

**Village of Homer Board of Trustees Minutes
Homer, New York
2006-2007**

**HOMER, NY
March 7, 2006**

5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor McDermott followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Joanne Sweeney, Michael Berry, Roy Crandall; Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer; Beverly Berry – Deputy Clerk-Treasurer; Paul Burhans – Dog Warden; David Perfetti – Village Attorney; Gary Shiffer – Town Justice; Eric Mulvihill – News Director, WXHC 101.5 FM; Adam Samrov – Cortland Standard reporter; Barbara Lamphere – 2 + 4 Sr. Housing; Alaine Espenscheid – Attorney for 2 + 4 Sr. Housing; Sue Thomas – 2 + 4 Sr. Housing; Gary Thomas – Cortland Housing. *Please refer to the attached list for additional attendees.*

Mayor McDermott explained to the Board that Elaine Olson had provided all the information requested by the Board at their previous meeting in February referencing the **“Whispering Winds Development”** preliminary development plans. He asked the Board to move on **sending the preliminary development plans to the County Planning Department for their review.** Motion made by Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye to follow the Mayor’s request.

Mayor McDermott introduced Barbara Lamphere from 2 + 4 Senior Housing to discuss the proposed PILOT agreement with the Board.

Barbara Lamphere distributed the proposed PILOT agreement to board members. The acronym PILOT stands for “payment in lieu of taxes”. The agreement calls for a 30-year PILOT agreement. It was noted by the mayor that most of the PILOT agreements are for 15 years not 30.

Mayor McDermott inquired how many Village of Homer seniors had applied for this particular housing project. Ms. Lamphere indicated that she didn’t have this information and that Gary Thomas from Cortland Housing would have that information when he arrives.

Sue Kimmel, Managing Member of Lakewood Development LLC stated that they would come to the Sr. Center and assist those interested in housing with their applications.

Board members were concerned that they were a for profit entity.

Gary Thomas from Cortland Housing arrived and stated that the applications they have received for the project so far are 75% from Homer. He couldn’t state whether they were from the town or village. Some of the applications they have received are from siblings who live in the area.

Mayor McDermott stated that when their references (2 + 4 Sr. Housing) were checked, their operation was considered to be a class act. The biggest concern was the 30-year PILOT. It was felt that the term was too long, and that other similar projects were for 10 or 15 years.

Trustee Genevieve Suits inquired if the Village was still involved in litigation? The reply was “yes”. Trustee Michael Berry stated that accepting a PILOT agreement at this time was premature.

Trustee Genevieve Suits indicated to those present that she had contacted someone in Albany and that they stated, "Their firm was the best to work with, hands down".

Trustee Berry recommended a PILOT agreement with a clause that would allow a renewal after 10 years, subject to negotiation of the parties involved.

Mayor McDermott stated that the Board wouldn't be willing to accept any PILOT agreement until the current litigation has been resolved.

Trustee Berry also noted a 30 yr. PILOT agreement wouldn't be acceptable.

Sue Kimmel stated that they have a 15-year tax commitment

Upkeep of the property was discussed. The Board inquired if moneys were set aside for maintenance of the building. Barb Lamphere replied that \$108/per unit was placed into reserves for repairs.

Parking provisions were discussed. It was noted that 1 parking space per unit was provided with allowance for additional parking per site plan approval.

Mayor McDermott then opened the meeting for public discussion. Time would be limited.

Victor Siegle spoke against the project. He stated he had visited another housing complex and the tenant explained that you had to whisper in order not to be heard in other units. Mr. Siegle submitted a letter to the Mayor and Trustees requesting that the Board not approve a PILOT agreement

Gary Thomas from Cortland Housing Assistance further stated that he has worked with Barbara Lamphere on several projects and her word is good enough for him. His working experience with 2 + 4 on other projects has shown them to be very reputable.

Sue Kimmel noted there were tax credits involved.

Mayor McDermott closed discussions at 6:15 p.m.

Minutes of February 7, 2006 were accepted as presented, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Treasurer's report:

Budget Modification: Decrease A960 – A1420.400 - \$13728.40
Increase A960 – A1420.100 - \$13728.40
Purpose: Attorney placed on the payroll instead of
Paying contractually.

Motion to approve, Trustee Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Clerk Williams noted Patricia Storrs, part-time clerk assistant resigned her position. Susie MacKecknie was hired to replace her. Trustee Genevieve Suits wanted the record to show the excellent job that Pat had done for the village during her employment.

Request for Proposals for Insurance for both the Village of Homer and Village of Homer Fire Department – Clerk Williams explained to the Board that it had been three years since the Village had

requested proposals for insurance. It is now time to seek new quotes. The anniversary date is June 10, 2006. The Clerk was authorized to send letters to insurance companies inquiring if they would be interested in submitting a quote for insurance and if so, what company would they be quoting.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CODES – report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Code Officer Weber submitted literature that substantiates changes in the Uniform Code regarding Minimum Standards for Administration and Enforcement. These will be effective commencing January 1, 2007. Mr. Weber indicated to the Mayor that he would implement some of the changes this year.

Violations at 114 S. Main Street (Barbarito) were discussed (installation of the wood stove in the rear of the house not in conformance with the NYS Fire Code). Police Officers accompanied the Code Officer to these premises to inspect if violation had been corrected. Judge Gary Shiffer needed to know if corrective actions had been taken.

DOG - report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

ATTORNEY’S report was heard as he had a prior commitment and needed to be excused early.

Josh Parente’s reimbursement from the County – Attorney, Mayor and Police Chief will meet to discuss the County’s proposal. Chief Mack will give a report on what he needs for the new county computer system.

Attorney David Perfetti left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

FIRE CHIEF’S report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Chief Ryan advised the Board that the Fire Department decided to submit a grant for a new ladder truck. The gentleman from FEMA who conducted the meeting that was attended by members of the fire department advised the departments in attendance that departments who are running a fire truck that is not OSHA or NFPA compliant would have a good chance of receiving an award. The 531-ladder truck is not compliant to OSHA or NFPA standards. President Mahlon Irish, Jr. will be writing the grant. The closing date of the grant is April 7, 2006. They will be requesting between \$500,000 and \$750,000. This would be a matching grant that would require 5% from the Village or \$25,000 for a \$500,000 grant.

FEMA funds in the amount of \$400.35 were received from the Town of Homer for the Fire Department’s assistance during the April 2005 flooding.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to approve the Purchase Order for \$1635, to the GlassSmith for the remainder of the windows at the Fire Station omitted from their last estimate.**

NIMS (National Incident Management System) meeting scheduled March 16 @ 7:00 p.m. at the County Office Building. All trustees are required to attend. The purpose is to establish a common set of emergency response protocols, procedures, and preparedness goals across all agencies. Federal guidelines mandate that any jurisdiction, which receives federal preparedness program funds, be required to be NIMS Compliant by September 2006 for FY 2006 grant funds. Future Federal, and State funding for homeland security purposes will be tied to compliance with NIMS

Chief John Ryan, Jr. will complete his term as chief, April 22, 2006 when the installation of new officers will be conducted at the firemen's annual dinner. Mayor McDermott thanked Chief Ryan for all his work and accomplishments during his years as chief. Those on the Board unanimously joined him in his thanks.

Chief Ryan is currently working on a \$15,000 "pork barrel" grant for the rapid intervention team.

POLICE –report was accepted as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Chief Mack was authorized to order the new patrol car March 15, 2006. This is funded through the Police Car Reserve.

RECREATION – report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Resignation was received from commission member, Tammy Beebe. The commission would like to appoint another woman to keep the balance of the Board. Also, they would like to see the individual have a child or children who actively participate in the Village's Recreation Programs.

Again, it was noted that the Winterfest was a huge success. Suggestion was made by the Mayor to have the bonfire start earlier.

STREETS/PARKS & MEO reports were received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Bandstand – Ken Teter sent a memorandum to Mayor McDermott outlining the steps he recommended to be taken to repair the bandstand. Because funds are limited, he felt that the primary intent of the Board was to stabilize the columns and roof of the structure. Rather than not fully remedying the situation because of lack of funds, he suggested addressing the worst column and then doing the drainage/runoff control. He further suggested obtaining funding i.e. political grants, fund raising during Village Green events.

Mayor McDermott stated any work to be done on the bandstand would be during the fall months, to avoid activities that revolve around the Village Green.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Sewer hook-up for 10 Miller Drive – It was brought to the attention of the Clerk's Office that the property at 10 Miller Drive, formerly owned by Nye Williamson had not connected to the village sewer. Recently the property was sold to Mary Kelly and her husband. It was noted that the sewer lateral was run from the street line to the house but never connected internally. The Board of Trustees granted a 45-day extension from March 8, 2006, for the new owners to connect to the municipal sewer. Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Bev Berry will notify the Kelly's.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT report.

Delinquent loan report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

The Board of Trustees suggested that letters be sent to Theresa Small and Linani's regarding their delinquency. The also stated that any loan recipient three months delinquent should automatically receive letters from the Mayor.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor McDermott reported that the Board had met with all the department heads and reviewed the new village handbook.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye **to have the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or their designee, to close the Clerk’s Office due to weather or related emergencies.**

The *attached* draft of **Vacation/Sick/Personal/Bereavement Leave Request was accepted by the Board of Trustees and is to be implemented immediately.** When the Clerk’s Office receives this form, the time will be documented on the Mayor’s calendar, a copy placed in the individual’s file and the payroll clerk will keep a copy to be applied to the payroll records.

Mayor McDermott advised the Board of Trustees that he had sent a letter of support to the Cortland Housing Assistance Council, Inc. for their grant application.

The Village was advised that Time Warner cable bills would increase 3.5%.

Electronic Recycling – Mayor McDermott advised the Board that the County would collect computers, monitors, copiers, printers, fax machines, telephones (including cell phones), DVD & VCR machines, stereo equipment, televisions, and electronic testing equipment. Items cased in wood will not be accepted. Collection will be made available the second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 137 South Pendleton Street.

Amnesty Day – Mayor to contact the County regarding scheduled dates for the spring.

Trustee Genevieve Suits extended her best wishes to fellow trustees Michael Berry and Roy Crandall in the upcoming Village Election.

The following bills were approved for payment, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney, - all aye.

General Fund	Vouchers #1064 - #1071 &1083	\$ 55,130.37
	Vouchers #1072 - #1140	\$ 36,366.08
	Vouchers # 1- # 9	\$109,048.99
Water Fund	Vouchers #399 - #402	\$ 4,333.42
	Vouchers #403 – #428	\$ 7,847.59
	Vouchers #1 - #3	\$ 10,247.54
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #399 - #402	\$ 4,500.05
	Vouchers #403 - #428	\$ 2,701.22
	Vouchers #1 - #4	\$ 10,197.78
Capital Projects Fund	-----	-----
Comm.Dev.Block Fund	-----	-----

7:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

**Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer**

HOMER, NY
March 21, 2006

Village of Homer Elections were held in the Sr. Center of the Town Hall Building, March 21, 2006 from 12:00 noon to 9:00 p.m. Two trustee positions were on the ballot. The following are the results:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Republican	Michael Berry	283
Republican	Roy Crandall	280
Democrat	Janet Steck	208
	Write-In	0
	Void	0
	Blank Votes	111
	Total	882

(These results were provided by Cortland County Board of Elections.)

Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
April 3, 2006

5:30 p.m. Organizational Meeting called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Clerk-Treasurer Jo Anne Williams swore in newly elected trustees Michael Berry and Roy Crandall.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Joanne Sweeney, Michael Berry, Roy Crandall; David Perfetti - Attorney; Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer; Beverly Berry –Deputy Clerk-Treasurer.

The Mayor made annual appointments. (refer to the attached) Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye to accept all appointments.

Purchase Order/Procurement Policy was reviewed and approved, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Investment Policy was reviewed and page 2, Section 6 was amended eliminating the bank officer's names since they change periodically. Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney.

Fee Schedule was reviewed, and amended eliminating the trash hauler's name- Doug's Trash Removal. This was approved, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Conflict of Interest Statement - Trustee Genevieve Suits indicated that she would not sign any of the Suit-Kote vouchers, as it would be a conflict of interest since her husband is Vice-President of the company.

The Board declared the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. the regular meeting date, unless otherwise publicized.

Open purchase orders were issued for county items on state bid.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **to adopt the following resolution:**

Whereas the Board of Trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursement to officers and employees of the Village who use their personal automobiles while performing their official duties on behalf of the village;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees shall approve reimbursement to such officers and employees at the rate of \$.40 per mile.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **to adopt the following resolution:**

Whereas there is to be held during the coming official year a) the New York State Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting and Training School; b) the New York State Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting and Fall Training School for Fiscal Officers and Municipal Clerks; c) the NYCOM Public Works Conference and Town Superintendents Meeting for the Streets/Parks Department, and AWWA Meetings for the Water/Sewer Department.

Whereas it is determined by the Board of Trustees that attendance by certain municipal officials and employees at one or more of these meetings, conferences or schools benefits the municipality;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

Section 1. That the following officers and employees are hereby authorized to attend the following schools: NYCOM General Meetings – Mayor McDermott; NYCOM General Meetings – Members of the Board of Trustees; NYCOM Fall Training School – Jo Anne Williams, Clerk- Treasurer, Beverly Berry, Dep. Clerk-Treasurer; AWWA Meeting – Supt. Lawrence Barber; NYCOM Public Works Conference and Town Superintendents Meetings – Supt. Michael Galeotti, Sr.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to adopt the following resolution:**

Whereas the Board of Trustees has determined to authorize payment in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges, and *Whereas*, all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit, and *Whereas*, the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the Board of Trustees.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

Section 1. That the Board of Trustees authorizes payment in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges and all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit and the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the Board of Trustees.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Rules of Procedure were reviewed and approved, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Minutes of 3/7/06 and Elections Results of 3/21/2006 were accepted as submitted, motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Treasurer's report –

Detail of Expenditures and Revenues for period ending February 28, 2006 was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney.

Clerk Williams was asked to send a memo to the department heads reminding them that no more than 5% of their budget would be allowed for encumbrances at the end of the fiscal year. Any amount above that percentage would be subject to Board review.

The attached list of Encumbrances was approved, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

The attached list of Budget Modifications was approved, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

The attached Budget Transfers were approved as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Per Attorney Perfetti's authorization, **Life Safety Consultants' contract for "after fire" inspections was approved for the Mayor's signature, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.**

The Trustees reviewed special Parking Permit for overnight parking in the municipal parking lot located on James Street. Gretchen Abbott's Design is relocating to 6 N. Main Street. They have requested a special parking permit for their business delivery van to park overnight in the James Street municipal parking lot. A short discussion followed. Issues regarding liability, precedence for others to request overnight parking, difficulty with snow removal during the winter months, guaranteed availability – i.e. Reserve Parking sign, and annual renewal. **Motion by Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye to have the Mayor resolve the issues of winter month parking with Supt. Galeotti, and have the attorney draft a letter to the Abbott's for their review.**

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY – Mayor McDermott noted that the Cemetery had opened Thursday, March 30, 2006. No report was filed.

CODES – report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Barbarito's violation of non-conformance in the installation of a wood stove in the rear of the house at 114 S. Main Street has not been brought into compliance. Judge Shiffer indicated that he would be fined if he didn't comply.

DOG – report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

POLICE – report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye. The Board of Trustees asked that the Chief submit a written synopsis along with his monthly-computerized reports.

6:30 p.m. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.**

6:45 p.m. Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye **to return to Regular Session.**

RECREATION – report received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye. Mayor McDermott reported that the Recreation Director, Jeff Lewis had returned to work full-time. Jim Lawton is staying on for a while to assist Jeff with spring programs, brochures, and to get things caught up.

Trustee Berry suggested that the Village recognize the volunteer coaches for their time servicing the programs for the Village. Rec director will be advised to keep a list so acknowledgement can be made.

The **Easter Egg Hunt** will begin promptly 4/15/2006 @ noon.

STREETS/PARKS & MEO reports were received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Compost site opened April 29, 2006.

Amnesty Day – the County hasn't set a date.

Mosquito treatment is scheduled for the wetlands 4/22/06. Mike Foote of Acme Lawn Service will be applying the chemicals.

WATER/SEWER – report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Mayor thanked the Water/Sewer Supt. and his department for installing the sign recognizing “Leon Chandler – local fly fisherman”, who was known worldwide for this sport. The sign was installed on the opposite side of the bridge leading from the Newton Water Works parking lot in the picnic area. **Motion** Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **declaring April 29, 2006 “Leon Chandler Day”**. Saturday, 4/29/06, a special ceremony will be held at Newton Water Works Park dedicating this new sign in Mr. Chandler's memory.

The Kelly's at 10 Miller Drive connected to the Village sewer system, making them compliant. The previous owners had installed the lateral but never connected it to their inside plumbing.

FIRE – report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Mayor McDermott sent a letter to Assemblyman Finch and Congressman Seward asking them to support amending the real property tax law supporting tax-exempt status for volunteer firemen.

Fire Chief John Ryan, Jr. is leaving his position as fire chief. Election of officers will take place the first part of April. The Board of Trustees commended him on the excellent job he has done for the village as chief.

Kyle A. DiNardo's application into the Homer Hook & Ladder Company was accepted (*physical papers were attached*), **Motion** Michael Berry, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Delinquent Loan report was accepted as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Attorney Perfetti was instructed by the Board of Trustees to send a letter to the following delinquent loan recipients: Linani's – Randy Lewis, Theresa Small (copy to be sent to Dennis Small at his Freeville address), and Molly Burton.

Village Handbooks are ready for distribution to all village employees. Each employee should sign the notice enclosed acknowledging receipt and knowledge of the contents and return it to the Clerk's Office.

Business Showcase is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 2006. Joanne Sweeney will contact the village historian, Verna Whitney to see if she would like to participate.

Request for Insurance Proposals for quotations for both the Homer Fire Department and the Village of Homer were sent out to prospective bidders. Their bids are due in the Clerk's Office by noon April 25, 2006. *(The date was extended first to April 28, 2006 and then again extended to May 3, 2006 at 4:30 p.m. Purpose was to allow for the companies to have enough time to obtain quotes.)* **May 11, 2006, a Special Meeting is scheduled to have the agents give a 15-minute presentation on their bid package. The meeting will start promptly at 5:30 p.m.**

Discussion re: Josh Parente, police officer who transferred over to the County Sheriff's Department – Attorney Perfetti requested from the Chief exactly what was needed for the computer unit used in the police vehicle i.e. software, warranty etc. This is needed for negotiations with the County on reimbursement of training costs for a police officer.

NIMS training will be offered April 19, 2006. Trustee Genevieve Suits will attend.

The *(attached)* resolution: "Adoption of the National Incident Management System" was adopted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye. The mayor, trustees and superintendents must attend to qualify for federal funds.

The Village of Skaneateles contacted the Mayor to attend a **meeting April 19, 2006 @ 1:00 p.m., Finger Lakes Mall, Auburn to discuss regional truck traffic.** Trustee Genevieve Suits will attempt to attend. *(Trustee Joanne Sweeney attended in place of Trustee Suits.)*

Marilyn Brown, County Legislator contacted the Mayor to advise him, they will begin to conduct the C.V.T.S. meetings again (City, County, Village, Town & Schools). The Mayor suggested that he and the trustees alternate attending the meetings. This would eliminate anyone having to attend every meeting.

Friends *(local restaurant/bar)* contacted the Mayor for permission to celebrate their anniversary in business by using the municipal parking lot on James Street for music and outside bar. Function to take place in the month of June. Mayor McDermott outlined items i.e. approval from the village's insurance company, certificate of insurance, listing the Village of Homer as additional insured, required licensing from the NYS Liquor Authority, and permission from other local businesses. Permission couldn't be granted until all avenues were checked and approved. The Mayor will make inquiries and report back to the Board at their May meeting.

The new State Budget reports the possibility of receiving 20% additional money in State Aid for villages. No State Budget has been passed to date.

The Mayor reported that Gary Wilcox had contacted him about annexing a small parcel of property that lies in the Village of Homer into the Town of Cortlandville. Currently he has to contribute to the Water Tank Debt through special assessment on his village tax bill and would like to avoid contributing this amount. The property lies northeast of the end of the cul-de-sac on Bell Drive.

The following bills were approved for payment, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

General Fund	Vouchers #10 - #94	\$114,950.25
Water Fund	Vouchers #5 - #38	\$ 9,872.78
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #5 - #38	\$ 9,738.10
Capital Projects Fund	-----	-----
Comm.Dev.Block Fund	Check #1416	\$ 28.00

8:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
April 12, 2006

5:30 p.m. Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor McDermott to discuss salary issues of the employees from the Streets/Parks Department and Water/Sewer Department. The Mayor led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Michael Berry, Joanne Sweeney, and Roy Crandall; Trustee Michael Berry; Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer; employees – Lawrence Barber- Supt. Water/Sewer Department, Darol Sweeney, Larry McCall, Mike Harter, Bobette Lansdowne, Carl Gaffney, Mike Galeotti – Supt. Streets/Parks Department, Phil Stockton.

Mike Harter spoke on behalf of those present. He first thanked the Board for meeting with them and then he went on to address a couple of concerns the group would like to have addressed.

The first concern was with the 3% payroll raise in 2006. He stated that without mentioning names, new hires were making more than some of those who had been working for the village several years.

The **Mayor** explained that was an unintentional clerical error made when the salary was determined for the new hire. He then reviewed some of the comparative salaries from the surrounding communities. He explained that the budget this year was very difficult because of the utility increases and cost of fuel that had to be factored into the budget (a 40% increase was budgeted for NYSEG). In order to address some of the issues with the salaries, he suggested that possibly overtime would have to be cut and have two shifts during the winter months in order to raise the hourly wages of those employed by the village. Also, the departments' work schedule may need to be changed back to a normal 8 hr./day, 5 days a week work- week, instead of four 9 hr/days Monday through Thursday and 4 hours on Fridays. This would eliminate overtime on Fridays when called back to work after 10:00 a.m. because of snowstorms. He advised the employees that 42% of the village's revenues is raised through sales tax.

The Mayor indicated that nothing could be done with the salaries since the 2006/07 Budget was in place. He suggested meeting again in October, prior to budgeting for the next fiscal year.

Larry McCall asked if the procurement policy requiring purchase orders for purchases \$500 and over be changed to \$1000. Prices have increased so much over the last few years that more and more purchase orders are required. This means there is more down time when equipment is needed to be repaired. Trustees aren't always available to authorize purchases. The increase would allow for more flexibility to obtain needed parts etc.

Trustee Crandall explained the reasoning for this was to allow the trustees to make suggestions that could possibly reduce the cost. He used as an example when tires were taken off one vehicle, possibly they could be used on another one.

After a short discussion, a **Motion** was made by Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to change the requirement for purchase orders for purchases \$800 or more.**

Also, Larry McCall asked if a petty cash account could be established so small items that didn't require much money could be purchased with cash rather than make the vendor wait until the following month for payment. The Clerk indicated that this could become quite cumbersome and also, it may not be allowed. The Board passes a resolution at each organization meeting that allows postage, freight, utilities and express charges be paid advance of audit. These expenses appear on the abstract to be approved the following month.

Ernie Newell questioned, what would happen if an employee didn't sign the acknowledgement in the Village Employees Handbook?

Trustee Sweeney explained that by signing the paper didn't mean that you agreed to all the policies, that it only acknowledged that you were aware of them.

The Mayor also noted that both the department head and the employee should sign a disciplinary letter prior to filing it in an employee's file.

Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to adjourn.**

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
May 2, 2006

5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to the order by Mayor Michael McDermott. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Roy Crandall, Joanne Sweeney; Trustee Michael Berry was absent; David Perfetti – Attorney; Phil Hess – Fire Chief; Paul Burhans – Dog Warden and Lindsey Riehlman; Bruce Crandall – HFD President; Adam Samrov – reporter from the Cortland Standard; Eric Mulvihill – WXHC, 101.5 FM news director; residents – Harry Calale, Elaine Olson, David Hoermann, Michael and Susie Morgan, Theresa Carr, Ward Abbott, and JoAnne Williams, Clerk-Treasurer.

MINUTES – April 3, 2006 and April 12, 2006 were not proof read by the Clerk and will be made available to receive at the June 6, 2006 Board Meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING scheduled for **May 16, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Sr. Center to hear public comments on changing the zone from R-1 to PDDR for the proposed Whispering Winds Development, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.**

SPECIAL PARKING PERMIT – Gretchen Abbott’s Design submitted a request for a Special Parking Permit in the James Street Municipal Parking Lot behind 6 N. Main Street. This was previously discussed at the April 2006 meeting. Guidelines were drafted by the attorney and reviewed by the Mayor, Trustees and Supt. Streets/Parks. The agreement included no parking during the months of November through March. Trustee Berry expressed his opposition to this and suggested that the village be able to work out details that would allow year round parking for this business owner. Mr. Ward Abbott was present and stated in the past when they were located at 15 S. Main Street they would always shovel snow that was left around their vehicle, and it would be no different than they had done in the past.

Based on Mr. Abbott agreeing to the responsibility of removing snow left around their vehicle from the Village plowing the lot, **a special parking permit was granted for one year, commencing April 1, 2006 through March 31, 2007 with the following provisions:** 1) that the Village be provided with a description (make, model, year, color, etc.) of the vehicle that they intend to have occupy the space, 2) that they hold the Village of Homer harmless from a) any damages or liability for any bodily injury, b) loss of any personal property stored in their vehicle c) for damages attributed to their use of said parking area, and 3) should they fail to comply with any condition herein stated, said use would be terminated, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

REQUEST FROM “FRIENDS RESTAURANT” TO USE THE JAMES STREET MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT, JUNE 3, 2006 FOR THEIR 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - Michael and Susie Morgan, and Theresa Carr were present to discuss this matter with the Board. Mayor McDermott and Attorney Perfetti both recused themselves from the vote.

Mayor McDermott explained the discussions he had with a NYCOM attorney, and the Bailey Insurance Agency. First he spoke with Riele Morgiewicz, NYCOM council. She stated there were new laws in effect concerning municipality’s liability regarding private functions. The details included requiring between 2-5 million more in liability coverage. She further stated, if she were our attorney, she would recommend denying the request.

The Mayor then contacted the Bailey Insurance Agency to get quotes on insurance coverage. Our representative stated the Village could not be covered and also recommended we reject the proposal. The Village would also be setting a precedent that any private organization could use the parking lot for a party.

Attorney Perfetti informed the Mayor that he was in agreement with NYCOM and the insurance agency. He reminded the Mayor that the Village would be held responsible no matter what precautions were taken.

Mayor McDermott also contacted the City of Cortland to see how they handled their music and drinking in the parking lot next to Marketplace Mall during the summer months. He found that the City of Cortland and the businesses are partners in these concerts held in the parking lot.

Susie Morgan spoke on behalf of Troy Beckwith (owner of Friend’s business and not present at this meeting). She stated that the bands would be playing from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. and they would have an officer on duty paid by Friend’s (to assist with crowd control). The area would have a tent and would be roped off. Only plastic cups would be used, no glass containers. When the event has concluded, trash would be picked up. She thanked the Mayor for the quick response to her request, but also noted that she was under the impression a million dollar certificate of insurance liability listing the Village of Homer as additional insured was the

standard amount of insurance requested. To increase the amount to \$2-3,000,000 would be cost prohibitive. The owner has already invested a \$1000 in this event. Discussion of the Board members followed.

Members of the board expressed the concern for having \$2-3,000,000 of additional insurance for this event and how much “is” enough insurance. After careful consideration of all the details, Trustee Joanne Sweeney made a **Motion, 2nd**. Roy Crandall – in favor Sweeney, Crandall, Suits **granting permission for Friends Restaurant to use the municipal parking lot, located on James Street June 3, 2006 for their 10-year Anniversary Celebration, providing they obtain a Special Events Policy for \$1,000,000 liability listing the Village of Homer as additional insured, policing the event (paid by Friends), catering permit, no glass containers and trash removed after the event.**

TREASURER’S report:

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to approve the following Budget Modification: Increase A960 – A3410.401 - \$1300.00**

Decrease A960 – A3410.200 - \$1300.00

1-Smoke machine encumbrance \$696.99 not .200

Clerk Williams informed the Board that Insurance Proposals needed to be reviewed by them prior to the presentation scheduled to begin 5:30 p.m., May 11, 2006. There are five companies giving presentations that evening.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

DOG report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Mr. Burhans, dog warden was present and commented on the activities regarding a pit bull owned by Laura Patterson, S. William Street, Homer. The dog was declared a dangerous dog and ordered permanently confined at a court hearing in the beginning of the month. One week later the dog was loose and chased a painter up a ladder. A seizure order was obtained and served by the Homer Police Department. Another hearing was scheduled. This time the dog was ordered neutered, micro chipped, and must be on a lease and muzzled at all times. Also, the Patterson’s must seek \$50,000 liability insurance for the dog. Mr. Burhans lent them a chain link covered pen.

Ag & Markets laws have changed greatly in recent years. Animal Rights Group felt too many dogs were being destroyed. The law now states a dog must attack another animal or person before being made to put the animal down. Once a dog is deemed a dangerous dog, it is recorded permanently in Albany and remains for life.

Dan Dockstater, 73 James Street e-mailed the Mayor outlining his concerns with this dog in his neighborhood. He stated the owners have already demonstrated that they aren’t able to control the animal by it getting loose. It has been aggressive toward a police officer. He further noted that there are two day care providers in the nearby vicinity, and he was very concerned about their children. Newton Park is only a block away, and it is busy with children using the facility. He is very concerned with the safety of all in the area. Mr. Dockstater also mentioned that the Village would have a huge lawsuit on their hands should this animal do any bodily harm.

Mr. Burhans stated that we have done everything legally possibly at this time. Lindsay, his assistant provided a copy of the Ag & Markets Law so the Mayor would be able to reference it, should the occasion arise.

FIRE chief’s report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

The Annual Reports from the Homer Fire Department were received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

The following new officers of the Homer Fire Department and Chief's were approved by the Board of Trustees, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

President – Bruce Crandall
Vice President – Gordon Wheelock
Corresponding Secretary – Kathy Keegan
Recording Secretary – Richard Elmer
Treasurer – Terry Holmes

Chief – Phil Hess
Deputy Chief – Charles Ford, Jr.
1st. Asst. Chief – Ernie Newell
2nd. Asst. Chief – Michael Harter

Mike Harter, representing the Fire Department Truck Committee stated that the new tanker was at Rosenbauer's. Once the vehicle is delivered, the department will fill the tanker and test-drive it prior to accepting the vehicle.

Supt. Galeotti asked the Board to determine how leave time should be charged to employee, Mike Harter when he was absent from work to inspect the tanker prior to delivery. Board determined that Mr. Harter should use vacation or personal time. If this individual were working anywhere else, he would have to deduct his absence from the time he was given for vacation or personal time.

Tim Crewster (Custer) from the Town of Cuyler Fire Department contacted the Clerk and indicated that they would be interested in purchasing the old tanker from the Village. Board members placed a price of \$2000.00 on it. The Board is allowed to offer a vehicle to another municipality for a fair market price without accepting sealed bids. Clerk Williams will contact this gentleman to see if this amount is acceptable.

Newly elected president, Bruce Crandall requested permission from the Board of Trustees to serve alcohol during the Field Days in June. Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to authorize the Mayor to sign the request, and to be judicious about their sale of beer, and make sure no underage persons are served and to set an example of responsible consumption.**

Short discussion was held regarding the cost of fuel and using the village **fire trucks for parade purposes.** It was suggested that a limit be set on the number allowed for parade vehicles outside the community. Mayor McDermott will check where the fire trucks generally parade. Trustee Crandall reminded the Board that morale of the department is very important and participating in other community fire department parades is a way of displaying it.

CODE report was accepted as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

The following **code violators were reviewed:**

Barbarito, 114 S. Main Street – Code Officer received a letter stating Mr. Barbarito would like a representative from the HFD and HPD present with Code Officer to do re-inspection.

Doug Brown, 24 Prospect Street – demolition of building violation. Owner is waiting for a special permit from D.E.C. to remove debris.

Halliday, 102 N. Main Street – violation of the installation of furnace and water heater. Mr. Weber, Code Officer reported that no work has been reported.

Harder, S. Main Street – violation of storage of junk vehicles. Mr. Weber indicated that he has been keeping an eye on this property and that it doesn't appear that Mr. Harder is accumulating more vehicles.

Patterson, S. William Street – complaints reported of trash around exterior of house. Mr. Weber will be keeping watch to make sure it doesn't become a violation.

POLICE – report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall- all aye.

Mayor McDermott stated that Chief Mack will be undergoing back surgery, May 12, 2006 and will be out of work at least 6 weeks.

The Chief had advised the Mayor that the radios designated for the police cars aren't any good. Other communities aren't able to communicate with them. Trustee Suits suggested verifying this information and then pursue reimbursement for Josh Parente's training costs without including the installation of the radios as part of the settlement.

RECREATION – report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Joanne Sweeney recommended Michelle Baker to fill one of the vacancies on the Recreation Commission. There are currently two vacancies that need to be filled.

Mayor McDermott asked Jeff Lewis, Rec Director to keep a list of volunteer coaches so that the Village can recognize them for their services.

“Tootsie” (Mrs. Lawrence McCall) McCall was thanked for all the work she did to make the Easter Egg Hunt a huge success. Trustee Suits asked that it be noted her sons thought it was the “best ever”. The Mayor will send a special acknowledgement.

The **Summer Concert Schedule** for 2006 has been published and distributed.

Trustees Roy Crandall and Joanne Sweeney discussed alternating attending the Recreation Meeting. This would keep meetings to a minimum for them and also keep the Board advised of activities that are discussed.

Jim Lawton is still assisting Director Lewis at the Recreation Department. The trustees asked that the Mayor speak to Mr. Lewis about eliminating Mr. Lawton's position since there has been ample time to get the department organized from Jeff's absence caused by an automobile accident. Mr. Lewis has been back to work full-time since March 28, 2006.

STREETS/PARKS & MEO reports were received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Amnesty Week was announced by the County to be May 8 – 12, 2006. In order for the Village to participate, Saturday, May 6th Village Residents will be asked to bring items to the compost site on N. Fulton Street. Trash hauler, Almost Anything Trash Removal is supposed to provide two roll offs per their contract with the Village. Mayor McDermott and Clerk Williams have tried on several occasions to reach Steve

Whatman, owner of Almost Anything Trash Removal to schedule this event. There has been no response to date.

Mayor received a letter from Craig Handlemann, James Street resident. He offered suggestions that the Village should purchase a garbage truck and go into the collection of garbage and recyclables. He reinforced his recommendation with the fact that the village has a mechanic who could service the equipment. His letter also stated his opposition of a 30-year PILOT program with 2 + 4 Sr. Housing.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Mayor McDermott thanked Supt. Barber and the Water Department for installing the sign to recognize “Leon Chandler”. A special ceremony will be held April 29, 2006, 10:30 a.m., Newton Water Works Park declaring April 29th: 2006 as “Leon Chandler Day”.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Delinquent Loan report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye. Randy Lewis, Linani’s responded to the letter from Attorney Perfetti that he would like an extension through the month of May to obtain re-financing of his rental property to make payment on his business loan. The Board agreed to his request. Molly Burton and Theresa Small were the only ones who didn’t respond to the attorney’s request. Each of these had signed “confessions of judgment:”

The *attached* resolution was passed, **Motion** Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye **expressing municipal endorsement for the Center for the Arts, Homer, NY.**

The Center for the Arts is applying to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP).

Old Business:

Trustee Sweeney reported on the meeting she attended at the Finger Lakes Mall, Auburn, NY regarding **truck traffic**. She stated there were about 50 people present. They represented several walks of life. Assembly and Senate sent representatives. Representatives from State Police Troop B, Seneca Depot, municipal boards attended. Safety issues, homeland security, weigh stations were topics discussed. Trucks have been routed over county highways to avoid tolls and weigh stations. The group would attempt to work with the truckers to make it more feasible to travel designated routes. High truck traffic, speed, and noise are issues needing to be addressed. The next meeting will be held May 24, 2006 @ 1:00 p.m., at the Finger Lakes Mall Meeting Room, Auburn, NY.

New Business:

Mayor McDermott had a luncheon and met with Senator Seward. He announced that the governor proposed a \$1,217 increase in CHIPS for the Village of Homer and the Legislative budget proposed a \$3,651 increase.

The Mayor reminded the Board that the County was going to start up the C.V.T.S. (County, City, Villages, Towns and Schools) meetings again. The first meeting is scheduled for May 25.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to pay the following bills:**

General Fund	Vouchers #95 - #188	\$163,083.64
Water Fund	Vouchers #39 - #70	\$ 11,222.85
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #39 - #70	\$ 59,611.80

Capital Projects Fund	Check #588 - #591	\$ 3,077.64
Comm.Dev.Block Fund	Check #1417	\$ 2.00

Request received from Robert Nichols, 18 North Main Street, Homer, to discontinue the sewer charge for the building at 16 Maple Avenue (garage). Originally a repair business operated at this location and water service was provided. When the sewer was installed, a stub was provided for this property but apparently never connected. Mr. Nichols stated that the sewer stub was blocked off and capped. **Motion** Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to have Supt. Barber verify the information that the stub has been capped. If this information is correct, the Village will discontinue the sewer service charge from this location effective July 1, 2006 billing.**

Old Circus House, 161 S. Main Street, Homer, and NY – Mayor McDermott received an e-mail from Pete Martin. He and his wife are interested in purchasing this property. He expressed that his short and long term proposed plans for the building were as follows: 1) Restore the 2nd. floor to living quarters including full bath, kitchen and living areas for his wife and himself. Also, he'd like to use some of the space as a graphic design studio to continue servicing his existing customers located in Philadelphia, Detroit, Hollywood and San Diego as well as any new advertising, design and internet opportunities within the local community. 2) Upgrade and replace the heating system, plumbing, electrical, windows and insulation. Reinforce garage structure or replace. 3) Restore, repair and paint building in a color scheme that reflects the 1905 era, when it was built. 4) Restore the 1st floor to use as a retail or craft workshops depending on what they find the community would support. 5) Finish the attic area and add an outside entrance to preserve the 45' diameter footprint, and possibly rent as a small dance studio, karate studio or a personal office or weaving studio. Mr. Martin is from Los Angeles and is flying out to meet with the owners (David and Marsha Ward). His big question is could he get a zoning variance to live on the premises. He asked the Mayor to put him in touch with the right person.

Mayor reported that the **1st Quarter Sales Tax was up 9% over last year's first quarter.**

8:00 p.m. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and a personnel issue.**

8:20 p.m. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye **to reconvene into Regular Session.**

8:20 p.m. Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye **to adjourn.**

**Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer**

**HOMER, NY
May 11, 2006**

5:30 p.m. Special Meeting called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. Purpose of the meeting is to hear insurance proposals from Tanner-Ibbotson, Adams & Son, McNeil & Co., George Bailey Insurance Agency, and Jim Place Agency.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Joanne Sweeney, Michael Berry, Roy Crandall; Trustee Genevieve Suits was absent. Also present: Jo Anne Williams, Clerk-Treasurer; Insurance representatives – Eric Mertz, Brian Togliola, Doug Adams, Julie Froio, Bob Barber, Chuck Spaulding, Jim Place and Bill Oliver.

FIRE DEPARTMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE:

Tanner-Ibbotson – Eric Mertz and Brian Toglia gave their presentation for the Utica National Insurance Group & U.S. Liability Insurance Co. The total quote for fire department coverage was \$15,068.00. This amount did not include coverage for the liquor liability coverage for field days. \$2,625.00 represented the amount from U.S. Liability Insurance Co. for liquor liability. A dividend program was also provided through Utica, which cost \$18,070.00 for the package. (This doesn't include the liquor liability amount.) Training costs are included in the package. A minimum of 25 participants is required. Utica's website explains all the training that is available. Videos are also made available. Current values were kept the same. For volunteers traveling to and from fire scenes, their insurance serves as the primary and Utica is secondary.

The following questions were asked:

- 1) Would the fire police be covered i.e. traffic control for various parades that weren't fire related?

Reply – Utica will cover volunteer fire police to monitor traffic control during parades. Utica feel there's not a lot of exposure.

- 2) Replacement costs – based on McNeil's values, how does the replacement costs work for the vehicles?

Reply - Values listed on the policy. Utica will cover the cost of the repair or replace with a vehicle most closely equivalent and up to an additional 15% to meet current safety standards.

- 3) Does Utica's training cover sexual harassment?

Reply - Sexual Harassment training is covered under policy, probably in video form.

Brian Toglia expressed that the quotes that were submitted were guaranteed for 3 years, with a 5% renewal credit. Utica has an automatic increase in values each year, same as we all experience with our personal properties. The increase comes with a cost, but the 5% renewal credit insures a decrease in premium.

Adams & Son – Doug Adams, president of Adams & Son was present to give the presentation. Mr. Adams submitted a quote for V.F.I.S. This was \$15,868.00. He stated that V.F.I.S. was the biggest writer of emergency services. They have a guaranteed replacement cost. When the question was asked about whose insurance was primary for the volunteers, he stated that V.F.I.S. was the primary. V.F.I.S. offers several training sessions.

Responding to some of the board's questions, Mr. Adams would not recommend raising the deductible on the vehicles. The Village would be doubling our exposure while not receiving much of a credit monetarily. He further stated that the Village does not need the rental reimbursement asked for in the specs as it already exists in the coverage's of the policy from V.F.I.S.'s firm. This was noted in the bid specs #3 notes.

Another question posed by the Board was the cost savings if the 1968 Seagrave was valued at \$10,000 vs. the current \$700,000? The savings per year would be \$899.

Mr. Adams further stated that the firefighters are covered from their driveway to the fire. Also, fire police would be covered to assist with traffic control during parades.

McNeil & Co. E.S.I.P – Representatives, Julie Froio and Bob Barber were present to give their presentation to the Board. E.S.I.P.'s quote was \$23,474.00. Bob Barber stated that the vehicles have guaranteed replacement costs. Exclusive benefit of volunteer firemen, E.S.I.P. is primary should the volunteer have an accident.

McNeil & Co. has covered the Homer Fire Department for the past 10 years. They submitted a premium history, term premiums and loss ratios statements.

Mr. Barber listed 10 products listing why their premium is more than their competitors.

McNeil & Co. has provided on site training on several occasions. They provided training for those who serve alcohol during field day events, and drivers training. Overview of all their services was provided.

The Mayor asked question regarding coverage of the fire police during non-firematic duties i.e. traffic control during parades. Mr. Barber explained V.F.B.L. (Volunteer Firefighters Benefit Law), which is covered through the Cortland County Self Insurance Pool covers members, injured in the line of duty. Questions regarding fire police should be directed to the County. The VFBL supplies a list of firematic duties that cover fire police. Parades are not considered a firematic duty and therefore they aren't covered. The ESIP Property and Casualty Program provides coverage for the members of our Volunteer Fire Department including the Fire Police for action while on duty for the Village. ESIP covers loss or damage to equipment while on duty.

The Clerk noted the Village pays extra for accident/health and is this included in the amount submitted in their quote? The reply was no. Mr. Barber stated with this additional insurance coverage, the fire police would be covered for traffic control during parades.

GENERAL VILLAGE INSURANCE (excluding fire department)

George Bailey Insurance Agency – Chuck Spaulding, president of George Bailey Insurance Agency submitted a quote from Selective Insurance for \$44,042.04. Selective Insurance is rated A+ and requires no membership fees. They carry one-half billion in reserve.

Mr. Spaulding indicated that the Village has \$4,000,000 liability coverage. The Board asked his opinion if that was enough. He recommended that another \$1,000,000 be added to the Umbrella Coverage. The Board asked him to submit a quote for this amount. The Clerk received the following quotes:

Currently \$4,000,000	\$8,099
\$5,000,000	\$8,616
\$6,000,000	\$9,134
\$7,000,000	\$9,651
\$8,000,000	\$10,169
\$9,000,000	\$10,686
\$10,000,000	\$11,130

He explained to the Trustees that the code BPP on the Statement of Values indicates “contents”.

The Board also inquired what the cost would be to raise the deductibles to \$1000.00.

Mr. Spaulding reviewed the following: Business Automobile and list of vehicles, General Liability, Inland Marine, Property Coverage, Umbrella Coverage, Public Officials Liability, Police Professional and Employee Benefits.

Place Agency – NYMIR – Jim Place from Place Agency and Bill Oliver from The Partners Insurance & Financial Services Agency in Vestal submitted a quote for NYMIR \$58,027.70 plus \$3,861.87 (Capital Contribution) for a total of \$61,889.57.

Bill Oliver explained to the Board that a Board of Governors controls NYMIR. NYMIR is a licensed insurance company that provides an opportunity for municipalities to cooperatively control their own insurance coverages

and costs. It is created and supported by the Conference of Mayors, Association of Towns & Association of Counties. As a subscriber, the village would be part owner in NYMIR. As being part owner in the reciprocal, subscribers share in shortfalls. In the past 13 years of operation, NYMIR has consistently produced surpluses. It is expected to continue to be positive. NYMIR's primary goal is to create and manage stability of cost and services.

The annual premium includes a capital contribution. Capital contribution is made for five years. Currently NYMIR consists of 607 subscribers. A list of public entity clients was included. Should the Village want to remove itself from the program, the capital cost would need to be paid in full.

The policy was broken down in different categories and coverage and descriptions were given.

NYMIR also provides a Risk Management Program. A list of services was provided.

8:30 p.m. Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – **all aye to adjourn.**

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
May 16, 2006

7:00 p.m., Public Hearing of the Village Board of Trustees, Village of Homer to amend the zoning map for property located on the south side of Creal Road and the west side of Bedford Street consisting of 8.99+/- acres, pursuant to the Code of the Village of Homer, New York, Article II, Section 228-17 B (1)(e). (Hearing notice attached.) Hearing was held in the Sr. Center of the Town Hall Building.

(Please refer to the attached minutes for summarization of the hearing.)

Hearing adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
May 31, 2006

5:30 p.m. Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott to discuss insurance proposals

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Joanne Sweeney, Michael Berry, Roy Crandall, Michael Berry, and Genevieve Suits; David Perfetti – Attorney; Jo Anne Williams, Village Clerk-Treasurer.

The Board members first reviewed general insurance for the village wide insurance, excluding the Homer Fire Department. The following bids were received:

The George Bailey Insurance Agency - \$44,042.04
Jim Place Agency – NYMIR - \$58,027.70 + \$3,861.87 Capital Contribution = \$61,889.57.

Chuck Spaulding, from **Bailey Agency** only recommended the Board to increase the Umbrella Coverage to \$5,000,000. The current Umbrella limit is \$4,000,000. The increase cost for this would be \$517. The coverage for the village would be through **Selective Insurance**. The village is currently covered through this company.

Discussion evolved regarding a more descriptive method of identifying properties covered by the policy. It was suggested that numbers could be placed on buildings and storage areas.

Jim Place introduced **William Oliver** from The Partners Insurance & Financial Services Agency from Vestal, New York. Mr. Place and Mr. Oliver submitted a proposal for General Insurance from **NYMIR** – New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal. This company provides an opportunity for municipalities to cooperatively control their insurance coverages and cost. This company is supported by NYCOM. A booklet was distributed to the board members outlining the coverages available through NYMIR.

Homer Volunteer Fire Department -

The following companies submitted bids for insurance and gave their presentations:

Tanner-Ibbotson (Utica National Insurance Group & U.S. Liability Insurance Co. (liquor liability) - \$15,068 + \$2,625 (liquor liability) = \$17,693. A dividend plan was offered for \$18,070. This didn't cover the added cost for liquor liability.

Adams & Son, Inc. – VFIS - \$15,868.

McNeil & Co. – E.S.I.P. - \$23,474.

The primary questions that developed from hearing presentations from each of these companies were: 1) Cost savings of raising the deductibles of property deduction and automobile deductions to \$1,000. 2) Coverage of the Fire Police for traffic control during non-firematic functions i.e. parades. 3) Clarification on pollution cleanup and liability issue. 4) E.S.I.P. – cost savings to lower the \$10,000,000 general aggregate limit to \$5,000,000. 4) Lastly, the benefits of carrying an additional policy for accident and health for the volunteers and what it actually covers.

A lengthy discussion followed after all presentations were made. The Board agreed to award the bid at their June 6th, 2006 Board Meeting.

7:25 p.m. meeting adjourned.

**Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer**

**HOMER, NY
June 2, 2006**

10:00 a.m. Bid Opening was conducted for: Ford Tanker, “As is Condition”.

PRESENT: Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer, Beverly Berry – Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Dawn Stevens – Clerk Assistant and Susie MacKecknie – part-time Clerk Assistant.

The following bids were received:

- 1) Cuyler Fire District - \$1,200.00
- 2) Contento Contractors - \$2,725.00

10:02 a.m. Bid Opening closed.

Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

**HOMER, NY
June 6, 2006**

5:30 p.m., Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Joanne Sweeney, Roy Crandall, Michael Berry; David Perfetti – Village Attorney; Jeff Lewis – Recreation Director; Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer; Tom Williams – County Legislator; Gary Shiffer – Town of Homer Justice; Julie Frio – McNeil & Co. representative; Peter Adams – Adams & Co. representative; residents of the Village of Homer – Bill Yacavone, Linda and Fred Whitsett, Elaine Olson, Ward Dukelow, Terry Price, Dusty Stillman, Harry Calale, Lisa and Steve Lewis, Meribeth McEwan, Janet Steck; Eric Mulvihill – News Director – WXHC 101.5 FM.

MINUTES 4/13, 4/12, 5/2, 5/11, 5/16, 5/31, 6/2 were received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

TREASURER's report:

Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye **to amend the Board Minutes of 8/2/05 – Resolution authorizing the Purchase of a Tanker. The first payment date should read May 1, 2007 not 2006.**

On-line Banking Service – Clerk Williams advised the Board that residents using on-line banking services weren't allowing enough time for their payment to arrive prior to the penalty date. The envelopes containing payments aren't postage stamped and therefore the clerk's office isn't able to use the date stamp to determine penalty application. After checking with one of the on-line banking services, the office was advised that the customer should allow 4 business days lead time for payment. The Clerk requested that the Board authorize penalties to be applied from the date of receipt of those payments that don't have postage stamped dates on them. Short discussion followed.

It was determined that a message should be placed on the water/sewer bills advising residents to allow 10 days when using on-line banking to avoid penalties. Also, notation will be made in the fall newsletter.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye. **to authorize the Mayor to sign the Findings and Determination for the Homer Elks' Bingo License.** The Chief of Police provided the investigation of those members listed on the application.

The Board of Trustees received Russell Darr's resignation as Chairman of the Village of Homer Planning Board with regret.

The following individuals were sworn into office: Ward Dukelow – Sr. Representative for the Recreation Commission, term expiring 2011; Stephen Lewis – member to the Village of Homer Planning Board, term expires 2008. Mayor McDermott gave his thanks to all of the commission members and volunteers as it is a thankless job and requires a lot of time and dedication on their part.

Gary Shiffer, Town of Homer Justice gave the Board of Trustees a preliminary report of his first 6 months in office. He has increased the clerk's hours, and currently has two clerks assisting. Dog issues in the village – Mr. Shiffer is holding the owner's feet to the fire according the Village Codes. To date, he has handled one dangerous dog case. Local Laws regarding junk cars are being enforced. The wood stove issue with Mr. Barbarito on S. Main Street is still on going. He is handling local business issues i.e. bad checks and shop lifting.

Supervisor Fred Forbes and himself have determined that the Justice books would be audited two times a year.

The Board thanked Judge Shiffer for attending the meeting and congratulated him on doing a good job.

Sherry Holcomb, CNY Developmental Services addressed the Board, requesting to “adopt a park”, specifically Newton Water Works. Ms. Holcomb introduced two gentlemen both named Dan to the Board. They would be working with a staff member assigned to each of them. Tasks would be assigned to them to pick up the park after the weekend, clean off the tables, do some plantings, and place an octagonal bench around a tree. They would like this to be a long-time commitment between the Village and CNY Developmental Services. They also requested that a representative be present to attend a special meeting in Liverpool, September 2006. They specifically asked that it be a Board Member. **Motion** Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **to approve the “adoption of Newton Water Works Park” by the CNY Developmental Services.**

Eric Mulvihill, acting on behalf as a private resident, proposed that the stretch of property between Cayuga Street and James Street that is owned by the railroad become a “Neighborhood Improvement Project” by planting trees. Trees would be through Spruce Up America program. He stated that the Village currently mows this area. He has contacted the railroad and will obtain permission for this project. He also spoke to Jim Barry at the Homer School about bringing students in to assist with planting the trees. **Motion** Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye. **to have Eric Mulvihill continue with the presented project.**

Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney **to open discussion regarding re-zoning the land located off the Creal Road designated as “Whispering Winds” from R-1 to PDDR.**

Trustee Crandall inquired if this land is designated PDDR, could they have anything on this site? It was stated that only what was designated on the pre-development plan would be accepted on this site. Mr. Crandall stated that he couldn't see any problem with the PDDR as presented and that he wouldn't know how the village would look 30-40 years down the road, and that the project would increase the tax revenue.

Trustee Sweeney indicated that the residents had expressed a lot of opposition to this project, but had also stated they wouldn't be opposed to a single-family complex that would continue with the existing development of the surrounding area.

Mayor McDermott applauded the Board for all the time and hard work they have spent on this particular proposal.

Motion to rezone this area from R-1 to PDDR – Vote as follows: Genevieve Suits – no, Joanne Sweeney – no, Michael Berry – no, Roy Crandall – yes. **The Mayor announced that the area would remain R-1.**

Harry Calale questioned the Board's decision to retain the zone as R-1 after requesting the developer to make changes to the pre-development plan. The Mayor stated the decision was made regarding the designation of the zone change for this particular area not the pre-development plan itself.

Award of Insurance Proposals –

Trustee Roy Crandall posed the questions again regarding changing the agreed amount of value for the vehicles and replacement of a vehicle that was worth a lot less than the agreed amount value with a new vehicle.

Mayor McDermott also stated the issue of the fire police being covered when doing non-firematic detail was also a concern of the board. The example given was monitoring traffic for parades. He commended the Board on the time and effort spent on these proposals.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to continue coverage with Selective Insurance through the George Bailey Agency, Inc. for the village wide insurance coverage. Cost quoted for one year was \$44,042.04.**

Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits to **accept McNeil & Co.’s proposal of \$23,474 for E.S.I.P., vote in favor** – Berry, Suits, **opposed** Crandall and Sweeney. **Mayor McDermott broke the tie by voting in favor of remaining with McNeil & Co.**

Mr. Adams from V.F.I.S. asked how the Board had come to this decision with the difference of the premium being so much. Trustee Suits replied that the pros and cons came remarkably close, but felt it was in the best interest of the Village to remain with McNeil & Co.

Award of 1985 Ford Tanker – Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **to award the bid of \$2750 to Contento’s for the 1985 Ford Tanker.** This was the highest bid received.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY – The Mayor noted the Glenwood Cemetery looked beautiful for the Memorial Day Celebration.

CODES – **report was received as submitted, Motion** Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Violations:

Barbarito, S. Main Street – Mr. Weber is continuing to work with him

Harder, S. Main Street – He appears to be keeping the number of vehicles in control.

Halliday, N. Main Street – is working on their furnace and water heater

Patterson, S. William Street – the yard is looking better and trash is less than before.

Fire Code Inspections – Deputy Clerk-Treasurer inquired what year should be placed on the permit, when the inspection was done in the prior year and the violation was taken care of the following. It was determined that the permit would be for the year it was inspected.

DOGS – **report was received as submitted, Motion** Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye. It was noted that the Clerk should note in her budget folder for the next year that the Board should increase the pickup fees.

POLICE – **report was received as submitted, Motion** Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Mayor stated that there had been an accident in the Junior High School parking lot Saturday. The driver was arrested for DWI. Officer Kemp stated that there were two children in the car. Officer Kemp was left with the 1 ½ yr. old child for a period of time because no one was able to submit papers that would authorize the officer to give custody of the child to. Social Services were contacted, but they indicated that they couldn’t take care of

the situation. The Board was concerned that if an emergency had occurred during this period how the officer would have been able to respond. The Mayor will write a letter to Officer Jason Kemp for the commendable job he did, making sure the child wasn't turned over to the wrong individual. The trustees asked that they each sign it. Also, the Mayor will contact Social Services to discuss the matter with them.

Continuance of obtaining restitution for training costs from the County for Officer Josh Parente– The Board members were all in agreement that the attorney should continue to follow through with the County and if necessary to go the litigation route.

Bicycle Patrol – The Mayor noted this program hasn't been placed into effect due to the absence of Chief Mack. (He is out on medical leave.)

RECREATION report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Concert banners are up. July 4th, the Declaration of Independence will be read on the Village Green at 10:00 a.m.

STREETS/PARKS and MEO report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Trustee Crandall is checking on surveillance cameras because of the continuance of vandalism in the parks and misuse of the compost area. Eric Mulvihill has agreed to assist Mr. Crandall with the research.

The Board authorized Supt. Galeotti to send the Village's street sweeper to the Brockway Museum (former A. B. Brown & Son building) to clean the parking lot for in-kind services.

Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **to change hours for the Village MEO/Mechanic Michael Harter to 7:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.** This will allow him to be on duty when the Police Officer's shift-change. The first thing the officers do is to check out the vehicle. If anything is in need of being done, Mr. Harter is still working and isn't required to return to work.

Intermunicipal Agreement – This agreement was drafted by the County and is to be used when the Village Departments assist another community with one of their projects or when they assist the Village. The village attorney, David Perfetti gave his blessings for the Mayor to sign when it is necessary to provide to another municipality.

Mayor McDermott announced that J.M. Murray Center is continuing to assist with cleaning up downtown and the Center for the Arts.

The Mayor wanted to publicly thank the American Legion for placing the flags on the lamp poles along Main Street. Also, he wanted to recognize the Beautification Committee for the flowers and baskets around the village, and the Garden Club for the flowers planted at the entrance signs to the Village.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted – Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Update on railing for water tank – Supt. Barber spoke with Mike's Welding and they stated that they might be here next week to do the railing.

FIRE Chief's report was received as submitted – Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Acceptance of new tanker – Trustee Michael Berry suggested that all the trustees be present for the final inspection of the vehicle.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT report.

Delinquent Loan report – Linani's has not made their scheduled payments. Therefore, Attorney Perfetti recommended that the Village file the Confession of Judgment. Should Mr. Lewis apply for any additional loans, a lien would show and this would enable him to obtain further financing. **Motion** Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to have Attorney Perfetti file a Confession of Judgment against Randy Lewis, Linani's.**

Ann Hotchkin of Thoma Development had contacted the Clerk and requested that I inquire if the Board was interested in submitting an application for another Community Development Block Grant or H.O.M.E. Grant. The Board responded by wanting the Clerk to ask how much the fee would be for this application. (*Clerk contacted Thoma Development – C.D.B.G. application would be \$5,000(-) 5% discount. H.O.M.E. Grant application would be \$3,000(-)5% discount.*)

C.C.V.T.S. Meeting – Discussion pertained to Sales Tax. The Town of Cortlandville stated that they bring in 26% of the sales tax and receive 8% back. A group was formed to brainstorm and present a proposal how the municipalities should go forward. Onondaga County is expected to vote tonight on whether or not they will offer a tax break to the consumers by lowering their sales tax. The Village Board of Trustees asked County Legislature, Tom Williams **to keep the sales tax the same and NOT reduce** the rate.

Gretchen Abbott Design signed special Parking Permit. This agreement allows the business owner to park their white delivery van in the municipal parking lot in the space that is the most northeast spot in the lot for 1 year, subject to renewal.

NEW BUSINESS:

NYCOM Annual Meeting, June 11-14, 2006 @ Saratoga Springs – No one on the Board is able to attend.

Meeting with S.U.N.Y. Morrisville President – Linda Hartsock, Executive Director of Cortland County Industrial Development Agency contacted the Mayor to meet with the President of SUNY Morrisville, Dr. Ray Cross, to discuss future plans for the Homer Oil Co. located on Center Street. Their interest is to use the plant to produce a bio-diesel fuel. Several people attended this meeting and voiced their opposition due to the prior use creating such an odor problem. Dr. Cross explained to those present a soybean-crushing plant would raise the soybean volume in Central New York and save farmers money in exporting and importing soybean oil and meal. Dr. Cross indicated their interest in this plant is because of its central location and access to the railroad.

Mayor McDermott was very concerned by the attitude of those present and expressed concern it would be indicative of not wanting new businesses in the village. The Board thought a Resolution should be passed expressing their feelings were not the same. **Motion** Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye. -

The following Resolution was passed:

Whereas a private investment group has expressed a desire to study the reopening of the Homer Oil Facility,

And Whereas it is felt this would be good for employment opportunities in the village and for the generation of property tax.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer does hereby wish to continue discussions concerning the reactivation of said facility.

Unanimously approved at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 6, 2006,

Michael McDermott
Mayor, Village of Homer

Update on Trash Hauler's debt with the County - Mayor McDermott stated that Scott Schrader, County Administrator and Steve Whatman, village trash hauler have reached an agreement that Steve Whatman will pay \$1000/week for one year and cash at the landfill.

Steve Whatman expressed to the Mayor that he would like to have the Board consider a fuel surcharge to cover the extra expenses for the increase in fuel costs. The Board asked the Mayor to discuss what amount would be acceptable by Mr. Whatman. An amendment would be needed to attach to the existing contract once this has been determined.

Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney - all aye **to pay the following bills:**

General Fund	Voucher # 189 - #272	\$284,467.84
Water Fund	Voucher # 71 - # 119	\$ 57,749.68
Sewer Fund	Voucher # 71 - #119	\$ 85,297.53
Capital Projects Fund	-----	-----
Comm.Dev.Block Fund	-----	-----

8:35 p.m. Meeting adjourned, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
August 1, 2006

5:30 p.m., Mayor McDermott called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Joanne Sweeney, Genevieve Suits, Michael Berry, Roy Crandall; Clerk/Treasurer – Jo Anne Williams; HFD Chief – Phil Hess; Code Enforcement Officer – Bruce Weber; Attorney – David Perfetti; Police Chief – Daniel Mack; Cortland Standard reporter – Christine Laubenstein; Jim Buttino, Systems East rep.;

RESIDENTS PRESENT: Randy Weatherby, Ward Dukelow, Jack Ferguson, Lori Schlenker, Jim Schlenker, Ed Hammond, Terry Price, Maribeth McEwen, Janet Steck, Mary Alice Bellardini, Jaffrey Harris, Victor Siegle.

MINUTES of July 5, 2006 were accepted as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Jim Buttino, representative from Systems East, Inc., gave a presentation on Innovations in Technology, an Internet payment solution. The system would allow payment to the Village through credit card, debit card and electronic checks. Bills can be paid over the counter or through the Internet 24 hours a day. An annual fee would be \$495. Systems East would provide and maintain the web site and financial transaction interface; the Village would provide the upload and responsible for our accounts receivable information. Training and support would be included.

Visitors would pay a modest site fee in addition to the bill. Some of the features and benefits include:

- Presents bills and calculates interest as the Village specifies, eliminating inaccurate payments
- Supports instant bill addition and swipe readers for variable or in-person payments
- Visitors may pay any bill type to any enrolled municipality in any state as a single payment
- Accepts credit/debit card and eCheck payments.
- Encourages payment, improves delinquency rates, and enhances public relations

Mr. Buttino was thanked by the Mayor for his presentation and was told the Board would determine if this were an option they would offer their residents and get back to him at a later date.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY – The Mayor reported that the telephone number for the Cemetery Office had been changed to 749-3517.

CODES - report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Odor complaint was received for 36 James Street. Code Officer Weber indicated that the property owner has been notified.

Sample legislation for municipalities to approve had been distributed to the trustees for their review. After a short discussion, the Mayor suggested that a meeting be scheduled with a couple of the trustees and Bruce Weber to review the law to see if any portion that doesn’t pertain to the Village can be omitted. No meeting date was scheduled at this time.

Mayor McDermott had been contacted to see if the village had any ordinances that addressed outdoor dining. After checking the Village of Homer’s Codes, it didn’t appear to have any section that covers this issue.

A-frame structure on the corner of Clinton Street and Rte. 281 (N. West Street) is being considered for “Used Car Sales”.

Inquiries have also been made regarding the Leonard Denison property on S. West Street. It was noted to the interested party that the front section of this lot is zoned B-2, while the back portion is zoned R-2.

Complaints are still being received for property located at 56 Cortland Street regarding unacceptable language. The Homer Police Department continues to patrol the area.

DOG report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

POLICE report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

The Board of Trustees noted the new 2006 Dodge patrol car looked great. It is detailed with blue lights on the back and red lights on the front.

The **Mayor and Board congratulated Chief Mack on his 20 years of service in the Police Department** and welcomed him back from his recent back surgery.

Josh Parente update – The attorney noted that there were two causes of action against the County. These are outlined and set forth pursuant to the General Municipal Law, §72-c. According to the formula set forth, a request in the amount of \$47,803.75 has been submitted to the county. They offered to reimburse \$10,500, which wasn't acceptable by the Mayor and Trustees.

Chief Mack indicated that the County has been calling the Village Police Officers during their scheduled work hours and their down time, trying to recruit them for the Sheriff's Department. He also noted that the County wasn't requesting background checks on the officers that were being recruited. He further stated, if we lose an officer, the Village loses a shift of coverage.

The Mayor will send a letter to the county legislature explaining his disappointment of the Sheriff's Department raiding the Village Police Department.

FIRE CHIEF'S report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Chief Phil Hess indicated that the new tanker was all on-line and commissioned for duty.

Chief Hess requested that the Police Chief's vehicle be passed on to the Fire Chief rather than requesting sealed bids. Trustee Berry explained that the Board had recently reviewed the village owned vehicles and buildings and reduced the values on each of them, and increased the deductibles to save the taxpayers money on insurance coverage for the village. To keep this vehicle and assign it to the Fire Chief would place another vehicle in the fleet and add additional costs for fuel, insurance, and repairs. This wouldn't be a sound decision on behalf of the Board. Based on this, the Board declined his request.

Insurance Coverage – Trustees Crandall and Berry reviewed the policies that were awarded to Bailey Agency and McNeil & Co. and made several changes. Changes made to the policies held by McNeil & Co. saved over \$3400. Deductibles were increased from \$500 to \$1000. Portable equipment deductible was raised from \$250 to \$500.

Chief Hess explained to the residents present that the **fire horn was sounded** only for **actual fires and automobile accidents**. The Fire Department no longer sounds the horns for E.M.S. calls.

Ladder inspections – Chief Hess explained that there were 3 minor failures that occurred during the ladder inspections.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

The president, Bruce Crandall indicated that bids were needed for painting of trim around the new windows and repair of water damaged ceilings in the day room and upstairs bunk room. Trustee Suits requested the clerk research how much was available in the reserve funds for the Fire Station and advise the Board.

RECREATION report was received as submitted, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Trustee Berry requested that the plans for Griggs Field be made available for the Board to review prior to commencement of work. It was also suggested that the Little League be kept informed on construction. (Clerk checked with Recreation Director, Jeff Lewis and he stated that the Little League organization was involved in all the meetings.)

STREETS/PARKS & MEO reports were received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

The RFP's for the tree service have been sent out.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Waterline Flushing is being extended.

Kathleen Custeau's water leak – Supt. Barber was able to inspect the property and found the kitchen faucet needed total replacement and there is a small leak on an outdoor spigot. The kitchen faucet was allowing a full stream of water to run all the time and the outdoor spigot doesn't have a turn off in the basement. Discussion evolved regarding an emergency grant for the repairs. The Village will continue to work with Social Services to rectify the problem.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT report.

Delinquent Loans reviewed. Attorney Perfetti filed Confession of Judgment against Theresa/Dennis Small. Attorney Perfetti noted that the judgment filing date should be noted on the village records because when and if the loan has been satisfied, additional penalties can be collected from the date it was filed.

Surveillance cameras – Trustee Crandall explained that Eric Mulvihill was going to do research on this for him and he isn't present this evening.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Cerio contacted Mayor McDermott regarding constructing single-family homes on the Gutches property that was annexed into the northwest section of the village. There has been no further discussions of this since the initial contact.

Energy Supplier – Pamphlets were included with recent National Grid bills indicating that the customer would need to select an energy supplier. In months to come, they would continue to transport the utility but will no longer provide the energy. The Clerk asked for the Board's assistance. It was suggested to contact Gary Van Gorder at the Cortland Chamber of Commerce. Clerk Williams will check with the chamber.

September Board Meeting date was changed to Thursday, September 7, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center of the Town Hall Building.

Clerk Williams noted that NYCOM's Fall Training School was going to be held in Albany, October 2 – 6, 2006. The October Board Meeting date is October 3rd. She asked if Joan Fitch could be hired to take minutes so she could attend Fall Training. **Motion** Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to hire Joan Fitch**

to take minutes of the October Board Meeting to allow the Clerk to attend Fall Training School in Albany.

2 + 4 Sr. Housing – The Village extended the stop order to allow the extra time needed to tarp the initial construction to protect it from nature’s elements. Their workers had been called off the site to work on another project that was scheduled to open and assist them with completion of that job.

Attorney Perfetti had filed a Notice of Appeal with the courts regarding the recent decision handed down in the lawsuit against the Village.

Attorney Mahlon Perkins was contacted to assist the Village Planning Board with the SEQR process to make sure all avenues are handled correctly. His fee is \$180/hr. It is estimated that he will need 10-20 hours. **Motion** Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye **to hire Mahlon Perkins at \$180/hr. to assist with the SEQR process.**

Margo Yager has been appointed as the new chair for the Planning Board. A meeting has been scheduled with Attorney Perkins Friday at 1:00 p.m. to go over the application.

The Board requested that Supt. Galeotti check the site on Cortland Street to make sure that everything is secure and to blacktop the road where the utility connections have been made. Plastic fencing should also be placed around the construction area designating no public access.

Update on Morrisville College Proposal - The Mayor hasn’t received any word regarding the award of this project to any particular site.

Status of R-2 – R-1 for Clinton Street, North and South Main Street within the Village historic district. New papers were presented to the Board asking to include additional areas for consideration: N. Main Street, Willow Park Dr. East and Warren Street. By including these streets, it would make the R-1 area more contiguous. Code Officer Weber indicated that some other type of zoning could be applied to this section that would address the issue of eliminating changing single-family to multiple-family dwellings.

Discussion followed. The Board of Trustees would like to invite the town assessor, Lawrence Fitts to attend the September Board Meeting to explain how the assessment is determined for single-family and multiple-family homes. The Clerk will contact the assessor to attend this meeting.

Trustee Suits indicated that the Village might want to consider having a new Comprehensive Plan done. Ann Hotchkin from Thoma Development contacted Trustee Suits and indicated that their company does comprehensive plans. The fee is \$25,000.

Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye **to forward the zone change request from Mr. Stone to the County Planning Department for their recommendation.** Mr. Stone will contact code officer Weber for the necessary forms.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael McDermott – all aye **to pay the following bills:**

General Fund	Voucher #368 - #473	\$165,857.48
Water Fund	Voucher #153 - #183	\$ 12,792.74
Sewer Fund	Voucher #153 - #181	\$ 47,346.44
Capital Projects Fund	-----	-----
Comm.Dev.Block Grant	-----	-----

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael McDermott – all aye **to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
September 7, 2006

5:30 p.m. the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. The meeting was held in the Sr. Center of the Town Hall Building. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Joanne Sweeney, Michael Berry, Roy Crandall, and Genevieve Suits; David Perfetti – Attorney; Dan Mack – Chief of Police; Lawrence Barber – Supt. Water/Sewer; Jeffrey Lewis – Recreation Director; Eric Mulvihill – New Director WXHC 101.5 FM; Lawrence Fitts – Town Assessor; Christine Laubenstein – Cortland Standard reporter; Jo Anne Williams – Village Clerk-Treasurer.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Williams, County Legislator; Kelly Heath, Patricia Greenwood, Bonnie Jackson, Cynthia Hough, Robert Lindley, Lillian Lindley, Alice Heath.

Presentation of 30 and 35 year NYCOM Certificates – Mayor McDermott recognized two village employees who have been employed for 30 and 35 years.

First to be recognized was Alice Heath, who has been a crossing guard for 30 years. She can be found assisting the children crossing on Main Street where the Key Bank is located. Secondly, the Mayor acknowledged Lawrence Barber, Supt. of Water/Sewer Department, whom the Village has employed for 35 years.

The Mayor thanked each of these employees for their years of dedication and employment with the Village of Homer and presented each of them with certificates from NYCOM.

Mayor McDermott stated at last month's Board Meeting the question arose how residences were assessed. The question was posed when the Board was requested to consider changing the zoning for a particular portion of the village from R-2 to R-1. It was suggested that the town assessor be asked to attend a village board meeting to address these questions. With this in mind Town Assessor Lawrence Fitts was invited to attend this month's board meeting to answer questions of the Board. The Mayor introduced **Lawrence Fitts, Town Assessor who went on to explain how assessment is determined.**

Mr. Fitts noted that he has been in the appraisal business since 1964. He went on to explain that multi-family homes are typically assessed lower than single-family properties. Typically multi-family homes:

- Don't provide the privacy that single homes provide
- 2 or 3 family homes aren't typically as in good condition of those of single family homes
- 2 to 3 family residences usually are in areas where other 2 to 3 family residences are located. As a result, not usually as suitable an area to those where single families are located
- Multi-family homes are more likely to have absentee landlords who don't put money into the homes.

These are reasons that multi-family homes usually sell for less than the single-family homes.

He continued to state he understood why municipalities would want to make the change. People don't want their neighbors to convert their single-family homes to multi-family homes and in turn lower the value of their

home. The down side of this, some families could be driven out of their houses as a result of higher assessments.

The request from Michael Stone to change the zoning from R-2 to R-1 will be heard by the County Planning Board, September 20, 2006, and recommendations will be referred back to the Village.

Cynthia Hough, Director of Youth Ministries from the Methodist Church addressed the Board of Trustees regarding “Halloween in Homer” celebration. She noted that last year they had a haunted house in the basement of the church so children could attend an event in a safe environment. This turned out to be a huge success, so they decided to include others in the vicinity. The Congregational Church agreed to hold games, and craft items from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The Methodist Church will offer a larger and better-haunted house from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. The Center for the Arts will have half-hour movies 5-8:30 or 9:00 p.m. At 9:00 p.m. they will have a full-length feature to draw in the older teens. The Chief of Police will be present across the street from the Village Green checking candy.

The Fire Department was asked to participate, but they explained they would be busy with their own children that evening and it wouldn't work for them. The Recreation Department usually conducts their parade and costume judging prior to Halloween at the Elementary School. Ms. Hough will be contacting the downtown merchants to inquire if they would be interested in participating.

Trustees suggested contacting the service clubs to see if any of them would like to participate. Mayor McDermott will contact the American Legion. David Gray's name was given to contact at the Elks Club. Another suggestion would to include judging of homes decorated for Halloween. Painting the windows of the downtown stores. All and all her main concern was to offer a safe gathering place for the young trick or treaters and teens to gather.

Jeff Lewis, Recreation Director updated the Board on the progress of Griggs Field. Plans were placed on the table to be reviewed showing the locations of the proposed fields. The proposal contains 2-little league fields, 1-softball field, and 1-t-ball field. The fields will be set up to comply with Little League Standards. This would allow tournament play and bring additional revenue into the area. A new concession stand will be constructed with bathrooms, storage rooms, and second story cupola that can used to announce games on three of the fields, and also a mechanics room.

Director Lewis inquired if lighting on the field would be a problem. The Board responded that they didn't feel it would be a problem since in years past the Homer Braves had lighting and the microds had lighting. The Little League has been involved with all the planning as well as Supt. Galeotti and himself.

Tom Williams, County Legislator asked the Board of Trustees their opinion of the suggested Sales Tax formula that would increase the Town of Cortlandville's revenue by 1%. The Town of Cortlandville's rationale is that the sales tax revenue mainly generates from the stores located in their township, and therefore should receive more in sales tax.

Board members explained to Mr. Williams that the Village's second largest revenue comes from sales tax and that the Village needed to do everything possible to protect those funds. Although the Board wasn't entirely sold on the proposed formula, they felt that realistically they would have to go with the one presented. County Legislator Williams will take this recommendation to the legislature.

MINUTES OF 8/1/2006 were received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

TREASURER'S report:

Budget Modification: Increase A960-A3410.401-\$1092.00

Increase A510-A2680-\$1092.00

Purpose is to record insurance recovery for damaged fire hose and Nozzle. Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Budget Modification: Debit A511 - \$22390.68

Credit A960-A3120.200R-\$22390.68

To record purchase of 2006 Dodge Charger Police Car from the Police Car Reserve. Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Budget Modification: Decrease A962 - \$10,000.00

Increase A960 – A7140.401G-\$10,000

To transfer funds directly into the operating account for Griggs Field Project rather than into the Reserves as presented in the Budget. Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Financial report of revenues and expenditures for period ending August 31, 2006 was accepted as presented, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael McDermott – all aye.

Trustees inquired about the status of the amount expended for fuel. Clerk Williams to research and present the figures to the Board.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye to approve the amendment to the Bingo License for the Homer Elks Club to increase the jack pot to \$100/week to a maximum of \$700, rather than \$50/week to maximum of \$700.00.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

POLICE – report received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Patrolman Jason Kemp gave his resignation and went to work for the Cortland County Sheriff's Department. Chief Mack noted in his report that this was the 5th officer he has lost to the County since he's been Chief.

Chief Mack asked that the Board approve a Purchase Order to paint his car. The Board instructed him to get additional quotes.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye to authorized the Clerk to advertise for seals bids for the 2000 Chevrolet Impala Police Car. Bids to be received and opened September 28, 2006.

CEMETERY – Clerk Williams showed samples printed from the G.I.S. plotter. The map showed an overview of the Glenwood Cemetery showing all the Sections and Lots, approximate size was 37" X 33". Clerk Assistant Dawn Stevens gave other samples to show the different options the program offers locating burials etc.

Another map was shown that defines the area of the fire contracts with the Towns of Scott, Homer, Cortlandville, and Summerhill. The Clerk went on to explain to the Board that this G.I.S. Program offers limitless options and suggested that if they needed information for specific purposes to check with the office and see if we could obtain the information from this program.

CODES – report was received as submitted, Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Code Officer Bruce Weber declared 32 Cortland Street a dangerous building. Mr. Weber posted a notice of such on the property. A copy of Section 78-5 of the Village of Homer Code of Ordinance was given to the Trustees and Attorney so they could follow the next steps required in this action. Attorney Perfetti was reluctant to proceed with actions until such time he had proof that the owner had been advised. Code Officer Weber sent a certified letter/receipt requested to the owner. The card indicating he was in receipt of the notice had not yet been received by the Clerk's Office. Mayor McDermott will speak to Code Officer Weber regarding this issue. The Clerk was asked if the taxes were current on the property. She stated that she would check and get back to them. (The Clerk checked the status and the taxes have been paid up to date. They are currently held in escrow.)

Proposed legislation for "Administration and Enforcement of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code" - Trustees Genevieve Suits and Joanne Sweeney will meet with Code Officer Bruce Weber to review the proposed legislation and adapt for the Village of Homer.

36 James Street – odor on the premises is being cleaned up.

56 Cortland Street – Code Officer hasn't received any further complaints.

DOGS – report was received as submitted, **Motion** Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

RECREATION – report was received as submitted, **Motion** Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Mayor McDermott explained that one of the local merchants was upset that the trophies for recreation weren't ordered from their store. After checking with the director, it was determined that water bottles were given to the soccer participants instead of trophies because of the lack of participation in the end of the season awards picnic.

STREETS/PARKS and MEO report was accepted as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

RFP's for Tree Service – After reviewing the two proposals submitted to the Village, Supt. Galeotti recommended awarding Steve Dafoe again for one year. Both he and Stub's Tree Removal quoted the same for services with the exception of stump grinding. Stub's was cheaper for the larger diameter trees, but Supt. Galeotti indicated the majority of the trees were within the smaller dimension.

Clerk Williams indicated that Mr. Dafoe never signed his contract from last year and it was important to have the signed contract and insurance certificates required in the RFP. Based on this information, the Board asked the Clerk to notify Mr. Dafoe that he was awarded the contract, but if the Village didn't receive a signed contract for both this year and last year within two weeks of the award letter, the Village would have no other alternative than to award the bid to the other bidder.

Complaints received on excessive dog waste on the Village Green - Short discussion followed. The Mayor stated he would contact the Congregational Church regarding this matter to see if anything could be done to resolve the problem.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Kathleen Custeau's large water usage, N. Main Street was resolved. The Office of the Aging contracted plumbing repair. Apparently, the water lines and drain hookups had been installed improperly causing the lines to burst. The water/sewer bill is extremely high and the village office was notified by Social Services that they

could not assist with payment of the bill. After a short discussion, the Board determined that the outstanding bill would become a lien against her property and the water would not be shut off.

Village of Homer water wins Cortland County taste contest. In the Regional Contest, the Village of Homer came in third. First place finishers would go on to the State level.

FIRE CHIEF's report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

The previous month's report indicated that work needed to be done at the Fire Station. The Board requested the balances of the reserve accounts, which are as follows:

Fire Station Reserve - \$32,298.94

Fire Repair Reserve - \$41,758.51

FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye. The monthly report indicated that curtains for the alarm room were going to be provided by Gretchen Abbott Design. Trustee Crandall was asked to check on this item.

Two applications were approved for membership into the following fire company:

Mora C. Harris, 7 S. Main Street, #3, Homer, NY – West Side Hose Company No. #3 and

Timothy D. Metcalf, 32 Cayuga Street, Homer, NY – Triumph Hose Company

No. #1 (physicals were attached to both applications)

Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

C.D.B.G. Delinquent Loan report was received as submitted, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye. Attorney Perfetti asked the Clerk to continue to send late notices to those that Confession of Judgments have been filed against.

Request to subordinate from William P. Gower, 21 Grove Street, Homer, NY – After considerable discussion, the Board asked the Clerk to correspond with the Gowers and express that the Board isn't in favor of subordination even though they appear to have an excellent credit history with the village. They recommended that if they would like to refinance, to consider borrowing enough to include the balance of the CDBG loan and pay it off.

Elizabeth Brewster House seeks assistance with building and driveway repairs. Carl Edlund, member of the Board at the Brewster House contacted the Mayor to inquire if the Village had any grant funds available for building and driveway repairs. After checking with Thoma, it was noted they would be able to apply for a grant as a not-for-profit organization. Notice of Award of these types of grants is a very lengthy process. They would also be competing with the Library and Center for the Arts.

Phillips Free Library is scheduled to close due to asbestos removal. Mayor McDermott indicated that they would be relocating to a temporary location. To date, this location hasn't been determined. Board members met with the Mayor to discuss possibilities. They would like to keep it close by for all practical purposes.

Trustee Michael Berry suggested the portion of the former A.B. Brown building that housed CNY Office Products. Other locations recommended were the Center for the Arts and the former Christopher's Bakery Building on N. West Street.

OLD BUSINESS:

LEAD AGENCY FOR 2 + 4 SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT – Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye. **That the Village of Homer Board of Trustees has no interest in acting as lead agency for the Two Plus Four Homer Senior Housing Project and hereby authorizes the Village of Homer Planning Board to be named as lead agency.**

Surveillance cameras for Durkee Park and Compost Site on N. Fulton Street – Eric Mulvihill researched options for monitoring both these sites. He stated that the village would need 4 cameras for the two sites. Cost would be estimated at \$1500. The cameras would be wireless, easy to mount, moveable, and encased in weatherproofed domes. Trustee Roy Crandall, Eric Mulvihill, Supt. Michael Galeotti, and Chief Mack to get together to discuss what would be needed in order to prosecute violators and continue from there.

Mayor McDermott advised the Board of the Two Plus Four Senior Housing attorney costs accrued through August 17th.: David Perfetti - \$5629.32 and Mahlon Perkins - \$2,776.75 for a total of \$8406.07.

National Grid included with their bills stuffers that indicated that customers would need to select an electric supplier. National Grid would provide the transmission lines, but someone else would provide the energy. On the Board's recommendation, Clerk Williams contacted Gary Van Gorder of the Cortland Chamber of Commerce. He gave the Clerk the name of the contact person at Advantage Energy. The Clerk made the contact and is awaiting paper work from them.

Insurance adjustment made to building values - Trustees Berry and Crandall met with Chuck Spaulding – Bailey Agency and Julie Froio – McNeil & Company to review the building values. After considerable discussion adjustments were made to the building values owned by the Village. The Superintendents of the departments as well as the Fire Chief also reviewed these values. They reduced the coverage of the water tanks based on the fact it would take a major catastrophe before the company would pay for any damage, on the other hand Mr. Spaulding suggested some coverage on the new tank. The Board suggested that the Mayor remove entirely the old water tanks from insurance coverage and check the reasoning for recommending coverage on the new tank.

NYCOM Public Works Conference and Fall Training School – Mayor McDermott inquired if any Board members were interested in attending either of these conferences. The Board indicated there was no interest in either.

Mayor McDermott announced the **2006 River Clean-Up sponsored by Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District is being held Saturday, September 30, 2006 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. This is for any stream, river or lake in Cortland County. Participation is encouraged. To register, contact Cortland Co. Soil & Water Conservation 607-753-0851, Ext. 3 by September 15, 2006.**

Planning Board Chairperson, Margo Yager asked the Board's permission to attend the "Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development Law" seminar in Syracuse, NY October 27,2006 by Lorman Education Services. Cost is \$369. She would attend and then train the Planning Board upon her return. Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye. **Granting permission for Margo Yager, Planning Board Chairperson to attend this seminar for a cost \$369.00 and to train the Planning Board upon her return.**

Jim Stockwin completed survey work for the easement of Donald and Gloria Lawson, 15 Tobin Drive, Homer. Purpose of this easement is for proposed drainage over the lands of Donald and Gloria Lawson. Attorney Perfetti will complete the necessary papers for the easement.

Drainage on Copeland Ave. – Plugged drain was located on the property owned by Rick & Rich (formally Barden & Robeson). The Town of Homer and Village worked together with permission from D.E.C. and cleaned out several feet of a drain that become clogged over the years. By doing so, standing water on Park Street and Center Street lowered considerably. It also took care of the standing water around the railroad tracks.

Trash pickup to change commencing Monday, September 11, 2006. Because of financial problems, Almost Anything Trash Removal owned by Steve Whatman can no longer operate as a business. A temporary agreement has been reached between Superior Trash Removal and the Village of Homer to pick up the garbage/recycling at \$105/hr. for each truck. As soon as possible, the trustees will work out new specs to advertise for collection of garbage and recycling.

Memo to fire chiefs – When reviewing the bills, Trustee Suits questioned reimbursement of mileage of one of the fire chiefs because the period for reimbursement included dates from the previous fiscal year. The Clerk noted she had sent a memo out in the spring stating reimbursement must be within the fiscal year budgeted. **Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye to have the clerk send another memo stating all mileage must be submitted within 60 days of the date in which it occurred and also prior to the end of the fiscal year. No mileage reimbursement will be reimbursed from the prior year and this will be strictly enforced.**

8:20 p.m. Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and personnel issues.

9:00 p.m. Motion Roy Crandall, 2nd. Genevieve Suits - all aye to return to Regular Session.

Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye to approve the following Budget Modification Debit A962 - \$22,000; Credit A960 – A8160.401 - \$22,000. Purpose of this is to move additional money from that which was intended to go into the Fire Truck Reserve (\$10,000) and Machinery Reserve (\$12,000) to A8160.401 to assist with additional expenses needed to cover trash expenses due to default of trash hauler contract.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael McDermott – all aye to amend the “Village of Homer Employee Handbook” §807 Medical Insurance Board of Trustees – to read: The Village provides health insurance to members of the Board of Trustees. The Village contributes up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) toward their premium per fiscal year whether they elect individual or family coverage.

Should a trustee elect not to be covered under the village policy, he or she is eligible to be reimbursed for health insurance costs incurred by themselves or spouses or combination of each. The amount to be reimbursed is up to \$1000. A lump sum reimbursement will be made to the trustee upon submission of a document certifying this has been deducted from their payroll or paid to another provider.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye to pay the following bills:

General Fund	Vouchers #474 - #575	\$214,638.74
Water Fund	Vouchers #184 - #218	\$ 19,032.19
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #184 - #219	\$ 17,634.18
Capital Projects Fund	-----	-----
Comm.Dev.Block Grant	-----	-----

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

**HOMER, NY
September 29, 2006**

Bid opening scheduled for September 28, 2006 @ 10:00 a.m. was postponed until September 29, 2006. This was due to the Village Clerk's Office being closed because the Town Justice was holding a trial in the Sr. Center. This is the only access to the Town Hall Building because the main entrance is being reconstructed.

PRESENT: Dan Mack – Police Chief; Dawn Stevens, Beverly Berry, Susie MacKecknie – office staff; Jan Horner and Jo Anne Williams – Village Clerk-Treasurer.

10:00 a.m. the following bids for the 2000 Chevrolet Impala Police Car were opened and recorded.

- 1. Bay Ridge Motors, Inc.
1869 Richmond Terrace
Staten Island, New York 10310
718-720-1919
\$1113.00**

- 2. Grace Quality Used Cars
945 Lincoln Highway
Morrisville, PA 19067-3573
215-736-3334
\$1456.00**

- 3. Police Cars Unlimited Inc.
PO Box 770893
Woodside, NY 11377
718-387-8888
\$888.00**

Bids will be given to the Mayor and Board of Trustees and awarded at the October 3, 2006 Board Meeting.

**Michael H. McDermott
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer**

**HOMER VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting • Tuesday, 3 October 2006 • 5:30 PM • Basement Meeting Room**

Officials Present (*Absent)

Michael McDermott, Village Mayor
Michael Berry, Village Trustee
*Roy Crandall, Village Trustee
Gen Suits, Village Trustee
Joanne Sweeney, Village Trustee

Others Present

David Perfetti, Village Attorney
Joan E. Fitch, Recording Secretary

Public Present

Bernard Thoma, Wes Petty(?), Eric Mulvihill, Janet Steck, Cynthia L. from Cortland Standard.

At 5:35 p.m., Mayor Michael McDermott called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

THOMA DEVELOPMENT rep, Wes Petty, gave a slide presentation on updating the Village's Comprehensive Plan. Estimated cost of performing the work, as stated by Bernie Thoma, would be from \$25,000 to \$30,000. Time frame for completion: twelve to fourteen months. Board asked Mr. Thoma to submit a proposal in writing.

ERIC MULVIHILL discussed in-kind services for "Winterfest." Eric, a member of the Steering Committee for this event to be held February 9-10, 2007, asked if the Village could, in some way, become more involved, e.g., erecting signs at Village entrances (similar to Cortland's Pumpkinfest), involvement of DPW, Fire Department. Mayor listed some items the Village already helped out with. Trustee Berry stated Village would do "whatever is needed, within reason." Regarding Rec Department involvement, Board suggested that Mr. Lewis be invited to attend a Steering Committee meeting. Eric will take Board's comments back to the Committee.

SCOTT EVENER, re his water/sewer bill. Mr. Evener unable to attend meeting.

MINUTES of September 7, 2006 were accepted a submitted. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd Michael Berry; all aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Board reviewed increase in fuel costs for past year, as contained in 9/19/06 memo to them from Treasurer Jo Anne Williams.

Treasurer's Report accepted as presented. Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd Michael Berry; all aye.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CODES – report was accepted as submitted. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd Joanne Sweeney; all aye.

DOG report accepted as submitted. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd Michael Berry; all aye.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Board scheduled Public Hearing on Czimmer house at 32 Cortland Street for Thursday, 26 October 2006 at 5:30 p.m.

Board accepted Bid of \$1,456 submitted by Grace Quality Used Cars of Morrisville, PA, for the 2000 Chevrolet Impala police car. Motion Michael Berry, 2nd Genevieve Suits; all aye.

No quotes received for painting Chief's car.

Parente – Attorney Perfetti reported that all paperwork has been filed with the court.

Police Report accepted as submitted. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd Joanne Sweeney; all aye.

RECREATION Report received. **Trustee Suits asked who hooked up the electric service to the signs on Calale Field; it is still not done. Temporary parking restrictions on Route 281 near Calale Field was discussed.** Report accepted as submitted. Motion **Genevieve Suits, 2nd Joanne Sweeney; all aye.**

STREETS & PARKS:

Mayor McDermott reported that tree grant dictates what kind and where trees can go. Eric Mulvihill working with Garden Club regarding trees along railroad.

Mayor reported certified letter had been sent to railroad regarding complaints received on Cayuga Street crossing; complaints should be directed to NYSDOT.

Steve Dafoe signed tree contract.

Report accepted as submitted. Motion **Michael Berry, 2nd Genevieve Suits; all aye.**

WATER & SEWER:

Village properties (4) without water meters were discussed. Trustees agreed they should be installed.

Ladder on water tank discussed.

Sewer service for Damon discussed. Owner paying for water/sewer, but not hooked up. Insurance liability questioned by Trustee Berry. Not in business of hooking up sewer for homeowners. Trustee Berry suggested hiring company to do this instead of using DPW.

Report accepted as submitted. Motion **Michael Berry, 2nd Joanne Sweeney; all aye.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Open House scheduled for 5 October 2006. Chiefs have been notified about mileage reimbursement. Report accepted as submitted. Motion **Genevieve Suits; 2nd Michael Berry; all aye.**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Report – Attorney Perfetti reported that letters have been sent. Report accepted as submitted. Motion **Joanne Sweeney, 2nd Genevieve Suits.**

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor reported on insurance values and updated the Trustees on the Sales Tax agreement.

County Planning Board report on proposed Zoning Map Amendment (Stone/Ferguson) was discussed. Mayor has some issues, but thinks Board should hold up on this pending Comprehensive Plan decision. Will revisit this if Comprehensive Plan is not going to be updated. Trustee Berry thought that Village should start putting money aside for future update of Plan. A motion was made by Trustee Suits to postpone any decision on the zoning change until a decision has been made on updating the Village's Comprehensive Plan. Second Michael Berry; all aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor reported no decision yet on proposed change in election charge back to municipalities.

Trustees had all received info on insurance available through Chamber of Commerce for members.

Trustees had no objections to appointment of Dawn Stevens and Susie MacKecknie as Sub-Registrars during the period the Clerk and Deputy Clerk are attending NYCOM's Fall Training School in Albany.

Mayor McDermott acknowledged \$50 donation to Glenwood Cemetery by Dorothy J. Andrews' Estate.

Trustee Sweeney questioned what services were provided by Love Consultants (re DPW) and Dickman Associates. No answers received.

ATTORNEY: Attorney David Perfetti reported Parente Summons verified and Complaint served.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd Joanne Sweeney, all aye to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Joan E. Fitch
Recording Secretary 4 October 2006

**HOMER, NY
October 26, 2006**

Mayor McDermott called the Special Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Sr. Center of the Town Hall Building.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Roy Crandall; Absent – Trustees – Michael Berry and Joanne Sweeney. Also present: Attorney David Perfetti, Code Officer Bruce Weber, Clerk-Treasurer Jo Anne Williams.

Public present: Margaret Perfetti

Purpose of this meeting is to resolve to expend dollars from the Recreation Equipment Reserve and set dates for proposed local law #1 – 2006 and date for November Board Meeting.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye to expend \$18,000 from the Recreation Equipment Reserve for the purpose of fencing, backstops and materials for the field at Griggs Field. This expenditure is subject to permissive referendum.

Election Day is November 7, 2006 and is also the regular date for the Board of Trustees to meet. The Senior Center will not be available to use because of Elections. The Board members determined that they did not wish to meet at a different date and would therefore use the Board Room of the Town Hall Building to hold their monthly meeting. The Board Meeting is scheduled for the regular time of 5:30 p.m. and will meet at their regular meeting date, which is the first Tuesday of the month.

The Board set December 5th, 2006 at 5:25 p.m. for a Public Hearing to hear proposed Local Law #1 – 2006, **A Local Law providing for the Administration and Enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.**

PUBLIC HEARING was called to order by Mayor McDermott to consider the matter of property located at 32 Cortland Street, owned by Matthew Czimmer in reference to Village Code violations of Chapter 78.

Mayor asked if the public wished to comment.

Bruce Weber, Code Enforcement Officer found the property located at 32 Cortland Street continues to be in violation of having dangerous buildings as outlined in the Code of Ordinances for the Village of Homer per Chapter 78. Previously he had presented to the Board a report that included pictures of the structures at this location and noted that the conditions remained the same and that no work had been done to correct the violation. This report was dated September 19, 2006.

August 4, 2006, Mr. Weber had sent a certified letter to Mr. Czimmer stating that tax map # 76.26-01-03.000 representing the property located at 32 Cortland Street was deemed unsafe per Chapter 78 of the Code of the Village of Homer. Both structures have roofs that have insufficient strength to be reasonably safe. Mr. Czimmer was given thirty (30) days to repair, vacate or demolish the structures. The letter also noted that this property was in violation of Section 303.7 of the Property Maintenance Code of New York State.

It was so noted, that the property owner, Matthew Czimmer did not appear for this hearing. He was sent a copy of the legal notice per certified mail of which the Village didn't receive any documentation that he had signed for it.

Attorney David Perfetti stated that he had been in touch with Robert S. Leni, Attorney from Shapiro & DiCaro, LLP in Rochester, NY. Their office was retained by the mortgage holder, Washington Mutual, in connection with the pending property violation for Matthew Czimmer. He stated that Washington Mutual Bank was prepared to make the required repairs to the subject property in order to cure the existing violations and preserve its interest in the collateral. They requested that their office be advised of all proceedings involving the property. They asked that the Village not take any action to repair or demolish the property without advance notice to their office.

After discussion of the Board, the following resolution was passed, **Motion** Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye. **To contact Matthew Czimmer by certified mail advising him that the Board of Trustees is granting him or his representative thirty (30) days to initiate repair to the buildings located at 32 Cortland Street, Homer, NY after which this matter will be referred to the Village attorney.**

6:15 p.m. Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye **to adjourn.**

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
November 6, 2006

10:00 a.m. Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting for the Trash/Recycling Contract was conducted in the Board Room of the Town Hall Building. Please refer to the minutes attached.

Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
November 7, 2006

5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Joanne Sweeney, Roy Crandall, Michael Berry, Genevieve Suits; Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer; Absent – Attorney David Perfetti.

OTHERS PRESENT: Eric Mulvihill – WXHC 101.5 FM, news director; Christine Laubenstein – Cortland Standard reporter.

Minutes – Motion to amend minutes of October 3, 2006 to include payment of the following bills and then accept as presented – Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.:

General Fund	Vouchers #576 - #665	\$160,858.58
Water Fund	Vouchers #221 - #248	\$ 33,240.35
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #220 - #248	\$ 9,267.16
Capital Projects Fund	-----	-----
Comm. Dev. Block Fund	-----	-----

Treasurer’s report for financial status of the operating funds for period ending September 30, 2006 was approved as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Tax Collector’s report indicating 95.81% of the taxes billed were collected was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Budget Meetings were scheduled for **November 13, 2006** to discuss salaries for 2007/08 fiscal years and **November 27 and November 28 meetings** were set to meet with the department heads regarding their budgets. All meetings are scheduled to commence at 5:30 p.m. November 27 & 28th. meetings will be scheduled at half hour intervals.

Clerk/Treasurer indicated that the auditors from Ciaschi, Dietershagen, Mickelson & Little had completed the retrieval of information for their audit of books for fiscal year ending February 28, 2006. Their report will be forth coming.

The following bills were approved for payment, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

General Fund	Vouchers #666 - #762	\$169,814.56
Water Fund	Vouchers #246 – \$281	\$ 11,493.18
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #246 - #281	\$ 50,003.67
Capital Projects Fund	-----	-----
Comm. Dev. Block Fund	-----	-----

Acceptance for filing of written reports:

Cemetery – Mayor McDermott announced that Glenwood Cemetery would be closing November 15, 2006.

Codes – report was approved as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

The Mayor announced that no word had been received from **Matthew Czimmer** regarding his **property located at 32 Cortland Street**. A public hearing had been held at 5:30 p.m. October 28, 2006. The Board agreed with the Code Enforcement Officer’s findings and resolved to allow him or his representative thirty (30)

days from the date of that letter (November 1, 2006) to initiate repair of the structures located at 32 Cortland Street, after which this matter will be referred to the Village Attorney.

Trustee Berry expressed concern for house on James Street that used to be owned by Phyllis Jackson. It is currently vacant and wanted to check to make sure that the water had been shut off so that when cold weather sets in the pipes wouldn't burst creating more problems. (Supt. Barber informed the Clerk that the owner – Dryden Bank had requested that the water be turned on because the boiler was on.)

Dog report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Police report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

It was noted that Mike Harter, mechanic would be fixing the Chief's car. The Mayor further noted that Halloween was quiet for the department.

Recreation report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Trustee Crandall informed the Board that the **new building located at Calale Field** was setting on 4 X 4's. He suggested that it be set on masonry blocks so it would allow more air to flow under it to keep the wood from rotting. Trustee Suits also indicated that crushed stone might be available to also assist with the drainage under the building. The suggestion of railroad ties was made but the concern for creosote disallowed this suggestion. This issue will be discussed further with Supt. Galeotti and Director Jeff Lewis.

Mayor McDermott indicated that Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Bev Berry sent a letter to the **Cortland County Visitor's Bureau** for funds from the **occupancy tax to be used toward the summer concert series**.

Mayor McDermott announced that **Cortland County Council for the Arts received a \$350,000 grant**.

Recreation Director Jeff Lewis gave a list of volunteer coaches for t-ball and softball programs so the Mayor could send a letter of thanks to each of them. Mr. Lewis is still working on the list for the soccer program.

Streets/Parks & MEO report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Trustee Crandall stated that Contento's could bring a demolition trailer to the compost site and charge the village \$200 a trip to the county rather than the streets/parks department making several trips with our trucks to the county's compost site. This topic can be reviewed with Supt. Galeotti to determine if it would be worthwhile.

One of the trustees indicated that the village would need to buy an additive for the diesel fuel because the sulfur content in the diesel has gone down and how this would the cost.

The Mayor announced that leaf pickup would continue until all the leaves have been picked up or until the snow comes, making it impossible to continue.

Village owned garbage trucks – Mayor McDermott explained to the Board that he had done some research on this issue. Along with purchasing a truck, the village would need to hire part-timers to do the collection. Backup vehicles would need to be made available for breakdowns. Our mechanic would need to be able to service the equipment. Additional insurance would be needed. This issue would need a lot of research and financial planning of which the Village doesn't have time to do for this contract.

Water/Sewer report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

The trustees agreed to **sell** the Water/Sewer Department's **1998 Chevy Pickup** at an auction. Trustee Crandall suggested waiting until spring of 2007, as it would bring a better price.

Railing for new water tank – Mayor McDermott advised the Board that Mike's Welding hasn't installed this. Trustees Suits and Berry stated that they would each call to see if they could get a commitment from him.

Letters were sent to property owners who had not connected to the village water system. Because the new sewer rate that was instituted last year is determined by water use, it is important to have a reading to calculate the sewer portion of the bill. The house owned by Gary Lawrence on Cayuga Street in front of Arnold's Florist has connected to the village water. Fitts' property on Hooker Avenue installed a meter on their well. No word has been heard from Doug Withey from the Homer Methodist and Mrs. Eichenauer in regards to them connecting to the system.

Fire Chief's report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Chief Hess indicated that the Homer Fire Department received a grant from Senator James Seward's office in the amount of \$14,000 to be used for FAST (Firefighter Assist Search Team) equipment. The equipment consists of a hydraulic Port-A-Power tools; SCBA (self contained breathing apparatus) with spare air cylinders; and a Thermal Imaging Camera to help assist in locating a downed fire fighter, as well as travel of fire in a structure. Mayor McDermott will send a letter of thanks to Senator Seward.

Fire Prevention Week was October 8th – 14th. Open House was held in conjunction with the Elementary School Open House October 5th.

Town of Scott Fire Contract expires December 31, 2006. Clerk-Treasurer was asked to give Trustee Berry a copy of the contract along with a copy of the Fire District that was done from the village's GIS Program. It was suggested not drafting a contract for more than three years.

Fire Department President's report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Community Development Loan report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Roy Crandall – all aye.

Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye **to have attorney David Perfetti draft papers for "Confession of Judgment" against Michael and Joy Magee.** *(Trustees, please note, the Magees made a substantial payment on their loan and it brings them almost current. It won't be necessary to take legal action at this time.)*

Old Business:

Trustee Sweeney asked the Clerk for an update on the historian's grant. She responded that several items have been ordered and anticipate delivery soon.

New Business:

Mayor noted that a Financial Statement had been received from Cortland County.

Homer High School is taking donations to assist wounded vets at Walter Reed Medical Center. The American Legion is also accepting donations.

7:05 p.m. Motion to adjourn Roy Crandall, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
November 13, 2006

10:00 a.m. Bid Opening was held for the Trash/Recycling Contract in the ceramics room of the Sr. Center, Town Hall Building.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustee Genevieve Suits; Attorney – David Perfetti; Michael Galeotti, Supt. Streets/Parks; Jo Anne Williams – Village Clerk-Treasurer.

OTHERS PRESENT: John Gale, Superior Disposal; Sue Munson, Superior Disposal; Veronica Caston, Syracuse Haulers; Joe Henneberry, Feher Rubbish Removal; D. D. Spor, Spor Companies; Timothy A. Perfetti.

Mayor McDermott read the *attached legal notice*. The following bids were opened and recorded:

Spor Companies
1971 Berwyn Rd.
Lafayette, NY 13084

Trash/Recycling Contract total –
Weekly - \$4304.00; Yearly - \$223,808
Two-year total - \$447,616
Bid Deposit of \$250 included.
Non-collusive signed and enclosed

Feher Rubbish Removal, Inc. Garbage and Trash Collection
526 State Fair Blvd.
Syracuse, NY 13208

1) One Year Bid - \$104,000
2) Two Year Bid - \$208,000
3) Three Year Bid - \$312,000
Bid Deposit of \$250 included.
Non-collusive signed and enclosed
*References were not included, bidder was asked to fax list to the village.

Casella Waste Systems/
Superior Disposal Service
PO Box 349
1180 Elmira Rd.
Newfield, NY 14867-0349

Recycling Collection
1) One Year Bid - \$104,000
2) Two Year Bid - \$208,000
3) Three Year Bid - \$312,000
Trash Service Only
First Year - \$1705/week, \$88,660/year
Second Year - \$1757.85/week, \$91,408/year
Last 3 months - \$1813.98/week, \$23,561/yr.
27 Month total - \$203,629.00

Recycling Service Only
First Year - \$992/week, \$51,584/year
Second Year - \$1022.75/week, \$53,183/year
Last 3 months - \$1055.27/week, \$13,708/year
27 Month total - \$118,475.00
\$250 Bid Deposit included.
Non-Collusive signed and enclosed.

Syracuse Haulers
128 Ball Circle
Syracuse, NY 13210

No Bid submitted.

Mayor McDermott thanked all bidders present and stated the Board would review each of the bids, check references, set a date for a Special Meeting to award the contract. Each one present will be notified by telephone.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams,

HOMER, NY
November 20, 2006

5:15 p.m. Special Meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. Purpose of the meeting is to award the Trash/Recycling Contract.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Joanne Sweeney, Jo Anne Williams - Clerk-Treasurer, David Perfetti – Attorney. Trustees Michael Berry and Roy Crandall were absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sue Munson and John Gale from Casella Waste Systems/Superior Disposal Service; Christine Laubenstein – Cortland Standard reporter.

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye **to award the 27 month Trash/Recycling Contract to Casella Waste Systems/Superior Disposal Service. Garbage/trash service-\$203,629.00. Recycling collection service-\$118,475.00.** Mayor McDermott noted that Casella Waste Systems/Superior Disposal Service's references checked out to be excellent. The representatives present indicated that collection dates would remain on Monday and Tuesday. Sue Munson wanted to bring to the Board's attention the alternate bid that was submitted. If accepted it would be a cost savings for the village. It would allow them to use an alternate disposal site. This option will be reviewed and decision to be announced at the December 5th Board Meeting.

Attorney Perfetti inquired if they had an attorney who represented them. They responded that he would deal with them directly unless there was some question about the contract they couldn't handle.

Mayor McDermott thanked Sue Munson and John Gale for being present and looked forward to working with them.

5:30 p.m. Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye **to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.**

Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye to have Mayor McDermott respond to the Teamsters Union Local 317 that the majority mentioned in their letter didn't represent the appropriate bargaining unit for the Village of Homer.

6:00 p.m. Executive Session Closed and Special Meeting adjourned.

**Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer**

**HOMER, NEW YORK
DECEMBER 5, 2006**

5:25 p.m. Public Hearing was called to order for the purpose of hearing public comment on proposed Local Law #1-2006, titled *Administration and Enforcement of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code.*

PRESENT: Michael H. McDermott, Mayor; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Joanne Sweeney, Michael Berry; Roy Crandall, Trustee – absent; Bruce Weber – Code Enforcement Officer; Christine Laubenstein – reporter from the Cortland Standard; Eric Mulvihill – news director WXHC 101.5 FM; Paul Burhans – Dog Control Officer; David Perfetti - Attorney.

Mayor McDermott read the *attached legal notice*. He then asked if there were any public comments. No comments. Public Hearing was closed 5:30 p.m.

Mayor McDermott asked the Board if they were ready to take a vote on the proposed legislation. **Motion to adopt/enact Local Law #1-2006 as presented and to take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the New York State Secretary of State's Office,** Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Mayor McDermott called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES of November 6, 7, 13, 20 were approved as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE OPERATING FUNDS for period ending October 31, 2006 was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye to pay the following bills:

General Fund	Vouchers #763 - #852	\$225,830.50
Water Fund	Vouchers #281 - #307	\$ 51,282.66
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #281 - #308	\$ 14,141.89
Capital Projects Fund	Check #593	\$ 85.80
Comm.Develop.Fund	-----	-----

The Financial Report for fiscal year ending February 28, 2006 was audited by Ciaschi, Dietershagen, Little, Mickelson & Company, LLP. Report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters were noted as follows:

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting – No matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation were considered to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters – Results of their tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

License for Games of Chance for the American Legion and Elks Club and Bingo for the Elks Club were approved contingent upon the Police Chief's Findings and Determinations being approved, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

The Board established February 9, 2007 as the last day the Clerk's Office could accept outstanding debt owed the Village, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY - The *attached* rates were approved per the Cemetery Commission's recommendation effective March 1, 2007, **Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.**

CODES – monthly report for November was received as submitted, Motion Michael Berry, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

It was noted that **Saulsburys on Stanford Drive** had moved their camper and were now in compliance.

Washington Mutual, escrow holder responded to correspondence copied to them regarding **Czimmer's property located on Cortland Street**. The contents of this letter advised the owner had 30 days to respond, indicating that repair would be made to the structure eliminating the need to take action against a dangerous building. Their response indicated that the loan was current and the present homeowner was responsible. Bruce Weber, Code Officer indicated that Mr. Czimmer had spoke with him and that he had sent him a building permit to repair the roof.

Trustee Berry indicated that he was concerned about Barbarito's house at 114 S. Main Street. The house is currently vacant and is in disrepair.

DOGS – report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

POLICE - report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Neighborhood Watch Groups - Mayor McDermott reported to the Board that a resident who has a teenage daughter who was engaged in an after school activity on the playing field of the school along with several other girls were being watched by a male individual who was parked along side the field. After a long period of time of observing this individual and obtaining his license, she reported this to the village police. The Chief investigated the information supplied to him and reported the individual was from Johnson City. His name didn't appear on any sexual offender list, but the circumstances certainly arose suspicions. Trustee Suits indicated that John Walsh has a website that lists sexual offenders. Trustee Berry suggested that neighborhood watch groups should be established for instances like this. The Board felt that this issue would be good for the next newsletter for all the residents to become more active and to report any unusual activities in their areas.

Parente Trial is scheduled for December 8th. Attorney Perfetti will ask the Supreme Court for a Summary Judgment on the law and documents submitted.

RECREATION report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Due to weather conditions the **tree lighting ceremony on the Village Green will be postponed until December 8, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.**

Little League Fields at Griggs Field – Director Lewis indicated that a lot of work has been accomplished due to fair weather conditions.

Skating on the Village Green – Because of the damage that has been done to the liner of the Nice Rink, it was decided to return to the old way of freezing the green. Weather permitting, the fire department has agreed to flood the green to provide skating for the village residents. The streets/parks department will keep it plowed after they have completed the street plowing.

STREETS/PARKS & MEO reports were received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Memorial Trees in front of Gretchen Abbott Design Store at 6 N. Main Street were cut/topped by the property owner. The header was cut on each of the flowering pear trees. The individual who was responsible for this action was advised by the Mayor that should either or both of these trees die, he would be responsible to replace them at \$300/each. He further stated that if he receives a complaint from owners of either of the Memorial Trees, he would need to replace them at a cost of \$300 (this is the actual cost paid by the donor at time of the purchase). He also cut four street trees in front of his properties on Clinton Street. He was told that these trees would not be replaced at the Village's expense. Attorney Perfetti advised the Mayor to have the individual sign a statement that he was made aware of these details.

Trees along Cortland Street – Eric Mulvihill stated that he is researching the type of trees that would be good for this area and hopes that they can be planted next year.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Genevieve Suits – all aye.

Monthly report indicated that some hydrants were painted fluorescent pink on Cayuga Street. These hydrants were repainted with the proper markings to indicate information needed by the Fire Department. Trustee Suits indicated that she had visited a community this summer where individuals had adopted a hydrant and painted them with different themes. With community spirit in mind, this may offer an opportunity for individuals to adopt a hydrant near their home. Keeping in line with requirements needed for coding purposes, the water/sewer department could advise individuals what colors could be used to individualize each hydrant. This is a project that could be put in place in the spring of 2007.

Railing for new water tank – Supt. Barber will meet with Mike's Welding to discuss this issue.

99 Cayuga Street – This structure is scheduled for demolition by owner, Nunzio Giordano.

Report was made on properties needing water meters installed. Arnold's Florist and home in front of the business have been connected to village water supply and now metered. Eichenauer's on Cayuga Street has installed a meter on her well to determine proper use for billing purposes. Doug Withey hasn't gotten back regarding installation of a meter at the Methodist Church.

Jarrod Newcomb asked that he be forgiven the penalty on his water/sewer bill because he never received his bill. Clerk-Treasurer Williams explained her conversation with him that residents are responsible for their bills whether they receive them or not. They are counted each time prior to being sent to the post office. Once they are in the post office's hands there isn't any more we can do. They go out each quarter, January, April,

July, October. If a resident doesn't receive them, it's their responsibility to contact the Clerk's Office and request a copy. The Board was also provided with an article where a clerk independently changed records so residents didn't have to pay penalties and was found guilty of misconduct and felony. It has always been the policy of the Clerk's office not to forgive the penalty as not to set a precedence. The property owner has to take some responsibility. After a short discussion, the Board determined that the penalty be collected from Mr. Newcomb.

FIRE CHIEF'S report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

Tracy Durkee thanked the Fire Department for avoiding a fire in their home. Jeff Austin, a volunteer of the Homer Fire Department was out one evening with his daughter and noticed that they had a chimney fire brewing and stopped by their house and knocked at their door and made them aware of this. Because Mr. Austin was alert, he helped to avoid a tragedy. Many thanks!!!!

ATTORNEY - The following Resolution was passed, Motion Joanne Sweeney, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye.

—
**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT THE VILLAGE OF
HOMER, NEW YORK**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF HOMER TO RETAIN ATTORNEY ALLEN PETERMAN, ESQ. FOR REPRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF HOMER IN REFERENCE TO THE VILLAGE OF HOMER STREETS AND PARKS AND WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT.

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer, duly convened in regular session, December 5, 2006, does hereby resolve as follows:

SECTION 1: The Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer hereby authorizes Allen Peterman, Esq., be retained as an attorney for the Village of Homer, in the matter of the request by the Village of Homer Streets and Parks and Water and Sewer Departments to be represented by a certain bargaining representative for the purpose of collective bargaining.

SECTION 2: For his services hereunder, the said Allen Peterman, Esq., shall be compensated at the rate of \$225.00 per hour and shall also be reimbursed for any costs and disbursements he incurs on behalf of the Village of Homer in connection with said representation. It is understood by both parties that the allotted time for said representation shall be between 10-20 hours. Any requests for payments pursuant to this Resolution shall be set forth in a signed, itemized voucher to be submitted to the Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer for its review, audit and approval.

SECTION 3: This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mayor McDermott explained to those present the need for attorney representation and basis for which it was arrived. He went on to explain that even individuals who wish **not** to become members of the union in the department of which a union represents, would also have dues withheld from their paychecks because the union is the bargaining unit for that department. The Mayor met with employees from both of the departments and explained that both departments would return to the normal 8-hour day, 5 day a week workweek. As explained to the individuals at the April 12, 2006 meeting, this could help to eliminate overtime during the winter months by not having to call them back in after 4:00 p.m. to work.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DELINQUENT report was received as submitted, Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Joanne Sweeney – all aye.

Confessions of Judgments were filed on two loan recipients. Neither of these individuals has made a payment since the action was taken. Attorney Perfetti was asked what further action could be taken. He explained that the Village could foreclose. This would be very difficult. He further suggested that notices be continually sent to these individuals. He will supply the proper verbiage that should be included on each letter that is sent in an attempt to collect a debt. The Clerk was reminded that 9% additional interest could be collected from the date of filing the confession of judgment.

Business Loan – Discussion took place regarding possible loan application of an individual who hasn't made timely payments in the past with his utility bills or taxes. The Board indicated that they would want to know how many employees they would employ, personal property and real property available for collateral before they would be interested in offering a business application to an individual or individuals.

Comprehensive Plan – Thoma Development Consultants advised the Mayor that such plan would cost in the vicinity of \$30,000.

Alternative Bid Accepted for the Trash Contract – Motion Genevieve Suits, 2nd. Michael Berry – all aye to accept the alternate bid of Casella Waste Systems/Superior Disposal of \$198,949.40 for 27 months of garbage and trash service and \$118,475 for 27 months of recycling collection services. This also includes using an alternate landfill at \$53.00/ton tipping fee for the first year, \$54.00 per ton the second year and \$53.00/ton for the last three months of the contract. The intent of the Board to award the alternate bid was to save additional money for the village residents.

Appointment of Co-Historian – Mayor McDermott appointed Charles Bernheim as co-historian to assist Verna Whitney, historian. The Board approved this appointment in its entirety.

Mandatory Training Sessions for Zoning and Planning Boards – Effective January 1, 2007 members of a municipal zoning or planning board are required to receive a minimum of four hours of training per year. The new law states that a board member who does not meet the minimum training requirement would be ineligible for reappointment to the board.

Town of Scott Fire Contract – Trustee Michael Berry hopes to meet with Chief Phil Hess this weekend.

Budget Workshop was scheduled for December 18th and 19th at 5:30 p.m.

Branch of tree located on Calale Field fell onto a storage shed of a property owner on Bedford Street. They were advised to contact their insurance company.

**Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer**

**HOMER, NY
JANUARY 2, 2007**

5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Michael Berry, Genevieve Suits, Joanne Sweeney, Roy Crandall; Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer; David Perfetti – Attorney; Eric Mulvihill – News Director 101.5 FM WXHC; Sasha Austrie – Cortland Standard reporter; Doug Larison and Mike Delair – Homer Central School District; Mr. & Mrs. Jarrod Newcomb – residents.

Mr. & Mrs. Jarrod Newcomb, residents of the Village addressed the Board of Trustees regarding their water bill. At the prior month’s meeting it was determined that penalty would not be removed from their late payment. The Newcombs were not happy with the Board’s decision and requested to be present to discuss the issue further. They went on to explain that they never received the original bill and weren’t aware a bill was due until they received a notice for payment or be subject to water service shut off. They were objecting to paying the late fee when they never received the original bill and if the office had checked their payment history they would have found that they had never been late with a payment.

It had been explained to them by both the Clerk’s Office and the Board that the property owner is responsible for the utility bill whether they are in receipt of it or not. The bills are sent out each quarter, January, April, July, and October. If the property owner doesn’t receive the bill, it is their responsibility to contact the Clerk’s Office to obtain the amount due. Each quarter when the bills are sent out, they are counted to make sure all the bills have been printed. Once they leave the office and are in the post office’s hands, there isn’t anything more the Village can do.

Mr. Newcomb continued to plead their case. After several minutes had been spent on this subject, Trustee Suits interrupted by noting the Board had a lengthy agenda and needed to move on. Final outcome – penalty was not returned.

Doug Larison, Supt. of Schools and Mike Delair, from the Homer Central School District gave a presentation on their Facilities Improvement Project. A fact sheet was given to each of the trustees and Mayor. The overall building program will cost \$16.5 million, and there will be no property tax impact as a result of this project. The school district will vote on these projects, March 6, 2007. The district will receive 90% regular building aid from New York State in addition the district will use reserve funds and EXCEL aid (special legislation funding in 2006) to pay for the local share.

District wide public informational meetings will be held prior to the vote on these projects.

Mayor McDermott thanked the gentlemen for their presentation and asked the Board’s permission to sign the document, indicating that the **Village of Homer, an interested agency gives their consent to the Homer Central School District to serve as Lead Agency in the SEQRA Application, Motion to authorize the Mayor’s signature on this document was made by** Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

MINUTES of December 5, 2006 were received as submitted, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

TREASURER’S reports on the financial status of the operating funds through November 30, 2006 were received as submitted, Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye **to pay the following bills:**

General Fund	Vouchers #853 - #915	\$105,502.93
Water Fund	Vouchers #309 - #338	\$ 18,352.62
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #309 - #338	\$ 9,451.22
Capital Projects Fund	Check #594 - #597	\$ 3,196.48

Public Hearing date was scheduled for 7:00 p.m., January 10, 2007 in the Sr. Center of the Town Hall Building to hear comments on Phase 1, 2, 3 rates to be assessed on the 2007 Village Taxes for the sewer capital debt and the Proposed Budget for 2007-2008 for the Village of Homer.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY - Mayor McDermott advised the Board that the Village was continuing to conduct burial services in Glenwood Cemetery because of the mild weather.

CODES report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Sweeney – all aye.

Attorney Perfetti indicated that he hasn't received any word from Czimmer's on Cortland Street regarding the unsafe conditions of the buildings on their property. He further stated that the attorney from Rochester who handles the escrow for this parcel indicated that they might proceed with foreclosure proceedings.

56-56 ½ Cortland Street – Mayor McDermott advised the Board that there is a large tire rim in the backyard and the tenants are burning cardboard and paper at night. The Police Department is still answering many complaints at this address. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the landlord outlining the problems that are occurring and violations of the Village Code Ordinances. Mayor McDermott will correspond with the owner on behalf of the Village.

DOGS – no report received.

POLICE report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Sweeney, and. Trustee Berry – all aye.

Mayor McDermott noted that Chief Mack has been called for jury duty. It was further noted that the outside lights at the Police Station still haven't been repaired.

3:00 a.m. Sgt. VanOrden was answering an alarm when he struck a Christmas tree that had blown in front of the police vehicle. The bumper was damaged. He was instructed to obtain estimates and take the repair out of their budget.

RECREATION report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

February 9 & 10 are the dates scheduled for Winterfest.

STREETS/PARKS & MEO reports were received as submitted, Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Suits – all aye.

David Hoermann acknowledged the Mayor's letter pertaining to his trimming the two Memorial Trees in front of 6 N. Main Street and four trees on Clinton Street without the authority to do such. This will be kept on file.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Sweeney – all aye.

Mike's Welding installed the railing on the new water tank.

Trustee Crandall indicated that there was an individual who voiced an interest in purchasing the pickup at the water department. He stated if the Village advertises with a minimum bid of \$5,000 and found someone willing to offer that amount, sealed bids would be the route to take. He will check further and get back to the board.

FIRE CHIEF'S report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

Town of Scott Fire Contract - The Town of Scott wasn't willing to sign the three-year contract at the amounts proposed, therefore Trustee Berry asked the Clerk to draft the same contract for one year with the amount of \$29,500.00 and mail it to Town of Scott Supervisor, David Johnson, Jr.

Mayor McDermott advised the Board that he had spoke with an individual at the Town of Cortlandville Fire Department and he said that the FEMA dollars they received for the Village of Homer Fire Department's assistance during the spring flooding was paid directly to the fire department. These funds should have been paid to the Village of Homer not the Fire Department. Mayor McDermott will check on this.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S report – no report was received.

ZONING BOARD RESIGNATION - Mayor McDermott announced the resignation of David Hoermann from the Zoning Board of Appeals. No one was appointed to replace him at this time.

CDBG LOAN report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Suits – all aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON UNION – Mayor McDermott explained that he hasn't received any correspondence regarding this matter. The last correspondence indicated that the union had until January 8, 2007 to file a petition with PERB (Public Employee's Relation Board). Attorney Alan Peterman, representing the Village asked that he be notified immediately when the Village receives notification from PERB.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – The Mayor indicated that the Cortland County Planning Department could assist the Village with the Comprehensive Plan. This would cut the costs considerably. This process could take longer but during the budget process, the board decided to do this venture in a two-phase process. Dan Dineen, Director of Cortland County Planning Department has agreed to discuss this with the Board. He will be asked to attend the February board meeting.

SURVELLIENCE CAMERAS – Eric Mulvihill agreed to work with Trustee Crandall on gathering information on these. He reported to the board that he saw a package at Sam's Club that was a self-contained system, day/night cameras, all recorded digitally (by-passes the need of tapes, etc.). The package was priced under \$2000.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor received a letter on the web site suggesting that the dates for the garden/leaf pickup, clearing of sidewalk information, trash schedules, water/sewer bills be posted. They indicated this would be helpful information to publish.

Mayor McDermott announced the **proposed tax rate for the Village of Homer/Town of Homer to be \$8.792040/1000 - .99444 increase/1000 = 12.7532% tax rate increase. The Village of Homer/Town of Cortlandville to be \$8.614414/1000.**

ATTORNEY:

Attorney Perfetti indicated that he had nothing to report at this time.

7:10 p.m. meeting adjourned, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
JANUARY 10, 2007

7:00 p.m. Mayor McDermott called to order the Public Hearings to hear comments on special assessment rates for Phase 1, 2, and 3 sewer and the Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2007-2008. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Michael Berry, Roy Crandall, and Joanne Sweeney; Jo Anne Williams – Clerk-Treasurer; Christine Laubenstein – Cortland Standard reporter.

RESIDENTS PRESENT: Jae Harris, James Knobel, Ed Hammond, Maribeth McEuen, Terry Price, Jaffrey Harris, Harry Bellardini, Joann Dukelow, Henry Steck, Janet Steck.

Mayor McDermott read the *attached legal notice* for Public Hearing declaring the rate of \$234.94 for each benefited parcel in that area to appear on their 2007/08-village tax bill.

Mayor asked for public comments.

Joann Dukelow inquired when the Bond would be paid off. The Clerk responded that she would get that information and call her the following day. (The Bond will be paid in full June 1, 2017.)

No further comments. Hearing was closed.

Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Sweeney – all aye **adopting the fee of \$234.94 for Phase 1.**

Mayor McDermott read the *attached legal notice* for Public Hearing declaring the rate of \$244.03 for each benefited parcel in that area to appear on their 2007/08-village tax bill.

Mayor asked for public comments. No comments. Hearing closed.

Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Suits – all aye **adopting the fee of \$244.03 for Phase 2.**

Mayor McDermott read the *attached legal notice* for Public Hearing declaring the rate of \$161.53 for each benefited parcel in that area to appear on their 2007/08-village tax bill.

Mayor asked for public comments. No comments. Hearing closed.

Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye **adopting the fee of \$161.53 for Phase 3.**

Mayor McDermott called Public Hearing for proposed budget of 2007/08 to order after reading the *attached legal notice*. Mayor asked those present for comments. The proposed budget called for an \$8.792039/1000 tax rate for those living in the Village of Homer/Town of Homer and \$8.614414/1000 for those included in the Village of Homer/Town of Cortlandville. As noted in the narrative with the budget, increases were caused by the new trash contract, attorney fees that exceeded the amount budgeted in the 2006-2007 Budget. These attorney fees were from the lawsuit brought against the village for the 2 + 4 Construction SEQR process, and the need to hire a specialized attorney in collective bargaining for the union requested by the employees of the Streets/Parks Department and Water/Sewer Department. Additional increases consisted of a proposed 3% raise in salaries, 9.9% increases in health insurance benefits, and comprehensive plan (first of two phases)

Janet Steck, 113 Clinton Street, Homer – She asked that the Board correct the statement that indicated the people who brought the law suit against the Village for the Senior Housing Project on Cortland Street was part of the reason for the increase in taxes, when it was the Village Planning Board who handled the matter incorrectly was the cause. She further went on to explain she had a problem with the pending problem of the PILOT agreement for this project.

Mayor McDermott - responded that the PILOT agreement has nothing to do with the proposed budget and would not discuss this issue any further. If she would like to address any other issues with the proposed budget, he would be happy to address them.

Mary Beth McEuen, 52 Cortland Street – inquired what was included under personal services A1325.100. She was advised that this line includes the salaries in the Clerk-Treasurer’s office.

Jaffrey Harris, 5 Orson Drive – asked to have the problem with the trash issue to be explained. The history of the financial problems with the previous hauler and bid process to select the current hauler was explained.

Harry Bellardini, 30 N. Main Street – noted additional tax dollars could be received if the project off the Creal Road had been approved, and the board chose to deny the zoning for it.

The Mayor interjected that all the trustees and himself were always available to discuss any issues with the village residents.

Mary Beth McEuen inquired what happened to the money that was left over in particular line items. Where did it go? She was given the response that these funds go into the operating fund, fund balance for that particular line item. When the fund balance has enough funds, money is budgeted to go into reserves for specific items.

Joann Dukelow inquired about the budget line for Shade Trees. It was explained that replacement trees, tree trimming/removal and stump removal are taken from this line item.

Mary Beth McEuen asked if the street sign that identifies Center Street/Cortland Street could be replaced. Clerk will check on this. (Sign was ordered and received but hasn’t been replaced.)

It was suggested by one of the residents present that the Board should contact our state legislators and “rattle their chains” regarding the high fuel costs.

Mayor asked if there were any more comments from those present. No further comments. Public Hearing was closed.

Motion to accept the Proposed Budget as presented, Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

8:10 p.m. Motion to adjourn, Trustee Berry, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer

HOMER, NY
February 6, 2007

5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Michael McDermott. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael McDermott; Trustees – Genevieve Suits, Joanne Sweeney, Roy Crandall, Michael Berry; Clerk-Treasurer – Jo Anne Williams; Attorney – David Perfetti; Beverly Berry – Deputy Clerk-Treasurer; Dan Dineen – Cortland Co. Planning Board Director; Eric Mulvihill –News Director WXHC 101.5 FM; Christine Laubenstein – Cortland Standard reporter; residents – Mary Alice Bellardini, Lisa Lewis, Alexandria Salce, Ward Dukelow, Harold Peacock, Janet Steck; 6:20 p.m. Terry Price arrived.

Mayor McDermott regretfully accepted the **resignation of Cindy Teter as chair- person for the Beautification Commission.** Cindy will remain on the commission through 2011 but not as Chairperson. The Mayor **appointed Mary Alice Bellardini as Beautification Commission chairperson** for the remainder of Cindy Teter’s term that expires 2011. Clerk Williams swore her in. Mary Alice Bellardini indicated that three trees had been planted in Durkee Park last fall and she hoped that they could have a dedication ceremony in the spring.

Mayor McDermott appointed **Lisa Lewis as regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals to replace David Hoermann. Her term will expire 2009.** Clerk Williams swore her in. The resignation from Cindy Teter as chairperson for the Zoning Board of Appeals was received with regret. No appointment for her replacement was made at this time.

Dan Dineen, Cortland County Planning Board Director spoke to the Board of Trustees regarding the proposed Comprehensive Plan for the Village. Mr. Dineen explained that the current plan is thirty years old and there have been many changes that have taken place in the Village during this period. Also, the Village Board had received a request to change the zoning in the northwest section of the village for a planned development project. Another request had been received regarding changing the existing zoning from R-2 to R-1 in the northeast section of the village to eliminate growth of multiple family homes.

With the assistance of the County, the Comprehensive Plan would take approximately two years and would include mapping recommendations and assistance with a written plan.

A board would be appointed to review all the information. The board could consist of individuals selected from the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Board of Trustees, and public. Approximately twelve people would be selected. A survey would be developed and sent to businesses and residents. This survey would be tailored specifically for village residents. The information from these would be taken and incorporated into a plan. Public informational meetings would be held throughout the process. After the plan is adopted, zoning would be addressed. The County offers this service free to the municipalities.

Trustee Michael Berry asked Mr. Dineen if he could draft a written template that would outline the procedure to be taken for the Comprehensive Plan and estimated time frame and present it at the March meeting for consideration.

Mayor McDermott noted that the Board had budgeted \$14,000 in this years budget to cover Phase 1 of the Comprehensive Plan. Earlier Thoma Development estimated it would cost \$30,000 to do a Comprehensive Plan for the Village. Thoma supplied copies of Comprehensive Plans from the Village of Dryden and Village of Milford for the Board to review.

The County Planning Board assisted the Town of Virgil. It took about 7 ½ years to complete their plan. The problem was they had several sub-committees, making decisions very difficult. The Village of McGraw took two years. The Town of Homer took a year and a half.

Janet Steck inquired if there would be public meetings. The answer was “yes”.

Mary Alice Bellardini inquired if there were grant dollars available for this. Mr. Dineen replied, yes, but it was very difficult to obtain these grant dollars. Discussion ended and Mr. Dineen agreed to have information available for the March meeting so the Board could make a decision.

MINUTES of January 2, 2007 and January 10, 2007 were approved as submitted, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

TREASURER’S report for period ending December 31, 2006 was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

The following bills were authorized for payment: Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Sweeney – all aye.

General Fund	Vouchers #916 - #1025	\$178,771.21
Water Fund	Vouchers #338 - #381	\$ 23,162.06
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #338 - #381	\$ 53,476.82
Comm.Development Fund	-----	-----
Capital Projects Fund	Check #598	\$ 876.35

The position for Clerk-Treasurer was advertised in the Cortland Standard in January and applications for the position were being accepted through January 31, 2007. Mayor McDermott indicated that the deputy-mayor Genevieve Suits, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Beverly Berry and himself would be conducting the interviews. They hoped to do them prior to the week of February 19th, as Trustee Suits was planning to be away. This would allow the candidate to give two weeks notice at their current job and begin with the Village, March 1, 2007.

Clerk Williams advised the Board that Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Beverly Berry would be attending the Cortland County LUCA Meeting, February 28, 2007, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. This pertains to the 2010 Census. She was the Village’s representative for the 2000 Census.

ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING OF WRITTEN REPORTS:

CEMETERY – Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye to donate a cemetery lot in Glenwood Cemetery for the burial of Pfc. Shawn Falter. Pfc. Falter gave his life for his country in the war against terrorism in Iraq. Due to extenuating circumstances caused by wintry conditions, it wasn’t possible to bury him in the veteran’s section located on the top of the hill in the cemetery.

CODES report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Sweeney – all aye.

Mayor sent a letter to Steven Simolo, owner of property located at 56-56 ½ Cortland Street outlining the violations of the Codes at this location. He noted that several occasions the Police Department has had to address complaints filed against the occupants. Appearance tickets have been issued. The Code Enforcement officer has had to address sanitary violations at this site, illegal swimming pool, refrigerators in the back yard, storage shed half torn down and open fire pit burning wood and cardboard in the yard. Mr. Simolo did contact the Mayor by telephone after receipt of the letter and the Mayor indicated to him as owner he did have some responsibility for his tenants.

The Mayor also indicated that Harold Paddock had questions on conversion of the Circus House on S. Main Street.

Ward Dukelow inquired if all the residents received the newsletter. He was advised that all residents received them. All post office box holders and apartment dwellers received copies.

DOG report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

Mayor McDermott noted that Pfc. Shawn Falter's dog passed away shortly after his death in Iraq. Paul Burhans donated his service, cremating Pfc. Falter's dog at no cost to the family. The Mayor extended his thanks to Mr. Burhans.

POLICE report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

Mayor noted that Alice Heath, crossing guard for the Village fell on ice at the Police Station when she was picking up her paycheck. TLC Ambulance Service transported her. The Dr. had a hard time stopping the bleeding and had to perform minor surgery for her head injury. She was advised to remain out of work until the Doctor released her.

Mayor McDermott contacted Tom Kile, contractor to look over the situation where the eaves drip causing ice to form on the entrance ramp. Mr. Kile stated nothing could be done until spring to correct the problem. The Mayor also noted that the lights had been repaired on the outside of the Police Station.

RECREATION report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Suits – all aye.

Recreation Director, Jeff Lewis brought a CD into the Clerk's Office that showed the development of Griggs Field.

A special thanks was extended to the Fire Department for flooding the village green for ice-skating. Charlie Ford, deputy fire chief was especially recognized for all the time and effort he has put into this project.

STREETS/PARKS & MEO reports were received as submitted, Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

Winterfest activities are scheduled for February 9 & 10. Trustee Sweeney inquired if the Streets/Parks Department could assist her with transporting tables to the Jr. High School for the Antique vendors. Mayor McDermott will check the availability of the department.

WATER/SEWER report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Crandall, 2nd. Trustee Suits – all aye.

Trustee Crandall was asked the status of selling the department's pickup truck. Trustee Crandall stated it would be better to wait until spring. In the meantime he will check on terms if sold at an auction.

FIRE DEPARTMENT report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye **to accept Donald O. Hurteau, 1728 Little York Crossing, Homer, NY into the Triumph Hose Company No. 1** (*physical attached*).

Clerk Williams noted that no word has been heard from the Town of Scott on the fire contract that expired December 31, 2006.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Suits, 2nd. Trustee Sweeney –all aye.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Delinquent Loan report was received as submitted, Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

Teamster Union status – Mayor expressed there was no further word. A conference call is scheduled for March 23, 2007.

2 + 4 Sr. Housing – Nothing to report. A meeting is scheduled later on this month.

Winterfest – 2/9 & 2/10 – Eric Mulvihill noted the following activities were scheduled: Friday night activities were scheduled at the American Legion – dance, bon-fire, and fireworks. Saturday – Parade, Human dog sled races, various activities at the Elementary School for children, chili cook-off, clam fest, concert at the Center for the Arts, antiques & crafts, wine tasting at the American Legion, Victorian Tea at the Elizabeth Brewster House.

NEW BUSINESS:

The *attached Proclamation to honor Pfc. Shawn Falter* was declared by Mayor Michael McDermott.

February 12, 2007, the Lawman of the Year dinner will be held. Mayor McDermott is not able to attend and asked board members if anyone could attend. Trustee Genevieve Suits will check her schedule and report back to the Mayor.

Phillips Free Library has moved to their temporary location at Niederhofer's warehouse at the end of Water Street. Asbestos removal is the reason a temporary location had to be found. The Library Board inquired if the Village could forego the fee for the building permit and to allow them to place temporary signs indicating directions to the new location. **Motion to waive the building permit fee for the library was made by Trustee Crandall, 2nd.** Trustee Suits – all aye.

Sign Permit fees were also waived for the Library, Motion Trustee Berry, 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

6:40 p.m. Trustee Suits **moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and discuss a personnel issue** 2nd. Trustee Crandall – all aye.

7:00 p.m. Trustee Suits **moved to return to regular session,** 2nd. by Trustee Crandall – all aye.

Motion Trustee Sweeney, 2nd. Trustee Berry – all aye **to send attorney David Perfetti and Planning Board Chair Margo Yager to a SEQRA Training Session in Syracuse.**

7:05 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Michael H. McDermott, Mayor
Jo Anne B. Williams, Clerk-Treasurer