

**VILLAGE OF WALDEN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
MAY 8, 2007**

Mayor Becky Pearson 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	Becky Pearson
	Deputy Mayor	Mary Ellen Matisse
	Trustees	Roy Wynkoop
		Mary Jean Norman
		Richard Hurd
		Jose DeJesus
		Edmond Leonard

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Trustee DeJesus moved to adopt the minutes of April 24, 2007 with the following corrections: Page 3, second paragraph, change not the library to without the library and Page 4, fifth paragraph, change \$33,326 to \$34,059 to \$3,326 to \$3,459. Seconded by Trustee Leonard.

Mayor Pearson asked for clarification regarding Trustee Hurd's statement on page 29.

Trustee Hurd advised the mayor that is what he meant, \$5,000.

All ayes. Minutes adopted.

**Public Portion**

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Pearson asked if anyone has heard from the skate boarders.

Manager Politi stated that Mrs. Savage was putting together a date when everybody could meet, separately.

Trustee Norman stated that Mrs. Savage is going to meet with herself, the manager and John Howland.

Mayor Pearson stated that she thought this was to discuss whether the village was going to eliminate using pads, wrist guards and everything else.

Manager Politi stated that they want to air their views about that.

### **Audited Bills**

Trustee Norman moved to pay the audited bills of May 8, 2007. Seconded by Trustee DeJesus.

Mayor Pearson asked if the bill for TAM Enterprises was for work on Harrison Street.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Mayor Pearson asked if there was a report that is generated from that.

Manager Politi stated that there is a report.

Mayor Pearson asked how they made out with that.

Manager Politi stated that the line was open throughout. You had some laterals in there that protrude a little bit, but nothing which would reference blockage. They began on Coldenham Road to the manhole at Scofield and through the parking lot behind Dell Optics.

Mr. Edwards stated that they did a 90 degree angle across the railroad tracks to the manhole at Champion Bag.

Manager Politi stated that was all open. They were looking to see if there was a blockage, and if there were any damages as a result of the storm. There was nothing to show a defined blockage.

Mayor Pearson asked about the sewer line that was jetted on the bridge.

Mr. Edwards that it was siphon on the foot bridge on E. Main Street.

All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Resolution No. 17-06-07, Levying Village Taxes for FY 07-08**

Trustee DeJesus moved to adopt Resolution No. 17-06-07, Levying Village Taxes for FY 07-08. Seconded by Trustee Hurd.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that the board has not received the finalized budget.

Manager Politi indicated that it is being printed.

All ayes with the exception of Mayor Pearson and Deputy Mayor Matise voting no because they do not have a copy of the final budget. Resolution adopted.

### **Café Seating Law Adoption**

Mr. Dowd stated that the County Planning Department has approved this.

Mayor Pearson stated that she has a concern about the time. It says all cafes will cease at 11pm. She doesn't believe Sweeney's is at 11pm, it's earlier. Part of the problem was noise complaints.

Mr. Dowd stated that there haven't been any complaints. If it becomes an issue you can revisit this.

Deputy Mayor Matise moved to declare the Board of Trustees lead agency and to declare a negative declaration in regard to SEQRA. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Matise moved to adopt Introductory Local Law I-2 of 2007 as Local Law No. 2 of 2007, "Zoning". Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Local law adopted.

### **Street Light Authorization**

Deputy Mayor Matise asked what it meant by this installation does not satisfy roadway lighting standards as set by IBS.

Manager Politi stated that he thinks this is more for sidewalk than street lighting and it may not meet the lumens or the cobras that you would typically see.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if this was for four lights on the whole street.

Mr. Dowd stated that this is for Ponds II which was the first one they built.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if this was an annual charge to the village.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Trustee Leonard moved to authorize the manager to sign the street light authorization for Ponds II at Riverside. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matise. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Letter to MetroNorth Railroad**

Manager Politi stated that this letter lets MetroNorth Railroad to let them know that we are still behind the feasibility and behind the concept.

Trustee Leonard asked if the completion has been moved back.

Manager Politi stated that they are waiting for information from the New Jersey Transit which is where you get your numbers from on the west side of the river. They are just waiting for that data to plug in and then they will be able to finish up.

Trustee Hurd moved to authorize a letter be sent to MetroNorth Railroad regarding the Walden Passenger Rail Feasibility Study. Seconded by Trustee DeJesus. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Set Public Hearing Date for CDBG Funding**

Manager Politi stated that Kerron Barnes attended the kick off meeting and what needs to be done is set the public hearing date.

Trustee DeJesus stated that in some communities the funding is used to assist non for profit agencies and he would like this board to consider the daycare center for funding. He asked the manager to find out if that would be possible.

Deputy Mayor Matisse suggested they apply for money for the house at Olley Park. She spoke to Tom Lane and he said we would definitely qualify.

Manager Politi stated that there is another grant program and he will be getting more information about it tomorrow.

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that county money will be easier to get.

Deputy Mayor Matisse moved to set a public hearing for the CDBG Funding on May 22nd' 2007 at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Hurd indicated that there is federal money out there for sewer projects.

### **Sewer Use Law-Application for Waive**

Trustee DeJesus moved to approve the sewer waiver for 200 Orange Avenue. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matisse.

Mayor Pearson asked if there is paperwork from the inspection.

Manager Politi stated that there is a report at the end.

Mayor Pearson also asked if there was a fee.

Manager Politi stated that the fee is \$25.00 plus the cost of the inspection.

Mayor Pearson asked if there was a written permit.

The village clerk indicated that there was.

Mayor Pearson asked if they needed a building permit for this.

Manager Politi stated no.

All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Stantec Engineering – Appointment as Village Engineer**

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that the board had asked for more information.

Manager Politi stated that the board had asked to split the numbers of what was planning/zoning paid by developers as opposed to the village. The treasurer is putting that together.

Trustee DeJesus asked why the engineer charges for mileage. The fees are high enough to cover mileage. He has a problem with them charging for mileage.

Mayor Pearson stated that she has issues which she emailed her concerns to the board about. Part of the email was about Beazer Homes which she doesn't feel the inspections are being done the way they should be done. She doesn't know if that would be the engineer's responsibility or the building inspector's responsibility. She is finding, with the pictures she took the other day, plus the first incident with water run off and silt fences and no hay bales, there is still one big mound of dirt that has no silt fence around it that she showed Mr. Fitzsimmons at the last meeting and he said that is a violation and its still that way this afternoon.

Manager Politi stated there is a qualification, depending on where it is and how close it is to the water run off.

Trustee Leonard stated that as long as the run off is clear it's okay, if it's muddy then you have erosion on site. They assured them that it was clear.

Manager Politi stated that there are some mounds that by DEC definition do not require silt fences. There are temporary ponds there, there was an explanation to that one that ended up not being a violation.

Mayor Pearson stated that some of the silt fences were put up after she went to the site.

Manager Politi stated that a few weeks ago they went to the site requested by Mr. Casper and they were pushing dirt around and the silt fences were folded over and by the end of the day they were put back up. Yes, they did have violations there. Everything you are saying may not be a violation.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that at one time the village had its own engineer on staff, why haven't we looked into that again.

Manager Politi stated that because of the number of items you are working with it would be difficult.

Mayor Pearson stated that she is concerned with the inspections the engineer is doing or not doing. We have one major development site going on right now and she is finding it's not being inspected the way it should be inspected.

Trustee Wynkoop suggested this be tabled until the concerns can be addressed.

Manager Politi stated that he works with them on a regular basis and in their defense this is one item. If they have poor inspectors on site they need to replace them. To look at the other work they do for the village is very good.

Deputy Mayor Matise suggested the manager give the board a report.

Trustee Wynkoop suggested Mr. Fitzsimmons come to a meeting and answer any questions.

Mayor Pearson stated that she would still like to see those numbers to see how much money we are putting out, not being planning or zoning board.

Trustee DeJesus stated that he said he would not charge to put the numbers together.

Deputy Mayor Matise moved to table the appointment of the village engineer. Seconded by Trustee Wynkoop. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Skateboard Park Use Regulations**

Trustee Wynkoop asked if there was a state law that requires them to wear helmets.

Mayor Pearson stated yes, it was passed in 2005.

Trustee Norman stated that since the village will be meeting with the parents and kids she suggested this be tabled.

Trustee Norman moved to table the skateboard park use regulations. Seconded by Trustee DeJesus. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Garbage Collection Law Review**

Mr. Dowd stated that he intended on presenting a local law to the board tonight, but its only 95% done. He ended up with an extensive conversation with Mr. Sorensen about the townhouse law, so he's not ready with this local law.

Mayor Pearson indicated that she would like more discussion before the local law is done. She had a question on the definitions, one being the definition for multiple residents, 3 or more dwelling units and residents, having fewer than three dwelling units. When this is changed it's changed to have the residents to have five or less, so a residence will have more units than multi residents.

Mr. Dowd stated that he will try to correct that.

Trustee Hurd suggested one or two family residence rather than less than three.

Mr. Dowd stated that they are trying to make the law applicable to residences of five or less which includes multiple residence by definition.

Mayor Pearson asked what the reason was for doing this.

Mr. Dowd stated that at first they were trying to get those buildings that have four or five apartments into the collection system. It was three or less.

Manager Politi stated that there is only a few.

Mr. Dowd stated than allow within certain parameters those that are four and five to use a larger container than individual garbage cans.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked how do we prevent the situation we had with this letter and how do we determine that we are not binding the next board, how do we determine that the letter won't get lost for six years.

Mr. Dowd stated that his intention was to say that the request be in the manager's discretion that the proper response be in writing and that the board be notified that he did it.

Trustee DeJesus stated that it can be attached to the minutes when it's reported.

Mayor Pearson asked if the manager's response would be policy or in the law.

Mr. Dowd stated that he will put it in the law.

Deputy Mayor Matisse asked about 85-9,f , removing containers from the curb or the street to be placed behind the residence. We are not even enforcing that now and she has been asking the building inspector if the code enforcement officer could go around and see what is going on with that. Do we want to do that and enforce it on a more regular basis.

Manager Politi stated that it's more informing to educate the public to get them out of the way.

Trustee Leonard stated that there is a problem when people are evicted and the garbage is in the street well in advance of the garbage truck coming.

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that evictions you can't touch for a certain period of time.

Manager Politi indicated that it is 72 hours.

Deputy Mayor Matisse asked if the manager ever contacted Interstate Waste about looking at rates again.

Manager Politi stated that he will set up a meeting.

### **Orange County Firefighters Museum Request**

Mayor Pearson stated that the Orange County Firefighters are looking for \$1,000 to start a safety program for children that they are putting in the back barn.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that if the village donates money then they would waive the fees for village residents.

Mayor Pearson stated that the seniors would like the unused money to be donated to the fire house.

Trustee DeJesus moved to donate \$500.00 to the Orange County Firefighters Museum after June 1, 2007. Seconded by Matisse. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Dowd stated that this would be for a year.

### **Kennel Law**

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that the town has also done a local law which has the same definition as the village, four or more dogs more than four months old. She suggested the village obtain a copy of the town's law.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that puppies are sold at 8 weeks, so they could be pumping out a litter of dogs every three months and never break the law.



Deputy Mayor Matise stated that the issue with the state is if they sell 25 dogs or more and you can prove that they are selling them then it becomes an agriculture and markets issue, not a local issue. They have to have a license as a breeding kennel.

### **Bus Scheduling within the Village Of Walden**

Mayor Pearson stated that they are working on times and where to drop off for the bus schedule. This will start as soon as school gets out.

Trustee Leonard stated that the bus would work well with the summer program at Olley Park.

Mayor Pearson stated that they have to meet with Mr. Howland. That would be a different bus.

Manager Politi asked if there was an age limit.

Mayor Pearson stated that it was 11 and over, without an adult. She is working with the town to get funding for this.

Trustee Norman stated when she worked for day care you needed a car seat for the younger children. Her concern with the bus and the park is when the kids are dismissed in the afternoon, because a few years ago there was a problem with kids being dismissed and there was no one there to take care of them. We need some kind of policy.

Mayor Pearson stated that there would have to be a pass system.

Mayor Pearson stated that one trip would be from the west side to the center of town and the parks starting at 10am at the Col. Bradley fire house.

Trustee DeJesus stated that he would like to see a schedule.

Mayor Pearson stated that the village needs to make a schedule.

Trustee DeJesus asked if she was working with the village manager and Mr. Howland on this.

Mayor Pearson stated that is a separate issue. This is for everyone.

Manager Politi stated that he will work with Mr. Howland to make sure the timing doesn't conflict.

Trustee Norman stated that she is concerned about the afternoon when the kids are dismissed.

It was the consensus of the board to move forward with this.

Trustee DeJesus stated that down the line we will get into subsidizing these rides and then we will have to take a certain amount of our budget to subsidize them.

Mayor Pearson stated that it is county funded, the money comes from the county and town.

Trustee Norman stated that when she worked in day care they had to pay for each child.

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that we also pay out of the village budget.

Mayor Pearson stated lets get started and see where it goes.

Trustee Norman moved to move forward on the bus scheduling within the village. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matisse. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Set Date to Review Emergency Response Plan**

Manager Politi indicated that the Police Chief asked that the meeting be either Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> or Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Deputy Mayor Matisse moved to hold a special meeting on May 23, 2007 at 7:00pm, second floor meeting room, to discuss the emergency response plan. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Matisse asked that the comments the manager received from the board be given out to them.

### **Boy Scout Proclamations for Local Eagle Scouts**

Manager Politi stated that he is not prepared for this right now. You have five boys who are receiving their Eagle Scout award. He is getting a formal proclamation from the board to be given to the scouts.

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that she will be attending the ceremonies.

### **Board Comments – Work Session Items Only**

There were no comments.

### **MS4 Annual Report**

Manager Politi passed out copies of the MS4 Annual Report and stated that a draft will also be available in the clerk's office for the public. If the board has any questions or comments let him know. He just received this so he hasn't had time to review it.

Mayor Pearson asked where they were with the law.

Manager Politi stated that will be forthcoming. He will have this on the next agenda.

## **Correspondence**

Mayor Pearson stated that she received correspondence regarding the EPA Grant for June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Pearson also received correspondence from the Department of Emergency Services who has a meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Manager Politi stated that this is for the village's cost.

Manager Politi stated that he has a letter to the Mayor and Village Trustees which is the annual comprehensive inspection of the wastewater treatment plant and he does not have a copy of the inspection. He asked if the board receive copies.

Mayor Pearson stated that she will look to see if she has it.

Manager Politi stated that Mr. Howland has been sick therefore his report is not ready.

## **Townhouse Zoning**

Mr. Dowd stated that in the board's packets there was a copy of the townhouse law that was dated the April 18<sup>th</sup>. The actual revision that Mr. Sorensen did was April 25<sup>th</sup>. There are two subsequent issues that the board needs to make a decision on. It deals with the affordability factors. The April 18<sup>th</sup> addition, page 9, (a) which basically says the initial sales price of a unit shall be calculated such that the annual cost of the sum of principal, interest, taxes, insurance, and common charges, shall not exceed 28%. The change that Mr. Sorensen made on the 25<sup>th</sup> basically says that the annual cost of the sum of the principal, interest, taxes and insurance shall not exceed 30%, without common charges. So the question is, should it be 28% or 30% and should the common charges be included or not included. The general rule of thumb was basically most housing costs are about 30% of median income and that would include principal, interest, taxes and insurance. The first question is whether 28%, which was recommended by Alice Dickenson as opposed to 30% which is the rule of thumb. Mr. Jacobowitz wanted 31%.

Trustee Leonard stated that Mr. Jacobowitz wanted 32%.

Mr. Dowd stated that he wanted to exclude the common charges. They had discussions as to whether common charges are housing cost or not.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that common charges are similar to taxes.

Mr. Dowd stated that it's a maintenance charge, it's not a tax.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that it's still a housing cost. If you took it out then you could say 28%. If you add it in than you can go to the higher percentage.

Trustee Hurd stated that 28% is lower and if you add in common charge which is the higher then the selling price may get to a point that the builder or developer can't meet and still build every fifth one as an affordable unit.

Mr. Dowd stated that rule of thumb is 30%. Going to 28% he doesn't know where that comes from and going above it he can't say that is what it is now.

Trustee Hurd stated that every 2% of median which is \$76,000, so 1% is \$760.00, 2% is \$1500. a year which is about \$130. per month, amortized over a 30 year mortgage at 6 ½ % which is about \$7.00 per thousand, so that person could probably buy another \$14,000 worth of house. That is where the issue becomes where the pricing goes for a standard 30 year mortgage. It really depends on what the market rate is for interest.

Mr. Dowd stated that after talking to Mr. Sorensen they felt the 30% is more on target. He doesn't know if they'd go to 31 or 32. They also discussed the common charges should be included in it.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that they are because they become a fixed cost every month, so you really have to be able to afford it. If you miss paying your common charges a homeowners association has the right to foreclose on you. A person has to show they have to carry.

Trustee Hurd stated that if you build it in you lower the initial sales tax.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that people have to be made aware that they are going to be responsible for common charges and they can afford to do it.

Trustee Hurd stated that the mortgage lender will look at this.

Trustee Leonard stated that Alice Dickerson who has been doing this for over 20 years gave them handouts and she said by keeping it at 28% you allow more people to qualify. She also recommended that they keep the HOA fees in there. You have to remember that these young people that come in are in debt to start with. He suggests they leave it at 28%. Also, they are giving the builder leeway.

Trustee Hurd stated that it sounds good to say 28% and throw in the homeowners association charges, but you might find yourself with a builder saying they can't meet those numbers because now instead of the lowest unit costing them \$240,000., this is not subsidized housing.

Mayor Pearson asked are they making it more affordable for the builder or more affordable for the people who are buying the home.

Trustee Hurd stated that he would like to hear from Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Jacobowitz about how these numbers relate and whether these numbers are reasonable.

Trustee Leonard stated that Mr. Jacobowitz has already said he is going to sell.

Trustee DeJesus suggested a third party come before the board, Ms. Dickenson, or Mr. Church.

Mayor Pearson stated that whatever affordability will be, will be better at 28% and that is what we are looking for.

Trustee Hurd stated that's if they can be built.

Trustee Leonard suggested they have a third party come in and then the board will have more information.

Mr. Dowd stated that in Section 2. he deleted the definition of Recreational Vehicle and when it says no recreational vehicles or boats he referred to the section of the code where it's defined. On Section 3 and 4 it states that they are repealing the Table of use Regulations for residential, business, mixed use, we are not. It will affect the residential districts, so 3 and 4 they will amend and repeal the residential districts uses and table of dimensional regulations.

Mayor Pearson asked if part of that was OLI.

Mr. Dowd stated that's the map, not the code.

Mr. Dowd further explained that in Section 5 add the description. Section 8, delete OLI and MX, we are not touching those. They then discussed townhouse fencing and walls and now the way it reads is front line, none, side lot line outside of rear yard is none, rear yard lot line will be 4 feet.

Mayor Pearson stated that she thought they were changing that to six.

Mr. Dowd stated that since these are townhouse lot units you're going to own your lot, if you put in the zoning code that you are allowed to have a four foot fence on your rear lot line and you are in a middle unit its very possible you could have someone put up a four foot high fence on their rear lot line and then it would not be continued on

the entire lot. They were thinking of making a fencing plan adding a section that says in the planning process the developer must come up with a detailed plan for all proposed fencing or walls and it has to be approved by the planning board.

Mayor Pearson stated that they discussed this and they felt it would go to the homeowners association.

Mr. Dowd stated that the initial developer will present a fencing plan and it has to be approved by the planning board as part of site plan. Thereafter, if something changes then the homeowners association would have to make an application to the planning board for an amendment to that plan. We don't want individual homeowners in a townhouse setting, put up a wall or fence on the side or rear of the property because it will look ridiculous. On Page 4 he took out all the foot signs so its consistent throughout the entire law. Section C. Yard Requirements, he asked Mr. Sorensen which edge of the sidewalk, nearest edge or furthers.

Trustee Hurd stated that it should be the nearest to the townhouse.

Mr. Dowd stated that it is the same for Section 2. Also, sideyards were better clarified. Now it will read that each townhouse building will have two side yards totaling not less than 30 feet with one side yard not less than ten feet.

Mayor Pearson stated that she doesn't feel that is enough footage. They talked about 75 feet. What if there are two buildings and they put a road in the middle. Thirty feet of a road minus 75. Ten feet is nothing. What if a road goes through that thirty feet.

Mr. Dowd stated that the road specs, the minimum road width is 35 feet, so you couldn't put it there. They are requiring that the minimum road right of way for a private road has to be 35 feet of which 24 feet will be paved. He further stated that on Page 6, E. (2), change 3' grass median to 6' grass median, (3) change resident guests to visitors. Then the six foot grass median changes in (4) below and (5) will refer to the vehicle and traffic law.

Trustee Hurd asked if the village will regulate overflow parking areas as far as storing recreational vehicles and boats.

Mr. Dowd stated that they will not be able to keep them on their own individual parcel. Depending on how the site plan goes with the planning board they may have some overflow parking somewhere.

Deputy Mayor Matisse asked if non motorized trailers will be put in.

Mr. Dowd stated that they could. If they are private roads they would have to catch it in the site plan or HOA regulations.

Trustee Hurd stated that they didn't talk about the affordability factor on a sliding scale.

Mr. Dowd stated that on Page 10, (h), Fees, he questions whether the board wants to charge the homeowner \$50.00 per year. They also have to provide proof of residency. He hasn't figured out how they are going to show that they are the owners and occupants.

Deputy Mayor Matisse suggested a utility bill and voter registration card.

Trustee Hurd suggested a driver's license. He asked how you combat relatives living there.

Mr. Dowd stated that if junior buys the unit and he meets the affordability criteria he could sell it to mom and pop if they meet the affordability criteria.

Trustee Hurd stated that he's worried about someone trying to beat the system.

Mr. Dowd stated that you can prove their income.

Trustee Leonard suggested they send a registered letter, return receipt to each affordable unit owner that had to be signed by the homeowner once a year. Then if we get it back without the homeowners signature or we don't get it back then we set the wheels in motion.

Trustee Hurd stated that is still no proof.

Mr. Dowd stated that there is time to figure out the system. The main thing is to get the law in place.

Trustee Leonard suggested that to prevent the sale of these units and to make it easy for the village to keep track of it, if we put a second mortgage of \$1.00 on it then the village would have to be notified of any sales.

Mr. Dowd stated that there will be restrictive covenants in the deed. He asked the board if they wanted to charge the \$50.00 or not.

It was the consensus of the board not to charge the \$50.00.

Deputy Mayor Matisse asked about the preference chart, c., what municipal employees.

Mr. Dowd stated that they all get points. The village gets higher.

It was the consensus of the board to get Mr. Church and Ms. Dickenson to the next meeting.

## **Board Comments**

Trustee Norman stated that at the top of Walnut Street there is a basketball court and the other night two children almost got hit by cars. She feels it should be removed.

Trustee DeJesus stated that someone should take a ride and see where these things are and remind people.

Trustee Norman stated that the alley way by the high bridge is still not cleaned up.

Mayor Pearson asked the manager if the state will be recited or is he just going to do it.

Trustee Norman stated that if the village has to do it lets do it.

Trustee Norman also asked if the village was going to still put flowers on the west side.

Mayor Pearson stated that she hasn't gotten permission to hang the flowers on the poles so she hasn't ordered them. The flowers might not be as full as the ones on Main Street.

Trustee Norman indicated that if we can't use flowers lets do something else on the west side.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that the village should do something about the bus stop by Walden Estates.

Manager Politi stated that he made a request to DOT for a stop light.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that the board approved a drop off zone at Walden Elementary and there still isn't a sign. She also stated that it's time for the hydrant flags to come off. She also brought in the article about the performance licenses and she will give a copy to the manager. She asked if the manager has heard from the county regarding the property at Walden Estates.

Manager Politi stated that all the paperwork has gone in and it needs to go to the legislature.

Deputy Mayor Matise indicated that the ditch on Route 52 east hasn't been taken care of.

Manager Politi stated that he has to make an appointment to go see someone.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that someone came into the office and said now that we put the web site on the calendar, how about the village phone number.



Trustee DeJesus stated that he left a note for the manager regarding Watkins Drive and the digging up that went on there. That has to be repaired. He also asked about the building on West Main Street that is boarded up. He also asked about Maria's building to top floor is falling apart.

Manager Politi stated that he will speak to the building inspector.

Trustee DeJesus stated that it looks awful and it is unsafe.

Manager Politi stated that the deal fell through regarding the brick building.

Trustee DeJesus asked why they dug up so much of the street on Watkins Drive.

Manager Politi stated that he doesn't know.

Trustee DeJesus stated that there were trees planted there last year and some of them are down.

Manager Politi stated that he will find out.

Mayor Pearson suggested they do a stop work order and have them fix the street.

Trustee Leonard asked if the village is still holding the bond for Watkins Drive.

Mr. Dowd stated yes.

Manager Politi stated that he will look into that along with the building inspector and attorney.

Trustee Leonard stated that the DARE graduation is May 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and they are asking the board members to attend.

Mayor Pearson stated that she emailed the manager about the DeGroodt property on Madison and Seely Streets.

Manager Politi stated that he was in court not too long ago.

Mayor Pearson stated that it still is a mess.

Manager Politi stated that he cleans up and then it's a mess.

Mayor Pearson suggested they bring him before the board. The report says that the dates corrected was March 15<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> and she was there over the weekend and it's not cleaned up at all. Can we go in and clean it up. Doesn't he have to have grass planted and there is a sump pump draining onto the street.

Manager Politi stated that he will follow up on this.

Mayor Pearson stated that the manager sent a letter to Beazer Homes and the board was supposed to be copied.

Manager Politi stated that he will get the copies to the board. He met with the representatives from Beazer Homes and they went over the nine points. A couple homeowners that he spoke to were satisfied, especially with blocking off the road. There have been subsequent meetings between the village engineer, building inspector and Beazer Homes.

Mayor Pearson asked if there needs to be a motion from the board to do the consultant for the utility bills.

Manager Politi stated that he will find out.

Mayor Pearson stated that she would like that on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mayor Pearson stated that the sidewalk on Gladstone Avenue has to be fixed where they had the sewer problem.

Manager Politi stated that the contractor will be contacted.

Mayor Pearson stated that there is a huge hole on Walnut Street in the location of her house. They also wrecked the curb. She also asked how the yard sale went.

Trustee Norman stated that they made about \$900.

Mayor Pearson stated that the National Night Out breakfast is May 20<sup>th</sup>, 8-12am and they are looking for people to help out. She also asked about the guardrail on S. Montgomery Street.

Manager Politi stated that he will check that out.

Mayor Pearson asked for a report on Harrison Street.

Manager Politi stated that he met with all the homeowners. They are working with FEMA and they are looking to work with the village's Small Cities Program. You are at a point that those funds will get the money back that they had to spend. Three homeowners seemed to be at a resolution and one they need a little more time.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that they will be tearing one of the houses down tomorrow.

Manager Politi stated that is no secret. That plan is over a year old. They were going to do that anyway. They were planning on making the front of the house a two story and a family room in the back. They had all the approvals.

Mayor Pearson asked what was going on at the Osterhoudt's property.

Manager Politi stated that they wanted to make sure that the lateral was capped, which was sending water into the Osterhoudt's. They closed it at the main so that doesn't occur again. That was completed today. Further investigation is up to the village. He talked to DEC today and there is approval for the Route 208 sewer line. It's up to DEC to sign off and let the village move on.

Mayor Pearson asked if anything else was going to be done on Harrison Street to look for anything further and does the manager feel the Route 208 line is what the problem was.

Manager Politi stated that he is not going to tell the mayor that the replacement of the Route 208 sewer line would be the resolution to that problem.

Mayor Pearson asked what the time frame is once DEC sends that back.

Manager Politi stated that everything is ready to go.

Mayor Pearson asked about the wall at Bradley Park. She is still concerned as to why the board was not informed. That should be something the board should have been made aware of. She is not against what they did; she just would like to know when something is happening.

Manager Politi stated that he will let the board know when work is offered.

Trustee DeJesus stated that it is an awful looking wall and some trees or shrubs should be planted. It's huge, it's tall and on top of it is another fence. He feels that was a major project and he would have liked to have known about it.

Manager Politi stated that the wall in the field was inspected by Jim Fitzsimmons at no charge and everything was done at no charge from a local contractor.

Trustee DeJesus stated that wall isn't as awful as this one.

Manager Politi stated that it will be dressed up.

Mayor Pearson asked if the board will be notified next time

Manager Politi stated yes.

Trustee Norman stated that when Little League does something at the park they should notify them.

Trustee DeJesus stated that the village demands builders to have standards and he feels the village should also have standards and to make it so it looks good for everyone.

Mayor Pearson stated that the wall has a big crack in it. She suggests someone looks at it.

Manager Politi stated that he will have someone look at it. It was inspected and constructed as per engineering review.

Mayor Pearson asked if there is inspection paper work on it.

Manager Politi stated that he will look into that.

Trustee Hurd stated that the people on Harrison should be made aware that because they have homeowners insurance they can and should buy back the exclusion. If they are told a company won't do that they should go shopping somewhere else. The standard flood program is available as well. If you look at the standard flood program coverages or under exclusions it essentially says it excludes backing up of water and sewer and drains of sump pumps, normally, except if the proximate cause is flood, so it would be covered. So they could have secured coverage and they still can ask as long as they wait 30 days for the flood coverage to go into effect.

Mayor Pearson stated that the village's insurance denied the claims. She asked if there was anything that can be done about that.

Manager Politi stated no, that is their determination.

Mayor Pearson asked what the criteria for the determination was.

Manager Politi stated that he did not know.

Anita Vandermark stated that on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 Tony Marano will be doing a program on the railroad at the Walden House.

Trustee Leonard asked about the incident on Election Day and if the village was going to honor those people.

Manager Politi stated that it will be part of a larger year end style where there are multiple awards.

Trustee DeJesus stated that there are four vacancies in the police department.

Manager Politi stated yes.

## **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Mitchell  
Village Clerk