

**Village of New York Mills**  
**Joint Meeting of the NYM Village Board and NYM School Board**  
**September 4, 2013**

Mayor Bialek called the Joint Meeting to order at 7:03 PM followed by the pledge to the flag and roll call.

**NYM Village Board Present:** Mayor John Bialek, Trustee Chip Cieplenski, Trustee John Edwards, Trustee Ken Jarosz, and Trustee Ken McCoy

**NYM School Board Present:** Superintendent of Schools Kathy Houghton, President Jacqueline Edwards, Vice President Dr. Gary Porcelli, Member Gary Markowicz, Member Gail Rice, Member Richard Ross, Member Rick Suprenant, and Member Tracy Welch

**JOINT BUSINESS**

**Bus Driver Municipal Agreement** – Discussion on our present joint agreement, President Jackie Edwards feels they want to do what is best for our children. It is difficult to put an agreement like this in writing when we have always had a verbal one. Trustee John Edwards stated that we presently have a very simple agreement in which he doesn't see any problems with and would like to keep it the same for next year. Superintendent Kathy Houghton said that if everyone is good with the current agreement then let's keep using it. Both boards are in favor of continuing with the current agreement.

**Shared Services – Snow Removal** – The school starts plowing around 4 AM. The DPW starts at 6 AM unless the weather conditions have them called in earlier in which they have Main Street as a first priority then the village streets. Superintendent Kathy Houghton would like to use the DPW for getting started in the morning but it's all about the timing. They have workers arriving before 6:30 AM. It would be a great help if the DPW could just plow the main road from the top of Marauder Blvd to the bus garage. Both boards agree and will have Bill Lachut and Joe Cotrupe have a conversation to determine what is needed.

**Newsletters** – The Village has two newsletters per year and the School has four per year. The Village Mayor and Trustees deliver the newsletters to our residents and it is also put on our village website. The School uses PJGreen for their newsletters and it is also put on their website. Mayor feels our formula is working fine at this time. Mayor Bialek and Superintendent Houghton agree that they are willing to put village articles in the school newsletter and vice versa. The school offered the services of their Senior Class students that need community service to help deliver our newsletters.

**School Resource Officer (SRO)** – The school has a full time SRO Officer through Oneida County this year per their referendum. The public voted to approve \$75,000 for a full time school resource officer this year. The school board feels that it would be a great partnership with the Police and Fire Departments of our village. They feel there is a need for an armed officer to be present in the school. President Jackie Edwards feels that it is important that the students get to know our local police officers. They are looking for an officer that enjoys working with the children. Mayor John Bialek replied that a SRO is a valuable tool for the school to have. It is hard to gear up a police officer for one year with the future of the position depending on a referendum each year. The village has reduced our fleet of cars from six to three. The unsettled police union contract has our hands tied at the present time; we are working to resolve the

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problems. Superintendent Kathy Houghton replied that the referendum was for one year but the school board could make the position permanent in the budget. The board would also like the same person each year, an officer that works well with the students. There was a discussion on hours per week, splitting the hours with two officers, training of the SRO officer. Superintendent Houghton stated that they only went to Oneida County because the New York Mills Police Department did not have an available officer to full this position; they would like to stay with the village if at all possible. Mayor Bialek said if we were to go down that road we would definitely look to the school for input. A future meeting with two members from each board is possible to discuss future ideas.

**PILOTS or Tax In Lieu Of** – President Jackie Edwards said that the PILOTS are a real impact to a district our size. Vice President Gary Porcelli stated that they are defeating the purpose of the PILOT when the County extends them, along with the inconsistencies with the assessors. Mayor Bialek explained that the village has our own assessments for village tax and the school has the assessments from the town for the school tax. Mayor Bialek let everyone know that we may be issuing another PILOT in the near future.

Vice President Jackie Edwards feels this meeting was beneficial and would like to continue to hold them, Mayor Bialek felt it was very constructive and agrees that we should continue or make this an annual event.

**OTHER DISCUSSIONS**

The NYM School Foundation is starting a Brick Project Fund Raiser, with the bricks to be installed in front of the school Library. Orders will be taken through 12/20/2013.

The school is interested in doing refreshments at our Tuesday night concerts, along with joining in with the Bell Festival and Christmas on Main Street. The MADD Boosters also hosts a talent show if the board is interested.

With no further discussions, Trustee McCoy made a motion seconded by Trustee Cieplenski to adjourn the joint meeting. Mayor Bialek adjourned the meeting at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon A. Guca  
Village Clerk/Treasurer