

**Village of Cold Spring
Village Board of Trustees
85 Main Street, Cold Spring, New York 10516**

**Workshop Meeting
1-5-21**

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees held a workshop meeting via video conference pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 on Tuesday January 5, 2021 at 6:30 pm. Present were: Mayor David Merandy and Trustees Marie Early, Heidi Bender, Kathleen E. Foley and Frances Murphy. Also in attendance were Village Clerk Jeff Vidakovich and Village Accountant Michelle Ascolillo.

DISCUSSION ON GARBAGE TRUCK FINANCING

Accountant Ascolillo presented the bids and three purchase options.

Total Purchase Price (cab/chassis/extended warranties) of Lowest Bidder = \$108,524.31

Estimated Cost to mount existing refuse body to new Chassis = \$8,500

Insurance payment: \$26,835.39

Net Amount: \$90,188.92

Assumption: Financing terms start in March 2021

OPTION A:

- Lease Financing with M&T Bank
- M&T offered \$120,000 principal loan amount
- \$3,468.76 in interest (4.961% for 17 months)
 - First payment is due on the start of the financing term
- \$250 Processing Fee
- *Total Additional Costs = \$3,718.76*

OPTION B:

- Bond Note Financing with Bank of Greene County
- BOGC offered \$82,000 principal loan amount
- \$2,962.45 in interest (1.79% for 36 months)
 - First payment is due at the end of the first 12 months
- \$2,250 for Bond Attorney Fee
- Mounting cost would be paid from FY20-21 savings
- *Total Additional Costs = \$5,212.45*

OPTION C:

- Reallocate Fund balance and pay for the truck/warranties up front
- There is \$254,000 from general fund balance allocated in the 20-21 budget for various Municipal Building repairs & projects

- Mounting cost would be paid from FY20-21 savings
- *Total Additional Costs = \$0.00*

During the Board's discussion of Option C it was noted that:

- The \$254K currently allotted from the general fund for various repairs and projects includes:
 - \$130K Repair of Main Street stone wall
 - \$35K Replace fire company boiler
 - \$20K Repair to Village Hall basement storage area and heating/cooling issues
 - \$40K Replace highway department gas pump
- The current fund balance is approximately \$950K
- Village also needs to purchase a new dump truck
- Board members agreed to use funds from the 20-21 \$254,000 fund balance for the purchase of the new garbage truck, reallocating funds where appropriate.
- Board members agreed that purchase of a new dump truck should continue to be pursued and Village Clerk will begin to process the necessary paperwork with NYS for the purchase of the new dump truck. Funds for the first payment of the new dump truck are in the 20-21 budget.

29-31 ROCK STREET

The Board heard public comment regarding the construction of a driveway extension, removal of rock face and the impact upon the neighboring properties and the letters sent to the Board (regarding this matter.)

Michael Reisman, 30 Rock Street, summarized the letters noting that:

- Action by the HDRB is pending
- There are issues beyond the HDRB scope that should be addressed:
 - That work should not recommence until an approved safety plan is implemented
 - A review for the necessity of a curb cut permit is conducted
 - A review by the Planning Board should be conducted

Trevor McCarthy, 24 Kemble Ave, voiced his agreement with Reisman's statement, especially with regard to safety issues. He also expressed concern for damage to his property that may have occurred from vibration from construction activities.

Serena Klempin, (27 Kemble Avenue), voiced her agreement with Reisman's statement and also expressed concern about damage caused by vibration

Mary McHugh of Philipstown, owns 103-105 Main Street and asked what the issues are.

Allan Wernick, 15 Rock Street, commented that:

- He agrees with Reisman's statements

- He believes that this major construction should not have begun without some kind of Village review and oversight
- Safety issues require a more rapid response from the Village
- Future work should be conducted under Village review

Ron McConville, 29-31 Kemble Avenue, commented that:

- He agrees with Reisman's statements
- The Item 4 planned to surface the driveway may not be stable under severe weather conditions and may cause runoff into the street and adjacent properties
- What role does the Village play to vet the licensing of residents' contractors

Responding to the letters and the public comment, Mayor Merandy noted that:

- The Mayor continues to speak with the Village attorney and has forwarded the letters received
- The Board understands and agrees with residents' concerns about safety issues. Construction will not be allowed to recommence without an approved safety plan.
- Curb cuts are difficult to determine in this instance because there is no real physical curb and the actual width of the proposed driveway is unclear. The Code Enforcement Officer will speak with the Highway Department about this to determine appropriate action.
- Drainage issues will be included as part of the safety plan
- The Village attorney agrees with the Planning Board opinion that a site plan review is not required.
- Residents are liable for the actions of their contractors. That having been said, the Board may look into a possible requirement to bond the contractors
- The Village Code Enforcement Officer is the agent of the Village responsible to review all building applications and to refer them to Village Boards as may be appropriate
- The Village will review the issue of any Village liability for property damage with its attorney
- The Board will confer with the Village attorney

FIRE INSPECTIONS

During the Board's discussion it was noted that:

- Fees might be waived for the first inspection given current economic conditions and to encourage signups
- The building owner is responsible to have an inspection and for payment of fees (not the tenants)
- Fee could be reduced to \$25, which the code enforcement officer says would cover the time (approximately 1-hour) necessary for the inspection
- More of the Code Enforcement Officer's time may be required for pre and post inspection paperwork

- A fee of \$50 was suggested.
- Mayor Merandy made a motion to charge \$50 for the initial inspection for calendar year 2021. Trustee Bender seconded and the motion passed 4-1-0-0.
- It was determined that the fee change will require a resolution, which will be presented at the next meeting

BOARD BUSINESS

The Mayor decried the hateful “zoom bomb” that occurred over the weekend during a Desmond Fish Library sponsored event for children. Trustees Bender and Foley prepared and read the following statement:

We were horrified and saddened to learn about the racist attack on a Black librarian during an online children’s event at Desmond-Fish Library on the night of January 2nd. Though this event did not take place in the Village, Haldane students were present, and the Garrison library is an important part of Philipstown's community life. An act of hate committed by anyone affects everyone.

We all have a responsibility to protect our children and any member of our community who is targeted in such a heinous way. We offer our support to the library, and we hope the culprit or culprits will be apprehended and held accountable.

The library has reported the crime to the Putnam County Sheriff’s Department and the Justice Department. The Village Board will keep the community informed as much as possible as the case progresses. We want to thank Officer in Charge Larry Burke for addressing villagers’ concerns even though the matter is not within the jurisdiction of the Cold Spring Police Department.

The Philipstown Hub, which is located at 5 Stone Street, is available to anyone in need of counseling. As a community, we stand shoulder to shoulder against racism and hate in the Village and in our larger community.

Mayor Merandy asked residents to call the Village about any issues or concerns rather than defaulting to social media.

Village Clerk Vidakovich encouraged residents to sign up to receive free news e-blasts from the Village

COVID-19 UPDATE

Trustee Foley has been attending weekly meetings of the Putnam County Board of Health and will be posting updates on the Village website. She noted that:

- The sharp spike in Philipstown cases is largely attributable to an isolated outbreak in a congregant living setting and it is believed to be contained
- The increase also is beginning to reflect spread from holiday gatherings, and we should expect the numbers to reflect that for several weeks going forward

- The Village is participating in a weekly call with the Putnam County Health Department and will share information out to villagers as it is available
- The inoculation of health care workers is underway
- The PCDOH intends to set up two inoculation PODs (points of distribution): one for the eastern side of the county at St Lawrence O'Toole in Carmel and one for the western side at the senior center in Putnam Valley
- The distribution of the vaccine is prioritized in phases by New York State -- links to more information will be put on the village website and Facebook page as they become available. People are encouraged to monitor updates on the New York State Department of Health website.

CODE UPDATE REVIEW

The Board will hold an addition meeting on Thursday, January 7 at 6:30pm to continue its code update review.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Early seconded and the motion was passed unanimously at 8:17 pm.

Submitted by: M. Mell

Mayor David Merandy

Date