

Regular Session of the Village Board of Trustees February 8, 2005 at Meadowpark Community Center at 6:00 p.m.

Present: President Smith, Trustees Nolan, O'Connor, Smith and Edwards, PWA Hubbard, DCT Decker, Karen Leonard, Debbie Stever, Mr. & Mrs. Weber, Ray O'Dell, Susan Grady, School Resource Center, Bertha Jenson, Bill Wright, Fire Chief Craig Conklin, EMS Captain Randy Hartz, Donna Hartz, Mary Cable, Kevin McKee, Chief Roberts, Father Booth, Stacey Axtell, Terry Whiting, CEO Barry Conklin, Bobby Shaver, Mary Jane Bosket, John Romanofski, Kevin McKee

PUBLIC HEARING
6:00 P.M

NEW YORK STATE Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program for 2005.

The CDBG is a Federal program that provides funding for housing and community development. NYS Small Cities funds rural communities. The purpose of the hearing is to provide an objective and neutral forum for considering overall community needs and potentially competing or alternative proposals for CDBG projects within the Village of Deposit. It also gives citizens an opportunity to identify and discuss the community overall needs and priorities, including the needs of low and moderate income people. The CDBG program funds the following categories:

Housing rehabilitation and Homeownership: housing rehabilitation, new construction of affordable housing, direct homeownership assistance, private water/wastewater system assistance. Maximum award: \$400,000

Public Facilities: activities consisting of, but not limited to, water source, storage, wastewater collection and treatment, flood control and storm water drainage, sidewalks, streets, parking, open space, senior services, child care, health care facilities, removal of architectural barriers for the disabled. Maximum award \$400,000 for single and \$600,000 for joint applications.

MicroEnterprise: projects supporting new or expanded microenterprises, defined as businesses employing five or fewer employees. Maximum award \$400,000.

Comprehensive Projects: projects that address substantial portion of the community development needs of a defined area. Maximum award: \$650,000

Bertha Jenson mentioned that the Village certainly needed all the funds they could get for our WWTP project. Debbie Stever asked if there were time constraints. President Smith said application had to be made by April 2005 and completed within two years. He continued that the Village was successful in getting one grant, we were hoping for another.

President Smith then read from Center of Deposit Inc: As you know Center of Deposit Inc owns the former school campus located in the center of the Village. The recent community needs assessment study, completed by Fairweather Consulting and Shepstone Managing Company recommended the creation of a multi-use community center in a reasonably prominent but walkable facility. The study rejected the concept of putting a facility in a remote area of the community. Thus the study seems to have rejected the proposal to build a new senior center on the outskirts of the Village. Once again Center of Deposit Inc suggests a multi use community and/or senior center at its property. The 10 Center St one story building should be given serious consideration for this use at this time. Such a multi-use facility would be precisely in accordance with your own consultants report and according to that report, would serve the community and support much needed economic development in the area. With proper funding, the 10 Center St. building could be opened in a matter of weeks. Therefore, Center of Deposit Inc. suggests and requests that Community Development funds be used for the creation of such a multi-use community center, as recommended by your own consultants as a top priority for this area.

President Smith stated that the Villages highest priority was the WWTP project. Trustee Edwards and O'Connor agreed. Trustee Nolan stated that while the

Village might entertain a gift of property from Center of Deposit Inc., its main objective with the CDBG Grant was the WWTP.

President Smith closed the Public Hearing at 6:10 p.m.

President Smith then led the Pledge of Allegiance and Father Booth led the invocation.

President Smith then introduced Susan Grady director of the School Resource center. Ms. Grady gave her presentation on the new Resource Center opening at the school. She passed out flyers to the public and explained the program. Trustee O'Connor asked the life of the program and Mrs. Grady replied that it was three year program from a grant from the Dept. of Education.

MOTION #384/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Smith seconded by Trustee O'Connor to accept for filing the EMS report. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #385/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Edwards seconded by Trustee Smith to accept for filing the Fire Dept report. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #386/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Nolan to waive the reading of the minutes from Jan. 29/05 seconded by Trustee O'Connor. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #387/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Smith to approve the minutes of Jan. 29/05 seconded by Trustee Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #388/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Edwards seconded by Trustee O'Connor to accept for filing the Police Report. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS
STREETS

PWA Hubbard informed the board that the crew had completed 44 work orders including snow plowing, salt and cinders, patching pot holes, etc.

WATER:

PWA Hubbard informed the board that the DEC Permit to fix the exposed man holes has been received. He is still waiting for the permit from the Army Corp of Engineers.

SEWER:

PWA Hubbard stated that John Putnam from S&W is working on the design of the manholes from MH – 1 to MH 6. PWA Hubbard and Mr. Putnam walked the entire length of the line. Two manholes were discovered by the RR tracks on the creek side that they didn't know existed. The project will be broken into three sections as follows; MH 6 – 4 as one, MH 4 – 3 as the second, and MH 3 -2 as the third. A cost will be applied to all three sections and the Village will then decide what to do from there.

Pump Replacement Project: the paperwork included the scope of services and the time line for this project. There are bidding and construction phases included.

MOTION #389/05-06

Trustee Smith made a motion to accept the bid for Hartz's Hardware in the amount of \$2,700 for the mezzanine knee rail for the fire dept, Trustee Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

President Smith then asked PWA Hubbard to obtain quotes for the restoration of the assembly hall as soon as possible. Trustee Nolan asked PWA Hubbard if he could provide a scope of work to the trustees as well. President Smith then added as soon as the quotes were obtained an oversight committee meeting could be scheduled.

POLICE:

Chief Roberts informed the board of the Taser Training that took place on Sat. Feb 5/05. He gave a brief description of the training and the men involved. He also stated he had a VCR tape to be viewed if anyone was interested.

MOTION #390/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Nolan seconded by Trustee O'Connor to obtain three taser units at &799.95 each with three holsters and downloading cable for the computer not to exceed \$3,000. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #391/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee O'Connor seconded by Trustee Nolan to return Police Chief Roberts Nextel cell phone before the 30 trial period was up. The Chief was very disappointed in the coverage. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #392/05-06

President Smith announced that the Village received the \$25,000 Governor's Office for Small Cities Technical Assistance Grant to develop a downtown revitalization plan. It is a "planning grant" and cannot be used for actual physical improvements. The goal of the grant is to make downtown vibrant and active on a year around basis by creating a strategic plan for a retail mix to attract new businesses and to provide education, knowledge of the consumer markets, and financial incentives necessary to increase the health and future growth opportunity of existing businesses. A motion was made by Trustee O'Connor seconded by Trustee Nolan to accept the \$25,000 Technical Assistance Grant, and to administer as per grant guidelines. The motion carried unanimously.

TRUSTEES

Trustee O'Connor wanted to clarify that the Village Board under no circumstances wishes to eliminate the summer pool program. He stated that the program suffered some budget cuts as did other departments, but certainly is not a "phase out" process. He also stated that all department heads are encouraged to attend the budget meetings to take part in the process.

NEW BUSINESS STREETS

PWA Hubbard stated that the Elm St. project will be very busy in April. There are 17 manholes that have to be built up to meet the 2" overlay of blacktop. There are concrete rings that sit down in the manhole – we will need 17 of the 12" rings at a cost of approximately \$850.00. PWA Hubbard would like to take that amount of money out of this year's budget rather than the new 2005/2006 budget from line item A5110.4. President Smith asked if it would be easier to take from fund balance or create a capitol reserve. DCT Decker answered that the easiest way would be fund balance. DCT Decker said she would check into this process and get back to the board.

WATER

DCT Decker asked the board for a motion to remove the water penalties from account \$498 and acct #500. The church was in the process of appointing a new treasurer and the bills were paid late. There was no motion from the board to remove these penalties.

DCT Decker asked the board for a motion to remove the water usage and sewer O&M charge from Acct#100. The acct was on the shut off list in November, but could not be shut off as NYSEG has bent the shut off at the street. Eventually NESEG repaired the shutoff for the Village but the water remained on for acct

#100. Consequently a pipe burst and three to four foot of water was in the basement of the house. The owners are requesting these charges be removed as they feel the water should have been shut off. There was no motion from the board to remove these charges.

POLICE

Police Chief Roberts informed the board that certain items had been returned on the DCJS \$10,000 police equipment grant leaving a balance of approximately \$1200.00 on the grant. Therefore the Police dept had purchased a fax and a copier. The old HP fax, copier, printer has been given to the Justice Court.

The candidates for the March 29, 2005 Otsego County Police Academy is as follows:

RD Rynearson

Aldo Rossi

Derick Bowie

Andrew Randall

Rachel Wells

These candidates will go to the academy at no cost to the Village. Chief Roberts stated they will pay for their own uniforms. Chief Roberts explained this would give the Dept. nine part timers and two full timers. President Smith stated that with previous PD grants we have enough gear for 10 employees this allows a bigger pool to draw from and coverage should not be compromised.

Chief Roberts explained that there is a balance of \$5,700 from the \$25,000 PD grant. The Chief called Albany and was given permission to use the remaining money for computer desks and such to upgrade the office furniture.

MOTION #393/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Nolan seconded by Trustee Smith to give Police Chief Roberts permission to spend the remaining \$5,700 of the \$25,000 PD grant on office furniture. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Roberts asked permission to purchase a new 2005 Jeep Cherokee Laredo for no less than \$23,000. With this purchase, the chief stated, the old jeep could then become the chief's vehicle, used mainly for to and from work. President Smith asked the chief to wait until the work session after budget adjustments were done and a better picture of this years budget was available

President Smith announced that Pam Concato had brought to the board's attention the fact that the Christmas lights were still on Second St. She asked that this issue be addressed. Fire Chief Conklin was in attendance at the meeting and stated he would get a bucket truck from TDS and turn them off.

MOTION #394/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Nolan seconded by Trustee O'Connor to authorize President Smith to sign the new MEGA (Municipal Electric & Gas Alliance) agreement with Advantage Energy as the low bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

The Resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Village of Deposit to Enter Into a Contract with Advantage Energy for Electricity

WHEREAS, the Village of Deposit and other municipalities authorized the Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance (MEGA) to bid for electricity on their behalf, and

WHEREAS, Advantage Energy, Inc., was the lowest bidder, and

WHEREAS, MEGA has entered into a program agreement with Advantage Energy Inc., and

WHEREAS, the Village of Deposit has awarded a contract to Advantage Energy, Inc. and,

WHEREAS, Section 408-a of the County Law authorizes a County to include in any purchase contract awarded to the lowest responsible bidder authorization permitting any political subdivision in the state to participate, and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Deposit pursuant to Section 408-a authorized all other political subdivisions in the state to participate in the contract, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that this municipality hereby authorizes its contacting official to enter into a customer agreement with Advantage Energy, Inc., for electricity.

President Smith then addressed the Needs Assessment letter received from the Broome County Planning Dept. He asked that the board review the letter and the draft inter-municipal agreement and come back to the board with any suggestions or changes they deem necessary. A meeting could then be set up with the two towns. President Smith also asked that a copy be mailed to the Village attorney. President Smith stated that the timing might be perfect in light of receiving the \$25,000 Technical Assistance Grant which is designed for planning only.

FINANCE:

MOTION #395/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Smith seconded by Trustee O'Connor to authorize President Smith to sign the Abstract of Audited Vouchers as follows:

General Fund:	\$18,047.04
Water Fund:	\$48,520.58
Sewer Fund:	\$8,012.48
General Fund Also:	\$35,970.93
Water Fund Also:	\$5,231.56
Sewer Fund Also:	\$8,388.78

The motion carried unanimously.

GUESTS:

Robert Shaver wanted to public ally thank the board of trustees, Chief Roberts, and Justice Owens in sending him in the right direction with a problem that turned out not to be a problem in his career endeavor. It was their time and effort that resolved the potential problem quickly.

Bertha Jenson then asked CEO Conklin if grants were written for individuals such as Mr. Hornbeck's bait shop. President Smith stated that Mr. Hornbeck's store was through a Catskill Center Grant. Mr. Conklin stated that Mr. Hornbeck has committed himself to clean the back section of the building to be started this spring and summer to stay in compliance with Village ordinances.

Mary Cable informed the board that she had recently been to the Village Hall records room going over old documents to be donated to the Historical Society. She thanked the Village again for this opportunity.

Mary Jane Bosket then wanted to thank Mr. John Carillo for his time and effort in setting up the community room before each meeting.

MOTION #396/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Nolan seconded by Trustee O'Connor to enter into and out of executive session to discuss pending litigation, property transfers and specific personnel. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #397/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Smith seconded by Trustee O'Connor to authorize Attorney Schaewe to send the letter to Center of Deposit Inc (Jonathon Landsman) in response to several FOIL requests from him. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #398/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Nolan seconded by Trustee O'Connor to authorize Sean Crouse to no more than two days to finalize the two police dept grants when needed. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION #399/05-06

A motion was made by Trustee Nolan seconded by Trustee O'Connor to appoint Karen Leonard to the position of Account Clerk with a one dollar (\$1.00) per hour raise effective March 1, 2005 and to release her from the monthly stipend at that time. She is required to attend the regular and work sessions and any other meetings requested with a review of that process in six months. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted