

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, NY was held on Monday, December 2, 2013 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 Davis
Village Attorney Feldman	Trustee Raskob
Village Treasurer Bullock	Trustee Levitt

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Wiegman called the meeting to order at 8:20pm.

2. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Trustee Gallelli made a motion to approve the following Fiscal Year 2013-2014 vouchers. The motion was seconded by Trustee Raskob and approved with a vote of 5-0.

General Fund	\$ 13,360.97
Water Fund	\$ 2,054.96
Trust Fund	\$ 5,103.19
Total	\$ 20,519.13

3. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Seth Davis, Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals, said that the Zoning Board is very sad to be losing Andy Levitt as a member of their Board; he has been an excellent colleague and a wonderful person to work with and he will be missed. Mr. Davis said that he knows that the Village Board will enjoy working with Andy and wished him the very best of luck.

Trustee Levitt thanked Mr. Davis for his kind comments; he enjoyed his time on the Zoning Board and looks forward to seeing him as Trustee Liaison.

Virginia Calcutti, 19 Hunter Place, Croton on Hudson, asked for clarification of the resolution "establishing the standard work day". Ms. Calcutti asked why we are paying into the Retirement System for part time employees and how long has the Village been paying for the Mayor and Trustee Gallelli. Ms. Calcutti asked if Trustee Davis is a member of the Retirement System as well.

Village Manager Zambrano explained that the Retirement System requires that an actual work day be established for those in the Retirement System. Village Manager Zambrano explained that the Retirement System requires that elected officials report their time worked in their capacity as an elected official and then those hours worked are reported to the Retirement System; elected officials do not receive any more money; they are just getting credited for the time they actually worked. Village Manager Zambrano stated that every employee regardless if they are part-time or full-time are entitled to be in the Retirement System and the Village is obligated to pay that portion of their time worked to the System; part-time employees have the option to join where as full-time employees do not.

Mayor Wiegman explained that he keeps track of his hours during the year and then they are submitted to staff for reporting to the Retirement System. Mayor Wiegman advised that he joined the Retirement System in 2001 and has just received his annual letter from the New York State Comptroller's Office advising that his Retirement Benefit is currently \$36.00 per month.

Trustee Gallelli advised that she did not join when she initially became a Trustee but after serving on the Board for ten years she looked into joining and consequently joined about a year ago.

Trustee Davis advised that he signed onto the Retirement System when he became a Trustee.

Virginia Calcutti, 19 Hunter Place, Croton on Hudson, said that she does not support raising parking rates for residents.

James Levey, 10 Park Avenue, Croton on Hudson, stated that he would like to introduce an initiative to the Village for food waste recycling; it is an opportunity to reduce costs, generate revenue to the Village by producing nutrient rich soil and become environmentally sound. Mr. Levey stated that Massachusetts recently introduced a bill that requires organizations with a certain amount of food waste to be compliant with their law and that similar laws are being passed in other states.

Mayor Wiegman suggested that the Village's Sustainability Committee would be a good place to present this to and then they can present the Board with their recommendations. Mayor Wiegman stated that he is the liaison to that Committee and will be delighted to speak with him as well.

Trustee Gallelli suggested that Mr. Levey put his proposal in written form and present it to the Board so that the Board and Staff can have an opportunity to read about it and to get a better understanding of the program. Trustee Gallelli said that input from our Sanitation Department would be very helpful as well.

Mayor Wiegman said that the Mid Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan has produced a report that includes food waste data that may be helpful to look at as well.

4. RESOLUTIONS:

a. On motion of TRUSTEE RASKOB, seconded by TRUSTEE DAVIS the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York, with a 5-0 vote.

WHEREAS, the Village Board adopted a resolution on March 19, 2001 establishing the standard work day for all village employees including elected and appointed officials for the purpose of reporting to the New York State and Local Retirement System.

WHEREAS, the New York State and Local Retirement System (NYSLRS) has set certain reporting requirements that apply to elected and appointed officials whose terms started on or after August 12, 2009, who are members of the NYSLRS and who do not participate in their employee's time keeping system ; and

WHEREAS; based on this requirement, the Village must establish a standard workday for each of these elected and appointed offices, specify the expectation of each term, designate the number of days to be reported for each official and certify receipt of record of activities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village of Croton on Hudson hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted to the Village Clerk:

Title	Name	Standard Work Day	Term Begin/End	Participate In Time Keeping System	Days/Month (based on record of activities)
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Elected Officials:

Mayor	Leo Wiegman	7.0	12/02/13-12/07/15	N	18
Deputy Mayor	Ann Gallelli	7.0	12/03/12-12/01/14	N	15
Trustee	Kevin Davis	7.0	12/03/12-12/01/14	N	1
Village Justice	Sam Watkins	7.0	04/04/11-12/07/15	N	8
Acting Village Justice	Ann Minihan	7.0	12/02/13-12/01/14	N	1

Appointed Officials:

Village Manager	Abraham Zambrano	7.0	12/02/13-12/07/15*	Y	20
Asst. Village Manager	Janine King	7.0	12/02/13-12/07/15*	Y	20
Village Clerk	Pauline DiSanto	7.0	12/02/13-12/07/15	Y	20
Deputy Village Clerk	Kristine Gilligan	7.0	12/02/13-12/1/14	Y	20
Village Treasurer	Sandra Bullock	7.0	12/02/13-12/07/15	Y	20
Deputy Treasurer	Genette Toone	7.0	12/02/13-12/01/14	Y	20
Building Inspector/Assessor	Joseph Sperber	7.0	12/02/13-12/01/14	Y	20

* Only for purposes on this resolution

B. On motion of TRUSTEE RASKOB, seconded by TRUSTEE GALLELLI, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York; with a 5-0 vote.

WHEREAS, the Village owns and operates the parking lot at the Croton-Harmon Railroad Train Station; and

WHEREAS, the Village uses the revenue it receives from Croton-Harmon Parking Permits to offset property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the demand for parking permits currently exceeds capacity; and

WHEREAS, there is currently a waiting list to obtain a non-resident permit; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board wants to maintain a policy whereby any Village Resident that wants to purchase a quarterly permit can do so without restriction; and

WHEREAS, the Village has sold over 600 resident permits for the December-February quarter; and

WHEREAS, historically, the Village has sold between 550-580 resident permits per quarter; and

WHEREAS, the increased number of resident permits has necessitated reducing the sale of non-resident permits, thus decreasing potential revenue; and

WHEREAS, without imposing a resident waiting list the only other way to control demand is to increase the quarterly resident rate,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that, effective March 1, 2014, the Village Board authorizes an increase in the resident permit rate from \$162 with a \$4 service fee for those who pay by credit card to \$186 per quarter with a \$5 service fee for those who pay by credit card.

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Weigman advised that this was a subject of a recent work session where staff pointed out that the Village was going to experience a \$38,000 shortfall in projected revenue because residential permits were growing in number and displacing the more expensive non-resident permits.

Trustee Raskob asked what the current waiting period is for a non-resident permit

Assistant Village Manager King advised that they tell non-residents that the wait list is a minimum of one year and there are currently over three hundred names on the non-resident waiting list.

Trustee Levitt asked if all of the preferred spaces are sold.

Assistant Village Manager King advised that all the preferred spaces are sold and there is a waiting list of fifteen names.

Trustee Gallelli stated that we all believe that it is very important for residents to have this perk of not having to be on a waiting and that in itself is a big value to all Village residents. Trustee Gallelli said that the revenue is declining because the balance is shifting with more resident permits being issued which causes less of the more expensive non-resident permits to be available.

Trustee Gallelli said that raising the daily rate reasonably is a way to see if this will affect the numbers that we sell. Trustee Gallelli stated that the \$24.00 increase is quite a big jump compared to past increases and suggested trying a lesser amount to see whether we can get a comparable result and suggested that we reduce the increase for the quarterly permit by either \$8.00 or \$9.00.

Trustee Levitt said that he is favor of Trustee Gallelli's suggestion; he would not be able to support an increase of this magnitude. Trustee Levitt stated that he would be comfortable with an \$8.00 or \$9.00 increase and suggested that we try it for a few cycles to see how that works out. Trustee Levitt stated that he is mildly uncomfortable with the language in the resolution to "control demand" and suggested changing that to read "effectively controlling" instead. Trustee Levitt said that the Budget shortfall that we are talking about is the shortfall in the parking lot revenue only.

Trustee Gallelli said that we need to find the balance for the people who are buying the quarterly permits and not utilizing them every day; if those people used the daily lot instead that would then free up the Village permit spots to sell at the higher rate.

Assistant Village Manager King said that they would only have to go six times a month to make it cheaper for them to buy a resident permit so the suggestion was to increase it a little bit so that the ones who are only going six or seven times a month will choose to purchase daily permits leaving room in the permit lot section.

Mayor Wiegman asked what that price point would be. Mayor Wiegman said that we are seven months into our Fiscal Year and have a 1% chance of a

shortfall. Mayor Wiegman asked if going up by \$8 or \$9 dollars would be enough of a difference.

Trustee Raskob said that this is a classic yield management question; we need to figure out at what price point people will stop purchasing the quarterly permit and move to the daily lot instead.

Village Manager Zambrano stated that we are currently selling over capacity but it is a balance and the numbers that we are teetering with are putting us at the cusp where if we have a snow storm and we lose the parking spaces along the railing behind Public Works it will put us in a jam. Village Manager Zambrano stated that if we have a little bit of that price control for the individuals that only bought the permits to go to the city a few times a month it would give us the opportunity to open up those spaces for the more costly non-residents permits.

Trustee Gallelli said that if we go for the lesser amount we can re-adjust again after we've had a chance to see whether this actually works. Trustee Gallelli said that it is worth reiterating the importance of the parking lot revenue to all residents of the Village because it amounts to over two million dollars and effectively reduces the property tax levy by that amount.

Trustee Davis stated that a new quarter begins on March 1, 2014; the Draft Budget will get released mid-March as well and we will get some sort of taste as we are going through the process how this is working.

Trustee Levitt asked if the change involves a change in the Service Fee as well.

Assistant Village Manager King advised that they will probably have to raise it from \$4.00 to \$5.00.

Village Manager Zambrano advised that the Service Fee is a convenience fee for paying buy credit card.

Trustee Levitt stated that the resolution should indicate that the Service Fee is for those that pay by credit card only.

- c. On motion of TRUSTEE RASKOB, seconded by TRUSTEE DAVIS, the following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, New York; with a 5-0 vote.

WHEREAS, the Village's three water wells (wells #1, #3, #4) located in the gravel aquifer in the Croton River valley are in need of refurbishing; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the refurbishment work is to inspect and clean the wells and to make any necessary repairs to the pumps in order to increase the pumping capacity of the wells and pumps; and

WHEREAS, bids were solicited for the well refurbishment; and

WHEREAS, three bids were received and reviewed by the Village Engineer and staff; and

WHEREAS, based on the results of the review, the Village Engineer recommends that the bid be awarded to Subsurface Technologies in the amount of \$152,934,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Village Manager is hereby authorized to award the bid to Subsurface Technologies in the amount of \$152,934 for the well refurbishment,

AND BE FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Village Board authorizes that this amount be charged to Capital Account H8340-2106-09176

5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS – None

6. REPORTS

Village Manager Zambrano advised that this Wednesday, December 4th there will be a tree lighting ceremony at Vassallo Park at 5:30pm.

Village Treasurer Bullock advised that Water Bills will be going out shortly and announced that the Village is now accepting credit card payments for on-line payments only.

Trustee Davis welcomed Trustee Levitt to the Village Board.

Trustee Raskob once again thanked Ian Murtaugh for his years and service, for his insight and humor. Trustee Raskob welcomed Trustee Leavitt to the Board and hopes that he finds this to be a satisfying experience.

Trustee Gallelli welcomed Trustee Levitt to the Board as well and also welcomed back Trustee Raskob and Mayor Wiegman; it will be an interesting year ahead and looks forward to working with them.

Trustee Gallelli reminded everyone that the Recreation Brochure is available on the Village's Web-Site.

Trustee Gallelli and Village Manager Zambrano reminded everyone that the forms to sign up for the Special Needs Registry are available at the Police Station and on line as well; this will be a special data base that will be used by our Police Department in case of emergencies.

Trustee Gallelli reminded everyone that December is the last month to sign up for any Village property Tax Exemption offered to Veterans or those who are Volunteers of the Fire Department.

Trustee Levitt thanked the Board for welcoming him; he is very excited to be here; it was a humbling experience to have been elected; it is a big responsibility and he hopes to be able live up to the trust the voters have placed in him. Trustee Levitt encouraged residents to contact him should they have any questions regarding the goings on in the Village.

Trustee Levitt also reminded everyone that they must register for the STAR Program by the end of the year; residents can go to the State Tax Department's Web-site to register or they may register by phone as well.

Mayor Wiegman welcomed Trustee Levitt and welcomed back Trustee Raskob and stated that he looks forward to working with the Board. Mayor Wiegman thanked Gary Cahill for publishing his father's obituary; it was very touching and thanked everyone for their kind notes and calls.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Raskob seconded the motion; approved 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14pm.

Respectfully submitted

Judy Weintraub, Board Secretary

Village Clerk