

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

**Trustees Monthly Meeting  
3-9-2021**

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees held its monthly meeting via video conference pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 on Tuesday March 9, 2021 at 7 pm. Present were: Mayor David Merandy and Trustees Marie Early, Heidi Bender, Kathleen E. Foley and Frances Murphy.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

For the month of February 2021, OIC Burke noted that:

- There were 40 calls for service
- There were 31 tickets issued
- There have been several fraud incidents including scams relating to PPE and utility payment mostly targeting the elderly

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

Recreation Commission

Ruthann Cullinan Barr noted for the month of February 2021 that:

- Board members, Trustee Bender and Tots Park committee members will do an on-site visit to Tots Park on Monday, 3-15-2021 to review the condition of the Park and Trustee Bender's proposal for reopening
- \$6,636.07 remains in the 2020/2021 repair budget
- A letter has been sent requesting a Community Work Detail from the Sheriff's department. Once granted, the Recreation Commission will outline the work needed and additional work required in addition to that performed by the work detail
- A wedding at the bandstand for Lina DeCesaris has been approved for 4-3-2021 from 4-5:30 pm
- The Putnam County Food and Wine Festival has applied for permission to hold an event at Mayor's Park on 8-7-21 and 8-8-2021. Trustees will review this request in April.
- First Presbyterian Church has requested permission to hold Easter Services at the Mayor's Park Pavilion on 4-2-2021 from 10 am – noon
- Teresa Peer has asked permission to hold a wedding ceremony at the Bandstand on 5-29-2021. As the date falls on the Memorial Day weekend, a police presence may be required as well as additional fees
- The Girl Scouts have enquired about holding their Bridging Ceremony at the Mayor's Park Pavilion in May or June
- The next Commission meeting to be held on 3-16-2021

### Planning Board

None

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Eric Wirth noted for February 2021 that:

- February 4 meeting: The ZBA opened a public hearing on an application at 212 Main Street to build an additional story on top of a non-conforming, free-standing garage. The application referred to a full story, which would require a variance, but it became clear in the hearing that the applicant would be satisfied with a half story, which is permitted by the code. The applicant's architect said he would revise the drawings so that the addition qualified as a half story. The hearing was left open pending receipt of the revised drawings.
- February 18 meeting: ZBA resumed the public hearing for 212 Main Street and reviewed the revised drawings for a new half story over the garage. The Board objected that the proposed ceiling height exceeded what the code allowed, while the architect argued that the code's definition of a half story was obscure. He agreed to revise the drawings further to comply with the ZBA's interpretation of the provision. The Board noted that the plan called for the new story to be wider than the first story. The new story thus would have overhangs that increased several preexisting dimensional non-conformities. To increase non-conformities during the alteration of a non-conforming building is contrary to §134-19H and so the overhangs will require a variance if the applicant retains them. The hearing was left open pending receipt of revised drawings.
- February 18 meeting: the property owners of 12 Benedict Road want to build a second story addition that would require a setback variance. The Board met with them informally to answer their questions about applying for a building permit

### Historic District Review Board

Sean Conway noted that during the month of February 2021:

- HDRB met three times
- HDRB approved:
  - solar panel installation at 26 Main Street
  - enclosure of a rear porch at 5-7 Locust Ridge
  - exterior lighting plan outside the Wells Fargo Bank at 41-51 Chestnut Street
- HDRB met twice with architect Joe Thompson on behalf of the Butterfield developers about the two single family houses proposed at 61 and 63 Paulding Avenue and a public hearing has been scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- For the March 10<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting, HDRB will meet with owner of 8 Kemble Avenue to review work on their front porch and will meet again with Joe Thompson
- Per suggestion of Trustee Early, HDRB met with Putnam County GIS Officer Arlene Owen to discuss the design of a new map of the Historic District, which aligns more closely with the

village zoning map she generated. HDRB is pleased with the quality (and speed) of her first draft and will meet with her again in March.

#### Cold Spring Fire Company

Trustee Foley read from a written report from the Fire Company for February 2021. It was noted that:

- There were four alarms:
  - 2 EMS assist
  - 1 Oil burner malfunction
  - 1 mutual aid to Continental Village for fire stand-by

#### Town of Philipstown

Bob Flaherty reported that:

- Town Hall renovations have picked up on the work, new siding is being installed and new water line was installed. We approved a few change orders. We are unsure as to the time frame that we will be open, but schedule is looking at early this year to be complete and move back is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- New Town Garage: we approved the new fueling station as that isn't part of the bid package. We should ready before the end of this month to send out for bid.
- Highway is getting two new Dodge Ram 5500 smaller dump trucks
- Contracts with Both Garrison & Philipstown Ambulance Corp have been worked out.
- Working with Putnam County on having a Covid-19 Vaccination Center here in Philipstown at the Rec Center where there is lot of room for social distance. There was a POD today and I was able to get a vaccine. Went very smoothly. Also, Drug World has been using the North Highlands Fire Co. #1 as a POD. Both sites have been very busy when the vaccine is available.
- Garrison Golf Club had their first meeting with the planning board to begin the transfer over to Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. We expect this to take 9 to 11 months. We plan on adding additional planning board meetings just to handle this project. We did a site visit on 1/24/2021 and another one is scheduled for 2/14/2021 at 9:30 am. Over 70 people came out for this. As you know this is a very large project and it will have some impacts, such as traffic, water usage, additional 20 room hotel, 30 plus room for artist to stay in, widening the road that enters off Snake Hill, parking and lighting. They have a very good team in place which I am confident will be able to provide all that is required to make this work. This is a phased project which will take place over several years.
- We passed a resolution to publish an RFP for solar power to be installed on the roof of the Rec Center. It has taken some time to get to this point, but we're hopeful that before the year is out we'll have this up and running. We've received 2 proposals from SunPower and Deep Green. We're scheduling a workshop for 3-24-2021 via Zoom.

- Krystal Ford has taken on Roberto Muller's role as the Climate Smart Coordinator. We're now certified Bronze Partner.
- We had a discussion regarding the Garrison Post office about an issue that comes up every year. The residents who live nearby have many valid complaints about trucks coming in at 4am, backup alarms going on, releasing the air breaks, and it's just very noisy. We're trying to work with Post Office and other delivery companies, such as Amazon, but there is no easy solution here.
- Planning, Zoning and Conservation Boards are all meeting via Zoom.
- We're looking for anyone who would be interested in joining the board of Assessment Review

#### Chamber of Commerce

COC chair Eliza Starbuck noted that:

- The 2-23-2021 meeting went very well and a video is available on the COC website
- COC would like to receive regular reports from the Parking Committee
- Next Zoom breakfast meeting is scheduled for 3-23-2021. Main topic will be review of draft Town Plan
- COC has met with Trustees Bender and Foley to discuss a campaign to encourage visitors' "best behavior"
- E. Starbuck read a letter (to the VBOT) requesting a line item in the upcoming, and future, budgets to fund cleaning and sanitizing of the restrooms at the foot of Main Street, so they may be safely opened. The letter was co-signed by many community groups and suggests funding for an attendant to be present on selected days for selected hours to clean and sanitize as necessary. Based upon research of custodial firms, the cost for the remainder of the calendar year would be \$16-17K.
- During the discussion of this matter:
  - Mayor Merandy commented that there is already funding in place as part of the Highway Department budget
  - COC contended that even pre-COVID, the Highway Departments efforts were insufficient to meet the high volume of use
  - Mayor Merandy asked whether the COC could raise additional funds.
  - COC repeated the contention, expressed in their letter, that maintenance of the public restrooms is a municipal responsibility

#### Parking Committee –None

#### Tree Advisory Board (TAB)

In a written report for the month of February 2021, TAB Chair Jennifer Zwarich noted that:

- TAB held its monthly public meeting on 3-3-2021
- Dormant Season Pruning: training our stock of approximately 75 of our youngest village trees. Pruning work is to be done by TAB board member volunteers and will improve the longevity of our community forest as well as save the Village money in the future by encouraging trees to develop good basic structure that will require less corrective pruning at older stages of growth.
- Spring Planting Planning: We have tentative plans in the works for planting 3-4 trees this spring, depending upon Highway Department approval and schedule
- Arbor Day Planning: we would like the Board's permission to plan a small outdoor ceremony marking Arbor Day on Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> at the site of one of the newly planted trees
- Snowstorm Damage to Tree Guards: We have documented the damage done by the snow clearing contractor to Main Street tree pit guards during the recent winter storm and are collecting quotes to submit with a Village insurance claim. We should have this submitted to the Village Clerk later this week. The damage is in the several thousand dollar range. To prevent this from happening again, we will work with the Highway Department to install high-visibility markers on the corners of the guards in December of each year. The TAB has some markers purchased by a private donation, but not nearly enough of them.
- Mature Tree Pruning and Stumps: We are planning a spring pruning before May 31<sup>st</sup> to a small number of mature trees on our pruning list using the remaining funds in the FY2020/21 budget line. There may also be stump grinding of the stump in the tree pit in front of Village Hall, if sufficient funds remain. A new tree can't be planted until the stump is removed.
- Tree Management Plan Updates: Ongoing work continues to update the Tree Management Plan to reflect recent changes to the tree inventory and a draft will be submitted for review

## **WATER DEPARTMENT**

In a written report Water & Wastewater Superintendent Matt Kroog noted that for the month of February 2021:

- Reservoir status is at 94.13% capacity
- Flow to System is 6.16 MG/220 k/day (a 19.17% decrease from 2020)
- 2018 Flow to System was 8.06 MG/260 k/day
- Monthly rainfall: 5.90"
- Bacteria Lab Test: All routine bacteriological samples were found in good standing
- Filtration Unit Rehabilitation: Recovery Environmental Services and Westech/Fleet have been onsite for evaluations in the past month. Quotes pending.
- Initial PFOS/PFOA Sampling: First set of samples collected 2-22-21. Results pending
- Catskill DEP Project: Sparse communication with DEP since 1-17-2021 conversations. Have spoken with Vincent Perrin (Putnam County DOH) about securing backup water sources as well as addressing other conditions pertaining to the aqueduct connection

- Badger Endpoint Upgrade: Badger has informed the Village that their CDMA Endpoint Technology support will be discontinued in January 2022. A large part of our system includes these endpoints and they will need to be updated to LTE-M Endpoints. *Trustee Early noted that there are about 850 units that will require an upgrade at a cost of approximately \$45 each, for parts for a total estimated cost of \$35K + labor and this work must be completed by the end of the year.*

## WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

In a written report Water & Wastewater Superintendent Matt Kroog noted that for the month of February 2021:

- Plant inflow was 5.980 million gallons
- Average daily flow was 210K gallons
- Biochemical Oxygen Demand: 97.08% removal
- Total Suspended Solids: 96.74% removal
- Sludge Hauled Offsite: 46,000 gallons
- Annual infiltration and intrusion (I & I): Quote received from Cook to clean and inspect the “E-2” section of the collection system (required by SPDES permit). Earthcare will submit a quote. Herring Sanitation has declined to submit a quote. Project tentatively scheduled for April/May
- Additional Sludge Hauling: Additional hauling was required due to impact of snow storm
- Wastewater Facility and Pump Station Inspections: Putnam County DOH conducted an inspection on 3-4-2021.
- Potable Water Leak on Waste Water Treatment Facility Grounds: line was isolated and drained back as sprayers not currently in use. Repairs to be made in warmer weather
- Hach Service Agreement: There were issues with the field Dissolved Oxygen Probe, which was repaired (at no additional cost)

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

In a written report the department noted that for the month of February 2021:

- 8 new building permit applications were received
- 2 building permits were issued
- 0 operating permits were issued
- 1 dumpster permit was issued
- 2 Certificates of Occupancy were issued
- 8 record searches were completed
- 4 complaints were received
- 8 inspections were completed
- 15 fire inspections were completed

- 4 referrals to the HDRB were made
- 1 referral to the ZBA were made
- 0 referrals to the CSPB were made
- \$725 in application and permit fees were collected
- \$600 in record search fees were collected
- \$550 in fire inspection fees were collected
- \$30 in other fees were collected

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Crew Chief Robert Downey noted that during the month of February 2021:

- 38.02 tons of garbage were picked up
- 18.51 tons of recyclables were picked up
- There were seven snow storms and one ice storm totaling 31" resulting in extra efforts for snow removal
- New chute bushings and fuel filter installed on Bobcat
- New hydraulic lines fabricated for truck chute on snow thrower attachment
- New headlight installed on plow for 2019 F-250
- Multiple electrical repairs made to the plow and spreader for 2016 F-350
- Hatfield Brothers repaired broken air line on 1988 International dump truck
- Fouled fuel injector replaced on 2003 International garbage truck
- Work in March to include: pothole filling, street cleaning and assessing catch basins in Village

Per request of Trustee Early, reinstallation of benches to be postponed until the end of March (in case of a late season storm).

### **JUSTICE COURT**

In a written report Village Justice Costello noted that for the month of February 2021:

- \$1,600 in fines, forfeited bails and civil penalties were collected
- \$1,825 in parking fines were collected
- \$25 in civil fees were collected
- \$708 mandatory state surcharges were collected
- There were 0 Penal Law charges
- There were 13 Vehicle & Traffic Law charges
- There was 1 Civil charges

### **REPORT OF MAYOR AND TRUSTEES**

Trustee Murphy has distributed copies of the Police Reform and Reinvention survey to Board members for comment.

Trustee Murphy has met with OIC Burke to discuss new fines related to code chapter 126??

Trustee Early has been unable to reach SeaStreak regarding their schedule of visits to Cold Spring. The website currently doesn't list any.

Trustee Early plans to submit \$9,000 reimbursement request to Greenway for Code Update work

Regarding the Parking Committee, Mayor Merandy noted that:

- The committee has met four times
- Two parking app companies have been interviewed, so far, with a third pending
- Committee has discussed issues related to Village parking permits

**RESOLUTION 06-2021 AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH PUTNAM CO. REAL PROPERTY FOR PREPARATION OF 2021 VILLAGE TAX ROLL AND BILLS**

The following resolution was offered by Trustee Early for adoption and seconded by Trustee Foley to wit:

WHEREAS, the Putnam County Real Property Tax Service has tendered a proposed contract to the Village providing for certain services in regard to preparation of the Village's tax roll and bills; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board finds that it is in the best interests of the Village to enter the said contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Village Board does approve the proposed contract, a copy of which is attached hereto; and
2. The Mayor is authorized to execute said agreement and any documents necessary for its implementation.

On roll call vote:

Trustee Marie Early voted:	AYE
Trustee Heidi Bender voted:	ABSTAIN
Trustee Kathleen E. Foley voted:	AYE
Trustee Fran Murphy voted:	AYE
Mayor Dave Merandy voted:	AYE

Resolution officially adopted on 3-9-2021 by a vote of 4-1.

**ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF ROBERT NEWHALL**

Mayor Merandy made a motion to accept the resignation of Highway Department employee Robert Newhall. Trustee Early seconded and the motion passed unanimously.



## **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Trustee Early made a motion to approve Batch #5937 in the amount of \$47,565.83. Mayor Merandy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **MINUTES**

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the minutes of 2-16-2021 as submitted. Trustee Early seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the minutes of 2-18-2021 as submitted. Trustee Murphy seconded and the motion passed 4-0-1-0 (H. Bender abstained).

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the minutes of 2-23-2021 as submitted. Trustee Early seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the minutes of 2-25-2021 as submitted. Trustee Early seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW YORK STATE POLICE REFORM AND REINVENTION COLLABORATIVE UPDATE**

During the discussion it was noted that:

- A third version of the draft plan has been circulated among the trustees with Mayor Merandy's comments. This draft does not include references to recent hate crimes. Some trustees wish to include past history and others do not.
- Draft includes data points gathered from past monthly police department reports
- Trustee Bender insists that mention of Scott Morris should be included in the draft to provide context. A discussion ensued about whether the draft plan should provide a recent history (which would include mention of Morris) or whether it is a "plan of action" indicating how the Village will proceed (with no mention of past history).
- Trustee Foley read aloud a compromise paragraph
- Trustees reviewed the draft Google document to reconcile Board member comments

Trustee Foley made a motion to release the draft plan for public review prior to the public meeting on 3-16-21. Trustee Murphy seconded and the motion passed 4-1, with Trustee Bender voting "no."

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mike Turton, Highlands Current, asked whether the 3-16-2021 meeting was a “hearing” or a “meeting.”  
*Trustee Foley confirmed that it is a meeting.*

Sean Conway, commented upon the lack of information made available to communities in other towns and villages in the county (re: the police reform policy) and suggested that this should not be the case in Cold Spring. *OIC Burke commented that he and the police department will listen to anyone who wishes to speak with them.*

Eliza Starbuck thanked the Board for its efforts on the many difficult issues before it. Regarding the process for the police reform document, she suggested the Village should do more than “just check off the boxes” and respond to the spirit of the NYS order

Heather Smith asked whether there will be a public survey regarding reopening of the public restrooms on Main Street. She believes this is important to the Village and would like to see steps taken to achieve a reopening.

Archie Brody said he has volunteered to clean the public restrooms and that even before COVID, they were not always open during the specified days and times and when they were open were not always in usable condition. This condition has been exacerbated by COVID.

Dave Marzollo thanked the Board for its efforts and is looking forward to the public meeting about police reform policy. He singled out OIC Burke for his efforts. Regarding public restrooms, Marzollo asked whether a past suggestion for restroom facilities at Little Stony Point was still a possibility.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Early made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Foley seconded and the motion was passed unanimously at 9:36 pm

Submitted by: M. Mell

---

Mayor David Merandy

Date