MEETINGS TO DATE: 25
NO. OF REGULARS: 24

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW
MARCH 8, 2010

ROLL CALL: Trustee Hammer
Trustee Keefe
Trustee Maryniewski
Trustee Monti
Mayor Alberti

ON A MOTION BY, Trustee Monti, and seconded by Trustee Hammer, the February 22, 2010 Village Board Minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY
Paul Walters – what is the appointment of the civil service position – Mayor – building inspector title change

APPOINTMENT – PUBLIC DISPATCHERS PT

Pursuant to Section 4-400 of Village Law, I, Mayor Barbara A. Alberti, hereby appoint Pamela J. Clark, 624 Smith St. Buffalo, NY 14224, John E. Hembrook, 1720 Como Park Blvd, Depew, NY 14043 and William F Mongeon 8941 Gasport, NY 14067 to the positions of Public Dispatcher Part-Time at salaries as stipulated in the budget.

These appointments were acted upon in the following manner by the Board of Trustees:

Trustee Hammer – Yes
Trustee Keefe – Yes
Trustee Maryniewski – Yes
Trustee Monti – Yes
Mayor Alberti – Yes

AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2010/2011

Trustee Keefe, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Administrator is authorized to advertise for a public hearing on the Tentative Budget for the Year 2010/2011, to be held on March 22, 2010 at 7:30 PM in the Village of Depew Council Chambers.

The following resolution was seconded by Trustee Maryniewski, and CARRIED.

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Trustee Monti, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Barbara A. Alberti, is authorized to sign a Local Government Efficiency Grant Program Application under the High Priority Planning option for $100,000 to study the dissolution of the Village of Depew. The grant amount includes the Village of Depew’s local share of $10,000.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Hammer and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Hammer - Yes
Trustee Keefe – Yes
Trustee Maryniewski – Yes
Trustee Monti – Yes
Mayor Alberti - Yes
AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Trustee Keefe, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Barbara A. Alberti, is authorized to sign the New York State Emergency Management Office Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application seeking funding in the amount not to exceed $2,000,000.00 to repair Zurbrick Rd and the embankment.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Maryniewski and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Hammer - Yes
Trustee Keefe – Yes
Trustee Maryniewski – Yes
Trustee Monti – Yes
Mayor Alberti – Yes

AUTHORIZE CREATION OF CIVIL SERVICE POSITION

Trustee Hammer, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, Erie County Personnel Department has made the title of Building Inspector obsolete;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes the Administrator to complete the paperwork to create the replacement title of Code Enforcement Officer both as part time and full time positions.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Monti, and duly put to a roll call vote which resulted in the following:

Trustee Hammer – Yes
Trustee Keefe – Yes
Trustee Maryniewski – Yes
Trustee Monti – Yes
Mayor Alberti – Yes

PERMISSION – LANCASTER TOWN BAND

Trustee Maryniewski, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

Permission is hereby granted to the Lancaster Town Band to use Veterans Park Gazebo on the following date for their 65th concert series on Thursdays, July 22nd from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M.

Permission is also granted for use of electric power and use of restrooms at the Southside firehall.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Hammer and CARRIED.

PERMISSION – PART TIME DISPATCHERS

Trustee Monti, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

Permission is hereby granted to Pamela Clark, John Hembrook and William Mongeon to attend Communications/Dispatch Training Course on March 10-March 12 at the Central Police Services Public Safety Campus 45 Elm St. Buffalo, NY from 8 am until 3:30 pm each day. There is no cost for tuition.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Keefe, and CARRIED.
PERMISSION – DEPEW FIRE DEPT

Trustee Hammer, offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

Permission is hereby granted to the Depew Fire Department for:

The use of 1941 Central Hose Engine and Engine 1 to be in the St Patty’s Day Parade in Lancaster on March 20th from 4:30 pm until the end of the parade.

And

The use of the Northside Fire Hall on April 24th from 6 pm until 11 pm for the Central Hose Company’s installation dinner, March 28th from 12 pm until 6 pm for the Central Hose yearly meeting, and June 24th from 6 pm until 11 pm for a company fundraiser.

The foregoing resolution was seconded by Trustee Monti, and CARRIED.

TREE TRIMMING/REMOVAL:

EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS: DPW – Charles Zuccaro

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: Clerk’s Office – February 2010, Police Dept – January 2010

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Maryniewski, seconded by Trustee Keefe, the department head reports were accepted as presented.

BUILDING APPLICATIONS AND REPORTS –

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Monti, seconded by Trustee Hammer, the building inspectors’ reports were accepted as presented.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY

No Report

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ENGINEER

Regarding Zurbrick Rd – Army Corp drilling should take place shortly – bids should be sent out in July with construction to begin in Sept. Regarding Lee St – relocated flow meters and collecting data currently.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Hammer – Lancaster St. Patrick’s Day Parade is Sat March 20th at 4:30 pm – Depew Fire Dept and Village Board will be marching. St. Joe’s is having a prescription drop off program.

Trustee Keefe – New flood plain maps will be coming out though NYSDEC and FEMA. 3 open houses will be held on March 30, 31 and April 1st. See posting on Village Hall Info Board.

Mayor Alberti –

1. Mayor and Trustee Hammer went to NYCOM conference in Albany and found out very little more than they already knew. Several Mayors went to Capitol Hill to speak with representatives. Mayor and Trustee Hammer met with Wade Beltramo. Legislature does not have the answers to many questions asked. NYCOM has drafted numerous changes to revised dissolution law taking effect March 21. 35-37 villages have been dissolved since the law took effect in 1932. Johnson City’s study took 2 years and over $100,000 and the vote to dissolve was a no.

2. Great number of employees from Village attending tonight’s Board meeting. The employees need to join together to save the Village.

3. Received phone call last week from resident whose brother in law went missing. He praised the response time of the Depew Police. Mayor commended Chief Domino and the department and the two officers, John Thomson and Cory Skok.

4. Mayor spoke about Kevin Gaughan’s cost figures on this study The Cost. Figures are not correct for salaries and number of elected officials.

5. Article in Sunday’s paper only contained a quarter of what Mayor said. Mayor and Trustee Hammer did not know about article as they were on the way to Albany.

UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

None
PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS
Courtney Brunelle – 15 Linwood - CSEA Representative and paid lobbyist – opposes dissolution of the Village and wished everyone Happy International Women’s Day. Raised issues on study, holes in bill, concerned about consolidation and dissolution. She represents the white and blue collar unions. Dissolution bill is only a hot topic in Erie County because of Kevin Gaughan. Union members are also taxpayers and they come up with good ideas to run the place efficiently. Members are looking to protect jobs. Removing layer of government is not a good thing as it removes democracy – special districts are created for fire, police, etc and they don’t have the same level of accountability. Mayor receives calls at home and DPW workers are well known in the community. The 1996 UB Project – neither a smaller or larger government is better – it is about political relationships – case by case basis. Only way to save tax dollars is to cut services – an outsider is coming in to eliminate people serving the taxpayer.

Mayor Alberti – this Board has ran on a platform to keep tax increases flat or at the rate of inflation. Tax increases have been kept low. This year’s budget started out at 17% increase but we will get this down. Financial woes are worldwide. Mayor feels strongest of everyone – born and lived here for 67 years. Everyone needs to get out and talk to their neighbor.

Attorney Nosek – statute is ill-conceived – the law mandates a vote on dissolution once 10% of electors sign a petition. No plan or program is in place at this time. Voting on a pig in a poke. The law requires the Board within 180 days to develop a plan. Short and ridiculous time frame. Nothing in the law compels the implementation of the plan that is developed. Nothing compels the Town of Lancaster and the Town of Cheektowaga to take on any employees. The Village Board cannot enforce the plan. Even if it is negotiated, nothing the Board does is imposable on the Towns. Absurd set of circumstances. Law is fundamentally flawed – when people vote they will have no clue.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS
ON A MOTION BY Trustee Hammer, seconded by Trustee Maryniewski, the following claims are to be paid: General $54,095.52, Sewer $1806.09. The motion was CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT
ON A MOTION BY Trustee Monti, seconded by Trustee Keefe, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm. The motion was CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth C. Melock
Village Administrator