

Village Board of Trustees
Meeting minutes of August 7th, 2007

Present: Mayor Larry Gurslin
Trustees Horylev, Lee & Speer
Janet Surridge, Clerk-Treasurer
Tom Tilebein (joined the meeting at 6:15 pm)
Trustee Gates (joined the meeting at 6:00 pm)
Mike Lissow (joined the meeting at 6:15 pm_

Guests: Steve Fowler, Carol Lennon, Sally Snow, Jim Zollweg, John Steinmetz, Don Green, Marcia Doles, Bob Farrell, Mike McHenry, Kay Dodds, Dave McCracken, David Goodrich.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm followed by the pledge to the flag.

Citizen of the Year

David Goodrich was present to thank the Village Board for honoring him with the Citizen of the Year award. He was very grateful and appreciative.

Public Forum

Mayor Gurslin asked if anyone wanted to address the Board on any subject matter. Being none, he closed the public forum.

At this time, Mayor Gurslin recognized that there were several people present who were interested in two proposed resolutions on the agenda that were scheduled for discussion later this evening, and therefore went to those proposed resolutions.

The Mayor read the following proposed resolution:

Resolution: Whereas, the Hilton Village Board has reviewed the preliminary report, dated July 17, 2007, by DeWolf Engineers to the Parma Town Board regarding one possible site selection for the proposed Community Health Center & Library building to be #59 Henry Street, and

Whereas, the Village Board has determined that using this site would have a significant negative impact on the character of the neighborhood,

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Village Board deems #59 Henry Street as an unacceptable location for this venture. However, the Village Board would welcome additional study and review as to the merit of having the Parma Library relocated to the current Community Center site at #59 Henry Street.

He then asked the Village Board members for comments.

Trustee Horylev stated that due to the size of the building being proposed in the study, and the associated activity and parking that would be created, it's out of place for this neighborhood. He supports the proposed resolution.

Trustee Speer concurred with Trustee Horylev's comments and also said that one building for both a Community Center & Library is a good idea. But if it doesn't fit on the Henry Street property his second preference would be to have a Community Center facility built at the Town Hall and put the Library on Henry Street. Furthermore, he stated that he doesn't want to see either service moved out of the Village limits.

Trustee Lee was also in agreement with the comments made. Trustee Gates was not present at this time but joined the meeting later on.

Mayor Gursslin made a motion to adopt the above resolution. Seconded by Trustee Horylev. Carried unanimously 4-0

Mayor Gursslin then read another proposed resolution about the importance of keeping the Library in the Village of Hilton.

Resolution: Whereas the Hilton Village Board considers the Parma Public Library an asset to the Village of Hilton, and

Whereas, a significant number of Parma tax payers reside in the Village of Hilton, and

Whereas, many children, students and adults walk to use the Library facilities and for many, the location of the Library in the Village makes it conveniently accessible to the high population density of the Village,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Hilton Village Board wishes to go on record as supporting the current location of the Library on West Avenue as a cornerstone of our Central Business District and, if required, to relocate it within the Village of Hilton in order to expand its services.

Public comments:

Bob Farrell, Village Recreation Commissioner: If the Library needs a bigger facility, what would the Village do about it? Mayor Gursslin commented this is a question for the Town Board to answer, not the Village Board.

Sally Snow, Library Director: She informed the Village Board that the Library Board met today to discuss this topic. She was asked to find the answer to these questions: "If the Village Board wants the Library to stay in the Village, are we willing to pay for a study to see if the Henry Street building can accommodate their needs and are we willing to survey the area residents?" She stated one of the main reasons a bigger Library facility is needed is because they need more parking.

Mayor's response: The decisions that have to be made are not within our jurisdiction. The Town Board has the authority to pay for a further study if they deem it's necessary and to survey the area residents who are Parma tax payers. We respect that, so we're trying not to interfere. He went on to say that when he attended a Library Focus meeting, he was told that if the Village Board really believes the Library should stay in the village then the Village Board should be willing to step on toes and take a position. Mayor Gurslin said that if the Town Board decides not to fund another study on this topic, he would be willing to place the subject matter on a future Village Board agenda for discussion.

Sally Snow: Would the Village Board object if a study showed that the current Community Center building had to be demolished so that a new Library could be built on the site?

Mayor Gurslin replied that the Village Board is open to that possibility and also suggested that the study could include the possibility of the Village Office being moved to #7 West Avenue where the Library is now. He reiterated that he can not answer specific questions as this topic has not been discussed with the Town Board.

Trustee Speer said that the DeWolf preliminary report said the existing Community Center building has the character for a Library but the interior construction that would need to be done makes the project unpractical. There would definitely be challenges to overcome and it's very unfortunate that the Henry Street site isn't big enough for the two uses.

Steve Fowler asked that if the Library is moved to Henry Street, what happens to the Recreation Department and the senior programs? Is the Village Board willing to displace them?

Mayor Gurslin answered yes to this question and went on to ask "If the Recreation Department and its senior programs relocate to the Town Hall property as they are planning, what should the Village Board do with all the space in the Community Center?" These are questions that both the Town Board and Village Board should be addressing.

Trustee Lee said that the Village Board has to help this situation however we can because if we don't, the Village Board will look bad to the community that we didn't try. He's willing to step forward and offer assistance however he can.

Trustee Horylev stated that everyone should be concerned about our priorities. Is the Library expansion critical or can it be delayed a few years? We should determine a step wise process to accommodate everybody's needs, one that makes sense for the tax payers. We should be gathering input from everyone involved and from the community. How it can be reasonably funded should also be determined.

Trustee Speer wanted to go on record by saying he is not in favor of displacing the Recreation Department and their programs without first having an alternative site chosen for them.

Mayor Gursslin said that even though various Village Board and Town Board members have been together through invitations at other meetings in the community, there has never been one meeting between the two municipalities where this subject matter was officially discussed. He would welcome that happening. The other Board members concurred with this.

Don Green, 58 West Ave: How did the Library and the proposed Community Health Center building get lumped in together as a package?

Mayor Gursslin said that according to the January 22, 2007 Recreation minutes, Steve Fowler made a suggestion to approach the Library Board and ask if they would like to be involved. That action took place in February.

Carol Lennon stated she thought a Town Board member had asked the Library Board to consider the joint venture because it would be more economical for the Town to maintain one building versus two. That's when Mr Fowler approached the Library Board.

Bob Farrell: He can recall that the Village and Town Board members recently had a joint meeting. Why didn't the Library topic get discussed then?

Trustee Horylev explained that the purpose of that joint meeting was to discuss the proposed annexation petition.

Mayor Gursslin asked if anyone had contacted the School District to inquire if the proposed joint facility could be built on school property?

Steve Fowler replied that the School District was not contacted because in his opinion the School barely has enough athletic fields to support their own scholastic programs let alone adding Recreation programs. He further stated that the preliminary study shows that the 14 acres of land the Village owns west of the Merton Williams School would be a good site for the new building but for some reason the Village Board is unwilling to sell that land.

Trustee Horylev commented that up until this preliminary report was released, the new Community Health Center & Library building was only a vision. Now that we know the cost is about 17 million dollars, is it supportable by the community? What if the referendum fails, is there a back up plan?

Steve Fowler said the Recreation Dept has a back up plan. It incorporates a scaled down version and that would be addressed with the Town Board.

At this time, Mayor Gursslin closed the public comments.

Mayor Gursslin made a motion to approve the proposed resolution as stated, seconded by Trustee Horylev. Further discussion took place.

Carol Lennon stated that if the Town Board approves the request from the Recreation Commission to put the Community Health Center/Library Expansion to a public referendum, she hopes the Village Board would be supportive of that.

Steve Fowler said he feels the proposed resolution is a slap in the face to the Recreation Department because it implies that the Village Board values the Library over the Recreation Department. It also implies that it would be acceptable if the Recreation Department were displaced from the Henry Street Community Center. He stated that many of his programs are run within the Village limits and they have a lot of value to this community. He then asked the Mayor "other than implementing a curfew for our youth, what else have you done for them?" Steve strongly stated that if the Board passes this resolution it will be sending a message to the community that the Village Board is not in favor of the public referendum and it will squelch any chance the Recreation Commission, Library Board and Town Board have of getting it approved.

After listening to Steve's comments, the Mayor and Trustee Horylev respectfully disagreed with his statements. These resolutions are not meant to imply that the Recreation Department has no value.

Jim Zollweg made a comment that the tone of these resolutions imply that the Community Health Center and the Library are competing against each other and that is far from the truth.

Marcia Doles made some comments about the recent Town Board meeting that she attended. Sometimes a bigger facility is not always better for the community. The foot traffic to and from the Library should not be discounted.

Trustee Gates joined the meeting at this time (6:00 pm)

Kay Dodds asked who should be calling meetings and organizing/starting the discussions on this topic?

Mayor Gursslin replied that he felt the Town Board should be the catalyst to invite the Village Board to a meeting to start a dialog. At the recent July 31st joint meeting, there was a consensus by both Boards that another joint meeting should be called to review the preliminary report.

There being no other public comments, Mayor Gursslin called for a vote on the motion to approve the above resolution: Mayor Gursslin, Trustees Horylev and Gates, aye; Trustees Speer and Lee opposed because the resolution doesn't include a statement about the Recreation Department and the senior programs. Carried 3-2

Code Enforcement

Mike Lissow gave his report on the Planning Board review of Creek Crossing Subdivision. He also discussed communication he's been having with businesses to inform them about the new sign law.

Resolution to authorize Mike Lissow to attend the annual NYS Fire Marshal and Inspector's conference in Montour Falls from October 16th - 18th at a cost not to exceed \$400. Motion was made by Trustee Horylev, seconded by Trustee Speer. Vote as follows: Trustees Horylev, Speer, Gates & Lee, aye; Mayor Gurslin opposed because he would prefer that Mr Lissow take more training on building codes rather than firematics. Carried 4-1

Clerk-Treasurer

Resolution to authorize Attorney Larry Schwind to commence a collection action against Alphabet Campus for the unpaid rent owed to the Village of Hilton. The fee for said action shall be 1/3 of the amount collected. Motion was made by Mayor Gurslin, seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried unanimously 5-0

Annual financial report: Mrs Surrige stated that she has completed the report and submitted it to the State. According to the budget, we had planned on having our CPA prepare a special report that would cost about \$2,500. After a brief discussion, the Board is in favor of foregoing the report but Trustee Horylev suggested that the CPA do a review of the annual report submitted since this is the first report we've prepared on our own. Cost not to exceed \$500 for this work.

Restore New York Initiative: The Board reviewed the suggestion from our Economic Development Coordinator, Dana Brunett, that we should apply for a grant that has been announced by the Governor. Possible projects were discussed and it was decided that the number one priority is to obtain funding that could replace the roof on the building at #35 Hovey Square.

Resolution to authorize Dana Brunett to submit a grant application under the Restore New York program. Cost for his work shall not exceed \$500. Motion was made by Trustee Horylev, seconded by Trustee Gates. Carried unanimously 5-0

Hilton Local Development Corporation: At this time, the Village Board and LDC Board held a joint meeting to discuss the roof problems on the building at #35 Hovey Square. Last month the LDC hired Leo J Roth to perform necessary repairs. It was discovered that several of the roof drains are either broken or not working properly which is only going to allow the leaks to continue unless they are fixed. The cost for this additional work is estimated at \$6,074. Discussion followed.

Village Board Resolution: To advance the sum of \$6,074 to the Hilton Local Development Corporation for roof repairs at #35 Hovey Square. The loan payments are deferred until the year 2009 or earlier if revenue in the LDC account becomes available. Motion was made by Trustee Gates, seconded by Trustee Horylev. Carried unanimously 5-0

Hilton Local Development Corporation Resolution: To borrow the sum of \$6,074 from the Village of Hilton and to hire the Leo J. Roth Corporation to repair the roof drains as per their quote dated August 3, 2007. The loan shall begin to be repaid as soon as the revenue is received from Summit property lease. Motion was made by Mr Gates, seconded by Mr Horylev. Carried unanimously 5-0

X **Resolution** to authorize Shari Pearce & Maryalice Edwards to attend the NYCOM Clerk's school in Saratoga Springs from September 17th -20th at a cost not to exceed \$2,220. Motion to approve was made by Trustee Horylev, seconded by Trustee Speer. Carried unanimously 5-0

X The Board reviewed the letter of inquiry from the Recreation Department asking if there is any space in the Community Center available on the first floor that could be used for storage. Mrs Surridge recommended the office area in the Building Department that is vacant. Discussion followed. Mrs Surridge was directed to work out the details with Mr Fowler.

Public Works

Resolution to approve final payment to Lake Country Coatings for \$14,750 pending final approval by Mr Tilebein and receipt of the warranty information. Be it further resolved to amend the budget by taking the funds for this expense from the Capital savings account. Motion was made by Trustee Horylev, seconded by Mayor Gurrslin. Carried unanimously 5-0

Vouchers

Resolution to approve the abstract of vouchers with the following additions/changes: Waste Management \$5,693.94; Repair N Remodel, LLC \$4,550.00 Totals as follows:

General fund	\$147,116.68
Water fund	\$ 36,075.95
Sewer fund	\$ 475.73
Electric fund	\$ 965.25
Gas fund	\$ 55.25
T/A fund	\$ 13,747.15
Prepaid	<u>\$168,380.50</u>
Total	\$366,816.51

Motion to approve was made by Trustee Gates, seconded by Trustee Horylev. Carried unanimously 5-0

Appointments

Resolution to appoint Larry Speer as Liaison to the Parma Auxiliary Police. Said appointment is effective immediately and shall terminate on 3/31/08. Motion was made by Mayor Gurslin, seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried unanimously 5-0

Resolution to tentatively appoint Larry Speer as Liaison to represent the Village of Hilton on the Monroe County PODS program. Motion was made by Mayor Gurslin, seconded by Trustee Gates. Carried unanimously 5-0

Minutes

Resolution to approve the meeting minutes of June 12th 2007 as amended. Motion was made by Trustee Horylev, seconded by Trustee Speer. Carried unanimously 5-0

Resolution to approve the meeting minutes of July 3rd 2007. Motion was made by Trustee Gates, seconded by Trustee Horylev. Carried unanimously 5-0

Personnel

Mr Tilebein informed the Board that the Village has an opportunity to hire James Liese to work in the Public Works Department. Mr Liese had been working for the Parma Highway Department on a part time basis. He's familiar with municipal work, has a commercial driver's license, is a very skilled mechanic and would be an asset to our team. Mr Tilebein stated that as he plans for the future of his department, he knows that our mechanic, John Burch, will be retiring in just about two years time. He recommended that we hire Mr Liese now as a full time employee. Within the next two years, Mr Liese can train with Mr Burch and gain other knowledge about our department. This is not a budgeted item. A lengthy discussion followed.

Resolution to hire James Liese as a full time employee and due to his qualifications as a mechanic and past experience with municipal work, his starting pay shall be \$12.50/hr. This decision is made with the understanding that Mr Liese will take the mechanic's position when employee John Burch retires in approximately 2 years. The funds to finance this action are available because the Village was recently awarded a Community Development grant for \$35,000 to install sidewalks in the Canning Street/Upton Street area. The grant revenue will offset an expense that had already been budgeted which gives the Village a surplus for the year. The Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized to amend the budget by transferring \$35,000 from A5110.4 to A5110.1. Motion was made by Trustee Speer, seconded by Trustee Lee. Carried unanimously 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m

Janet Surridge
Clerk-Treasurer