

**EAST AURORA VILLAGE BOARD
WORK-SESSION
MONDAY JULY 6, 2009**

Present: Mayor Clark Crook
Trustees, Scheer, Biggs, Mercurio, Kasprzak, McDonnell

Also Present:

Robert Pierce, Village Attorney
William Kramer, Building Inspector
Matthew Hoeh, Superintendent of Public Works
Ronald Krowka, Police Chief
Planning Commission: Dan Castle, Don Wynes, Carol Smith, Laura Mehl, Randy West, Lowell Dewey, Bud Babcock
EA Advertiser, Buffalo News, EA.ORG
8 Members of the public

Mayor Crook opened the work-session at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Peter Sorgi Re: Good Year – VB update on minor window changes to original plan

ACTION: ☐ *OTHER* - Board members reviewed the changes to the windows (number reduced), and agree that the changes were minor, and told Mr. Sorgi (Attorney for the applicant) that they can proceed with their permits as no further board action is required.

2. Planning Commission meeting with VB

ACTION: ☐ *OTHER* - **Mayor Crook** began by thanking the members of the commission for attending the work-session, and stressed to the village board how important and helpful it is to attend planning commission meetings; it provides valuable information that is needed when the development plans come back to the board for consideration. Several discussion topics were:

- ❖ Design Guidelines
- ❖ Mobil Mini-Mart application
- ❖ Traffic issues at the corner of Oakwood and Hamburg
- ❖ Dilapidated buildings

3. Chief Krowka Re: hiring of entry level officer & promotion of officer to Lieutenant

ACTION: ☐ *AGENDA NEXT MEETING* – In regard to **Chief Krowka's** recommendation that Shane Krieger be appointed to position of Lieutenant to replace retiring Lt Ronald McCabe: **Trustee Biggs** moved to approve the appointment, effective July 12, 2009, of Shane Krieger as Lieutenant. Seconded by **Trustee Mercurio**, and **passed** unanimously. In regard to **Chief Krowka's** recommendation to hire an entry level patrolperson and put through the academy: **Mayor Crook** stated that the department has had the opportunity over the past 2 ½ yrs while Lt McCabe has been out on 207c leave, to function with one less staff person and they did this effectively. He continued that attrition opportunities do not present themselves very often, and this may be an opportunity to consider keeping the staffing level at 16, rather than 17. **Trustee McDonnell** commented that he is not convinced that we need 17 officers, and he believes that our low crime rate has more to do with demographics of the community than it does with the police department. **Trustee Biggs and Kasprzak** both commented that the cost for public safety and adequate staffing is much more justifiable and has more value than the sidewalk plow the board just approved for \$130,000.00. Board will vote on **Chief Krowka's** recommendation on July 20, 2009.

4. Temporary Use permit applications

- ❖ Toy Town Car Show August 30, 2009 8am to 5pm
- ❖ GEA Chamber of Commerce Sidewalk Sale July 25, 2009 7am to 5pm
- ❖ RCC "Hogs & Hubbard" August 11, 2009 6pm to 9pm

ACTION: ☐ *OTHER* - **Trustee Biggs** moved to approve the Temporary Use Permits as submitted. Seconded by **Trustee Mercurio**, and **passed** unanimously.

5. Application to Keep 3 Dogs- Laurie Smith, 152 Olean Road- neighbor responses due July 10, 2009

ACTION: ☐ *AGENDA NEXT MEETING* – Board will make a determination at the next board meeting- neighbor input is due by July 10, 2009

6. Tabled Laws- Chapter 212 "Snowplowing", Chapter 112 "Demo of Bldgs"

ACTION: ☐ *AGENDA NEXT MEETING* - Board consensus was the Snow plowing chapter is a dead issue- more time consuming to administer than it would be effective. Board agreed that the language in Chapter 112 "Demolition of Buildings" was amended effectively to move to adoption at the next meeting.

7. Supt. Hoeh Re: Capital Project 2010/11: Reconstruction of East Fillmore & top of Elmwood Ave

ACTION: ☐ *NEXT WORK-SESSION* – **Supt. Hoeh** explained to the board that it has been several years since a street has been reconstructed, and the upper end of Elmwood and East Fillmore need to be done. He estimated that the total project cost would be approx. \$5 million **Administrator Reichert** was asked to prepare draft figures for possible bonding/financing of this project for consideration in fiscal year 2010-11.

8. Administrator -Recommended amendments to Employee Policy

ACTION: ☐ *AGENDA NEXT MEETING:* **Administrator Reichert** presented the following amendments to the employee policy for board consideration and adoption:

- ❖ Section 307 adding definition for the term "Public Officer"
- ❖ Section 607 NEW "Time Clocks"- establishing who must use them, and how they are to be used.
- ❖ Section 802 changing Patriot's Day to President's Day
- ❖ Section 803 Vacation- removing verbiage and adding a chart to eliminate confusion
- ❖ Section 804 Vacation Benefits for Department Heads, adding Public Officers, and making vacation benefits mirror other contracts, up to a maximum of 25 vacation days after 20 years of continuous service.
- ❖ Section 817 Longevity- amend to read ".....as follows for continuous **full-time** service..."

9. Draft of policy for "Workplace Violence Prevention"

ACTION: ☐ *AGENDA NEXT MEETING-* **Administrator Reichert** explained that all local governments are required by a NYS Dept. of Labor law to have this policy adopted by August 29, 2009. There are other levels of compliance that also must be met, and she is in the process of addressing those issues as well. Board will consider adoption at July 20, 2009 meeting.

10. Mayor Crook: Update: SMSI grant and shared services initiatives

ACTION: ☐ *OTHER:* **Mayor** reported on the following topics:

- ❖ SMSI Committee will be meeting on July 13, 2009 to continue work on the joint facility grant.
- ❖ Letters were sent to **Supervisor Krieger** asking for decision on a joint garbage bid by July 1, 2009 and a quote for the Town Highway Department to do any and all village highway department functions. A response was requested by August 1, 2009.
- ❖ New law adopted that reduces the percentage of village signatures on a petition from 30% to 10% to petition for dissolution of village government. He stated that it is not an issue of *will* it happen- it is an issue of *when*, and the Village Board should be prepared to deal with it.

- ❖ Announced that Tom Harris has resigned from the Tree Committee after serving for many years. He is moving out of the area. **Mayor Crook** said he appreciates Tom's years of service and he will be missed.
- ❖ Reported that the Village was served with an improper practice charge from the DPW CSEA union. A PERB hearing was held on June 24th, 2009 in Buffalo, and the matter was settled.

11. Trustee Kasprzak: FEMA Flood Map and Joint meetings with the Town

ACTION: ☐ *OTHER* - **Trustee Kasprzak** stated that he thinks a joint meeting of the Town and Village boards is needed. **Mayor Crook** responded that he is never in favor of "meeting just for the sake of meeting" but he agrees that there are numerous subjects that need to be discussed. He will contact **Supervisor Krieger** and get possible available dates.

Trustee Kasprzak also updated Board on recent conversations with representatives in Congressman Higgins office in regards to flood insurance and the FEMA flood maps.

Trustee Biggs moved to adjourn work-session at 8:58pm. Seconded by **Trustee McDonnell**, and **passed** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Reichert
Village Administrator
Clerk-Treasurer