

**Village of Chester  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
May 12, 2008**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester met in the Village Hall meeting room on Monday, May 12, 2008. Members present: Mayor Philip Valastro, Deputy Mayor John Deshler, Trustees Jack Collins, and Eugene Collins. Trustee John Reilly, III was not in attendance. Also present Village Attorneys Henry Christensen, Police Chief Peter Graziano, Highway Superintendent J. Thomas Bell, Code Enforcement Officer John Orr and Village Treasurer Cathy Richards. Audience Gordon Shehab and Nikki Mayer. Water Commissioner Thomas Becker was not in attendance

Mayor Valastro opened the meeting at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Valastro noted that the monthly auditing of monthly bills has been completed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion to accept the minutes of the April 14, 2008 meeting was made by Trustee Jack Collins, second by Deputy Mayor John Deshler. Motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVAL OF REORGANIZATION MINUTES:** A motion to accept the reorganization minutes of April 7, 2008 meeting was made by Deputy Mayor John Deshler second by Trustee Jack Collins.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Cathy Richards presented and read her report as follows:

**Cash Management**

<u>Bank Statement</u>	<u>Balance as of 4/30/08</u>	<u>Interest Earned April 08</u>
Key General Fund Checking	164,400.49	69.11
Key General Fund Savings MM	1,293,524.97	2,311.62*
Key Sewer Fund	445,355.09	483.36
Provident Sewer Fund	27,739.64	5.78
Provident Water Fund	168,652.10	53.77

\* Interest earned in Key Bank GF Savings Money Market Account 6/1/07 4/30/08:

June 07	1,681.66	November 07	9,307.97
July 07	8,036.18	December 07	8,143.97
August 07	11,842.09	January 08	6,750.52
September 07	10,693.85	February 08	4,339.68
October 07	10,042.82	March 08	3,082.97
		April 08	2,311.62

**FY to date General Fund Savings MM Interest Earned: 76,233.33**

**Other**

- **2008-09 Current Budget Update:** For your approval, attached is the list of final appropriations transfers projected for the close this fiscal year. Due to careful monitoring of expenses by each department throughout the year, it appears that all expenses will remain within the budgeted parameters including the projected surplus for the 2008-09 budget.
- **Water Filtration System Improvement Serial Bond:** The bid packet for the \$800,000 serial bond was distributed to 12 financial institutions on April 30, 2008 with bids due May 8, 2008. The Village received 3 bids – with the lowest interest percentage bid awarded to Provident Bank at 4.00%. The other 2 bids came in at 4.59% and 5.2197%. Documents are currently being prepared for a May 15<sup>th</sup> closing. I am working with Provident Bank to open a water capital money market interest account to deposit the funds – along with a new checking account in order to track the filtration project expenses separately from the water operating funds.

- **Budget Transfers:** Read by Mayor Valastro as follows:

	DESCRIPTION	ACCT CODE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
	<b>General Fund</b>			
From	Treasurer – Contractual	A 1325.0454	9,400	
To	Auditor – Contractual	A 1320.0400		9,400
From	Treasurer – Salary	A 1325.0100	5,000	
To	Village Clerk – Salary	A 1410.0100		5,000
From	Contingency - Contractual	A 1990.0400	600	
To	Assessment - Contractual	A 1355.0444		600
From	Contingency - Contractual	A 1990.0400	200	
To	Elections – Contractual	A 1450.0454		200
From	Contingency – Contractual	A 1990.0400	400	
To	Unallocated Insurance	A 1910.0428		400
From	Police - Personal Services	A 3120.0100	700	
To	On Street Parking - Personal Services	A 3320.0100		700
From	Safety Inspection – Equipment	A 3620.0200	2,000	
From	Safety Inspection – Contractual	A 3620.0409	900	
To	Safety Inspection – Personal Services	A 2620.0100		2,900
	<b>General Fund Total</b>		<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>

A motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report and Budget Transfers was made by Deputy Mayor John Deshler, second by Trustee Jack Collins. Motion unanimously passed.

**BUILDING REPORT:** Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer John Orr presented his report as follows:

**Current projects that were inspected during the last month:**

1. **Lowe’s**
  - Site work continues
  - Walls have been started
  - Roofing decking started
  - General site work continues
2. **Provident Bank**
  - Site work continues
  - Interior work continues
3. **Fentazi 21 Elm Street**
  - Work continues.
4. **Quickway Plaza Hotel**
  - Work almost complete on retaining walls
5. **49-51 Main Street**
  - Work continues on the interior renovation
6. **Orange County Trust**
  - Work has started preparing the houses for renovation or demolition.

Spring is here and the applications for fences and sheds have started to come in.

I attended a 3- day seminar in Poughkeepsie given by the Hudson Valley Code Enforcement Officials Association on April 16, 17 & 18<sup>th</sup>. I also attended a Fire Sprinkler Inspection Course this past weekend at the NYS Fire Academy

**POLICE REPORT:** Police Chief Peter Graziano was present and read his report as follows:

**1. Department Items**

Manpower: None

- Vehicles: The highest bid received was \$1669.00 for the 2000 Impala by Liberty Motors of New Jersey.

**2. Citizen Issues:**

- None
- 

**3. Public Safety Issues**

- Traffic Details: Continuing

**4. Facilities**

- None

**5. Equipment**

- None

**6. Department Activity**

- a. Blotters = 998
- b. Cases = 231
- c. Arrests = 122
- d. Accidents = 46

A motion to accept the highest bid for 2000 impala by liberty motors located in New Jersey was made by Deputy John Deshler second by Trustee Jack Collins. Motion unanimously passed. Mayor Valastro asked police Chief Graziano if police patrols can monitor traffic on Memorial Day.

**HIGHWAY REPORT:** Highway Superintendent J. Thomas Bell was present and read his report as follows:

1. Our normal sweeping program has continued on a weekly basis. We have also made one round of our weekly mowing.
2. The parking spaces at the park & ride have been painted. There are is still more painting to be done but our paint machine is broken beyond repair. We are pricing new machines & have demoded one. we painted 17 parking spaces on Chester Boulevard with the demo model.
3. Two sections of the new sidewalk in front of the firehouse have been completed. The first section has also received topsoil & grass seed. The third section will be poured tomorrow.
4. Most of our time this past month been spent on this sidewalk project.

Mayor Valastro read resolution for Railroad Ave as follows:

**RESOLVED**, that §92-38 of the Village Code, entitled "Schedule 'X': No Parking Certain Hours." is hereby amended, effective immediately, to add this additional location

Name of Street	Side	Hours	Location
Railroad Avenue	Both	3:00am to 6:00am Fridays	Entire length

A motion to accept resolution for Railroad Ave made by Trustee Jack Collins second by Deputy Mayor John Deshler.

**WATER REPORT:** Water Commissioner Thomas Becker was not in attendance Mayor Valatro read report as follows:

1. We continue to our Daily filtration plant and well #12 routine each day.
2. All water meters that were found not to be working during our April water meter readings have been replaced.
3. On our filter replacement the updated plans have been sent to the health dept. for then approval.
4. Weekly mowing at all water facilities have been done.
5. We replaced a fire hydrant that we could not repair on Nucifora Blvd.

6. The water main replacement crossing the stream on West Street has been started.
7. Gary & Joe put together fitting for replacing the 10 inch water main under West Street that feeds water to Whispering Hills.
8. I had a visit from the labor department and we have started to working on compliance issues at all of our water facilities.
9. We have received a letter from the Town of Chester requesting Village Water for their highway garage and the Chester Commons Park because of E coli contamination in the water. If the board grants this approval I would request that a RPZ backflow device be installed on the line and a connection for filling their sweeper.
10. Joseph Sexton owns a home at 16 Old RT 17M that was originally had metered Village water thorough another existing home when both were owned by the Fitzgerald's. At some time in the past a new water service was run into #16 and was never metered. I spoke with Gary Green Sr. about this and he was unaware that a new service was installed. This home has not been metered for longer than I have worked here (23years). How do we handle this? Shut them off, bill them back charges or charge them an out of corp. connection fee to keep village water.

A motion to provide Town Highway Garage and Chester Commons with water pending request RPZ backflow device is installed on the line and a connection for filling their sweeper was made by Trustee Eugene Collins and second by Deputy Mayor John Deshler.

A discussion took place regarding 16 Old RT 17m the Joseph Sexton property and Village Board decide to table the discussion until Board obtains more information from Water Commissioner Thomas Becker.

A motion to table the discussion was made by Deputy Mayor John Deshler and second by Trustee Jack Collins.

**PARKS & RECREATION REPORT:** Deputy Mayor John Deshler was present and read his report as follows:

**Dug outs – Community Park** – All work on the dug outs has been completed demolition was completed by the Chester Fire Department and the new dug outs have been erected and are in use.

**Exhaust Fan – Community Park concession stand** – some problems have been encountered with the new fan and the necessary repairs are going to be made shortly.

**New Bathrooms & Concession stand – Chester Commons** – Some members of the commission and the town engineers met and a final location was selected. Final plans are being draw up by the engineers. The commission hopes to have the project completed by the end of the year.

**Black dirt & fill project** – The town is in receipt of a letter from its engineers stating that the black dirt adjacent to the community park is considered wet lands and cannot be filled in at this time. This project would need special application to the Army Corp of Engineers and several DEC permits. It was decided not to pursue the matter at this time as the permit application process would take a considerable amount of time and the fill that was going to be donated has to be moved very shortly. The matter will be further looked into so that if another opportunity comes about the permits will be ready. The commission also voted to allow Supervisor Neuhaus to enter into an agreement with Mr. Battiato to farm the land for the year of 2008. Mr. Battiato have been turning over the land and keeping it in shape to control the weeds.

**Disk Golf** – Disk Golf is being considered as an additional recreation for the parks. A local business has come forward and would like to donate the equipment needed. The Parks & Recreation directed was give permission to further look into the matter and report back at the next meeting.

**Theater Program-** The program now has 16 people signed up. It is open to all interest people between the ages of 14 to 21 years. Most of those that have signed up are between 14 & 18 years. The program is being held at the Lycian Theater in Sugarloaf. Approximately 12 hours per week are necessary for the participants with a production show at the end of the season.

**Summer Recreation Program** – Over 400 Children have already signed up. The program is full and there is awaiting list of over 50 people. It is suggested that anyone that is interested that they file an application and be put on the waiting list as soon as possible.

**Fire Works** – July 12<sup>th</sup> has been selected as the date and will take place at the community park. Public announcements for vendors are being placed in the newspapers and applications for vendors can be picked up at Town Hall or the Village Police Station. All vendors must be registered. There is no fee for the non profit groups.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: A question was received from a resident in attendance of the meeting regarding the status and future of Camp LaGuardia property and also if the Village would have to provide water to a new property owner. Mayor Valastro addressed the question by stating that we are not required to provide village water to new property owner.

Mayor mentioned that Gina Dudgeon was very please with turn out for the Mathew Dudgeon Walk. A total of 380 people join the walk.

Mayor Valastro read a letter provided by Orange & Rockland regarding tree maintenance beginning may 19<sup>th</sup> the work will take approximately 3 weeks.

Mayor Valastro noted the following:

- Laroe Road will be closed on April 21, 2008 due to town construction.
- On April 19<sup>th</sup> a fundraiser for Louis Allen will be held at G.W. Sports Grill in Chester from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. Proceeds will go towards scholarships for two students from the Chester Academy.

**ADJOURN:** A motion to adjourn the business meeting was made by Trustee John Collins, second by Deputy Mayor John Deshler. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Rivera  
Village Clerk

