

Board of Trustee Workshop
January 6, 2009

The Board of Trustees for the Village of Cold Spring held a workshop meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 7:30 pm at Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY

Attending: Mayor Anthony Phillips, Trustees Edward T. Mancari, John Teagle, Seth Gallagher and Gordon Robertson

Members of the Public: Betsy and Emerson Pugh, Charles Hustis, Karen Dunn and Carol Casparian

Emerson and Betsy Pugh attended to contest the water and sewer assessment for their 7 Rock Street property, as per attached correspondence. After clarifying the existing usage of this dwelling, board members favored a compromise in the assessment but wanted to obtain the opinion of the Water Superintendent prior to making any decision.

At the request of the board, Village Justice Thomas Costello attended to discuss the computerized parking module and possible changes in parking fines, as per attached correspondence. The recently acquired computerized parking module improves the effectiveness and efficiency of tracking parking tickets. The system is currently being connected to the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles site which allows the village to instantly learn the name and address of the party listed on the ticket. The system also generates a letter if the party doesn't respond by the ticket return date and has the ability to send notices indicating fine increases. Adding a sequential increase would provide an incentive to respond to tickets. When asked by board members for a recommendation, Justice Costello responded that if the village maintains the same parking fine schedule, then he would favor doubling fines in thirty days and then setting a flat fee thereafter. Mayor Phillips stated that the board would need to discuss this matter with village counsel. Judge Costello also suggested discussion with OIC Kane so that fines would correspond with the Village Code and preprinted tickets. In other matters, the security and layout of the court room was discussed. After discussion, Judge Costello offered to obtain a security audit through the state.

As a follow up to discussion at the last monthly meeting about a revised work plan for the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan, board members asked if the plan before them was recommended by the Department of State. Ms. Casparian affirmed that this was the case. Trustee Teagle moved to accept the work plan presented by the Comprehensive Plan Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan Special Board and seconded by Trustee Robertson and unanimously approved.

The March 18th village election was briefly discussed. Board members favored keeping polls open from 6 am to 9 pm. The Putnam County Board of Elections also informed the Village Clerk that new voting machines may be certified prior to the date of the village election and therefore would be in use. If new equipment is used, it was recommended that voters be offered a day to become familiar with the machines.

Trustee Gallagher wanted to discuss correspondence received by the village in May regarding the condition of the village dams. He expressed his dissatisfaction with not being informed of this matter and also the need to obtain access to the dams.

Trustee Robertson wanted to clarify that the meeting set for January 20th to discuss the placement of underground utilities on Main Street was intended for private citizens and should not place undue pressure on members of the Special Board.

Trustee Gallagher moved to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and seconded by Trustee Robertson and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Saari, Village Clerk