

VILLAGE OF POMONA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2003

A Board of Trustees meeting of the Village of Pomona was held at the Pomona Village Hall, Old Route 202 and Camp Hill Road, Pomona, New York at 7:30 p.m. on February 24, 2003.

Present

Mayor: Herb Marshall
Deputy Mayor: Al Appel
 Nick Sanderson
Acting Village Atty: Lawrence A. Codispoti
Bldg. Inspector: Michael Zrelak, Jr.
Village Clerk: Susan Glantz

Absent

Trustees: Ian Banks
 Alma Roman
Village Attorney: Reuben Ortenberg
Village Engineer: Joe Corless

Summary of Motions:

Deputy Mayor Appel moved to apply for funding in the amount of \$35,000 to enable the Village to construct access for people in wheelchairs, using walkers or canes. Seconded by Trustee Sanderson. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Sanderson moved to adopt the minutes of January 27, 2003, as amended. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

Deputy Mayor Appel moved to accept the Assessor's Recommendation for Tax Lot No. 25.17-3-21, 290 Quaker Road, be set at \$69,900. Seconded by Trustee Sanderson. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Sanderson moved to accept the Assessor's Recommendation for Tax Lot No. 31.16-1-20, 5A Ethan Allan Drive, be set at \$116,000. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Sanderson moved to support a memorializing resolution on New York State Bill S622/A.3483 regulating the amount of litigation in favor of municipalities. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Sanderson moved to accept the Assessor's Recommendation for Tax Lot No. 32.20-2-6-5, 3 Litman Lane, be maintained at \$225,000. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

1. Salute to the Flag

2. Open Period

Mayor Marshall read a brief statement regarding the format of the Open Period.

The following residents addressed the Board:

Joan Alpert, 20 Beaver Dam, asked about the rumor of a \$50 million dollar lawsuit against the Village.

Rhonda Klass, 18 Brookside Drive, also asked about the lawsuit and how it would affect her taxes. Her other issue was the mulch plant on Quaker Road.

Peter Benario, 6 Tamarack Lane, had the same question as previously asked.

Paul Gaylord, 31 Halley Drive, asked about notification being given to the neighboring homeowners of the house being built at 25 Halley Drive. He did not receive notification and wanted to know if he should have been notified.

Juanita Anger, 27 Halley Drive, also questioned the lack of notification about the house being built next door to her.

Marilyn Klass, 9 Mountainview Court, asked why there were no locks on the gates to the mulch plant on Quaker Road.

Ann Sellecchia, 34 Halley Drive, also asked why she was not notified of the house being built at 25 Halley Dr.

Wendell Watford, 6 North Ridge Road, asked about the alleged lawsuits against the Village and whether or not he is a party in one or more of the lawsuits against the Village.

Michael Pana, 28 Halley Drive, also questioned the notification to neighbors of the house being built at 25 Halley Drive.

Dorothy Goldmann, 6 Parkside Court, was concerned about the situation at the mulch plant on Quaker Road.

Robin Ham, 91 Overlook Road, asked about the money amount of the lawsuits. She also raised the problem of the 40-foot drop between her property and the house next store.

Mayor Marshall responded to the questions raised from by the public. Regarding the lawsuits, because of ongoing litigation there are areas that cannot be made public. The allegations the public has been reading about are scare tactics that are irresponsibly reported as part of the current election campaign. There is ongoing litigation and it is believed to be unfounded, baseless, irresponsible and will be addressed in the courts. The outlandish claims of \$50 million dollars are baseless, it is covered by the Village's insurance and since it is ongoing litigation, explanations, as much as can be permitted, will be published in the Village Newsletter.

Trustee Sanderson moved to close the Open Period. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Public Hearing – Community Block Grants

Mayor Marshall explained that a \$35,000 request from the Community Block Grants is being considered for handicapped access to Burgess Meredith and Secor Parks.

Rhonda Klass, 13 Brookside, asked what the handicapped access meant.

Deputy Mayor Appel responded the funds would be used to install a walkway to the park for people using wheelchairs, etc.

Deputy Mayor Appel moved to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Trustee Sanderson. Motion carried 3-0.

Deputy Mayor Appel moved to apply for funding in the amount of \$35,000 to enable the Village to construct access for people in wheelchairs, using walkers or canes. Seconded by Trustee Sanderson. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Adoption of Minutes

A. January 27, 2003

On page 6, item 10, removed the word 'and' after services. Also, removed the word 'which' after Village Code and add 'was discussed after religious institutions.

Trustee Sanderson moved to adopt the minutes of January 27, 2003, as amended. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report is attached to the minutes.

Clerk Glantz brought up the matter that the Village has always used the Bank of New York, however, beginning with February 2003 the bank will begin adding new service charges. She is looking into other banks in the area as possible alternatives to the Bank of New York.

6. Grievance Actions

There were three assessment grievances filed and heard on February 18, 2003. The first was Richard Heyman and Barbara Pollitt of 290 Quaker Road, Tax Lot Number 25.17-3-21. Full market value is set at \$191,612, the original assessment was \$65,000, an addition was made to the house, the tentative assessment was set at \$74,000. The recommendation after the Assessor's analysis that the assessment be reduced from \$74,000 to \$69,900.

Deputy Mayor Appel moved to accept the Assessor's Recommendation for Tax Lot No. 25.17-3-21, 290 Quaker Road, be set at \$69,900. Seconded by Trustee Sanderson. Motion carried 3-0.

The next action was a grievance filed by DeWitt and Joanne Johnson Scott of 5A Ethan Allan Drive, Tax Lot Number 31.16-1-20. The original assessment was \$80,000, the tentative assessment was \$135,000. The recommendation after the Assessor's analysis that the assessment be reduced from \$135,000 to \$116,000.

Trustee Sanderson moved to accept the Assessor's Recommendation for Tax Lot No. 31.16-1-20, 5A Ethan Allan Drive, be set at \$116,000. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

The third action was a grievance filed by CSMI Ltd., Mr. Eisenberg for a new home and property owned at 3 Litman Lane, Tax Lot Number 32.20-2-6-5. The tentative assessment was \$225,000, the estimated full market value was \$622,000. The recommendation, after the Assessor's analysis was that the assessment be maintained at \$225,000.

Trustee Sanderson moved to accept the Assessor's Recommendation for Tax Lot No. 32.20-2-6-5, 3 Litman Lane, be maintained at \$225,000. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

7. Committee Reports

A. Cultural Center

The Director of the Cultural Center's report is attached to the minutes.

B. Recreation

No report at this time.

C. Other

No report at this time.

8. Grants and Awards

Deputy Mayor Appel reported there is nothing new at this time. Clerk Glantz reported that CHIPS money in the amount of \$27,000 for berms will be coming in.

9. Building Department

A. Code Enforcement

Deputy Mayor Appel reported that because of the inclement weather there has been little activity of illegal material being put out.

B. Engineering/Building Inspector

Mr. Zrelak reported that progress has been made on six lots in the Highgate subdivision.

10. Legal

Mayor Marshall discussed with the Towns of Haverstraw and Ramapo the licensing of landscapers and snow plowers. He recommended that the Village consider a new local law requiring licensing landscapers and people who snow plow in the Village. The matter will be discussed at the next workshop.

11. Old Business

Mayor Marshall reminded the Board that department heads need to get their budgets into the Board.

12. New Business

Mayor Marshall brought up the request from the Office of the Corporation Counsel of the City of New York for support by a memorializing resolution on New York State Bill S622/A.3483 which regulates the amount of litigation in favor of municipalities.

Trustee Sanderson moved to support a memorializing resolution on New York State Bill S622/A.3483 regulating the amount of litigation in favor of municipalities. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

13. Office Period

Nothing at this time.

14. Trustees Period

Nothing at this time.

15. Second Open Period

David Herskowitz, 1 Litman Lane, asked about the New York State Bill S622/A.3484. Mayor Marshall gave him a copy of the bill.

James Butler, 9 Chamberlain Court, asked about the potholes on Camp Hill Road. Clerk Glantz will call the Town of Ramapo will have them patched.

Trustee Sanderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Appel. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Malverne J. Toll