

**Hilton Village Board and Parma Town Board
Joint meeting minutes of November 20th 2008**

Mayor Gursslin called the joint meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Hilton Community Center. Everyone stood for the pledge to the flag.

Present for the Village Board: Mayor Larry Gursslin, Trustees Horylev, Gates, Speer and Lee, and Clerk-Treasurer Janet Surridge

Present for the Town Board: Supervisor Rick Lemcke, Councilmen Carmestro, Blackburn, Smith & Comardo

Guests: Leo Parniski, 63 Leith Lane; Mary-Eichas & Ken Gavigan; Sara Warmbrodt; John Chart; Jim Zellweger; Steve Fowler

Library Expansion Project

Supervisor Lemcke gave a status report. He said that the Town Board has voted not to pursue this project any further due to what's happening with our economy. The tax payers do not need to take on any more debt at this time.

Wind energy

Mayor Gursslin stated that the Village Board is investigating wind energy technology. A trip was taken to the Town of Bliss and the Board toured the wind farm that is being operated by Noble Power. The Board learned that the host agreement between Noble Power and the municipalities in that area provides enough revenue to eliminate the town tax bill for their residents and they still had extra revenue left over for other municipal purposes. Discussion followed.

At this time, the Village Board is seeking support from the Town Board on whether or not this type of project should be pursued. A mutual understanding needs to be reached because wind turbines would have to be placed in the Town of Parma.

Supervisor Lemcke and his Board stated they are in favor of pursuing the research on this technology. Mr Lemcke will place this item on future town agendas since they need to take a look at their zoning code and make recommendations for possible changes.

Unionville Station Senior Housing

Supervisor Lemcke mentioned the law suit that was brought against the Town of Parma claiming that the Town Assessor is assessing the properties in Unionville Station Subdivision incorrectly. This law suit also names the School District, Village of Hilton and the residents in Unionville as Respondents. The Town Attorney is trying to get the Village removed from the case since the Village is not an assessing unit. General discussion followed.

Town of Parma Senior Housing Local Law

Supervisor Lemcke reported on the progress the Town Board is making on creating a new local law to regulate senior housing developments. An informational meeting is taking place on December 16th and the rough draft of the proposed law is available on the Town's website for comment. He expects the public hearing to take place in the early part of 2009.

Town of Parma Highway Department

Supervisor Lemcke mentioned that the Town Board is discussing conceptual ideas on what to do with the old bus garage on Grove Street. The building is in really bad shape. The Town is using this building for storage of some highway equipment, plus the Furniture Alert group is also using this for their needs. Mr Lemcke asked that the Village Code Enforcement Officer forward to him the setback requirements and zoning information on this parcel. The Town Board needs to figure out what they can and can't do with the property.

Shared Services

At this time, Mayor Gursslin asked Mrs Surrige to discuss her ideas on possible shared services projects that could be pursued for our community.

The first idea Mrs Surrige would like to pursue is to apply jointly for a NYS Archives Records grant. Both the Town and the Village have space issues on where to store inactive records, and we each need to protect our vital permanent records for the future. Eventually, Mrs Surrige would like to research the possibility of sharing a records facility, buying microfilm equipment or software to preserve and manage our records. Both the Town & Village Board felt this is a worthwhile venture and authorized Mrs Surrige and Town Clerk Donna Curry to pursue this further.

The second project that can be considered is to contact the NYS Energy Research & Development Association (NYSERDA) and investigate possible energy savings improvements that can be made to our public buildings. Supervisor Lemcke commented that a study has been done in the past on a few of the Town properties but he is not sure how current that information is. Mrs Surrige was authorized by both boards to pursue this.

The third project would be to apply for a NYS Local Government Efficiency grant. Details of the grant are not yet known, but Mrs Surrige stated that she recently attended a seminar hosted by the State where they explained the amount of grant money that is available for projects that result in a cost savings to tax payers. She would like to set up a meeting with Village & Town personnel to discuss possible projects. Mrs Surrige was authorized to pursue this further.

Parma Court News

Supervisor Lemcke described the new metal detector equipment that is being installed at the Town Hall, and the identification badges that need to be developed as part of new State requirements. He suggested that if the Village employees need badges too, we should collaborate with the Town to do this. He also mentioned that if Village Board members want to attend Parma meetings in the future, they will need to have ID badges.

Non-Profit Groups

Mayor Gursslin stated that there is a possibility that some of the rooms in the Community Center, which the Village rents out at no cost to non-profit groups, may be rented by a prospective tenant. If this happens, these non-profit groups could be displaced. Mayor Gursslin inquired if the Town of Parma had space that they could use, if needed?

Supervisor Lemcke and his board members briefly discussed the facilities they have and identified a few possible problems that would have to be addressed before they could make a decision. Mrs Surrige was asked to provide a listing of those groups to the Town Board if indeed the space was going to be rented to a new tenant.

Abandoned Railroad Property

Mayor Gursslin inquired if the Town Board has any plans to develop the old railroad property from East Avenue all the way to Manitou Road? Supervisor Lemcke said nothing has been discussed about this.

There being no further items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Janet Surridge
Clerk-Treasurer