

**VILLAGE OF WALDEN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2004**

Mayor Rocco Pellegrino called the regular meeting of the Village of Walden Board of Trustees to order at 6:30pm.

On roll call the following were:

Present:	Mayor	Rocco Pellegrino
	Deputy Mayor	Roy Wynkoop
	Trustees	Mary Jean Norman
		Richard Hurd
		Lauren Keator
		Greg Raymondo
		Jose DeJesus

Also Present:	James Politi, Village Manager
	Kevin Dowd, Village Attorney
	Nancy Mitchell, Village Clerk

Mayor Pellegrino welcomed Boy Scout Troop 33.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee DeJesus moved to approve the minutes of November 23, 2004. Seconded by Trustee Raymondo. All ayes. Minutes adopted.

Public Comment

Mary Ellen Matisse presented the Board with maps from the Orange County Water Authority with all the tributaries to the Tinbrook and the Wallkill River on them.

Anthony Carlini, 2 Gatehouse Place expressed his concern with salting and sanding in his development. The road has not been dedicated and still isn't up to being dedicated and is still not up for dedication. He's been there 31/2 years. All the houses are occupied and they can't get anyone to plow the street. The builder is responsible to do this until the road is dedicated. Last Monday we had ice and the village was getting salted and their road wasn't. He's been plowing the street himself.

Mr. Dowd indicated that he has received documents from the builder including a draft letter of credit. He will be reviewing them. They are close to coming before the board asking for dedication of the roads and improvements. Part of the problem was the sewer pump station which has an easement to it over someone's property and there was a question as to whether there was proper access. They put the cable box or electrical box right on the edge or in the way of the easement. He thinks that has been resolved.

Mayor Pellegrino asked about the last engineering report.

Mr. Dowd stated that everything is pretty much in order. They are just trying to get the legal documentation and paperwork done. If in the course of a snow storm and there is an emergency within that street, someone needs to get to the hospital that is grounds for the public to intervene and get that person out. You cannot routinely plow or salt that street until it's officially dedicated. That is still the obligation of the developer and each of the homeowners should have protected themselves against that when they bought the houses.

Mayor Pellegrino stated that hopefully that will be done shortly.

Mr. Dowd stated that the dedication should be on the agenda for the January meeting.

Mayor Pellegrino asked the manager to contact the builder and let him know of their concerns.

Mr. Dowd stated that the title report would show that the streets were offered for dedication but not dedicated.

Mr. Carlini asked about the bond.

Mr. Dowd stated that the bond is to insure that he does the work, not plow the street.

Becky Pearson, 167 Walnut Street stated that the square looks beautiful, but some of the lights are out.

Mayor Pellegrino stated that they did work on the lights today.

Ms. Pearson asked when the lights on Main Street will be on.

Manager Politi indicated that's part of the bridge project.

Ms. Pearson asked about the banners, they're not winter, they are fall banners.

Manager Politi advised Ms. Pearson that they will be changed when the 150th anniversary banners come in.

Keith Millsbaugh stated that last week was the comprehensive plan meeting and at that meeting he questioned the effectiveness of the publication to notify the village and all those in the village about the meeting. They talked November 23rd about getting the meeting date on the calendar and he was told it was too late to get it on the calendar. When is the next meeting suppose to be and is it too late to get it on the January calendar.

Manager Politi indicated that the next meeting is January 4th and it is on the calendar. That will be a steering committee meeting, not a public hearing.

Mr. Millspaugh stated that he has a question about the sub committee and what constitutes a quorum for the sub committee.

Mr. Dowd advised Mr. Millspaugh that it would be the majority of the board.

Mr. Millspaugh asked, which would be five people. There are eight on the committee.

Mr. Dowd stated, if there are eight on the committee, it would be five.

Mr. Millspaugh stated that he saw four people at that meeting, so that meeting really wasn't a legal public hearing.

Mr. Dowd stated that there was an issue as to whether or not one particular person in the audience was in fact on the board or not.

Manager Politi indicated the he was listed on one but not on the other.

Mr. Millspaugh asked if that's an issue that should be determined, because you still need to have a public hearing by the steering committee if that really wasn't a public hearing.

Mr. Dowd stated that's a potential issue.

Audited Bills

Trustee Keator moved to pay the audited bills of December 14, 2004. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Wastewater Treatment Plan Rehabilitation

Manager Politi stated that the village was approved by the EPA to go to bid for the improvements for the wastewater treatment plant. He will compile all that and go out and borrow all the money at one time. He will come in for a larger portion which may seem to exceed what is here, but that will go for the Tinbrook work and I & I work. That will save us a few dollars.

Trustee Hurd asked about the I & I work zone which will save the village about 125,000 gallons a day if they close that completely. Will this rehabilitate existing equipment or will this work by itself increasing the capacity.

Manager Politi explained that it will not increase the capacity, because when you have the I & I you're pushing the limit. When you fix the problem there is less fatigue on the Tinbrook pump station, which they are very concerned about. You will be maintaining the system much better.

Trustee Hurd asked if most of this was for maintaining existing equipment

Manager Politi indicated yes, and upgrade.

Orange County Trust Company

Mayor Pellegrino stated that Orange County Trust Company is asking to be official depository for the village.

Manager Politi stated that currently the village uses Key Bank and Bank of America and this will give us a third option for bonding purposes. We would have more competitive rates.

Mayor Pellegrino asked if the village was still going to retain Key Bank and Bank of America?

Manager Politi indicated yes, this would be a third option.

Trustee DeJesus stated that the way he reads this it sounds like we are getting rid of the other banks.

Trustee Raymondo moved to approve Orange County Trust as official depository for the Village of Walden.

Trustee DeJesus asked that the motion be amended making Orange County Trust an official depository as a third option. Motion amended. Trustee DeJesus seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Informational & Village Manager's Report

Manager Politi stated that the Rotary has written a letter indicating that they will back the village for the band shell or pavilion. He will have a rendering done so the board can see the project.

A copy of the January calendar is in the board's packet so they can see the scheduling of the comprehensive plan.

Department head reports are also in the packets.

Board Comments

Trustee Norman stated that she spoke to the manager regarding the dangerous tree on Millard Street. She asked the manager to check it again to see if it can come down.

Trustee Hurd stated that he spoke to Susan Isaksen who is a member of the steering committee. We should check it and find out if we are correct. He doesn't see any harm in having another public hearing.

Trustee DeJesus stated that in the parks and recreation committee minutes it states that they are in favor of this proposal, which proposal.

Trustee Norman stated that the tennis courts at James Olley Park would be in the future. They want to upgrade the ones at Bradley Field. They also want to put the volley ball courts in.

Trustee DeJesus stated that he mentioned the bill he saw for the removal of trees to the manager. There was an issue regarding the removal of trees on Highland Avenue and at that meeting he asked for bids and he sees they did work and there were no bids.

Mayor Pellegrino stated that there are amounts where you don't have to go out to bid, but in the future they should get bids.

Trustee Raymondo indicated that there are areas in the village that need to be blacktopped and the plant is closing at the end of the month.

Mayor Pellegrino stated that he has a concern with the Key Bank building on Main Street. It seems Mr. Millspaugh is doing some work and he doesn't know what kind of equipment he is using but he would like the building inspector to take a look at it. On the right side when you are standing in front of the building there seems to be some bricks stuck in mortar and he doesn't know how secure they are. It's a safety issue for the pedestrians walking by there.

Executive Session

Trustee Keator moved to hold an executive session pursuant to 105-(f), Library personnel and consultant, of the Public Officers Law, and attorney/client privileges. Seconded by Trustee DeJesus. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Raymondo moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Trustee Keator. All ayes. Meeting reconvened.

Trustee Keator moved to authorize the Village Manager to sign an option agreement with Robert and Anna Dunden for \$5,000 to do well exploration and to expend an additional \$25,000 for well exploration. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Trustee Keator moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Mitchell
Village Clerk