

**VILLAGE OF SPECULATOR  
AUGUST 8, 2011  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A Regular Meeting of the Village of Speculator Board of Trustees was held at the Village Hall, 112 Elm Lake Road, Speculator, New York, on August 8, 2011.

**PRESENT:** Letty Rudes, Mayor; Cheryl Paestella, Del Cook, William Tracy and Karen McComb, Trustees; Florence Braunius, WWTP Chief Operator; and Bonnie J. Page, Village Clerk-Treasurer.

**GUESTS:** Brendon Becker and Mike Harrington, Lamont Engineers; and Robert Hoffman, resident.

Mayor Rudes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and began the pledge of allegiance.

**MINUTES**

*Trustee Paestella made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 25<sup>th</sup> regular meeting as presented. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, McComb and Rudes – aye; nays – none.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

In response to a comment by Mr. Hoffman, there was a lengthy discussion about the item in the agenda on setting a policy to keep motorized vehicles off the Village beach.

Mrs. Braunius introduced Mike Harrington and Brendon Becker from Lamont Engineers. They described the history of the sewer extension project that was proposed to be funded through Rural Development. They said the new round of funding is called pooling funding as it is money left from projects uncommitted in the prior year's allocation. The grant and loan portion was reviewed along with the calculation of the EDU's and how to calculate the final cost per customer (Attachment #1). A lengthy discussion took place regarding the affordability of the project. It was noted the future budget numbers would have to include debt service and increased O&M. The added connections would increase the revenue.

Mr. Harrington also reported on the addition to the highway garage. The Village insurer expects the Village to purchase additional insurance to cover this project. The Village will distribute the bid packages. Lamont will assist the Village in project closeout with a one-time walk through at the substantial completion of the project. They left a copy of the notes for Mr. Blanchard.

**FLORENCE BRAUNIUS, WWTP CHIEF OPERATOR**

Mrs. Braunius reviewed the written report as made a part of these minutes (Attachment #2). There was some discussion about sending out the bid documents for the telemetry system. Mrs. Braunius also reviewed the matter of the biosolids laboratory testing. She will now be taking the

samples to Glens Falls WWTP. She described the plant operations and said due to the dry weather, they have been able to use just one plant this summer. Some discussion ensued.

### **CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Page submitted the following reports for the month end June 2011: Bank Reconciliations (Attachment #3), Operating Statements (Attachment #4) and Cash Accounts (Attachment #5). The Annual Financial Report was submitted to the NYS Office of the State Comptroller online and copies were distributed to the Board of Trustees.

*Trustee Cook made a motion to reinstate Paul Washay and Ethan Eobbi at Oak Mt. as temporary laborers at the rate of \$10.00 per hour. Trustee Tracy seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, McComb and Rudes – aye; nays – none.*

Mrs. Page said the estimate for the December 2011 NYS Retirement bill was received and there seems to be a reduction in the overall cost for the year although the rates had increased. The payroll for Oak Mt. was reduced as not as many that have NYS Retirement returned to the payroll this past season and new hires had declined membership. A rate filing was also received on MVP Health Plan and an increase of 9.7% is anticipated.

### **ABSTRACTS**

*Trustee Paestella made a motion to pay Abstract #5 in the following amounts: General Fund - \$21530.98, Water Fund - \$1368.61, Sewer Fund - \$1413.23 and Oak Mt. Special Revenue - \$437.03. Trustee McComb seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, McComb and Rudes – aye; nays – none.*

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Village Hall remains on the agenda. Regarding Oak Mt. Ski Center, Mayor Rudes said the zipline is open. Some discussion ensued on the pricing and placement.

### **ORDER OF THE DAY**

The Village Beach was inspected on August 2. There is another sign needed that Mr. Blanchard has ordered. The inspector told the lifeguards Speculator has one of the nicest beaches she inspects. She was also impressed that Speculator has three Water Safety Instructors.

Discussion continued from earlier in the meeting on a policy regarding motorized vehicles at the Village beach. As others said that the waters have Dept. of Environmental Conservation and Navigation laws that keep motorized vehicles away 500 feet, Mayor Rudes said the Village beach is governed by the NYS Dept. of Health. The Boat Patrol Officer requested the Village Board adopt a policy that would keep motorized vehicles away from the bathing area. There was discussion of marking the designated area.

Trustee McComb made a motion to set Village policy that no motorized vehicles, i.e., boats or jetskis, will be allowed within 500 feet of the Village of Speculator beach designated bathing area. Navigable waters, i.e., the area between the jetty and the stone wall where the river is located, are not affected by this policy. This policy is not meant to infringe on the use of public or private docks in the area of the Village property or bathing area. Canoes and kayaks will still be allowed to come on the Village beach outside the bathing area. Trustee Cook seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, McComb and Rudes – aye; nays –none.

Trustee Tracy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Trustee Paestella seconded and the motion was passed by the following vote: Paestella, Cook, Tracy, McComb and Rudes – aye; nays –none.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie J. Page, CMC, RMC, CMFO  
Village Clerk-Treasurer

Attachment #1 – Lamont Engineers cost increase per EDU  
Attachment #2 - Water-Wastewater Report  
Attachment #3 – Bank Reconciliations for month end June 2011  
Attachment #4 – Operating Statement for month end June 2011  
Attachment #5 – Cash Accounts for month end June 2011

Next Meeting – Regular Meeting – August 22, 2011