

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting  
November 13, 2007

PRESENT: Mayor Clifton Bennett  
Trustee Brian G. Cleary  
Treasurer: Michele H. Weakley  
Water Superintendent: Scot Burritt  
Codes Enforcement Officer: Michael L. Edwards

ABSENT: Thomas P. Ryan (Got hurt-fell off scaffle)  
Harold Cook, Water Clerk

The Monthly Board of Trustee's meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Bennett directly followed by The Pledge of Allegiance To The Flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT TIME** - No public present

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**MOTION** by Trustee Cleary, Seconded, by Mayor Bennett to accept the October 9, 2007 minutes as presented. All Ayes.

**REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Michele Weakley

Gave out her report and gave the following transfer report

**Budgetary Transfer**

From: A1990.4 Contingent	\$350.00	From: A7140.2 Parks	\$34.81
To: A1420.4 Law	\$350.00	To: A5410.4 Sidewalks	\$34.81
From: A2705 Gifts	\$200.00	From: Bond Reserve	\$71,632.00
To: A7140.4 Parks	\$200.00	To: A9040.8 Worker's compensation	\$71,632.00

**MOTION** by Trustee Cleary seconded by Mayor Bennett to accept the Treasurer's report as given. All Ayes. Motions passed.

**Justice Court Fines**

There was discussion on the revenues for fines. We get a check for all fines and then have to reimburse the state for their share. This is due to being computerized. So far this year we've received more money than in the past.

**Switching Banks**

There was discussion on switching banks due to M & T merging with Partners Trust. Mrs. Weakley researched the different rates with NBT bank and they offer much better rates. She's to call NBT to set up a meeting with them.

**Vouchers**

The following vouchers are to be approved and signed by the Board before the close of this meeting.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Abstracts</u>	<u>Vouchers</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Water	6	32 – 39	\$1,693.89
Payroll	6	52 – 61	\$3,248.76
General;	6	74 – 83	\$3,248.76

**Water Clerk:** Harold Cook (Absent) Left report for Clerk.

Total billed last quarter:	\$15,207.00
Paid to date:	\$10,862.92
Past Due	\$ 4,344.08

Mailed 4 Certified Letters for Delinquent water bills.

**Codes Enforcement Officer:** Michael Edward

\* Two Building Permits issued

\* One Certificate of Occupancy issued ( **Tom and Amy Haver**)

\* He issued **Havers a Certificate of Occupancy**. There are some items they need to finish up, but nothing he sees that would hold up their Certificate of Occupancy. In completing their Certificate of Occupancy he found that the parcel is zoned Industrial. He looked up the rule for building a residential home in an industrial zone and found a request should have been submitted to the ZBA. He notified the Zoning Board President and had Mr. Haver fill out and sign the appropriate paperwork. All seems to be in order at this time.

\* **The Worden Building** project on Millington Ave. is almost complete. He expected to be issuing a Certificate of Compliance in October but it looks like it will be sometime this month.

\* The Stupak's porch project is complete and he has issued a Certificate of Compliance.

\* **The Salm property:**

He submitted finished plans from Mr. Stukey for board review and to put out to bid.

\* Certificate of Compliance will be issued to **Jasper Tabor** for his installation of a Septic System.

\* He received a complaint about **planting trees directly on a property line**. It is not clear in the Villages Zoning Book.

\* Issued a Permit to **Huckabone** and the project is coming along very well. Fenton Associates is the contractor for this project.

\* The **Town of Russia** (Joe Longstaff) had contacted him regarding taking out the existing underground tanks putting them inside. After research, they can have the tanks inside and they will need to contact NYS DEC about removal procedures.

\* He will need a **letter** to be sent to the NYS DOS Codes Division stating that **he is the Codes Officer for the Village of Poland.**

\* **JUST A NOTE:** If you see a construction project being done in the village, make note of it and leave it in his box or give him a call and he will investigate it.

*End of Report.*

**Water Superintendent:** Scot Burritt

For the month of October 1,819,900 gallons were treated with a daily average of 62755 gallons.

**\*\*Eleven loads of water were taken by Herkimer County for their water shortage.\*\*** (*see below*) The wells held steady at 32 feet static level during this event. Doug Smorol from NY Rural Water assisted him at the water plant to measure the wells.

All yearly testing requirements have been completed and he believes there were no exceedences in levels. Lead and Copper results also came back and we are on track for one more year of five samples and then sample every three years. (that's good news)

Scott Worden's new water service was installed to his new garage.

Preparations are under way for the winter season at the water tower. These include testing and activating the heated bubbler air line, reducing the tank level by four feet, to prevent ice damage to the roof, and servicing the compressors.

End of Report

**\*\*Herkimer County Legislature Letter of Appreciation\*\***

Mayor Bennett received a letter from Leonard R. Hendris, Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature thanking the Village of Poland for the assistance provided to the County in connection with hauling water to Herkimer County farmers affected by the recent drought conditions. This is an excellent example of municipalities working together in an expeditious and efficient manner.

They appreciate the fine cooperation extended by our Village for the well being of all the citizens in Herkimer County.

#### **Water meters at Unmetred locations.**

Since the Library is no longer under the Village, the subject of billing them for water use was discussed.

They pay their own fuel oil bill but they get it thru our "bid" contract with Merbibato. . There are several locations that do not have meters and are billed the minimum. Those included are the church, cemetery, town barn which are billed minimum. Meters could be put in at these locations but it is believed that most would be below the minimum including the Library. The Mayor said he would put a letter together to Bruce Barnard, Library Board President advising them of the Board's decision to bill the Library for water use in the future..

**Fire department:** Scot Burritt

The 2002 tanker is still out of service following a noise in the rear end. He hopes to have it back in service late this week or next week, however it could go either way with their luck lately.

The vent pipe for the underground fuel tank behind the fire house was found to be broken. As of this spring it was fine. He isn't sure how it got broke off. Since it was allowing moisture to get in the tank He called Adirondack Environmental Service and they came the next day to fix it and reinforce it. He believes a bill is forthcoming for this.

Respectfully submitted , Scot Burritt

End off Report.

#### **Fire Department Noon Whistle silenced.**

It hasn't been on time lately and they don't make the parts any more so Chief Burritt decided to shut it off for a while to see how much will saved on their electrical bill. If there are too many complaints it will be turned back on for the summer.

#### **Clerk:**

1) The Clerk requested permission to **close the office Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>**, the day after Thanksgiving.

\* Permission granted.

2) **Food Service Establishment at former Haver's Market.** [Original mention –July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting pg. 461 under correspondence]

\* She checked with the Health Department and nothing ever developed so this subject is being dropped.

3) Herkimer Conuty **Conference of Mayors Dinner** was hosted by Dolgeville on October 25<sup>th</sup>. (Pg. 472-Oct.9,2007) Representing the Village of Poland was Mayor Bennett and his wife, Stacey, Trustee Cleary and Clerk Byrnes. Mrs. Weakley also attended, but this time she went with Dolgeville.

4) **Painting Voting Booth** (Pg. 472 – Oct. 9, s007)

The Clerk said she made the decision to have it done in wood stain to make it look as authentic as possible as in yesteryears.

- The Board was agreeable.

**5)Halloween – October 31<sup>st</sup>.**

The Clerk asked Trustee Cleary to give a report on this since he and Mr. Beaudin were on downtown patrol that evening. He said they patrolled around to see what it was like. He had covered the bulletin board with plastic to protect it. The kids did more to each other with shave cream. But there was no damage he could see. Then Mayor Bennett asked about a parking sign ripped down to the ground above Sprague Street near 71 Cold Brook street. The Mayor said if it is still there he'll pick it up tomorrow. Overall it turned out to be an uneventful Halloween.

Mayor Bennett will send the State Police a letter thanking them for helping make it a safe Halloween ..

**6) Keys for Trustee Cleary.**(Sept.11, 2007, Pg.467)

It was decided not to worry about the outer door key and just have a new one and an office door key made for Trustee Cleary.

\* Trustee Cleary previously said his keys were not marked. Mayor Bennett said he will get the replacements made. Trustee Cleary said, he will pay for them. The Mayor said that in the future when there is a change in board members, cleansing of the keys will be done.

**7) March 2008 Election**

The Clerk said that the Legal Notice for the March 18, 2008 Election must be published in the Evening Telegram before November 18, 2007. She read the proposed notice as it will appear in the Legal Notice section of the paper. The only vacancy up for vote will be Trustee Ryan's for 2008 – 2010. This is the first year that we do not have to include a Library Trustee due to the change in the status of the Library this past year.

**8) Thanksgiving Week Garbage Pick-up.**

Public Notices will be posted to notify residents that pick-up will be on Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

9)Trustee Ryan (Absent) had asked the Clerk to find out if the “**Village Stroll**” committee had gotten permission from Pete Gorham to have the “**sleigh ride** in his field” behind Tom's house as they advertised.

\* Scot said not in the field, they haven't officially asked. He'll check to see if they can use the snowmobile trail. Mayor Bennett will talk to Mrs. Stupka, who's in charge of it, about it.

10) The last two **street lights** reported to National Grid have not been fixed on Cold Brook Street; one across from the Post Office and near Sprague St. Another one was reported that's on the corner of Case and Main. The Clerk will Report them again plus the additional one.

**Revitalization Committee Report – Brian Cleary**

They are still selling raffle tickets on the snowmobile. He gave a list of the locations where they are scheduled to sell tickets. He estimates that they have sold in the neighborhood of three hundred tickets as of today.

**Revitalization Committee needs a Certificate of Insurance to sell tickets at Saegertown Mall**

**MOTION** by Mayor Bennett seconded by Trustee Cleary to provide the Revitalization Committee with a Certificate of Insurance through the Village.

All Ayes. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**TAX AFFADIVAT**

The following resolution is required to turn the un-paid taxes of \$2,308.9 for 2007 over to the County for Collection.

**RESOLUTION No. 11** offered by Trustee Brian G. Cleary

Resolved , that the report of M. Jane Byrnes, as Collector for the Village of Poland, New York, for the year 2007, be approved and the unpaid list be turned over to the County Treasurer for collection.

Resolution seconded by Mayor Clifton Bennett

Voting Aye: 2

Voting No: 0

The resolution was adopted.

It will be notarized and mailed tomorrow.

**Rotary Club Speaker for November 20<sup>th</sup>**

Trustee Cleary has been asked to come as a guest speaker about some of the things that have been accomplished and what needs to be done. They have some money to donate so he is going to mention the street signs wanted, preferably donate.

**Furnace Problem**

The furnace has been “noisy” at times when the blower goes on. Also, the filter needs replacing.

The Board gave the Clerk permission to call “Vincent Heating & Fuel Service LLC” to take care of it.

**Municipal Water for Routes 8 & 28** (also brought up in the past)

We received a letter from Deerfield Town Supervisor that the Town of Deerfield residents along Rt. 8 & 28 in the Town of Deerfield are interested in forming a Water District. They have met with several property owners along the corridor to discuss the possibility of installing a water main along this route from the Herkimer County line west into the Town of Deerfield.

Before they can proceed with a feasibility study on this they need to know if the Village of Poland would be interested in supplying water to this area. This would be a positive situation for everyone; increasing the customer base for the Village of Poland Water District, quality water for the new district along the corridor and increased fire protection.

\* Discussion followed on this subject; Scot said the camp site has their own well system. It probably will be very little cost out of our pocket. Maybe the cost of the meter which would be one big bulk meter. We would charge the Town of Deerfield and their water district would make out the water bills to the customers. They would have to have a water distribution person. All we would be doing is to sell water. They would have to come up with figures on what their daily draw would be especially in the summer so we would know if we had a sufficient amount. If the Village has got the water capacity and the storage capacity factor, Scot thinks it would be a plus. Mayor Bennett will send Supervisor Sacco a letter telling him that the Village would be interested viewing a feasibility study on this project. We will be doing some research to ensure that we could provide quality water for the New Water District.

#### **Village Street Inventory**

The Clerk said she couldn't find last year's report but found 2003 copy and was able to complete this year's by following that since there has been no changes in the streets nor mileage. Which is .71. The report was signed by Mayor Bennett on November 21<sup>st</sup> and returned to DOT..

#### ***Request for information on a local young man, Harry Kested, from the Russia area.***

We received an e-mail from a Belgian Citizen, Vincent Vanderberg about a local young man that died in his street at the liberation of his town September 11, 1944. They have a monument in his village in memory for Harry Kested and another young man that died at the same place. He found information on the other young man and a picture. He wants to put Harry's picture on it also. He sent information and Scot has been trying to get more information for him, also, other people that he contacted in the area. He e-mailed us a picture of the monument.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Reservoir.**

Tabled for now. The Mayor needs to look at the map.

##### **Old Chlorine Plant (Pg. 473 – Oct. 9, 2007)**

We haven't been able to find this location. Now another location has turned up for the Town of Newport which we got a notice for, it is listed as being on Main St. which isn't likely to be the "Old Chlorine" Plant.

##### **Haver's request for piece of Old Elm Property**

The section wanted by Mr. Haver has now been staked out. The Mayor went down with Mr. Haver to look at the location. The Mayor will take the measurements to present at the December meeting.

##### **Ozog Building (see Pg. 473 –Oct. 9, 2007)**

The Mayor had talked to our Attorney tonight. Previously Mr. Ozog had been evading being served with the summons, so the "nail" and "mail" option was used. With this they have to wait 20 days and he responded to nothing. Now we move for default judgment which has to be done by the end of this week. He then has 30 days to comply. The attorney thinks we should have the judgment by the end of the month. He has to bring the building to compliance or tear it down. More discussion followed on this topic.

##### **Brownfield Project (32 Cold Brook St.)**

Part of the project was to relocate the sewer system for the former "Redmond" house on the site. It was put out for bids. Two were received, Bruce Weakley's bid was \$3,100. and John Victor's was \$2,780.00.

**MOTION** by Mayor Bennett, seconded by Trustee Cleary to accept John Victor's low bid of \$2,780.00 for the septic system relocation.

Motion passed.

The cost will be split three ways. That is something that has to be done before they can go in and remove the old tanks.

More about the "Clean Up" was discussed. A new proposal is going out to clean up the site. One of the grants not used for the project was for the beautification of the property after completion but maybe that can get changed so it can be used on the needed site clean-up. Once we get in there we will be able to find out what the contaminants are there..

##### **Street Signs**

Discussion followed on this subject as to different types of signs and where they could be purchased, etc. The Mayor said that they just want to get a rough estimate for now. Trustee Cleary said that we need about half a dozen signs at one price offered was \$25.00 each. What he would like to do is up-grade to a fancier sign. The Mayor does have a picture of Deerfield's.

They're still looking into getting the "Welcome to Village" wooden signs. Which had originally been offered by the Rotary but had not transpired. The Mayor has a picture that was done up for us. They're pretty expensive.

##### **State Police Contract- "Tabled"**

##### **Fountain Painting (SUMAX) - In the words of Trustee Cleary**

On the afternoon of 11/13/07, he talked to Kevin Scott as a follow-up to their 10/09/07 phone conversation and the fountain photos emailed to him by Mayor Bennett.

Kevin said that he did in fact make a trip to Poland to personally look at the fountain. Kevin said that their ovens ARE large enough to be able to handle each of the pieces of our fountain including the widest bowl. His concern is the weight of the base and he wanted to know if I knew the weight of it. I told him that I have no way of knowing the weight of the base or any of the other pieces of the fountain. Kevin said he doesn't know what POR 15 paint is

that Lee Broomfield told me that should be used to paint the fountain. He asked Kevin if his facility can sand blast or glass bead the parts of the fountain and he said NO. Kevin said that as soon as the parts of the fountain are sandblasted, they need to be sprayed with phosphate **IMMEDIATELY** or the rust process starts promptly before being painted. Kevin said that we would need to have the parts sandblasted at another facility and then the other facility would need to spray the phosphate immediately if the other facility had the right room for it that he could come to their facility and spray the phosphate on the pieces. Then the pieces could be trucked to SUMAX to be properly powder coated. Kevin said that 15 years is the normal life span of an item after it is powder coated but it would NOT be guaranteed for 15 years. Kevin said he has recommendations of where we should take the fountain parts to be sandblasted. Kevin said it would be better to wait until April to have the fountain parts sandblasted, sprayed with phosphate and powder coated rather than try to do it this time of the year or over the winter. The warmer the weather the better the results of the job should be. He asked Kevin if he could provide him with a BALLPARK figure of what SUMAX would charge the Village of Poland for the powder coating if we could have the parts sandblasted and sprayed with phosphate before bringing to SUMAX. He said the powder coating would be in the neighborhood of \$2,500.00. He said to plan on one full week for them to properly paint the fountain after it is delivered to their facility.

Kevin said he would be available for a phone conference with Scott Rommell, Mayor Bennett and himself if we want to take that route to discuss this subject further.

Brian G. Clear - 11/13/07

**Fountain Park area activity** – Trustee Cleary

Planters stored in Jim Miller’s barn on Mill Street for the winter. The Banners will be left up until after the Christmas Stroll.”

**Census** – The forms are all mailed; now we are just waiting for the material to arrive.

**Sidewalks, Mill, Case, Railroad St.** – On hold till “Spring”

**DOT Roadwork** – Is completed.. Mayor Bennett will send a letter of appreciation

**CORRESPONDENCE**

\* Some was discussed but didn’t affect us.

**Vouchers listed under the Treasurer’s report were approved and signed by the Board of Trustees before the close of this meeting.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM by Mayor Bennett.**

**Minutes of this meeting recorded and prepared by \_\_\_\_\_**  
**M. Jane Byrnes, Village Clerk**