

MEETINGS TO DATE 26
NO. OF REGULARS: 25

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF DEPEW
MARCH 22, 2010**

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

ON A MOTION BY, Trustee Hammer, and seconded by Trustee Monti, the March 8, 2010 Village Board Minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Irv Reinig – 380 Columbia Ave – questioned what #3 on agenda was about. Attorney Nosek explained GML 239-m requires certain actions to be submitted to Erie County Environment and Planning (DEP). These are routine things. This agreement allows Depew to omit sending certain actions to the County. Irv questioned what #4 was about. Admin. Melock told him the Village will be paid \$25 per ton for all the office paper recycled. This will not amount to a ton of money but it will remove tonnage from our garbage.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING – TENTATIVE BUDGET 2010-2011

Liz Melock, Village Administrator read legal notice announcing Public Hearing and Mayor Barbara Alberti opened same at 7:36 pm.

1. Irv Reinig – 380 Columbia Ave – Read a letter regarding budget and use of \$750,000 of fund balance. He also wants services cut and the village dissolved. See attached letter.

ON A MOTION BY, Trustee Keefe, seconded by Trustee Maryniewski, the Public Hearing is closed at 7:43pm. **CARRIED.**

Mayor Alberti's comments:

Spoke about tax increases that this board imposed of 1.34% and 2.64%. This new budget started with a 17% increase and through cuts is now a decrease. Three positions were cut health officer, fire inspector, and grant writer. 0% tax increase is a result of reform. Mayor spoke about accomplishments this Board has made: Village buildings were improved – doors, boilers, building envelope improvements, lighting fixtures, Upgrades to Police dispatch accomplished by the DPW workers, heat controls, remodel Mayor's office. Recreation – netting, new ceiling, doors, condenser and brine system, etc. Fire halls and electrical building – all were painted. DPW – boiler replaced. Court – larger bench area, chairs, microphone and credit cards Senior center – floor refinished, new furniture, searching for new van Established neighborhood watch meetings – once a month. Obtained \$5 million commitment to clean up the east side of Transit Rd. Established central purchasing and a central place for fueling. Mayor read what each department does – see attached sheets

Mayor read proclamation:

State of New York
Village of Depew
March 22, 2010

“DEPEW-LANCASTER SERTOMA CLUB FREEDOM WEEK”

WHEREAS, Sertoma International, a civic service organization, the motto of which is “SERVICE TO MANKIND”, has adopted a Freedom Program dedicated to the re-emphasis of the values and responsibilities of people in a free society, and

WHEREAS, independence and freedom are elemental parts of American character which has flourished in this rich and bountiful land and have made the United States a great and powerful nation, and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of every American and every American Association to study and practice the principles of freedom and liberty and to remain ever vigilant, and

WHEREAS, for many years, the Sertoma Clubs have diligently exercised that high duty of American Citizenship with patriotic dedication in their Freedom Program, and

WHEREAS, the Depew-Lancaster Sertoma Club is planning to carry out special patriotic and civic activities during 2010 Freedom Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Village of Depew, do hereby proclaim the week of March 22, 2010 through March 28, 2010

DEPEW-LANCASTER SERTOMA CLUB FREEDOM WEEK

and do urge every citizen to join the Depew-Lancaster Sertoma Club during that week in special observation of the blessings of Freedom and Liberty in our Country in order to inspire constant daily adherence to such observation throughout the year.

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH ERIE COUNTY – 239-m

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Barbara A. Alberti, is authorized to sign an Inter-municipal agreement with Erie County regarding the option of exempting certain zoning actions from being forwarded to Erie County Planning Department in accordance with Chapter 413 of the Laws of 1991 which amended Section 239-m of the General Municipal Law.

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 AGREEMENT WITH METRO WASTE PAPER RECOVERY

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Barbara A. Alberti, is authorized to sign an agreement with Metro Waste Paper Recovery U.S. Inc 3241 Walden Ave, Depew, NY 14043 for the office paper recycling program for the Village of Depew municipal buildings. There is no cost for the service and the village will be paid \$25 per ton of recyclables picked up or dropped off.

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

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 the Northside Fire Hall for a Blood Drive on April 1st from noon until 8 pm.

And

The use of the Southside Fire Hall on April 10th from 7 pm until 1 am on April 11th for the Aetna Hose Company Installation Banquet.

And

The use of the Southside Fire Hall on April 28th from 6 pm until midnight for the transfer of the Fire Chief vehicle.

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

TREE TRIMMING/REMOVAL:

EMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS: Building Inspector – Dan Dombrowski, Lifeguard – Lindsay Wiechelt

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: Treasurer’s Office – February 2010

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Keefe, seconded by Trustee Monti, the department head report was accepted as presented.

BUILDING APPLICATIONS AND REPORTS –

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Keefe, seconded by Trustee Monti, the building inspector report was accepted as presented.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY

No Report

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ENGINEER

Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

1. Tom Finger – CSEA labor relations specialist – knows village applied for a grant to study dissolution – village took proactive approach – working with Village of Sloan – their number crunching shows a tax increase. Cheektowaga told Sloan no services will be absorbed, services such as sidewalk plowing or senior center will not continue. It is important for residents to hear from the Board about retaining the village.
2. Mayor Alberti – thanked Ms. Johnson for article.
3. Bill Macchioni – 526 Columbia – spoke about William Slater and how he is walking around free – will be retaliation for the shooting outside Chosen Few – police have done nothing about Slater – it is under your responsibility.
4. Chief Domino – Mr. Slater was arrested same night as the shooting – then he is turned over the criminal justice system – he is allowed the same rights as Mr. Macchioni.
5. Mayor Alberti – spoke with Mr. Macchioni about neighbor erecting a pool without a fence. Building inspector took care of fencing issue.
6. Irv Reinig – 380 Columbia – code enforcement is inconsistent, position is not filled. When people don’t work full time going door to door then you won’t have strict code enforcement. Some employees violate codes, cost of study \$100,000 – a lot of talk about dissolving – village has \$6 million in assets, liabilities of \$8.6 million, long term debt would put on the village residents \$41 per year. Savings in the Town of Lancaster would be \$634.
7. Trustee Keefe – what if the assets aren’t worth \$6 million – how are you going to liquidate the assets.
8. Trustee Maryniewski – Irv loves to talk but hates to listen
9. Attorney Nosek – provide services at a cost – save money when government consolidate or dissolve. You don’t save if people provide the same services. If DPW will maintain the sewers you will not save any money. Only save if you can avoid providing services or incur certain expenses. If there is a cheaper way to do it you don’t need to dissolve. Eliminate a service or eliminate a cost that is unnecessary. Police enforcement will still have to take place. If you want the service you have to pay for it. Debt will be paid for by special districts. Those districts will have management – just a different unit of government. Nobody has the answers. Dissolution fervor isn’t rational without a plan and analysis first.
10. Paul Walters – Bldg Inspector – if you want services you need to have people – either Board has to hire person or give me more hours – either way you will have to pay.
11. Dave Anthony – 324 Terrace Blvd – if we sell everything what is the cost of a new truck – who covers the fire.
12. Irv Reinig – 380 Columbia – if village sells off equipment town provides service.

13. Dave Anthony – 380 Columbia – 7 fire trucks replaced at a cost of \$500,000 each – doesn't make sense.
14. Rae Kuntz – Rossiter Ave – Born and raised in Depew – had a water main break which took county 3 hours to come there and 6 hours no water – with a sewer issue DPW stayed in the pouring rain until the problem was fixed. She also had traffic accident and three police officers were there to assist. She will not get this kind of service from Cheektowaga. Does not want village dissolved. If you want village dissolved move out of the village. Rae attends all the board meetings and wanted to know where all the people here tonight have been since there are usually only 20 people. Fire Dept is there when you need them. The bitching does not always work – get together as a team.
15. Mayor Alberti – when buying a home you look at taxes, schools, shopping and churches. Spoke about the benefit for Mike Hehir this past Saturday at Heartstone. Thanked Chief Adamberger and the West End for a great job – the place was mobbed. Depew is losing two employees this month – Detective Steve Lehman will be retiring March 30 and Fire Inspector Dick Kropp will be retiring March 31. Mayor wished Dick and his wife Barbara a happy retirement. Reorganization Meeting is April 5th at 7:30 pm. Clean Up Depew Day is May 8th – Tammy Roll is chairing this event. More information will follow.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Hammer, seconded by Trustee Keefe, the following claims are to be paid: General \$167,980.16, Sewer \$147.00. The motion was **CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION BY Trustee Monti, seconded by Trustee Hammer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm in memory of Rose Arena who recently passed away and in honor of Dick Kropp and Steven Lehman who are retiring. The motion was **CARRIED**.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth C. Melock
Village Administrator