

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE NORTH HORNELL VILLAGE BOARD
NOVEMBER 19, 2007**

Attendance: Mayor John Falci
Trustees: Glenn Thomas, Joseph Dick & Frank Libordi
Clerk Kristene Libordi
DPW Supervisor & Fire Chief Phil D'Amato
Police Chief Marcus Smith
ZBA Chairman Doug Dunn
ZBA Pete DiRaimondo
Hornellsville Town Supervisor Ken Isaman
N Hornell Fire Dept.
WLEA Brian
Evening Tribune Rob Montana

At 7PM Mayor Falci introduced Mr. George Kiley, Hornell City School Superintendent. Mr. Kiley was given time before the board meeting to inform village residents on the proposed Capitol school project. Mr. Kiley asked Mr. Bob Gosden to inform and answer any questions. There will be a Public hearing on December 11th and voting on December 18. The session lasted till 7:45PM.

The Regular Village meeting started at 7:50PM.

MAYORS OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Falci stated that we sometimes have controversies with well intentioned people who say things that will make others mad. All the board members and the Mayor enjoy working with people and want to make this a better place to live.

Mayor Falci gave floor to Trustee Libordi to explain the Section 4-412-12 that he added to last month's minutes.

Trustee Libordi explained that a Section 4-412-12 was attached to the October 2007 minutes. It included two invoices and a North Hornell Fire Department inventory from 1987 and one from 2007. He was concerned about the lack of information on the 2007 inventory. The inventory should be more in-depth. His problem is that if he doesn't know what you have, he doesn't know what you need. One of the invoices in question was for an adapter. The 1987 inventory showed 7 adapters. Trustee Libordi stated that this was "not personal, not an attack on the fire department, not to undermine safety, not to hurt people". As an elected official, he is to follow the laws and to represent his constituents

Fire Chief D'Amato stated that many of the items on the inventory from 1986 were owned by the fire company and not the village. Therefore they did not have to show them on the inventory. If he were asked about this, he could have explained. Trustee Libordi quoted from John Galagan from NYCOM who said that it is not unreasonable for a Village board to require the Fire Chief to supply an inventory of all equipment of a department, indicating that owned by the village and that owned by the department. Looking at that list provided by Chief D'Amato, he could not tell. Mayor Falci asked where Trustee Libordi obtained the '87 inventory. He stated it was given to him by Walt Rutski former N Hornell Fire Chief.

Trustee Dick stated that with limited membership, it is more important to train than to count inventory - which is why it is not being done. Mayor Falci believed that it could have been cleared up if Trustee Libordi went directly to the Fire Chiefs first.

Mayor Falci and the Chiefs questioned the comparison of the '07 inventory to an inventory that is over 20 years old.

The adapters in question are out dated and would not pass OSHA inspection.

Mayor asked that it be noted for these minutes that Mr. Libordi & the Fire Chiefs have the opportunity to get together and to go over any equipment that might be on the trucks or in the compartments. Also note that there was a discussion of the 1986 inventory furnished by Mr. Rutski.

Mayor Falci received a check from a resident on Cleveland Ave. for \$90 to be used by the Fire dept for inventory tags. The Mayor will call the comptrollers office to find out how to handle this specific check - does it go to the Village Treasurer or the Fire Department Treasurer?

A motion to accept the minutes by Glenn Thomas, second by Joseph Dick. The motion was carried unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT

Motion to accept the treasurer's report made by Trustee Libordi, second by Glenn Thomas and carried.

There was a question regarding the Village collecting the City of Hornell delinquent water bills. The city wants the Village to send to the County along with our delinquent tax bills the city's delinquent water bills for addition to the Town and County tax bill. We were told last year by the Comptroller that it is illegal for us to do this. The Mayor has been in contact with the Village attorney in regards to this issue.

POLICE REPORT

Mayor Falci read the police report for Chief Smith for the month of October

Complaints	2 Criminal
	3 General
Arrests	3 Vehicle & Traffic
Assist other agencies	2 Police
	1 Fire
Other Activity	9 Vehicle stops
Hours worked	59 patrolled hours

There were several estimates for the police car transmission. Estimates ranged from \$2500 to \$55. Stewarts Service did the work for \$55.00. Mayor Falci thanked the police department for taking the time to save the village over \$2000 on the repair work. During Halloween "tick or treat" night the police patrolled the village with no incidents.

Trustee Dick questioned the officers using their personal vehicles and how will they be covered if anything happened. The Mayor stated they cannot arrest anyone in their vehicles and it was a one time situation that their personal vehicles were used.

A motion to accept the police report made by Mayor Falci, second by Trustee Libordi and carried.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Supervisor D'Amato reported:

- Replaced 3 windows at the DPW shop
- Continuing leaf clean up
- Continuing leaf bag clean up until first snow fall
- Mark outs for contractors
- Fall maintenance for equipment
- Finished paving Third St. in front of the house that was newly constructed
- Added fill to the shoulders on both side of Third St.
- Installed salt spreader on the 2 ton dump truck
- Prepped snow plows for season
- Cleaned storm drains from leaves
- Trimming trees from power lines

Trustee Thomas made a motion to accept the maintenance report, second by Mayor Falci and carried. Trustee Thomas asked if it was legal for residents to dump on Village land and supervisor D'Amato said no and he didn't know who the violator was. Trustee Thomas knows the person and will give the name to the

Police. A sign was posted on a tree – no dumping, but the sign came up missing. Supervisor D’Amato was directed to put a new sign on a post.

Trustee Libordi asked if the Linderman’s water problem would be worked on this week. Supervisor D’Amato said it would be next week.

FIRE REPORT

Chief D’Amato reported incidents for the month of October:

Village	4
Town	8
Mutual Aid	1
Total	13

The third annual Christmas parade will be December 15th at 7PM Start at the Fire hall and will go thru the fire district. The fire dept would like permission from the board to use a truck

Two members applied for a forestry grant - forestry hose and nozzles. They were granted \$1000.

Two members recommended for approval as support staff – Margaret Connelly, 155 N Main St Hornell and Jean Weirick, 454 Seneca Rd.. Support staff is jobs to be done that are not on fire ground.

A motion made to approve the Fire report made by Trustee Libordi, second by Mayor Falci and carried.

Motion made by Trustee Thomas for the use of the fire truck in the December 15th parade. Second by Trustee Libordi and carried.

Motion made to accept Margaret Connelly and Jean Weirick as support staff by Trustee Libordi, second by Mayor Falci and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

At this time the Mayor allowed fire fighters to speak in regards to Trustee Libordi’s addition of section 4-412-12 to last months minutes which was also sent to the Evening Tribune.

Fire Chief D’Amato was the first to speak. He believes that the firefighters are unappreciated. They make themselves available 24 hours a day, sacrificing time with family to protect the community. In regards to the inventory tags he purchased, some of the equipment the department owned needed updating. As well as items that were never evident in the first place. Inventory stickers were necessary in order for Village equipment not to be confused with other fire departments equipment. These purchases were necessary. Ed Shiloh Treasurer of the Department said Mr. Libordi was nit picking and this should have never been put in the paper it. It should have been talked about here. Most people in the Village appreciate the Fire Department but apparently Mr. Libordi doesn’t. The fire dept has two accounts and if they go over in one, it can be taken out of the other. Mayor Falci said yes, we can transfer money and there are times that we will have unexpected expenses. He stated that it is the goal of the board of Trustees and himself to create an organized & transparent paper trail for the Fire Department. This is why he sent a letter to the Chief asking for the maintenance costs needed every year. He also requested a list of all mandated tests. This will help us with our budget. We want to know what inspections are required by law. The Mayor was told that the ladders, air packs and trucks need to be tested yearly. If we have the costs on these tests it will help with preparing next years budget. Trustee Dick is presently compiling costs to be used at budget. He will also have available NFPA standards for next months meeting. Supervisor D’Amato stated that air packs need to be tested this year at \$420.

Assistant Chief Charlie Chick & Lorne Courtney and firefighter James McManus also spoke. They also had issues with Trustee Libordi going to the newspaper with section 4-412-12 instead of the department. Each stating that the fire department members feel unappreciated for the hours of time and service given. Their speeches are attached to these minutes.

Mayor Falci concluded that we need to sit down and talk things out when these things happen. Everyone supports the Fire Department even if at times it doesn’t appear so. We have learned from this that the firemen are open to talk to the board and the board needs to be open and talk to the firemen. We all need to work for the Village. The board will do better at Budget time to help the Fire Department. Assistant Chief Chick asked that the board sit down with the Chiefs when the board is asking for something. Mayor will

ask the Trustees who want to be on the Safety Committee and will be willing to sit down and work with the Chiefs. Possibly talk once a month. The Mayor also recommended that the Chiefs call the board members with questions.

City of Hornell has been petitioned by Dr. Robbins to have his land annexed into the City. The City wants to be lead agency for a new SEQR on the environmental impact of Dr. Robbins land. There will be a public hearing between the City of Hornell, Village of N Hornell and Town of Hornellsville official. The Hearing is scheduled for December 12 at 7PM to be held at City Hall.

Mayor Falci is working with Mr. Isaman on a legal issue that they want added to the project to protect the Village.

The Garbage Contract has been changed to April 1st for pick up in the City. At the December meeting the contract will be signed. Residents will be billed in July. This will be a one year trial period.

Mayor Falci introduced Town Supervisor Isaman to explain the Town and Village of Arkport current negotiations over fire protection.

Mr. Isaman stated that under state law townships cannot have Fire Companies. Not required to have so they contract with three fire companies. This year the Village of Arkport decided to raise their rate to \$35,000 which is a 150% increase. The Town board felt they could not pass this increase on to taxpayers. When increases were set in place several years ago between the Town and the Village of N Hornell, the village had a plan in place due to the purchase in 2002 of a new truck. However they have seen no plan from Arkport. At that time Mr. Isaman approached the Village of N Hornell seeing if they would be interested in covering the Arkport district for an addition \$20,000. They are still negotiating with Arkport, but need to have an alternative. Their contract ends December 31st.

Mayor Falci has been in contact with Arkport Mayor Patti and asked him to consider starting at a lower amount and then increasing it as our Village did. Mayor Falci will discuss this with the Trustees. Mayor Falci would prefer that Arkport and the Town work this out. The Village will go if we are called on Mutual aid if there is no contract in place on December 31st.

Assistant Fire Chief Chick was concerned that if one fire department feels that if one department took over their territory there would be dissention. This department is already short staffed. In order for our department to respond to a mutual aid structure fire call our department has to have four interior fire fighters respond. If not then it goes to the next department. The fire department needs to have involvement as to whether we can give that additional protection. Mayor Falci will give all the information he has received from Mr. Isaman to the Trustees for discussion

PAY BILLS

A motion to move \$3000 from Line A3410.2 Fire equipment to A3410.4 Fire contractual was made by Trustee Thomas, second by Trustee Libordi and carried.

Motion to pay bills made by Trustee Thomas, second by Mayor Falci and carried

Mayor Falci adjourned the meeting at 9:50PM

Village Clerk

Kristene Libordi