

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF MONTICELLO, N.Y.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Roll Call

Upon call of the roll, the following were present:

Gordon Jenkins, Mayor
Theodore Hutchins, Trustee
Victor, Marinello, Jr.
Trustee Carmen Rue, Trustee
Scott Schoonmaker, Trustee

Also Present: Ray Nargizian, Village Manager
Jacob Billig, Village Attorney

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UNITED REALTORS GROUP MULTI-MILLION
DOLLAR MIXED USE PROJECT IN DOWNTOWN MONTICELLO**

Discussion - Trustee Schoonmaker indicated that he supports the project entirely but he wants to make sure that the businesses that presently occupy those stores are given ample opportunity to relocate so the Village doesn't lose any businesses. He felt that he feels that Mr. Joseph owes this Board an apology because he threatened to take the Village to Court if his project was not supported for the Restore NY Grant and made many unfounded accusations. He asked that Mr. Joseph personally appear before this Board and offer an apology. He indicated that his decision to support Tommy Ting's project was made in the best interest of Village of Monticello because he thought that was the best project to bring the most to the Village.

The Village Manager explained that he has spoken with Mr. Joseph the owner of the Rialto properties has lead him to believe he will do everything he can to support those businesses but there are no guarantees. He indicated that he will give Mr. Joseph the message of their displeasure.

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Trustee Marinello felt it wasn't personal because after the decision was made to support Tommy Ting's project he stated that the Board worked very hard to make that decision and if there is another opportunity certainly the Board will consider his proposal like they would do for anyone else.

Trustee Hutchins felt that there is a letter asking for each Board members signature, and when that is signed he will then apologize about the threats and accusations but until then he cannot sign that document, but he is in support of his project.

Trustee Rue explained that she personally contacted him regarding this Regional Blueprint Fund application.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UNITED REALTORS GROUP MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR MIXED USE PROJECT IN DOWNTOWN MONTICELLO

WHEREAS, United Realtors Group, Inc. is planning a multi-million dollar mixed use project in downtown Monticello; and,

WHEREAS, United Realtors Group, Inc. is submitting an application to the Upstate Regional Blueprint Fund for financing for said project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello is in full support for United Realtors Group's Upstate Regional Blueprint Fund application and fully supports the proposed multi-million dollar mixed use project in downtown Monticello.

A motion was made by Trustee Marinello, seconded by Trustee Rue, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to adopt the above resolution.

RESOLUTION CREATING SECOND PART TIME CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FOR THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AT \$20,800.00

Discussion-Trustee Hutchins noted that the Treasurer over budgeted in our insurance appropriation and she was able to find approximately \$30,000, but he felt the additional code enforcement officer will not get the Village into court any faster. The present full time Code Enforcement Officer is busy

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writing tickets and another part time Code Enforcement Officer will write more tickets but it will not get the Village into Court and get through Court any faster. He suggested that the one position be filled that was budgeted for, and if it is then decided that there is a need in several months for a second part time person then another position be created at that time. He felt by not hiring this second position the Village could avoid using funds from the contingency fund.

Trustee Rue felt that the Village needs two part time positions with all the proposed projects ready to begin.

The Village Manager indicated that Sue Flora the full time Code Enforcement Officer is totally overwhelmed by her job. He indicated that there is never a day that goes by that he doesn't get complaints about that department that is undermanned by several people. He noted that by hiring two part time people it will take a tremendous burden off of Ms. Flora's shoulders and add greatly to that department's efficiency. He felt that by hiring two part time employees at the same time they can be trained simultaneously.

Mayor Jenkins felt that hiring one part time person would be enough because the courts will be overwhelmed. He noted that most municipalities are downsizing and not hiring new employees. He questioned why the Board voted for a 1.8% tax increase if the Village is financially healthy.

The Village Manager that the Village is in the "black". He felt that adding a second by part time Code Enforcement Officer is a small price to pay for the benefit that this Village will receive.

Trustee Schoonmaker felt that this position could be a self-supporting position by the fines that would be reaped from those violations.

Mayor Jenkins indicated that the Treasurer has advised him that the Village should start downsizing and not hiring additional personnel.

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The Village Manager felt that when the Broadway Project is completed there will be a great deal of development started and the Village will have to revise the sign ordinances etc. that has to be done by the Building Department, and he felt the cost of \$20,800 a year that will be subsidized by fines is a small price to pay for a big bonus that will realized.

The Mayor felt that the Village should see how one part time code enforcement officer would impact the building department before a second one is hired.

Trustee Hutchins asked that only one part time person be hired at this time and after several months if the Village Manager feels that the second part time person is needed, then the Board at that time can create this second position.

Trustee Schoonmaker felt that if this second part time employee can be a self supporting position, which he felt it can, and then the Board should hire the person on a trial basis and if it isn't working out, the position will be eliminated.

The Manager responded that this employee serves at the pleasure of the Manager.

Trustee Schoonmaker suggested that the Manager give a monthly report as to the number of summons issued and the amount of fines received from these tickets. He felt the problem is getting these cases heard by the Village Judge and suggested the Acting Justice Leo Glass hear these cases in addition to hearing cases the Judge Finn recuses herself.

The Village Manager responded that he has a good rapport with both Judge Finn and Acting Judge Glass and he has no problem speaking to them in terms of facilitating the fines and code violations.

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees does hereby creates the second part time Code Enforcement Office at a salary of \$20,800 a year and that the Village Manager include in his monthly report to the Village Board regarding the activities in the Code Enforcement Department.

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A motion was made by Trustee Marinello, seconded by Rue, approved on a roll call vote as follows: Trustee Rue, aye; Trustee Marinello, aye; Trustee Hutchins, nay; Trustee Schoonmaker, aye; Mayor Jenkins, nay.

RESOLUTION RELOCATING THE DECORATIVE LIGHTING ON BROADWAY

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees does hereby approve relocating the Decorative Lighting plan on Broadway as described on the map from the NYSDOT.

A motion was made by Trustee Marinello, seconded by Trustee Rue, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to adopt the above resolution.

RESOLUTION CORRECTING THE 2009/10 TAX ROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10.11 - SBL 113-5-18

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello does hereby correct the 2009/10 tax roll for SBL 113-5-18 in the amount of \$10.11 due to a clerical error.

A motion was made by Trustee Rue, seconded by Trustee Schoonmaker, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to adopt the above resolution.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:11 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Marinello, seconded by Trustee Hutchins, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter regarding a particular person.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:45 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Schoonmaker, seconded by Trustee Marinello, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to adjourn the Special Village Board meeting.

EDITH SCHOP, Village Clerk