

**VILLAGE OF WALDEN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
January 25, 2005**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Keator moved to adopt the minutes of January 11, 2005. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes with the exception of Trustee DeJesus abstaining because he wasn't present at that meeting. Minutes adopted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mary Ellen Matisse informed the board that tonight at the Town Hall is the Wallkill River watershed plan meeting with public input. Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> is the next hearing for Cranesville Block. She also would like the engineers letter regarding Cranesville Block be added to the minutes.

Adam Sirichek, VFW voiced the concerns of the VFW regarding the large amount of snow that fell off the roof of the building next to them. He presented the board with pictures.

Mayor Pellegrino asked Mr. Dowd if there were any laws regarding snow cleats on roofs to prevent the snow from falling off the roof.

Mr. Dowd stated that this is all on private property. This building is still under construction and there should be some means to catch the snow so it doesn't fall on private property, but this is a private property matter between the VFW and Mr. Millspaugh. If it fell on a public street the village could do something about it.

Manager Politi asked if there was a requirement for cleats during review.

Mr. Dowd indicated that he doesn't know what the status of the construction is, if it's at its complete stage or not.

Dave Penney, VFW Commander asked if they are allowed to have a building without snow guards or something.

Manager Politi stated that they need to research that.

Trustee Raymondo stated that New York State Building Code requires snow guards on metal roofs.

Mr. Penney stated that if someone walks through there and gets injured, that's a private issue.

Mr. Dowd stated yes it is.

Trustee DeJesus asked if it's done through the Planning Board process.

Mr. Dowd stated that it would be with the building inspector. The planning boards function is finished, he's now in the construction phase which is under the building inspector's realm. Mr. Stickles can approach the owner and so can the VFW.

Becky Pearson, 167 Walnut Street asked how they are doing with the bridge.

Village Manager Politi stated that he can't give her a status report, he hasn't talked to anyone.

Mrs. Pearson stated that she will call the manager at the end of the week to see if he has an answer.

Dave Sperry, Overlook Place stated that approximately 6 to 8 months ago he asked about the sidewalk on Second Street being closed. Will that start to deteriorate under the road.

Manager Politi indicated no. They will be removing that section of sidewalk.

Mr. Sperry asked about the flyers that went to the elementary school regarding Mayor for a Day and the Time Capsule, half of the Walden Elementary School students don't live in the village and the flyer does say that in order to be the Mayor for the day you have to live in the Village of Walden. Also, half the village children go to Berea School and Coldenham.

Ms. Mullarky indicated that they've handed out flyers to all the schools.

Mayor Pellegrino indicated that he sponsors Mayor for a Day.

Mr. Sperry stated that his concern is the kids that can't do it because they don't live in the village.

Mayor Pellegrino stated that he will consider that next year.

Mr. Sperry also inquired about the pot holes in the roads. He asked if the village has looked at the list for the spring time.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Ms. Pearson stated that there is a street sign missing on the corner of Seely Street and she asked how you get a street sign.

Manager Politi advised her to call DPW and if she doesn't get an answer to call him.

Karen Moore, 20 Riverview Street stated that she would like to address how village residents are advised that there is a snow emergency considering the very first snow storm we had Christmas weekend, which it was questionable whether it was two inches or not. The weather report was snow showers. A snow emergency was issued during the night and the next morning they found tickets on their cars and some cars in her neighborhood were towed. She turned on the radio and there was nothing on the station she listens to saying there was a snow emergency. The next snow storm it was announced. She will check with the radio station to see if they were notified of the first storm.

Mayor Pellegrino indicated that a police sergeant or officer will measure the snow and he will call the dispatcher and the dispatcher will call the radio stations.

Manager Politi asked Ms. Moore what radio station she was listening to that didn't announce the snow emergency.

Ms. Moore indicated that it was 97.3 or 97.7.

Manager Politi stated that is one of several stations owned by Clear Channel and he will check to see if they are on the list.

Ms. Moore also indicated that she also knows that on some streets the police did notify them to remove their vehicles. Riverview Street was not one of them. She suggested that a signal go on the fire horn.

Mr. Dowd stated that not everyone would hear the horn and not everyone wants to hear it.

Trustee Hurd stated that the Police Chief said there is some legal reason that the horn shouldn't be blown for a snow emergency.

Ms. Moore also suggested the police go ahead of the plow and announce there is a snow emergency.

Trustee Raymondo stated that he thinks the board should sit down and find a solution that would satisfy the citizens.

Mr. Dowd stated that if you know the snow is coming you have to get the cars off the street.

Mayor Pellegrino stated that he will get together with the Chief of Police and he will get back to Ms. Moore.

George Moore, 20 Riverview Street also voiced his concerns regarding the snow emergency.

Mary Ellen Matisse asked, what we do if there was a real big emergency. We're within the Indian Point evacuation zone and she's seen things on the blue screen from the County EMS office. What would we do if we had to evacuate this village. We can't even clear the snow and people don't know if the snow emergency is on or off.

Manager Politi stated that they thought everything went well during this snowstorm. We gave out very few tickets.

Trustee Raymondo stated that this needs to be addressed now. Maybe we need the people in charge here during an emergency. He thinks there was a break in communications.

Trustee DeJesus stated that he feels the police should go around announcing there is a snow emergency.

Manager Politi stated that once they got to court if there was a ticketing process and a towing process that it got selective in some legal manner where it wasn't fair to everyone. That notification system was found not to be a fair way to do it.

Trustee DeJesus stated that while the police are out patrolling they could make it a point to announce the snow emergency. It won't cost any money.

Lynn Schwandt stated that when she dispatched for the police department the police would go around and announce the snow emergency, it caused so many problems with the noise complaints.

Ms. Pearson stated that knowing that it is over is also an issue.

Trustee DeJesus asked if the snow emergency ends when the streets are plowed.

Manager Politi stated that it is a coordination between DPW and the Police Department.

Trustee Keator stated that notification is the most important thing.

Mr. Sirechek asked if there was anything on the web site or a telephone hot line.

Manager Politi stated that it can be put on the web site.

Ms. Mullarky stated that the calendar goes to every address in the village, can't the local law for snow emergencies be put on the calendar at the beginning of winter.

The Village Clerk stated that it was on the calendar for the month of December.

Don Smith, 160 Maple Street stated that his parents live in New Windsor and in-laws in Newburgh and the Village of Walden does the best job with snow removal.

#### **AUDITED BILLS**

Trustee Norman moved to pay the audited bills of January 25, 2005. Seconded by Trustee Keator. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 8-04-05, 2005 GENERAL VILLAGE ELECTION**

Trustee DeJesus moved to adopted Resolution No. 8-04-05, 2005 General Village Election, (attached). Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 9-04-05, SEQRA LEAD AGENCY/RAIL TRAIL**

Trustee DeJesus asked why the Town was named lead agency.

Deputy Mayor Wynkoop stated because they own most of the trail.

Manager Politi also stated that the project is going through the town.

Trustee DeJesus stated that when it comes to patrolling the trail.

Manager Politi stated that the trail ends in Wooster Grove. We own Wooster Grove, and the streets to get there and a piece of the trail.

Trustee Raymondo moved to adopt Resolution No. 9-04-05, SEQRA Lead Agency/Rail Trail, (attached). Seconded by Trustee Keator. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

## **VALLEY CENTRAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION REQUEST**

Mayor Pellegrino indicated that the Valley Central Federal Credit Union requests that village employees be allowed to use their services. This will not cost the village taxpayer any money.

Trustee Norman moved to allow the request by the Valley Central Federal Credit Union. Seconded by Trustee Keator. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **90 WAIT STREET, SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT**

Trustee DeJesus asked if in the future set a ceiling of \$10,000.

Mr. Dowd stated that it would depend upon loan to value ratio and what the first loan was. In this case you have a new mortgage and a very small village mortgage.

Trustee DeJesus asked that it be considered for the future.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Trustee DeJesus moved to approve the subordination agreement for 90 Wait Street. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Wynkoop. All ayes. Motion carried

Trustee Hurd stated that the money doesn't go into the HODAG fund, it just goes around again.

## **27 ULSTER AVENUE/44 SEELY STREET**

Manager Politi indicated that the Code Enforcement Officer has advised him that there are two cars that have not been moved that have been summoned over and over again and he'd like to bring them in for a hearing, 27 Ulster Avenue, Mr. Wagemann and 44 Seely Street, Jennifer Vergona.

Trustee Norman moved to adopted Resolution No. 10-04-05, Declaring a Certain Vehicle at 27 Ulster Avenue in the Village of Walden to be a Dismantled and Junked Vehicle as Defined in Chapter 47 of the Village Code and Ordering the Removal of Said Vehicle, (attached). Seconded by Deputy Mayor Wynkoop. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

Trustee Keator moved adopt Resolution No. 11-04-05, Declaring Certain Vehicles Located at 44 Seely Street in the Village of Walden to be Dismantled, Junked and Unlicensed Vehicles as Defined in Chapter 47 of the Village Code and Ordering the

Removal of Said Vehicles, (attached). Seconded by Trustee Raymondo. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

Mayor Pellegrino asked that snow removal be put on the next work session when the chief gets back.

## **VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Politi advised the board of the following:

- He gave the board a breakdown of what needs to finish up the EPA Grant work. The village will be going out to bond \$1.1 million. We will be getting 55% of that back.
- Department Head memos are included in the packets.
- Correspondence was received from Mr. Arakas thanking the village for the work done on Oakland Avenue.
- A letter was received from John Nosek expressing appreciation to the basketball officials.
- The village had a meeting with the Ronk family and it was very productive.

Trustee Keator stated that what the village is doing with the Ronk family is the right thing to do, but going along as long as we did, it's fine for a couple months and then not, she doesn't want to throw good money away for bad.

Deputy Mayor Wynkoop stated that they've appointed someone to watch it.

Trustee Keator asked if any of this would include the inside.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Trustee Keator stated that her main concern is the property gets cleaned up and goes back the way it was.

## **BOARD COMMENTS**

Trustee Norman thanked Jodi Lynn, Anita Vandermark and Manager Politi for the banners around the village. They really look nice.

Trustee Norman also indicated that DPW did a tremendous job clearing the streets.

Deputy Mayor Wynkoop asked if a letter can be sent to the DPW.

Village Manager Politi stated that he solicited 106 businesses and 60 have purchased banners.

Trustee Hurd stated that the soap box derby meeting will be Thursday night at 7:30pm.

Trustee Keator stated that in reference to having the two people come before the board for their abandoned vehicles in their yard she would like to inform them of the vehicle donations.

Trustee Keator also indicated that she liked the banners.

Trustee Keator stated that she and Trustee Norman went to look at the Village of Montgomery pavilion and it was much nicer then she thought it was going to be. She liked the exposed wide beams. She still doesn't like the roof line.

Manager Politi stated that he spoke to Ken Slypac and told him that if we are within that size range that everybody would be happy.

Trustee DeJesus asked if it would make the park look crowded. He thought it was going to be a bandstand.

Trustee Hurd stated that Keith Millspaugh pointed out that they wanted dual purpose. He doesn't know if it's the right place.

Manager Politi stated that they can move it around if they had to.

Trustee DeJesus expressed his concerns with the trees at the park. The Village should determine what the use of the building is for our property. He is grateful for the offer, but this board has to take a stand as to the use that is needed for there. If we feel there is a different need they should consider that.

Manager Politi stated that it was brought up that you are the trail head for the rail trail. You can use the pavilion for 5k's. There are other uses through the recreation department. Forcing the pavilion, he doesn't think they forced it. It's what they wanted to offer and he thinks the blended of those two would be a nice building.

Trustee DeJesus stated that he really wants to see a rendering. He doesn't want to see that they are going to put a building over there and chop down trees.

Manager Politi stated that he said it before that once the board is in agreement with the building they like he will get a rendering.

Trustee Keator stated that they also admired the cast iron bench at the Montgomery Park.

Trustee Keator indicated that the Town of Montgomery Chamber is looking for members.



Trustee Keator also thanked DPW for a great job.

Trustee DeJesus stated that on Sherman Avenue where the two houses that were just built the street opening needs to be covered up.

Manager Politi stated that the contractor has been trying to keep stone in it until the plant opens.

Trustee DeJesus stated that everything has stopped at the foot bridge, why?

Manager Politi stated that if you were to stand on the east side of the bridge you will see a gab that they have to fill between the bridge and the ground level and then it will open. It should be by the end of the week.

Trustee Raymondo asked if there was any progress on the sign by Dr. Guneratne.

Manager Politi stated that he called the state and Cianbro and asked them if they could place it on the metal pole.

Mayor Pellegrino asked about the sign by the senior building.

Manager Politi stated that was also discussed.

Deputy Mayor Wynkoop stated that he agrees with Trustee DeJesus, we have to go to the park and see where the pavilion is going to be in the park. He doesn't have a problem with the design. He'd like to see how it fits in there.

Mayor Pellegrino also stated that the DPW did a great job with the snow storm. He went out with the manager during the storm and he saw some of the DPW workers and they were pretty shot, but they didn't leave their jobs. He appreciates everything they do.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION/ATTORNEY/CLIENT**

Trustee Keator moved to hold an executive session/attorney client privileges. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

Deputy Mayor Wynkoop moved to authorize a letter be sent to Rick Wolven requesting payment of his Small Cities loan

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Mitchell  
Village Clerk