

Village of Cold Spring

Board of Trustees Public Hearing and Workshop

December 1, 2015

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Cold Spring held a public hearing and workshop on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY.

Attending were Mayor David Merandy, Trustees Michael Bowman, Marie Early, Cathryn Fadde and Frances Murphy.

Also in attendance were Greg Phillips, Superintendent of Water and Sewer, Mark Stier, P.E., Mark Lukasik, P.E., Thomas Critelli, P.E., and Christopher Ferri, Geotechnical Engineer, representatives from Tectonic Engineering & Surveying Consultants P.C.

Mayor Merandy read the following public hearing notice:

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY beginning at 7:00 pm to hear comment on a proposed local law that seeks to amend the Village Code Chapter §108 Streets and Sidewalks, Section 108-21 Cleaning of Sidewalks. The proposed legislation amends the requirements for cleaning sidewalks and establishes certain regulations for the removal of snow and ice. Copies of the proposed local law are available at the office of the Village Clerk, 85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516 or on the web at www.coldspringny.gov.

Copy of the proposed local law is **attached**.

The floor was open for public comment.

Gordon Robertson sent in a letter stating that snow removal is a problem from Cedar Street down to B Street due to the speed in which the State plows that section of the north side of Main Street. Even though residents have cleared their respective sidewalks, once the State plows with excessive speed, the snow, slush and ice are thrown back on the sidewalks making it look like the residents have been negligent in clearing their sidewalks.

Trustee Early presented a verbal comment from a resident who called and made a statement saying that the requirement to not use rock salt or other salt based material and to use calcium chloride is too expensive for many residents to afford and further that rock salt is a naturally occurring substance which dissolves and runs off. The feeling is that salt and rock salt should not be prohibited.

Frank Haggerty stated that the intent of reducing the pressure and the financial affects to the deterioration of sidewalks and also to provide access to the sidewalks is a good concept in reducing the amount of salt and the type of salt used. There may be other salts that are preferable rather than calcium chloride. Perhaps using a blunt instrument as opposed to a sharp instrument to fracture the ice might be better in preserving the concrete.

Lynn Miller applauds the Board for considering enacting a law like this. When business owners don't take care of the sidewalks or be responsible stewards of Main Street where they make a living they wind up hurting other businesses. Also I applaud you for removing rock salt because as a dog walker, the rock

salt does damage dogs' feet. \$25 does seem reasonable but the bugaboo of this is enforcing it. Please make sure it gets enforced.

Trustee Bowman asked if there will be some sort of mechanism set in place to notify residents if there is a snow emergency and we get 2 feet of snow and the Village feels it necessary to hire an outside company to help with snow removal.

Trustee Early said that perhaps we can notify law enforcement officers as to not issue any tickets under these circumstances.

One other point that Trustee Bowman made is the clearing of the fire hydrants. Do we know who is responsible for clearing the hydrants: water department, fire department, homeowners? He also suggested that the top end of the fine be charged for failure to clear the hydrant if the homeowner is the responsible party.

Trustee Early suggested that they check to see what is on the books regarding this and move forward from there.

The Public Hearing on the removal of snow and ice from Village sidewalks will remain open until the December 15, 2015 meeting.

Trustee Early made a motion to add a discussion regarding **moving the Village elections from March to November** to tonight's agenda. Trustee Murphy seconded the motion.

Upon discussion after Trustee Murphy's second, Trustee Bowman felt it should not be added because this is something the public should be made aware of it being on the agenda. Trustee Early stated that this is just a preliminary discussion among the Board members. With a vote of 3-2, the motion carried. Trustees Early and Murphy and Mayor Merandy voted in favor and Trustees Bowman and Fadde voted against.

Trustee Early presented some pros and cons regarding the move:

Pros

- Both present and newly elected officials would be in office 4 months prior to annual budget process;
- The cost of \$6,000 for running the election in March would be eliminated; and
- Campaigning would occur in more clement weather.

Cons:

- Village election issues and discussions would be "lost" during general elections;
- Village politics would take on the appearance of national parties; and
- Voter/issue "fatigue" – voters will fail to pay attention to local issues.

This topic will be put on the agenda of December 8, 2015.

Mark Stier, P.E., Mark Lukasik, P.E., Thomas Critelli, P.E., and Christopher Ferri, Geotechnical Engineer, representatives from Tectonic Engineering & Surveying Consultants P.C. gave a presentation in response to an RFP put out by the Village to **repair the upper dam**.

Tectonic is a multi-disciplined engineering firm established in 1986 employing a staff of over 500 professionals comprised of civil, structural, environmental, and geotechnical engineers, geologists, scientists, surveyors, planners and construction inspectors. They have done prior work with Mr. Phillips and Bart Clark on the dams giving them prior knowledge of what needs to be done.

Tectonic has been practicing dam engineering for over 25 years. Dam engineering is a principal service for the firm. They are familiar with regulatory protocols, the state of the practice and the current trends through on-going project, seminar and conference participation.

Scheduled on tonight's agenda was a discussion of the **Boat Club** requesting to accept sheet piling from NYSDEC. However, since the Board did not get all the necessary information in a timely manner, this will be added to the agenda of December 8, 2015.

Correspondence

Jennifer Zwarich sent in an quote from Garrison Tree Service in the amount of \$300 for work done on the silver maple tree located on Academy Street and the east side near Main Street.

Mayor Merandy made a motion to approve the quote with a second from Trustee Early. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

Kalen Eriksson, Executive Producer, Founder, TriFilm Pictures, LLC, is in the process of acquiring a permit to film in Dockside Park from Chris Steber and Bill Bauman with NYS Parks and Recreation on Saturday, December 12, 2015. The scene is being shot with an open burn that will be built on the rocky shore at the water's edge. Mr. Steber and Mr. Bauman asked that he acquire a fire permit from the Village of Cold Spring for the open burn.

Because the Village has never issued an open burn permit, Trustee Bowman will contact the Cold Spring Fire Company for their approval and also if they feel there should be a fire apparatus on site for precautionary measures.

A letter was received from Village employee, Charles Norton requesting two weeks' vacation pay. Mayor Merandy made a motion to approve Mr. Norton's request. With a second from Trustee Bowman and a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

The Board **minutes of November 10, 2015**, as presented to the Board, were approved with a motion from Trustee Early, a second from Trustee Fadde, and a unanimous vote.

The Board **minutes of November 17, 2015**, as presented to the Board, were approved with a motion from Mayor Merandy, a second from Trustee Murphy, and a vote of 3-0-0-2. Trustees Bowman and Fadde were not present at that meeting.

The **Bills** as presented to the Board, Batch #3346 for a total of \$346,477.63 were approved for payment with a motion from Trustee Early and a second from Trustee Fadde. With a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at the end of the meeting.

Trustee Early made a motion to close the December 1st meeting and with a second from Trustee Fadde, and a unanimous vote from the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Falloon