

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF MONTICELLO, N.Y.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2005

MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Barnicle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Roll Call

Upon call of the roll, the following were present:

James Barnicle, Mayor
Ariel Escobar, Trustee
Victor, Marinello, Jr. Trustee
Scott Schoonmaker, Trustee
Brian VanDermark, Trustee

Also Present: Richard Sush, Village Manager
E. Danielle Jose, Village Attorney
Tim Havas, Deputy Village Attorney
Douglas Solomon, Chief of Police
Sue Flora, Code Enforcement Officer
Mike Bastone, Fire Chief
Carl Houman, Director of Fire Services
Brenda Galligan, Treasurer
Arlene Glass, Grants Administrator
Sam Wohl, County Legislator

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 18,
2005**

A motion was made by Trustee Marinello, seconded by Trustee Escobar, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to adopt the minutes of the Village Board regular meeting of January 18, 2005 as presented.

**ANNUAL FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT - 2004 - CARL HOUMAN,
DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES**

Carl Houman, Director of Fire Services presented the 2004 Monticello Fire Department Annual Report. He noted that the Fire Department in 2004 had a total of 1053 calls which is an increase of 6 calls from the prior year. The report

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

included numerous statistics and information on the extensive training the volunteers have participated in this year. He thanked the Village Board on behalf of the Officers and fire fighters for their continued support, and the Board thanked him and the Volunteers to their dedication and service to the residents.

UPDATE OF CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FIREHOUSE

Carl Houman updated the Board and public regarding the construction of the new firehouse. He indicated the steel is going up and construction is moving along as scheduled.

Minority Volunteerism

The Mayor indicated that he asked the Director of Fire Services to submit a report regarding the number of minorities that serve as volunteer firefighters. The Mayor announced that there are 7 women active firefighters and one in the junior program. There are 5 black males (2 are fire police, 2 are pump operators, 1 firefighter), 8 Hispanic males, all firefighters, 1 Middle Eastern male in the junior program and the 49 remaining members are white males with a variety of duties. He indicated that the goal is to match these numbers of minorities in all the other departments in the Village.

The Village Manager presented Fire Chief Mike Bastone with a picture he took at the groundbreaking of the new firehouse last August.

DISCUSSION OF RENAMING THE NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITY BUILDING THE TED STROEBEL RECREATION CENTER

Senior Citizen President Roz Sharoff explained that speaking as a neighbor of Ted's for the last 52 years, he was always there to help his neighbors. Ted was President about thirty years, and during those years he elevated the group from meeting and playing cards to being a highly functional organization. She noted that the Monticello Senior Citizen's are in strong support of the renaming of this building to the Ted Stroebel Recreation Center.

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

The Village Clerk, a neighbor of Mr. Stroebel's for the last 35 years added that Mr. Stroebel worked for the Village of Monticello as the Highway Superintendent for many years and after retiring became an active member of the Monticello Senior Citizen's and delivered food weekdays to homebound seniors with the "Wheels For Meals" Program up until last year when his health started failing. She also agreed that he is a wonderful neighbor who was always available to give a helping hand when needed.

Each member of the Village Board felt that Mr. Stroebel was deserving of this honor.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTICELLO RENAMING THE NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITY BUILDING "THE TED STROEBEL RECREATION CENTER"

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees recognizes the special community contributions made by Ted Stroebel to the Village of Monticello and many of its residents over the past near century; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello is desirous of renaming the Neighborhood Facility on Jefferson Street after a Village resident who exemplifies the characteristics of a good neighbor; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees finds that it is in the best interest of the Village of Monticello to rename the Neighborhood Facility after Ted Stroebel, as he is an exemplary Village resident.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello does hereby rename the Neighborhood Facility as the Ted Stroebel Recreation Center, effective immediately.

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

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF
MONTICELLO SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING
WITH RESPECT TO ADOPTION OF PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 1 OF 2005
WHICH WOULD AMEND CHAPTER 226-19 OF THE VILLAGE CODE
REGARDING TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello is desirous of increasing the maximum level for eligibility for tax exemptions for persons sixty-five (65) years of age or over who meet the exemption requirements of Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello has determined that it is in the best interest of the Village of Monticello to increase said maximum level for eligibility for tax exemptions for senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello wishes to set a time and place for a public hearing with respect to proposed Local Law 16 of 2004 which would amend Section 226-19 of the Village Code regarding tax exemptions for senior citizens, so that the public may be heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello with respect to the aforesaid proposed Local Law at 7:00 p.m. on February 22, 2005, at Monticello Village Hall, 2 Pleasant Street, Monticello, New York 12701; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause public notice of said hearing to be given as provided by law.

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

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

OLD BUSINESS

Letters of Appreciation

Mayor Barnicle announced that he has sent letters of appreciation congratulating the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Village Clerk, the Village Manager and the Deputy Village Attorney Tim Havas for their efforts including coming to the Village Hall in a snow storms passing the "overlay zone" for Affordable Senior Citizen Housing.

MANAGER'S REPORT

We wish to express our condolences to Brad Theis and his wife on the loss of Mrs. Theis' father, Donald Allen. Mr. Allen was retired from the Village's highway department, where he worked for many years.

Our DPW spent two nights removing snow from the sidewalks on Broadway. They did a magnificent job and I wish to commend them.

Our Water Department battled a massive rupture in a water main. This particular break was far more difficult than normal and they too are to be commended for their excellent work in finding and repairing the main.

Construction on the new firehouse is progressing. All footings and foundation walls are poured; the interior wall footing and column footings are poured; preparations for erecting the tower walls and exterior building walls are being made; the downspouts are being connected to the buried pipe which has been connected to the dry wells, which have already been installed; and door frames should be delivered this week. NYSEG has to move an electric pole from in front of what will be the location for the bay doors—they plan to move it directly in front of the museum portion of the building, which is completely unacceptable, so we're talking with them to find a more suitable location for the pole. Over the next several weeks, as we see the walls begin to rise, we'll have a better feeling that progress is actually being made.

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

Negotiations with the Police union are progressing fairly smoothly, so far, and will continue for the next several weeks, and negotiations with the Firefighters union will begin later this month.

The Planning Board is very busy with new and continuing projects. They meet once a month and will probably go to two meeting per month starting in April.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW YORK STATE
SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

Mayor Barnicle opened the public hearing at 7:40 p.m.

Harry Brantz felt the grant should be used for rehabilitating dilapidated houses and demolishing eyesores.

Arlene Glass, Grant's Administrator explained that this hearing tonight is to discuss generalities. She explained that the State has \$50 million dollars available statewide and the activities eligible are housing, public facilities and economic development project that are targeted for low to moderate income people. The Village is asking for suggestions of what the community thinks would be a good project for this year. The second public hearing scheduled for March 7th which will at that time discuss the specifics of the application that the Village will be applying for this year. She felt that since the Village has an amply amount of money through the HOME Program and the remainder of a Small Cities Grant that is devoted to housing it maybe a good idea to try to apply for an economic development grant as the Village has used up all the available funds.

Roz Sharoff commented both Arlene Glass and Caroline Hayes for their professionalism in administering these grants and not making lower income applicants feel inferior.

As there were no further comments, Mayor Barnicle closed the public hearing at 7:47 p.m.

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

RESOLUTION CHANGING THE SECOND MEETING IN FEBRUARY FROM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21st TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd 2005 DUE TO THE PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello hold their regular meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month; and,

WHEREAS, the third Monday in February is a national day in celebration Presidents Day; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello does hereby change the second Board meeting in February from Monday, February 21st to Tuesday, February 22nd 2005.

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

RESOLUTION OFFERING AN OPTION TO ACTIVE EMPLOYEES TO "OPT OUT" OF THE VILLAGE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM WITH A REIMBURSEMENT OF \$1,000 FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2005 TO JANUARY 31, 2006

WHEREAS, the Village of Monticello provides its active employees with full medical coverage; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Monticello feels that it is economically beneficial to offer active employees the option to "opt out" of the health insurance plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello does hereby offer all active Village employees the option to "opt out" of the Village health insurance program with a reimbursement of \$1,000 from February 1, 2005 to January 31, 2006.

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

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

AWARDING OF BIDS - SURPLUS EQUIPMENT - HIGHWAY

1987 ½ TON GMC PICKUP 2X2 - 1988 ½ TON GMC PICKUP 2X2

A motion was made by Trustee VanDermark, seconded by Trustee Marinello, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to award the bid for the **1987 ½ Ton GMC Pickup 2x2** and the **1987 ½ Ton GMC Pickup 2x2** to **Auto Undertakers** to the **highest bidder** in the amount of **\$150.00 for each vehicle**.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTICELLO SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO ADOPTION OF PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2005 WHICH WOULD AMEND THE VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC CODE TO ADD SECTION 252-39 TO BE ENTITLED PARKING OF COMMERCIAL OR CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES IN DRIVEWAYS

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello desires to regulate the parking of commercial and construction vehicles in residential neighborhoods within the limits of the Village of Monticello; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello has determined that it is in the best interest of the Village of Monticello to regulate the parking of commercial and construction vehicles in residential neighborhoods within the limits of the Village of Monticello; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello wishes to set a time and place for a public hearing with respect to proposed Local Law 2 of 2005 which would amend the vehicle the Vehicle and Traffic Code to add Section 252-39 to be entitled "Parking of Commercial or Construction Vehicles in Driveways", so that the public may be heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Monticello with respect to the aforesaid proposed Local Law at 7:00 p.m. on March 7, 2005, at Monticello Village Hall, 2 Pleasant Street, Monticello, New York 12701; and it is further

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause public notice of said hearing to be given as provided by law.

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

ORDERING BILL PAID

A motion was made by Trustee Marinello, seconded by Trustee Schoonmaker, unanimously approved on a roll call vote that the bills audited by the Auditing Committee of the Board of Trustees and appearing on the Abstracts of the bills herewith submitted are ordered paid.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Blasting Concerns - Colonial Hill

Ed Cooke, a resident of Belmont Drive, explained that he is representing the residents of Colonial Hill regarding their concerns about a blasting permit being issued for the new construction being done for building the Latter Day Saints Church at the intersection of Belmont Drive and Harvey Road. The residents are concerned that the blasting will cause damage to the foundations of the existing homes.

Michael Levinson noted that the Church's construction is tearing up Belmont Drive and the road has been blocked off for at least a week.

Mayor Barnicle indicated that the Manager and the Code Enforcement Officer will contact Mr. Cooke regarding his concerns by tomorrow.

Condition of the Village Streets

Carmen Rue expressed her concern about the poor condition of the streets in the Village with their many potholes that are not being filled and causing alignment problems to her vehicle.

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

Vacant Stores on Broadway

Carmen Rue was concerned that 7 stores have closed on Broadway and questioned what the Board is doing about getting businesses to open on Broadway.

Police Enforcement

Harry Brantz felt that more police enforcement is needed for speeding vehicles, drivers and talking on cell phones and drivers running red lights and not stopping at stop signs.

Violations On 7 High Street

Steve Podell explained that since he voiced his concerns at the last Village Board meeting, the Code Enforcement Officer Sue Flora advised him that she inspected the basement at 7 High Street and found several violations and also took photos, but she would not give him a copy of the violations that were cited, or a copy of the photographs. He also noted that he has not gotten a response to his concern that the building is listed as a two family house but being used as a three family home. Lastly, he expressed his concern that when he was given a copy of another violation it did not list the actual date of the inspection and asked that this information be included on future violation reports.

Mayor Barnicle questioned why he did not leave a message between last meeting and this evening.

Steve Podell responded that he did, but her calls have not been returned.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:05 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee VanDermark, seconded by Trustee Escobar, unanimously approved on a roll call vote to move into Executive Session to discuss two contractual matters and a personnel matter regarding a particular person.

Minutes - Regular Village Board Meeting
2/7/05

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 Regular Village Board meeting.

EDITH SCHOP, Village Clerk