2008. Trustee Kane seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes

Trustee Brennan made a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on Monday, March 10, 2008. Trustee Konig seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

9. REPORTS

Interim Manager Abe Zambrano thanked Trustee Kane; it has been a pleasure working with him. Mr. Zambrano advised that he attended a meeting where the Deputy County Executive, Larry Schwartz, spoke on the importance of recycling in the Westchester County. Mr. Zambrano said that Westchester County is very proud of the results they have gotten from communities throughout Westchester but they do have concerns that some municipalities are not recycling 100%. Mr. Zambrano said that the County will begin to reinforce their recycling laws and asked everyone to be more diligent when it comes to recycling. Mr. Zambrano said that they also touched on Inter-municipal activities and asked municipalities to see where they can share services with other communities. Mr. Zambrano read a letter received from Chief Tramaglini regarding the incident at the A&P Parking lot in the Town of Cortlandt.

Mayor Schmidt said that the Villages takes the incident very seriously and is glad that the Police Department will be looking at the parking lots throughout the Village.

Trustee Konig wished Trustee Kane all the best. Trustee Konig thanked the residents who spoke this evening on the proposed alternate side parking; she understands some who spoke may not be in favor of this and appreciated their comments.

Trustee Kane said that he enjoyed serving the community for the past four years and thanked everyone for their comments and support.

Trustee Gallelli advised that the Budget is due to be filed this Thursday and the Board will be working on it in multiple work sessions with a Public Hearing to be held on April 14, 2008. Trustee Gallelli advised that the Economic Development Community has put out their Planning RFP's, for Zoning Recommendations and for a Marketing Retail Study.

Trustee Gallelli thanked Trustee Kane; he has been a terrific Trustee and a wonderful person to work with over the years not only on the Village Board but as Chairman of the Water Control Commission. Trustee Gallelli said that Trustee Kane has been a tremendous asset to this Village and even though he won't be on the Board she knows he will continue to be an asset to the community.

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Trustee Brennan thanked Trustee Kane and wished him well on his retirement from the Board. Trustee Brennan said that he appreciated his knowledge and will miss him. Trustee Brennan thanked those who came and spoke on the Alternate Parking proposal.

Mayor Schmidt advised that the first meeting of the "Search Committee" for a new Village Manager was held and read the advertisement that the Committee put together. Mayor Schmidt said that he is happy to hear that the Harmon Business Improvement Committee has been very active and that they have sent out their RFP's

Mayor Schmidt advised that polls will be open from 6:00am to 9:00pm and that all voting will be held at the Municipal building and encouraged everyone to come out and vote.

There being no further comments to come before the Board, a motion to close the meeting at 9:43pm was made by Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Kane. Motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Board Secretary,

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Pauline DiSanto, Village Clerk