

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 26th, 2007**

Mayor Becky Pearson called the 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 Matise
	Trustees	Roy Wynkoop
		Mary Jean Norman
		Richard Hurd
		Edmond Leonard

Also Present:	James C. Politi, Village Manager
	Kevin Dowd, Village Attorney
	Victoria Kurtz, Deputy Village Clerk

Absent:	Jose DeJesus, Trustee
	Nancy Mitchell, Village Clerk

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Hurd moved to adopt the minutes of May 23rd, 2007 and June 12, 2007 with the following corrections:

May 23rd corrections;

- Page 3, first paragraph, change hire to higher
- Page 6, first paragraph, change white to while
- Page 9, ten paragraph, change Atlantic to Atlanta
- Page 12, fifth paragraph, change tract to tracked.

June 12th corrections;

- Page 4, seventh paragraph, change their to they're
- Page 6, eighth paragraph, add per building after maximum
- Page 7, second paragraph, change Marie to Maureen, change partnership to Partnership, change try and attracts to try to attracted.
- Page 10, eleventh paragraph, change Pluchino to Pluchino
- Page 24, twelfth paragraph, change paint there house to paint their house
- Page 26, change MC4 to MS4
- Page 28, ninth paragraph, change got and plaque to got a plaque
- Page 29, fourteenth paragraph, change and the never to and they never

Mayor Pearson indicated that the Village Clerk requested the board members be courteous and speak into their microphones.

Manager Politi stated that there is a copy of the minutes from May 2005 which states that after a lengthy discussion it was the consensus of the board not to do minutes verbatim, they should be motions, votes and a brief summary of the discussions.

There was a lengthy discussion on if the minutes should be verbatim.

Public Comments

Brenda Adams, Valley Avenue commented on street sweeping on her street that with cars parking on the street it makes it difficult to sweep the street properly. She also asked about the request for a stop sign at the intersection of James Street and Valley Avenue. She also asked for children at play signs.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Trustee Hurd moved to pay the audited bills of June 26th, 2007. Seconded by Trustee Wynkoop.

Mayor Pearson asked about the bills for 2 weed wackers for the same department.

Manager Politi stated that it was for two weed wackers for two separate departments.

Deputy Mayor Maise question the web site bill.

Manager Politi explained that because the Farmers' Market was set up separately we have to get billed twice. He did receive her email about last years date.

Mayor Pearson asked what valve they are trying to locate at the sewage plant.

Manager Politi explained that there is another valve going between the sludge tank that they are trying to locate it.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Bond Resolution for Road Construction

Manager Politi stated that he is working with the contractor to get one number down. He asked that the two projects be separated. He asked the board to schedule a special meeting next Tuesday.

Trustee Wynkoop moved to set a special meeting on Tuesday, July 3, 2007, 8:30 am in the Village Manager's office for the bond resolution. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Motion carried.

McColl Family Small Cities Application Approval for Funding

Mayor Pearson moved to approve the small cities loan application for the McColl Family. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Stormwater Management Law/Illicit Discharge Law

Manager Politi asked if the board has something to convey to the engineer he will take those comments tonight. Mr. Dowd will answer legal questions.

Mayor Pearson asked the attorney about regulated activities, is it a normal 20% or can that slope be changed.

Mr. Dowd stated that is based on soil conservation standards.

Mayor Pearson asked if the board can change that.

Mr. Dowd stated you can't create a standard that can't be met. That would be an engineering question.

Deputy Mayor asked if they followed the sample local law.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Deputy Mayor stated that alteration of land greater than, it doesn't indicate the acreage and also values haven't been set yet. She also asked about the application fee.

Mr. Dowd indicated that the board might want to boost those fees up based upon additional reviews by the engineer.

Deputy Mayor stated that the storm water control officer will be the building inspector; she would like to see a job description to see what he covers.

Mr. Dowd stated that he hasn't gone through this for legal form and consistency. He wants to make sure he has all the questions and comments so he can sit down with the village engineer, building inspector and village manager to get something put together and show the changes.

Manager Politi asked the board to email their questions to him and he will forward them to the engineer.

Mayor Pearson asked about additional costs and expenses, if we have that now.

Mr. Dowd stated that under SEQRA you're required to pay for the review. Developers also pay engineering fees and it is in the application.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked about discharges. She stated that is where the street sweeper comes into play.

This was tabled until July 10th, 2007.

Computel Consultants Agreement

Mayor Pearson stated that these consultants will come in and look at the village's telephone bills, electric bills, cable tv bills, and natural gas bills. They look at them to make sure we are being charged properly to see if there were any funds due the village. There is still a question regarding credits.

Mr. Dowd stated that they can clarify the credits in the contract.

Trustee Wynkoop and Norman stated that they would like to see that clarified before the contract is signed.

Demolition Procedure

Mayor Pearson stated that she copied what was discussed with the building inspector. She also had a discussion with the historical society and she hasn't heard back from them. Right now there is a seven day waiting period for a demolition permit and she would like it to be 15 days so that documentation of a historic building can be done.

Trustee Hurd volunteered to take pictures of historic homes.

Trustee Norman stated that she would like to see something done because of the Methodist Church.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked the attorney to get together with the building inspector to see how you would incorporate his recommendations into Chapter 64.

Mayor Pearson stated that giving that extra time might give someone a chance to purchase the property without tearing the house down.

It was the consensus of the board to have the attorney and building inspector work on this.

Annexation Request Letter

Manager Politi stated that a letter had come into the planning board which was directed to the village board requesting a piece of property on Northern Avenue be annexed into the village.

Trustee Wynkoop asked how many acres.

Mr. Adventurato stated 2.7 acres. He has one or two family members and a friend who is interested in the property if he can get it into the village. He would put a couple of houses on it, which right now he can't do that because it's in the town.

Mr. Dowd stated that he is in an R-4 zone with both water and sewer would be 8,000 sq. ft. minimum width. With 2.4 acres he would have 10 lots.

Manager Politi stated that in the past the board has resisted annexation or spreading the water and sewer system outside the village.

The consensus of the board was that they were not in favor of the annexation.

Mr. Dowd stated that Mr. Adventurato can still file a formal petition with the town and the village and there will be public hearings.

Town Bus

Mayor Pearson stated that she went to the town meeting regarding the busing for the parks. It will be picking up at the fire house, ambulance corp and in the square; it goes to Bradley Park, Olley Park and Wooster Grove. Pick up is at 10am and will come back at 2pm. She tried to get another pick up at noon, but they do not have that in their budget. The cost is \$1.00 each way. She did ask the town to lower the fee and they will if the village will pays half. This is for children 11 to 18 years old. It is a two month trial period. She asked the board if they would allow the village to pick up the additional funding.

Trustee Norman stated that if it's going to be free let everyone ride.

Mayor Pearson stated that she would like to charge a quarter.

Trustee Norman asked what happens if someone trips off the bus and gets hurts.

Mr. Dowd stated that right now it's totally operated by the Town of Montgomery. In a law suit they will get sued, because they are the ones that operate the bus. If we work with the town to set up this program and we pay the fares, we are now encouraging them to take the bus, putting them on the bus and we incur the same liability the town has. Putting them on the bus and paying for them to be on the bus that would create an additional liability for us. He further stated that he wasn't prepared for this discussion and he's not even looked at the legality of subsidizing that fare.

It was the consensus of the board to have the attorney look into the legality of subsidizing the fare.

Public Comments on Discussion Items

No comments.

Correspondence

Mayor Pearson stated that on July 2nd there will be a joint public hearing for the proposal of the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor.

The Mayor received a public notice from the Department of Health on storm drains and mosquitoes.

The Mayor also received a letter from the town on reviving the farmers outing and looking to host the first event over 43 years. That is September 29th at the Benedict Farm. They are looking for support from the communities.

Manager Politi stated that the Department of Labor has requested that the village set up a meeting with the vendors the village works with to explain to them what Article 8 and 9 of the New York State Labor Law is about. That will be June 27th, 2007 at 6:30pm.

Mayor Pearson asked if the manager wrote a letter to Mr. Green, Commissioner of Little League. They also talked about a meeting with Little League.

Manager Politi indicated he did send a letter to Mr. Green.

Village Manager's Report

Manager Politi passed out information regarding the cost to run the Soap Box Derby.

Deputy Mayor Matise suggested the Soap Box Derby be set up with its separate account.

Manager Politi also gave the board a list of electrical costs.

Manager Politi presented the board the department head reports.

Mayor Pearson asked about the Oak Street fire hydrant.

Manager Politi stated that the village is working with the fire department to replace fire hydrants.

Mayor Pearson asked for an update on the well.

Manager Politi stated that we will be going out to bid for the work.

Mr. Dowd stated that acquisition of the property is now done and it is on its way to the county to be recorded.

Deputy Mayor Matise questioned the code enforcement officer's report regarding dumpster enclosures.

Board Comments

Trustee Norman stated that she went to the libraries presentation yesterday afternoon and it was phenomenal. Ms. Neidermier is doing a tremendous job. She also stated that the stop sign on Yale Drive is right in front of someone's driveway and when they park their truck there you can't see the stop sign. She also asked how long it is going to take Mr. Schufa to redo his buildings on West Main Street.

Trustee Wynkoop asked about the Farmers' Market

Manager Politi advised the board that Jim Shortell, Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator is retiring. Francis Nolan was been hired to replace Mr. Shortell.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that the building inspector sent a letter to Mr. Hooley regarding the steps at the elementary school. She also asked the attorney about title companies calling about taxes, water/sewer and garbage, what is the procedure.

Mr. Dowd advised her that they should be referred to the building inspector because there is a \$50.00 fee for title searches. They should fax or write for that information.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that the updated garbage information will be going on the calendar. She also asked the manager about spraying the weeds.

Trustee Leonard commented on Masada and if the attorney could research this and see if the village can get out of the contract. There were additional comments but someone was hitting the table making it impossible to hear.

Mr. Dowd stated that it was a five year contract and he thinks we are past that. Our contract is with the City of Middletown, not Masada.

Mayor Pearson stated that they can't get the hooks for the flowers on the west side and the person that was doing the flowers does not like the way they are looking. We need to find someone else or do them next year.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that there are a lot of lights out on Main Street.

Mayor Pearson asked about the emergency management plan and if it's completed. She asked about maintenance in the parks.

Manager Politi stated that they have to look at the numbers again for park maintenance.

Mayor Pearson suggested a park committee be formed.

Trustee Norman and Deputy Mayor Matisse volunteered to be on the committee.

Mayor Pearson asked about the skateboard park.

Trustee Norman stated that something will be done in August.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Mitchell
Village Clerk