

VILLAGE OF CAPE VINCENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES SEPT. 25, 2007

Mayor Timothy D. Maloney opened the meeting at 5:30 PM with Trustees Alan Ada and Robert Doud present. Trustees Joseph Gould and Douglas Putnam were absent.

Trustee Doud made the motion to dispense with the reading of the previous meeting minutes and accept them as written with Trustee Ada seconding the motion and all voting yes.

Mayor Maloney introduced Robert Barnard, Village Assessor, who gave a brief background of how assessments are calculated. During the months of October and September of each year he updates properties based on market sales and actual new construction on properties. Each parcel is evaluated for condition, quality, topographical, location, and trend in the neighborhood. An important aspect is when sales are above fair market value compared to other recent sales. Every home is assessed but another revaluation will be put off until Jefferson County Personnel is available as County personnel are vital in a revaluation effort. Mr. Barnard has education courses to complete each year in order to remain certified. Previous to this he has had forty years of insurance appraising and thirty years as a bank appraiser. Discussion was held on questions from the residents in attendance.

Trustee Ada made the motion to approve hourly wage of \$18.00 per hour to Officer in Charge Shawn Ryan and \$16.00 per hour to Officers Thomas Strejlau and Charles Ruggiero. Trustee Doud seconded the motion with all voting yes.

Jeffrey Herpel, Planning Board Chairman, reported on the September 19, 2007 meeting of the Planning Board. The Board approved the site plan review for the operation of an office for the Wind Ethics group and assorted enterprises at 335-337 Club Street. The Board denied a site plan review of William Bescher to rent rooms at 183 West Broadway and the application will be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a decision. Trustee Doud questioned the Chairman as to where in the code does it give the Planning Board authority to issue permits or give instructions for the issuance of permits to the Code Enforcement Officer, as the two are independent of each other. Mr. Herpel responded this authority is in the code.

Barbara Steinhouse, Chairman of Zoning Board of Appeals, questioned the Board on the members of the ZBA, whether or not there were two or three members due to the illness of one member. Mayor Maloney responded he had just had a response from one member and would let Ms. Steinhouse know the status of the Board members.

Mayor Maloney made the motion to table until October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting the vote on the amendment to Local Law 2-05 with Trustee Ada seconding the motion and all voting yes.

Mayor Maloney explained the Village had received information for construction plans at the water plant to install high lift pumps from Village Engineers. Due to the absence of Trustee Putnam this will be discussed at the next meeting. A Town resident asked why

water rates increased in the Village. Trustee Doud responded the Village had repairs to make to the water tower on James Street and the Village had two options to consider. One, repair the present tower at the possible cost of a bond payment for \$50,000 a year for fifteen years but this would leave infrastructure left to replace plus maintenance and financial responsibility for the tower for the future. The other option was to build a joint water tower with the Town of Cape Vincent and included would be replacing some infrastructure in the Village. The Village did commit to paying the Town of Cape Vincent \$50,000.00 a year for thirty years and the burden of maintenance and financial responsibility for the joint tower would be the Town's responsibility, not the Village's. Resident, John Defrancesco asked why the Village raised rates on the excess water used not on the minimum with Trustee Doud responding the minimum charge was adequate and the Village should be able to meet all expenses with this one increase.

Mayor Maloney will check with the Department of Environmental Conservation concerning the Village taking ownership of the DEC property off Joseph Street. The Village had previously been successful in securing a \$400,000.00 joint grant with the Town of Cape Vincent for the water tower and perhaps the municipalities should explore the option to apply for a grant for a medical facility at this area.

Improvement League members requested the Board address heating problems in the Community House and interior problems in the Community room. There is an exposed pipe in the back room they would like taken care of. Mayor Maloney will notify the DPW Supt. of these issues.

Mayor Maloney invited residents to join him and other Board members to attend the presentation of the Local Development group in the Community Room.

Trustee Ada made the motion to adjourn at 6:29 PM with Trustee Doud seconding the motion and all voting yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Knapp  
Village Clerk