

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, NY was held on Monday, May 18, 2009 at the Municipal Building, Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

The following officials were present:

Mayor Wiegman	Trustee Gallelli
Village Manager Zambrano	Trustee Olver
Village Attorney Feldman	Trustee Restuccia
Treasurer Bullock	Trustee Murtaugh

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

2. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Gallelli made a motion to approve the vouchers as follows, subject to review by the Audit Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Restuccia and approved unanimously.

General Fund	\$ 127,664.45
Water Fund	15,472.69
Sewer Fund	4,336.14
Capital Account	294,585.41
Trust & Agency	47,105.70
Total	\$ 489,164.39

Mayor Wiegman spoke about the recent dedication of the RiverWalk and thanked former Mayor Greg Schmidt for his commitment and hard work toward the Croton Landing and RiverWalk project.

3. CORRESPONDENCE:

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

- a) A letter from Kay Eisenman, Westchester County Planning Federation, congratulating the Village on having been chosen to receive a Planning Achievement Award for the Croton Landing Park and RiverWalk Trail which will be presented to the Village and to Westchester County at their annual awards dinner scheduled to be held on Thurs., June 4th.
- b) A letter from Jay Forbes, 8 Aschmann Lane, regarding what he considers hazardous traffic conditions on Terrace Place and Old Post Rd. and suggesting some alternatives. Trustee Olver stated that he agrees that this is a dangerous situation, especially by Brook St. He added that there is no signage instructing that one should stop at the bottom; he would be strongly in favor of taking some action. Trustee Murtaugh stated that he took a ride along the area with Village Manager Zambrano and Chief Tramaglino; they travelled at various speeds and Chief Tramaglino mentioned that parking on the street actually has a calming

effect toward slower speeds. Village Manager Zambrano stated that he will look further into the problem and a solution.

5 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (agenda items):

- a) Mike Mamone, 19 Young Avenue, asked about government grants for recycling and thought the Village might be interested in looking into this. Mayor Wiegman replied that the rules for some of the grants requires 35,000 population, so the proposed resolution is an agreement to form a consortium of municipalities which will meet the threshold.

6. PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:

- a) On motion of TRUSTEE Gallelli, seconded by TRUSTEE Murtaugh, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, the Village has funded a total of \$1,070,000 for the Croton Landing Phase II project; and

WHEREAS, this amount included 3 separate borrowings of \$40,000 in the 2003-04 fiscal year, \$250,000 in the 2005-06 fiscal year, \$600,000 in the 2006-07 fiscal year, a state grant of \$150,000 awarded in 2005-06, and \$30,000 from the general fund in the 2008-09 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, this portion of the project included the parking lot, comfort station, great lawn/athletic field, widening and realigning of the existing path, landscaping, drainage, and all aspects of the project in the southern portion of Croton Landing; and

WHEREAS, the costs for this project have now reached \$1,650,000; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2007 the Village Board awarded the contract to Bradhurst Construction in the amount of \$971,977 and to Westfair Electric in the amount of \$179,000; and

WHEREAS, at that time, the funding left for this project was approximately \$900,000 because costs had already been incurred for survey work, tree removal, and engineering design services; and

WHEREAS, the June 4, 2007 resolution awarding the two bids, made mention that the Village Board would have to take from fund balance an additional amount of approximate \$250,000 in the 2008-09 fiscal year to pay for the shortfall; and

WHEREAS, since that time there have been additional change orders of \$314,817.62 to Bradhurst, \$2,700 to Westfair, and additional charges to Hahn Engineering, A1 Fence Company, Gates Flag & Banner Company, Conte Electric, and Tideflex; and

WHEREAS, although the Village Board did authorize \$30,000 to be taken from the 2008-09 contingent account to pay for additional landscaping included in the Bradhurst change orders the total shortfall has now reached \$580,000

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Treasurer is hereby authorized to transfer \$580,000 from fund balance to the Croton Landing Capital Account in order to cover all additional work orders to complete the project previously authorized by the Board.

Discussion: Trustee Gallelli stated that the additional \$314,000 was for unanticipated expenses; in the future, she would like to have a tighter idea of what is being processed. Trustee Olver added that they voted in favor of each of these change orders and most were necessary, a few were decorative but positive changes; however, these change orders were not viewed comprehensively; he would like a running tally and some sense of remaining items with general estimates of likely costs. Village Manager Zambrano stated that they did go into the project underfunded, it was an open ended deal and the County was involved; different controls have been put in place to avoid this in the future. Mayor Wiegman added that cost controls will be very important to the Village the way the economy is headed; it was known going in to this project that some things would be beyond the Village's control.

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

WHEREAS, Tyler Technologies has supplies the village with its annual support and license agreement for Munis software; and

WHEREAS, the annual cost is \$22,712; and

WHEREAS, the prior year's cost was \$21,633,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to sign the agreement with Tyler Technologies for the annual support and license agreement in the amount of \$22,712 for the Munis software system.

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

WHEREAS, the Village has received 4 bids for cleaning services for the Police Station, Community Room, DPW offices, and daily ticket office; and

WHEREAS, Integrated Maintenance Solutions had the lowest bid at \$827.28 per month; and

WHEREAS, the Village has used IMA over the past few years and has been satisfied with their work,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to award the cleaning services bid to Integrated Maintenance Solutions of Baldwin Place, NY in the amount of \$827.28 per month for service to the Police Station, Community Room, DPW offices, and daily ticket office.

- d. On motion of TRUSTEE Restuccia, seconded by TRUSTEE Gallelli, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

WHEREAS, the Village Court Office currently uses Service Education Inc. for processing parking tickets and other violations, which is not compatible with Law Enforcement Systems, and the parking permit software T2 Systems, used for tracking permit sales has become obsolete; and

WHEREAS, the Village desires to implement a code enforcement violation system to better serve the community, and

WHEREAS, the **FastTrack** Parking Ticket Management System will enable the Village to process parking permit sales, parking violations and code enforcement violations and integrate each into an on-line database accessible to the Village Departments; and

WHEREAS, this system has many updated features providing accuracy and efficiency as well as allowing online payment of parking violations and purchasing of parking permits; and

WHEREAS, the system fee schedule will be 13% of fines collected from parking and code enforcement violations; and

WHEREAS, there will be no out of pocket expenses for the Village; such as software licensing or hardware, and

WHEREAS, the cost of the system is outweighed by the benefits, efficiency and the costs of maintaining the outdated current systems in place,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Village Manager is authorized to sign the agreement with Complus Data Innovations, Inc. (Complus) for the **FastTrack** Parking Ticket Management System subject to Village Attorney's approval.

Discussion: Trustee Gallelli stated that they had a meeting with the Complus people; the convenience fee has been reduced by 25 cents which is a small positive adjustment. Trustee Restuccia added that the Board also now knows more about the service. Trustee Olver clarified that payment can still be made by traditional means without an added fee; this system will be of great benefit for the Village, it will be eliminating double entries and is a positive step; the fee is

just for people who chose to use this option. Mayor Wiegman questioned how soon this will take to be implemented. Village Manager Zambrano replied that the court office portion will be done within the next 60 days or so, then they will phase in ticket sales; the court enforcement will be the last phase to be integrated.

- e. On motion of TRUSTEE Gallelli, seconded by TRUSTEE, Restuccia the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York:

Whereas, representatives from municipal committees and grassroots energy and sustainability groups in northern Westchester County have met numerous times to exchange information about initiatives in their respective towns and ideas on how efforts may be multiplied by collaboration; and

Whereas, these representatives have formed an ad hoc group, the Energy Action Coalition (EAC), for the purpose of collaborating to prepare a proposal seeking funds for Northern Westchester municipalities to disburse in support of residents' initiatives in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy and/or metering; and

Whereas, the idea of collaboration among municipalities with less than a population of 35,000 has been encouraged by the United States Department of Energy, Westchester County and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability; and

Whereas, the Village of Croton-on-Hudson is desirous of taking advantage of federal grant opportunities to enable its homeowners and local businesses to become more energy smart and efficient,

Now Therefore, be it resolved that:

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson encourages the EAC to work with potential municipal partners, county and state agencies, and others to explore and develop project proposals and relevant grant application(s) for the municipality's consideration, and,

Be it further resolved that:

The Village Board of Trustees will vote either to participate in the grant application, or not to do so, as long it receives the final grant application proposal no later than five days before the last Village Board meeting before the grant submission deadline, it being understood that no commitment to participate in the application is made by the Village absent such final review and affirmative vote.

Discussion: Trustee Gallelli stated that this is related to the Dept. of Energy's stimulus funding and a population of 35,000 is a determining factor. Mayor Wiegman added that June 25th is the date of the first grant cycle; there are some potential good ideas that will come forth especially regarding energy efficiency. Trustee Olver stated that this Board is committed to generating substantial funding from grants and entering into this collaborative proposal will be in the good

interest of Croton; the communities will join together, come up with proposals and come back to the Board, if a proposal is not in the best interest of Croton, they are not obligated to go forward with it. Mayor Wiegman added that there will likely be other funding cycles if the Village opts to not take part at this time.

7. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (non-agenda items):

- a) Dana Macklin, Scenic Dr., and Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Lewisboro, stated that she cannot see how a village can work efficiently without a superintendent of Parks & Recreation. She read an open letter from Westchester Recreation and Parks Society (available in the Village Manager's Office) She added that she was saddened to see the dismissal from the Parks and Recreation Committee of Gary Pettit and Joe Streany after so many dedicated years.
- b) Jennifer Fava, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation, Yorktown, read a letter on behalf of the NYS Recreation and Parks Society regarding the removal of the Croton Superintendent of Parks and Recreations.
- c) Michael Mamone, 19 Young Ave., stated that, with all due respect to prior speakers, he applauds the Board for the move they made and he doesn't feel the programs will be hurt by removal of the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Mamone stated that he would like to see the water quality report come out shortly after the tests are done and have public discussions on the water quality and ZOP; he also asked for older reports to be posted on the web site. Mr. Mamone continued that new regulations have been mentioned and he would like to know what they are. Mr. Mamone added that the most effective solution is for people to run their water for 30 seconds before drinking it. Mr. Mamone asked when the work is going to start on the three traffic lights and will there be an opportunity for the public to have a meeting on this and also if the police department was asked for their opinions on this issue. Mr. Mamone suggested that the Quaker Bridge Rd. & Rt. 129 angle should be addressed. Mr. Mamone stated that six Westchester communities and Westchester County will be receiving recycling grants.
- d) Jerry Byrne, Ossining, Commissioner of Parks & Recreation from another municipality in Westchester County, stated that he endorsed the recent comments about the superintendent of Parks & Recreation removal and asked the Board to please re-evaluate what has been done; what was done can be undone, please have an open mind and look at all the issues. He stated that experts in the County would be happy to give their expertise.
- e) Joe Archino, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation, Irvington, stated that he served on the Parks & Recreation Commission of Port Chester and they did the same thing in 1990; it took them 10 years to recover from the move; the staff was overwhelmed, they could not run the same quality of programs, among other issues. He added that he is here to let the Board know he is concerned about what has been done.
- f) Rosalind Robinson, a former Croton resident, stated that she has been in Recreation for many years and shares the concerns that have been expressed tonight; removing a superintendent's

position is similar to getting rid of full time teachers and telling substitutes to do the job; it doesn't work; Croton has an outstanding reputation that has blossomed over the last several years and it would be prudent in the end to keep a superintendent's position and work from down up.

- g) Dr. Marilyn R. Glaser, Parks & Recreation professional, retired, and a former Superintendent of Parks & Recreation in Ossining, NY, stated that she agrees eliminating the superintendent position is not the way to save money; there will be more demands on local recreation departments now than ever before. She added that regarding the decision to move the Parks & Recreation to the DPW is a concept that was eliminated from the profession in 1965; it does not work; it was tried in Ossining and elsewhere but it was reinstated, please reconsider.

Additional Board Discussion: Trustee Gallelli asked that the Board be provided paper copies of the previous minutes that need to be approved. Trustee Olver also requested that the Board be sent the proposed resolutions in Word format. Village Manager Zambrano stated that he is also looking into Virtual Town Hall document sharing software.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Olver made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting held on May 4, 2009 as corrected. Trustee Murtaugh seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimous approval.

Trustee Gallelli made a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on May 4, 2009 as corrected. Trustee Restuccia seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimous approval.

Trustee Murtaugh made a motion to approve the minutes of the Executive Session held on May 11, 2009. Trustee Restuccia seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimous approval.

9. REPORTS:

Village Manager Zambrano reminded residents that at the end of May the dog park permits expire and need to be renewed at Village Hall; call 271-4781 for information. Mr. Zambrano added that local parking lot permits are also expiring at the end of May and new permits are available in Village Hall. Village Manager Zambrano reported that regarding the Quaker Bridge rehabilitation, May 22nd it is going to bid and expects it to be awarded after June 3rd; construction should begin mid July and may last for four months; the County will put out a press release. He added that we have asked the DEP to allow EMS and emergency vehicles to gain access; we hopes to get keys for the gates. Village Manager Zambrano stated that he received an e-mail from Lisa Tillis complementing Lynn Sorensen's work at the parking lot. He reported that Scott Craven will be at the Croton Library on June 4th at 7:30. He added also that there will be a walking tour of the New Croton Dam on May 31st, 2 pm; assemble at the Croton Free Library.

Mr. Zambrano added that the parking lot project going very well and the staff is doing a tremendous job.

Village Treasurer Bullock provided the Board with a copy of the official statement for the \$4,972,500 bond which includes funds for the Parking Lot project and also a copy of the current Moody's rating. She stated that the Village has received an A1 rating and they anticipate the Village rating will remain stable. Treasurer Bullock reported that the Village has filed its constitutional tax limit and has exhausted only 31% of the tax limit which represents the maximum amount of tax that can be levied in a fiscal year. Village Manager Zambrano stated that the debt service with the new borrowing is at about 37% of what the state would allow. Treasurer Bullock also provided the Assessor's report for 2009 which shows all exemptions on the Village tax rolls by category. Village Manager Zambrano added that the state enacted this law this past October and this report came from the State. Mayor Wiegman questioned the full valuation figure and what it encompasses. Treasurer Bullock replied that it is the 2008 current market value. Treasurer Bullock reported that June 1st is the collection of taxes and that water bills will be sent out; the Village is no longer using locked boxes, so please send payments to the Municipal Building, 1 Van Wyck St., Croton on Hudson, NY 10520. Mr. Zambrano added that Village Hall will be open on Saturdays in June from 9 am to 12 pm.

Trustee Olver reported that he has heard from a lot of people who use the parking lot and they are glad something is being done about the flooding but are surprised to hear what is actually being done when they hear the full story; the project should have increased publicity. Trustee Olver recounted what encompasses the current parking lot project and the longer term comprehensive solution to the problem. Trustee Olver reported that Memorial Day is coming up and the local ceremony will be held on Memorial Day at 11 am at Veterans' Corners. He added that in recent years there has been a gratifying increase of number of people attending; please take a moment on Monday to thank those who have fought for our liberty. Trustee Olver mentioned long-time Croton resident, Lorraine Hansbury, author of *Raisin in the Sun*, who died in 1965; this is the 50th anniversary of the Broadway opening of the play; Judy Collins sang a new song at a rally, *Blowing in the Wind*, which was written by Bob Dillon and became a hit shortly after, but Croton heard it first. Trustee Olver reported that on June 8th, the Board will be having a work session with the Conservation Advisory Council focusing on recycling; the CAC has made a number of suggestions, mainly for commercial and multi-unit residential. Trustee Olver cleared up a misapprehension that exists in Half Moon Bay, and he did talk with a delegation at their request, that the Board has only one intention which is to assure that the existing easement for access to the river by Croton residents is observed; they are not contemplating any change in that easement. Trustee Olver thanked all who showed up this evening to express concern about the superintendent position in the Parks and Recreation Department; he acknowledged the concerns expressed by members of that group and the Board will be looking at what happens in that area; the Village had 2 people on staff with degrees in Parks and Recreation; over several decades, managerial positions have increased along with costs and to be serious about containing costs, it will be necessary to rationalize managerial positions not only this year, but in future years as well.

Trustee Restuccia reminded everyone about the school budget vote tomorrow 6 am to 9 pm and suggested residents stop in at the gym to look at the student art in the gym.

Trustee Gallelli reported that all are very relieved that the County has found a way to come forward with a way to release CDBG funds that were held up. Trustee Gallelli reported also that there was a wonderful official opening of RiverWalk on Wednesday which well attended by residents, Village trustees, management & staff and Westchester County officials. Trustee Gallelli reported that last Friday there was a workshop in White Plains by local government for sustainability, looking at energy efficiency; it was attended by people from many states and it was an opportunity to learn from other similar communities of what worked and what didn't. She stated that on June 3rd there will be a presentation at the Harmon Firehouse in the evening by Saccardi & Schiff on the Harmon Economic Development Committee recommendations; everyone is welcome. Trustee Gallelli reported that the Comprehensive Plan Committee met to refine a list of issues that Village Engineer O'Connor thought they should be considering. Trustee Gallelli stated that the Cell Tower building permit was issued today. She also reported that Mark Duncan said there are still openings for the summer day camp; contact Parks & Recreation for more information.

Trustee Murtaugh reported that the elimination of the position of Superintendent of Parks & Recreation was difficult to reach and he is glad the individuals spoke tonight, but it was a decision reached after careful consideration; the Village has a staff in place to provide the same level of service in a streamlined way. He added that we are in good shape and have faith in the staff we have. Trustee Murtaugh reported that the Library asked him to remind residents about the library budget vote which is also on Tuesday; they provide many services to the Village; residents can log on to www.crotonfreelibrary.org for more information. He added that the Book & Bake sale raised over \$4700 to support programs and services. Trustee Murtaugh reported that the Recreation Advisory Committee met last week and the field use fees were the dominant topic, the Board and the Committee feels there should be a way to share costs. Trustee Murtaugh reported that the Village has put together an ad for the inside cover of the Clearwater Festival brochure which directs visitors to the Festival and to Croton's amenities to introduce them to the Village.

Mayor Wiegman reported that Trustee Murtagh is responsible for having contacted Clearwater personnel to place the ad in their program. Village Manager Zambrano suggested that the VanCortlandt Manor Blaze should also be considered. Trustee Murtaugh suggested interfacing with VanCortlandt Manor for their other events during the year. Mayor Wiegman thanked former Mayor Greg Schmidt for such a beautiful park and for leaving a generous fund balance so the Croton Landing books could be closed out this evening. Mayor Wiegman stated that there is an opening on the VEB and he would like to appoint Valarie Lies for a term until April 2010. This request was approved unanimously by Board members. Mayor Wiegman added that there are openings for two seats on the Economic Development Committee and he appointed Joanne

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Johnson and Lisa Penberthy. Mayor Wiegman agreed that it would be useful to place past water reports for the last few years on the Village's web site as suggested by Mr. Mamone so people can have the historical data. Mayor Wiegman reported that in the NY Times supplement this past Sunday, there was an article regarding the Hudson River Quadricentennial; the Quadricentennial Committee is arranging to have the Half Moon sailing vessel to make a stop at Croton Landing on June 7th and there will be a ceremony.

Village Manager Zambrano announced that the second community meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11th at 7 pm to 9 pm at the Grand St. Firehouse. He added that on May 9th they had 12 or 13 people attending; he will bring ideas to the Board after the next round of meetings.

Trustee Olver made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Restuccia seconded the motion; approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis A. Bradbury, Secretary

Village Clerk