

**Board of Trustee Workshop**  
**August 25, 2010**

The Board of Trustees for the Village of Cold Spring held a workshop on Wednesday, August 25, 2010 at Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY at 7:30 pm.

Attending: Mayor Seth Gallagher and Trustees Bruce Campbell, Charles Hustis, J. Ralph Falloon and Airinhos Serradas

Also: Members of the public as per **attached** list

1. The meeting began with discussion on sounding of the fire alarm. Mayor Gallagher noted correspondence received from Karen Kapoor, Darrin Critz, Danielle Pack McCarthy, Kory and Pat Donahue, Evelyn Carr-White and Tamsin Eva.

A petition containing 72 signatures was received supporting restoring the noon and six o'clock emergency whistle tests to a duration of four seconds.

Mayor Gallagher read a letter received from Cold Spring Fire Company and his response as per **attached**.

A report from was prepared and submitted from B. Fields, K. Foley, K. Grant, C. Giunta, J. Hedlund, D. Limburg, and H. Stephens along with three appendices. (**attached**)

The meeting was then opened for public comment.

The following individuals spoke on this matter:

Kathy Grant spoke of the close proximity of the siren to residential housing which is inconsistent with the traditional location of a fire siren.

Billy Fields provided a synopsis of the report and recommended testing the siren at full volume once a month with no change in use for emergency situations. If not, then a test for ½ second, one time per week and to separate out testing and marking of the hours.

Christopher Tobin, Chief of the Cold Spring Fire Company pointed out that the data presented included nothing from surrounding communities.

John Landolfi added that one cannot compare the companies listed in the report with the specific situation in this village. He also added that the village has the obligation to maintain the siren but thinks the control should be in the hands of the fire company.

Terry Lahey didn't understand the problem. He pointed out the OSHA regulations don't apply to emergencies. He also added that the siren has been here for seventy years.

He inquired about the cost of the decibel testing.

Christopher Tobin pointed out that he cannot speak as an individual but must represent the fire company membership. There were questions about the radius of the alarm and whether the siren was the primary means of notification. Mr. Tobin pointed out that all other systems of notification are tied to the 911 system.

Gordon Robertson spoke of the historical traditions and attributed the siren to helping to save his life when he was young.

B. Fields spoke of separating the testing and the marking of hours.

Trustee Serradas asked about whether multiple alarms in the village would solve the problem and read a prepared statement as per **attached**.

Trustee Serradas proposed review of the reports submitted to allow residents an opportunity to understand each other.

Trustee Campbell voted in the past to maintain our traditions. He also wanted to address resident concerns. He hoped for a joint solution with a testing duration suitable to all with no changes to emergency soundings.

An unidentified individual (on audio tape) stated that the four second sounding has the same decibel level as the full alarm. MetroCom stated that the cycling mechanism needs a period of time to reach the maximum cycling, to get to its peak volume. You cannot adjust the decibel level directly. Shortening the cycle does not allow the siren to cycle completely and to reach 118 (decibels). The MetroCom technician arrived at the ½ second run, which is actually a longer sounding but the loudest peak is ½ second and 102 decibels which makes a real difference to the ear.

Trustee Falloon commented that MetroCom has been here twice and there will not be a solution where everyone is happy. The siren is costing time and money. There have been concessions and this has been going on since March.

Trustee Campbell added that the 12 noon and 6 pm soundings are important to residents in village but the siren reaches peak twice a day. He asked for an adjustment to a lower level that will be suitable at 12 and 6.

Chris Tobin stated that the fire company tried two seconds but was unable to do so. One-half second is where it works next. If at four seconds, if 118, when does it start to affect hearing? Is it at ½ second or the duration at that level?

It was pointed out that the call is 12 seconds and has been cut by 2/3rds down to four.

Mayor Gallagher called for moving forward and moved that we reinstitute siren at a level of one second. There was no second to this motion.

Trustee Falloon moved to leave the siren as it currently is and this motion was seconded by Trustee Hustis. It was clarified that the siren is ½ second growl test and the 40 second alarm. Vote: Mayor Gallagher, Hustis, Campbell, and Falloon voted in favor with Trustee Serradas opposed.

2. The application from Tug Pegasus and Lehigh Valley No. 79 for docking at the main Street Dock on September 3<sup>rd</sup> to September 7<sup>th</sup> was approved with motion by Trustee Falloon and seconded by Trustee Campbell and unanimously approved.

3. Trustee Serradas moved to set fees (for installation and inspection for composting toilets) ahead of time and seconded by Trustee Hustis.

Trustee Serradas asked for a recommendation from G. Phillips and from the Planning Board for fees.

Vote: Trustee Hustis and Serradas in favor and Trustees Campbell, Falloon and Mayor Gallagher opposed. Motion not carried.

### **RESOLUTION 2010-37**

WHEREAS, heretofore the Village Board has considered the adoption of a local law entitled: "A Local Law To Amend Village Code Chapter 97, 'Sewers,' By Amending Section 97-3, 'Definitions And Word Usage' And By Repealing

Section 97-5, 'Connection With Public Sewer Required,' And Enacting In Its Place And Stead A New Section 97-5 Permitting Composting Toilets,"; and

WHEREAS, following due notice the Village Board held a public hearing on the proposed local law, and

WHEREAS, the proposed local law has been duly forwarded to the County Planning Department for review and comment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

That the Village Board does hereby adopt the proposed Local Law entitled: "A Local Law To Amend Village Code Chapter 97, 'Sewers,' By Amending Section 97-3, 'Definitions And Word Usage' And By Repealing Section 97-5, 'Connection With Public Sewer Required,' And Enacting In Its Place And Stead A New Section 97-5 Permitting Composting Toilets," a copy of which is annexed hereto, which said local law shall be effective upon publication, posting and filing in the Office of the Secretary of State in Albany.

Trustee Falloon presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Campbell,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Bruce D. Campbell, Trustee, voting yes.

John Ralph Falloon, Trustee, voting yes.

Airinhos Serradas, Trustee, voting no added that voted no because we don't have the fees ahead of time.

Charles Hustis, Trustee, voting no.

Seth Gallagher, Mayor, voting yes.

Resolution adopted on August 25, 2010.

4. Trustee Campbell moved to approve payment of the bill from Larson Fischer Associates (\$1,000) and seconded by Trustee Hustis and unanimously approved.

5. Trustee Serradas moved to accept the recommendation of the Special Board and to approve the appointment of Anthony Phillips to the Special Board and seconded by Trustee Hustis. Trustee Campbell, Hustis, Falloon and Serradas voted yes with Mayor Gallagher opposed.

6. Correspondence from Pace University Law School offering training was acknowledged.

7. In response to a request from a resident for consideration on an unusually high water sewer bill, Trustee Falloon moved to accept three installment payments for previous water and sewer usage without penalties and to prorate the sewer charge for the ratio of 24/48 of the calculated charge. Motion seconded by Trustee Serradas and unanimously approved.

8. The board scheduled discussion of parking waiver fees and review of the expressions of interest on the federal transportation project for the next meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup>.. The workshop meeting on August 31<sup>st</sup> was canceled which will allow the board time to review reports.

Minutes taken from an audio recording of meeting and notes taken by Mayor Seth Gallagher.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Saari, Village Clerk