

**VILLAGE OF WALDEN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
FEBRUARY 9, 2010  
MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

**36 Sherman Avenue**

Trustee Norman moved that the village go in and get the Ronk property cleaned up. Seconded by Mayor Maher. All ayes with the exception of Trustee Hurd voting no. Motion carried.

**Request by Building Inspector for Legal Counsel for Upcoming Court Cases**

Trustee Hurd moved go give authority to the Building Inspector for legal counsel for upcoming court cases, the legal counsel is Kevin Dowd. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Contract Approval of Inter-municipal Agreement between Orange County and Village of Walden for Automatics Vehicle Locator Dispatching System (AVL)**

Mayor Maher moved to approve the intermunicipal agreement with the County of Orange for automatic vehicle locator dispatching system. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Resolution No. 9-09-10 – Rejecting the Low Bids of Milne Engineering and L.A. Weedon and Awarding the Bid to Standard Construction Corp. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Cover Removal Project**

Trustee Hurd moved to adopt Resolution No. 9-09-10, Rejecting the Low Bids of Melne Engineering and L.A. Weedon and Awarding the Bid to Standard Construction Corp. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Cover Removal Project. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

**Pre-Budget**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to authorize the manager to take last years budget add in the contractual obligations, find out what percent it would increase the budget just to pay for those items and then move backwards until you get to zero. Seconded by Trustee Bowen.

**Comprehensive Plan**

Trustee Leonard moved to approve the comprehensive plan review committee with the following people; from the Planning Board, Stan Plato, Chairman and Jose DeJesus, from the Walden Community Council and Zoning Board, Brenda Adams, from the Walden

Business Association, Keith Hunter, at large Fred Smit and Trustees Bowen and himself. On roll call Trustee Wynkoop, Hurd, Leonard and Bowen voted yes. Deputy Mayor Rumbold and Mayor Maher voted no and Trustee Norman abstained. Motion carried.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Trustee Norman moved to adopt the minutes of January 26, 2010 as corrected. Seconded by Mayor Maher. All ayes. Minutes adopted.

### **Audited Bills**

Trustee Hurd moved to pay the audited bills of February 9, 2010. Seconded by Trustee Leonard.

### **Executive Session**

Mayor Maher stated that even though executive session is not on the agenda h moved to hold an Executive Session pursuant to 105-(f) Park and Recreation personnel of the Public Officers Law. Mayor Maher withdrew his motion.

### **Adjournment**

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

**VILLAGE OF WALDEN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
February 9, 2010**

Mayor Brian Maher 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	Brian Maher
	Deputy Mayor	Susan Rumbold
	Trustees	Mary Jean Norman
		Richard Hurd
		Edmond Leonard
		Bernard Bowen

Absent:	Trustee	Roy Wynkoop, later present
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Also Present:		James C. Politi, Village Manager
		Nancy Mitchell, Village Clerk
		Kevin Dowd, Village Attorney, later present

**Village Manager's Report**

Manager Politi updated the Board on the revenues and where they are with the major budget lines, by department. Our sales tax is a big component of the budget, they scheduled for \$800,000 and as of now they have taken in \$635,000, so we are ahead of it. That represents 13% of your revenues for the general fund. Mortgage tax they get that twice a year. They budgeted \$60,000, they took in \$32,000, so we are on target again. When you go to the expenditure side there are a couple ways to look at it. There is buildings and central garage. That is this building and central garage is the maintenance of all the trucks, so all your departments go into one. You should be in the 65% to 70% range of your spending to date. When you go into the hall and maintaining our vehicles you are at about 59%, so you are ahead on that line. Police are at 71%. You have to remember you have two officers out on 207-(c) and two officers have been away in the service. DPW is at 61% of their budget that has been spent. Parks are at 60% or 61%. You are right in line of what you budgeted for. You still have the winter to get through. The water budget is holding its own; you are at the 65% range. That is constant. Revenues are coming in as we predicted. We are getting hurt on the sewer side; you are at 72% there. Hopefully our sludge numbers will start going down, that is always a big number. Overall you are pretty much on line.

Manager Politi also advised the board that letters went out to the local vendors trying to get monthly billings, rather than every two week. That wasn't too much of an issue. They will move on to the larger corporate representatives.

Trustee Bowen asked if there was any particular feedback from sending out the letters.

Manager Politi stated that there was one who had a negative response.

Trustee Bowen asked to follow the process to see how it goes, when implemented and when you actually see the change.

Manager Politi stated that they will wait to get through a cycle to see if they are staying with that.

Trustee Bowen asked if they disregard the letter and send two or three invoices regardless would we just stack those invoices and wait and make one lump sum payment.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Trustee Bowen asked about the recreation department invoices, when the independent vendors come in Mr. Howland would advise them that their invoices will be processed at the end of the month.

Manager Politi stated they received a letter.

Mayor Maher asked how the village is doing with attorney fees. There were certain instances where we have to use a labor attorney.

Manager Politi stated that the two classes of fees that you have would be your labor attorney and your village attorney who is on retainer. The attorney fees have been staying stable. One bill broke the retainer for the month and then there was a credit which balanced that out. There is that basic retainer that the labor attorney uses each month and we've stayed within that or less.

Mayor Maher asked about insurance claims that are outstanding.

Manager Politi stated the Wright Risk Management who does the workers comp claims that were taken over from the county. There were sixteen outstanding claims, eight have been taken out. That \$400. per item that we had to pay yearly, we've been able to push out eight of those claims.

Mayor Maher asked if that included the DPW truck.

Manager Politi stated no.

Mayor Maher asked about overtime in specific departments.

Manager Politi stated that he would have to break that out.

Mayor Maher asked to do that if he could.

Mayor Maher asked about the sewer department, those financial issues we are having, does that have to do with possible deterioration in our department and the need to fix certain things.

Manager Politi stated that you are trying to keep up with those and there is work to be done. You can see that in the monthly reports.

Mayor Maher stated that we had the \$600,000 bond and \$150,000 has been spent, if there is any damage to our sewer treatment plant or anything that could cause added costs, why aren't we spending money out of that bond to upgrade the plant and why aren't we doing that.

Manager Politi stated that they borrowed the money specifically for those projects. The things they have been doing to date have been coming out of there. The other pieces of the plant you will have to get to in the long term. There will be a separate capital project for that. The I and I, your collection system, as well as the other components of the plant you will have to create a capital plan for. When they've done their inspections, the clarifiers and the trickling filters, they are in good shape. The media and one of the trickling filters over time will need to be changed. The concentration is in the sludge processing component. That is where the issue was with DEC.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked about the \$75,000 in water and sewer, in uncollected. Has the village received that payment?

Manager Politi stated it's levied against the taxes and then the county pays the village. We are guaranteed that money from the county

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if the county has paid the village.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Deputy Rumbold asked when did the village receive that.

Manager Politi stated each May we get that.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked, when we have a snow event and the men from water and sewer department help out, are there overtime hours charged to water/sewer or to DPW

Manager Politi stated that it's charged to DPW.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked what happens if there is a water event and DPW men help out, where are those overtime hours charged.

Manager Politi stated that the MEO's and backhoe operators come out of highway. They open the road and then water/sewer goes in to fix the pipe.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked when is the liability insurance reviewed.

Manager Politi stated that it is going on right now.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if there would be an increase in that because of the number of claims.

Manager Politi stated no.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if there would be a normal increase or is it going to stay the same.

Manager Politi stated that they may suggest it.

### **Presentation-Walden Local development Corp-29 Grant Street**

Tom Olley, Vice President Walden Local Development Corp. presented the attached presentation to the board and explained that they would like to seek some seed money, funds from the board, to help their efforts in doing a redevelopment plan of the 29 Grant Street property. He introduced President Bill Kirnan, and Board of Director members Greg Raymondo and Stephanie Faso of the Walden Local Development Corp. The other members are Bryan Paz, Secretary, Bruce Lott, Walden Federal Savings and Loan, Treasurer, Fred Smit, Dan Epstein and Gerry Jacobowitz. He further stated that they need the seed money to go after some of the other grants as matching funds. They came to realize that the village has a source of funds available to it that wouldn't cost the taxpayers or residents of the village a single dime, which is in the form of HODAG money. This money was received from HUD specifically for the Oak Street housing project. The village was able to keep a portion of that money for use for similar projects such as they are proposing. They are seeking \$50,000 of that money that they would work with the village on disbursement of that. The funds would go to legal fees, planning fees and the cost to put together the RFP from developers that would actually do the work and modeling and eventually take over the property. It wouldn't be the whole property it would be the buildings and they are envisioning the village taking over the park and ride. It could be a source of future income for the village. He asked that the board consider this fairly promptly because they have some grant applications that are coming up in the second week of March, March 10<sup>th</sup>, they would meet to include or not include the villages participation. They are hoping it will be included because it would be a strong message to those government agencies. They are looking to not allow that project turn into a blighted eye sore.

Mayor Maher thanked Mr. Olley for the presentation. He asked for a digital copy of the presentation for the web site. He will make sure copies of the presentation will be available. When this was brought up and shot down by the board was because it wasn't presented the right way. He is happy it's being presented the right way.

### **Public Comment**

John Revella, 16 Church Street thanked the DPW for working so diligently getting the water main breaks fixed. He also stated that the Walden Community Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> will be rescheduled due to the impending snow storm. He wished everyone safe during the storm.

Pat Glass, Sunset Drive stated that months ago the village had a code enforcement officer, do we still have one.

Manager Politi stated yes, but he hasn't worked in a while.

Mrs. Glass stated that on Wait Street and South Montgomery Street, on the weekends they put couches, chairs, entertainment centers and mattresses out.

Trustee Leonard stated in the latest report from the building inspector he has sited a number of people.

Mrs. Glass asked what happens once they are sited.

Manager Politi stated that the village will give them so much time and then it comes to the board to set a hearing, or we can do it ourselves.

Mrs. Glass asked what the status is with the house on Sherman Avenue.

Mayor Maher stated that he's received calls on that.

Manager Politi stated that Mr. Ronk has a dumpster. He was told by the Building Inspector that if there is no progress by Friday the village will go in and clean it up and the cost will be assessed to the property. He's been good to date cleaning up and now he's to the point where he took the back porch off and it's been sitting too long. We've been trying not to do it ourselves to incur that cost, but it's been too long.

Mayor Maher stated that there comes a point where you have to say we have to do it to get it done.

Mrs. Glass stated that this weekend the village had a winter carnival. Did anyone on the board know, except Trustee Norman?

Trustee Leonard stated that he was at the carnival.

Mrs. Glass asked if he was at the dance.

Trustee Leonard stated that he wasn't.

Mrs. Glass stated that she feels it's very sad that we have a Village Board and we have a dance for the teenagers which is suppose to be one of our priorities. We have a winter carnival and it's always the same people who show up. When Becky was there even if it was for fifteen minutes and if she couldn't make it Mary Ellen would be there. Most times they both were there. The kids had a ball at the dance. It would have been nice to have more representation from the village. Same with the winter carnival.

Mayor Maher stated that he has gone above and beyond to attend every single event. He was very sick this weekend. He also feels the Board should be at events.

Sandy Griffin and Harry McLaughlin, Albany Post Rd asked about the Sherman Avenue property. Mr. McLaughlin stated that the Board gave Mr. Ronk eight days from November 24, 2009 and it's been eight weeks now. He showed the board pictures of the property.

Mayor Maher asked the attorney about the eight days.

Mr. Dowd stated that the board authorized the Building Inspector and Village Manager to take care of it after eight days if there was no action by the owner.

Mayor Maher asked what defined action. He thinks that's where it got lost with the board and to what they thought was going to happen.

Mr. Dowd stated that if the owner continued to work toward the goal of cleaning up the property that was fine. It's when it stalled that it became a problem.

Ms. Griffin stated that the house still isn't boarded up and the front porch is still on.

Mayor Maher asked if the manager could meet with him along with the building inspector to see if they can address their options, even if they have to call a special meeting and inform the board as to what has been going on.

Manager Politi stated that it was with the demolition of the porches when it stalled.

Trustee Norman suggested the board do something tonight.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked what the village has done to push Mr. Ronk along.

Manager Politi stated that what the board has seen the Building Inspector do is what has been done.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that the board made it perfectly clear where they were and what they wanted done. Now we're back to lets write letters again.

Trustee Norman stated that she isn't writing any letters, she wants it done.

Mayor Maher stated that his impression was after eight days if they didn't do it the village would do it.

Trustee Norman moved that the village go in and get the Ronk property cleaned up. Seconded by Mayor Maher.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that she thought the Board made themselves clear that if there was no action that the village would take action. She doesn't consider a letter action.

Manager Politi stated that we were trying not to spend taxpayer's money.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that it would then go on the taxes.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that his mother lives next door, explain to her the taxpayers money. She has put up with this for twenty years.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that we've talked this to death, let's do it.

Trustee Hurd stated that he feels the approach taken was the right one. He did start and he did clean out. He was making progress. He has now stopped so if the board wants to take action it can. He does appreciate the fact that the board has made the attempt not to spend our tax money up front. It looks like now we are going to have to.

All ayes with the exception of Trustee Hurd voting no. Motion carried.

Brian Sebring stated that from the last Village Board meeting two weeks ago nothing has been done with 36 Sherman Avenue. The day before they finally loaded the dumpster that's been there for two and a half weeks empty. It was emptied yesterday, but it sat there. He feels it should be done now.

Mary Ellen Matisse, 21 Clinton Street asked how much HODAG money is there.

Manager Politi stated that he doesn't know, he'll have to get the information.

Ms. Matisse asked if HODAG money is a loan, a grant or money only the village can spend.

Manager Politi stated that he will have to find out what the guidelines are.

Ms. Matisse stated that it's her understanding is that it's just to provide rental housing.

Manager Politi stated that he will have to find out what's attached to that.

Ms. Matisse asked how he will let them know.

Manager Politi stated that he will let the Board know how to use that. He will research that with Kerron Barnes.

Ms. Matisse asked, if it can only be spent by the village then does the village become a partner in what the WLDC is going to do.

Mayor Maher stated that the village will have to become a partner in whatever the WLDC is going to do. That is what they asked.

Ms. Matisse stated that they just asked for seed money.

Mayor Maher stated that as the Village Manager educates the board he will educate the public.

Ms. Matisse stated there is an issue of is there a liability then to the tax payers and then when you talk about due diligence what if it's an environmental nightmare.

Mayor Maher stated good questions.

Becky Pearson 167 Walnut Street stated that she has lots of questions for the WLDC, she wished they stayed. If this happens the village will be purchasing the property.

Mayor Maher stated no.

Ms. Pearson asked what the procedure is.

Mayor Maher stated that he doesn't know, but he knows the village won't be purchasing.

Ms. Pearson stated that they want this moved along quickly.

Mayor Maher stated no, they didn't ask us to look at something quickly or move along quickly. They asked us to look at it and they said they would like it if the village could be prompt. The board will be informed before making a decision.

Ms. Pearson asked if the WLDC meetings are open to the public.

Mayor Maher stated that he doesn't know, but he assumes they may be. He will get back to her.

Ms. Pearson stated that they read off a list of projects that they helped with in the Village of Walden, which was very commendable. She asked how much of the village taxpayers money was spent on that. These are questions to ask them. The WLDC spoke about we, now this project came about very quickly at a certain point and she doesn't think they had a we at that time, because she doesn't even think they had a committee at that time. Now they have all these new members. Her question is that she understands the word we, but she knows the Village of Walden also has a we. She asked if we would be part of this.

Manager Politi stated that this board said not to get involved in that project. At one point they walked away from any discussion on this.

Ms. Pearson stated that pretty much this is a dead issue here. Her question is, now there is a presentation again when the board already voted no against doing the project down there. Now we're having another presentation.

Mayor Maher stated that it was a much different presentation, much more information.

Ms. Pearson stated that she didn't see the first presentation, because they were not privy to that.

Mayor Maher stated that they didn't have a presentation, so that is why it was a better presentation. They will ask them the questions and hopefully as responsible officials we'll make the right decision with the right information.

Ms. Pearson asked about cleaning up of the project. If he's going for the grant which is seed money of \$50,000 then who gets to clean that up, especially if it's a brown field and there are chemicals and things that are happening, if the train was going by, if all that soot and everything was in the ground, who becomes responsible for that.

Mayor Maher stated that he didn't know.

Manager Politi stated that it would be the owner of the property.

Ms. Pearson asked if the village will be part owner in the property. We're just giving them the seed money. Then he goes on to say that they are putting in a bus line. They talked to the manager a long time ago about a bus line and he didn't want a bus line, because he wanted the train to come in. Now they want a bus line in the Village of Walden. How many people actually ride the bus, so we have the ridership for the bus? Also, is Orange County Planning going to fund part of this? It talks about the village taking over the parking lot and the ridership, would that be a purchase. Where is that

money coming from? We're still not spending tax payer's dollars, but if you're taking over ridership and purchasing a piece of property, some where along the line that becomes tax dollars. Does the WLDC have any money to put into this project? Are they going to be putting money in or is it just seeded from the village.

Trustee Hurd stated that as he understands it they don't have any money and this is not from the Village of Walden, it's from the HODAG.

Ms. Pearson stated that HODAG is funded through the Village of Walden.

Trustee Hurd stated that it's not taxpayer's funds.

Ms. Pearson stated that it's all taxpayers' money.

Trustee Hurd stated that it's federal grant money that's rolled over at least two times.

Ms. Pearson stated that this is just the initial stages that she is hearing from this is she needs to see that is the bigger picture, where are we going.

Mayor Maher stated that the misconception is that once we give them the \$50,000 the Village of Walden is now liable for other messes we could get ourselves into. What he got out of the conversation is they want \$50,000 of seed money. He doesn't believe they asked to have the Village of Walden's name next to theirs.

Ms. Pearson asked if the grant that they are applying for is going to be from the WLDC.

Mayor Maher stated that is when he said, maybe we'll be using the Village of Walden, but we have not decided on anything. All we did was listen to his presentation. We don't have all the answers yet.

Trustee Leonard stated that the board saw this document tonight for the first time. He can assure the public that the board will do its due diligence when they discuss this at length.

Ms. Pearson asked if any of this was discussed before in executive session.

Mayor Maher stated that they can't answer that because that was executive session.

Ms. Pearson stated that this is something that has been talked about for months now and now they are doing a presentation in front of the public, but they already known the same concept before.

Mayor Maher stated no. They were talking about several hundred thousand dollars of money and the board said no because they didn't like the plan and the presentation and they weren't given enough information. This is a complete different presentation. It's much clearer and they are only asking for \$50,000 of seed money.

Ms. Pearson stated that she hopes when the board looks at this that they look at everything. Not just what they are asking for today, but where the project will go. He's talking about over time, so she wants to know where the money is going to come from over time. Don't just look at today, look at the long picture and how much money the taxpayers will be spending on this project.

Mayor Maher stated that he can promise her that he will.

Ms. Pearson asked if she can talk about discussion items afterwards.

Mayor Maher stated yes.

Frank Lamacchia, Woodruff Street asked if this presentation was given to the planning board.

Mayor Maher stated that this presentation hasn't but he assumes it would eventually go in front of the planning board.

Mr. Dowd stated that they haven't purchased the property yet. They are in contract. If they purchase the property and they refine the plan that they were discussing tonight they would have to go before the planning board.

Mr. DeJesus stated that right now they are just coming for a grant. When they have an actual site plan they will present it to the planning board.

Mr. Lamacchia stated that he'd rather see the money go to Main Street.

Helen Sullivan, 7 Westwood Drive stated that if the village has extra money they should fix the water main on Westwood Drive. In the past twelve or fourteen years they've had nine water breaks.

Ms. Pearson asked if the board was going to act on any of that before she was able to comment or should she comment now. She is talking about the comprehensive plan.

Mayor Maher stated that it's just a discussion item.

Anita Vandermark 76 Highland Avenue stated that there is a wonderful organization in the Village of Walden, The Sunshine Society. They were founded in February of 1910. They are celebrating there 100<sup>th</sup> year in the village. They offer a great service. She commended all the members.

Mr. Revella stated that the 2008 Main Street Grant is wrapping up now. Properties that were assisted are wrapping up their projects. They do have money allocated for streetscape within the target zone. They will use that money soon. The next round of grant money they are applying for now and they will be doing another section of Walden which will have streetscape available.

### **Request by Building Inspector for Legal Counsel for Upcoming Court Cases**

Mr. Dowd stated that the reason this is before the board is because that is outside his retainer with the village and the Board needs to approve additional funds to do prosecutions.

Mayor Maher asked what the prosecutions are.

Mr. Dowd indicated 154 West Main Street, 2 North Montgomery and 56 Second Street.

Trustee Rumbold stated that she is assuming that the building inspector has tried to get resolution through letters.

Manager Politi stated that through the process he knows he has to go to court with these properties.

Mayor Maher asked if there was any kind of report that shows why it got to this point.

Manager Politi stated that it's the typical process, they didn't comply.

Mr. Dowd stated that he can't get compliance with 154 W. Main Street. He was in court with him a couple years ago. It's gone through several scenarios including foreclosure, and a bankruptcy and it ended up in the same owners' hands with the same violations going on. The other two are new to him and he hasn't discussed them with the Building Inspector.

Trustee Hurd moved go give authority to the Building Inspector for legal counsel for upcoming court cases, the legal counsel is Kevin Dowd. Seconded by Trustee Norman. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Contract Approval of Inter-municipal Agreement between Orange County and Village of Walden for Automatics Vehicle Locator Dispatching System (AVL)**

Mayor Maher stated that this is the automatic vehicle locator dispatching system for our vehicles in the village so we know where they are.

Manager Politi indicated that this is a grant and it will not cost the village anything. It's the county initiative. If the 911 call center gets a call it will call the closest police car to that event. They are doing this county wide.

Mr. Dowd stated that the equipment is purchased by the county and it's installed in the cars that the village wants it installed in. There is no cost to the village, but if the village damages the equipment the village would have to pay for it. The village would also have to pay for any change over.

Trustee Leonard asked how many units will they give the village.

Manager Politi stated that he doesn't think all the cars will have them.

Mr. Dowd stated that he thinks its two.

Mayor Maher moved to approve the intermunicipal agreement with the County of Orange for automatic vehicle locator dispatching system. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Resolution No. 9-09-10 – Rejecting the Low Bids of Milne Engineering and L.A. Weedon and Awarding the Bid to Standard Construction Corp. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Cover Removal Project**

Manager Politi stated that the village put out to bid the actual removal of the cap from the large digester tank. The tanks will be drained down, remove the cover, inspect the tank and then go to the next step of relining it or whatever repair needs to be done. This bid is just to get the cap off of the top of the large tank and set it to the side.

Mr. Dowd stated that the initial base bid was for removing the cap with the sludge in the tank. The alternative was for the village to take the sludge out before the cap is removed. The first two responsible low bids, there bids were non compliant with the specifications. The resolution is to disqualifying them as low bidders because they did not meet the specs and go to the third base bidder which is Standard Construction. Standard Construction is your third lowest bidder for the base bid. However, it is the lowest on the alternate. The village will remove the sludge and they will come in and remove the cap.

Trustee Rumbold asked if this expense will come out of the \$600,000 bond.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Trustee Hurd moved to adopt Resolution No. 9-09-10, Rejecting the Low Bids of Melne Engineering and L.A. Weedon and Awarding the Bid to Standard Construction Corp. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Cover Removal Project. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

## **Pre-Budget Discussion**

Mayor Maher stated that this is another chance for the Board to discuss what their plans are for the budget. He asked Board members to do some homework and bring any ideas back to the meeting about what kind of challenges the Board faces and what they can do to cut the budget or do different to help with the process.

Trustee Norman and Trustee Wynkoop stated that they are waiting to start the budget.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that they need to think about giving guidelines to the manager telling him where the Board is. It would be easier for the department heads to formulate their plan if the Board told them where they are.

Trustee Hurd stated the Board will work on the budget and they will do their very best as they always have done and try to bring the budget in at a reasonable number as possible with the services our residents want to have. It's the department heads duty to present a budget that will meet the requirements of their departments. He would be upset if a department head under estimated the cost of something deliberately and half way through the budget year be short on funds because it was an unrealistic number to begin with. He hopes the department heads present numbers that are reasonable and responsible based on what they are charged with accomplishing within their individual departments. Then the Board will decide what they think is reasonable.

Trustee Leonard stated that he would definitely like to see minutes taken, preferably by Lisa Dore and post them the next day.

Mayor Maher stated that it is important to keep the public up to date, so he would agree with that.

Trustee Bowen stated that he feels they should look at the budget as it was last year without increasing anything and let the department heads come back if there is a need or reason as to why something should be increased and go from there forward.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that some of its contractual and there is no way of controlling that.

Trustee Bowen stated that they can actually look at that line by line in their budget and if there is a reason for it then bring that reason with clarity as to why. Just to say we have to raise it 3% or 5% he doesn't feel that is a good reason, it has to be explained.

Mayor Maher stated that the Board discussed where they would like to see the budget and had the discussion of whether or not the Board would like to give directive to the Village Manager. He asked if there was any directive up for discussion.

Manager Politi stated that when you go into the budget discussions, he presents the budget first, then the meetings are set up and the department heads come in with him and defend their budget choices and discussion goes from there. The Board will have direct access to the department heads.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that it wouldn't be a bad idea to take a little from what everybody said and start with last years budget and see how close they can get it to zero. See what would happen if the department heads were asked to get creative. You take last years budget you add in the contractual obligations, you find out what percent it would increase the budget just to pay for those items and then move backwards until you get to zero. She would like to make a motion to ask the manager to do that.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to authorize the manager to take last years budget add in the contractual obligations, find out what percent it would increase the budget just to pay for those items and then move backwards until you get to zero. Seconded by Trustee Bowen.

Trustee Hurd stated that the Board's job is to work as close to zero as possible. He would like to think that every year that they've done the budget they didn't sit there and say lets blow an extra 10% on this or that because we feel like doing it. He pays taxes like everybody else. The department heads can give a 10% budget and the board can do a minus 10% budget if you don't mind cutting out parks and recreation or due away with night dispatch. He feels that the motion made is the wrong approach because they are charged with giving the manager their best estimate of what it is going to cost to run their departments based on the services they need to provide. The Village Manager, under our Village Law, is charged with presenting a budget to the Board to act on. Then the Board can slice it, dice it and chop it and remove it anyway they want to do it.

Mayor Maher stated that this would challenge the department heads to make tougher cuts at first which will allow the Board a little wiggle room.

Trustee Hurd stated that you're doing it in reverse. You're saying we don't want to see an automatic 3% increase but now you're saying we want to see an automatic 3% or 5% decrease. Until we actually see what our revenue stream is, what our tax sharing is, what our contractual and police expenses are, how can we realistically say that.

Mayor Maher stated that as that information flows they will be able to take the information and get creative.

Trustee Bowen stated that they are saying the same thing, the bottom line can justify why they have this budget.

Mayor Maher stated that with the research he's done and with the last budget he was involved with you had department heads that were asking for things that they wanted, not that they needed.

Trustee Norman stated that she remembers a department that didn't get what they wanted.

Mayor Maher stated that he remembers three departments that didn't get what they wanted.

Trustee Hurd stated that the police department wanted two cruisers because one is near the time to be replaced. We said we were going to take the chance and live with it because it would save \$23,000. You can do that for a while but then you get hammered down the road. It's not a question of the Board reaching some nice political number that makes them look good if in the long run we pay the price for it. It's legitimate if you feel you want an austerity budget and you feel it's justified. We have to willingly prepare one, but we will have to give up something to get there.

Trustee Bowen stated that the accountability is just being put on the department heads to make sure that if it has to be raised then they understand why and accountability has to be in place. If there's something that hasn't been utilized and it has to be dropped then there is no reason to approve it.

Trustee Hurd stated that we do and we have the experience of having done this multiple times.

Trustee Bowen stated that he's not doubting anyone's experience, but he can sit here and say, show me the numbers, and if he thinks he agrees with you and if the accountability is there, someone will put the documentation in front of him that warrants it, let's go with it. If it's not there then we're just abusing it. Abusing taxpayers funds then he feels they should question it.

Mayor Maher stated that he agrees and he feels this motion is going to challenge the department heads to get creative and give the Board a number that they can function with that will lead to a zero percent increase after contractual obligations. He thinks that is possible.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that she understands the point Trustee Hurd made is you don't know what your revenues are going to be and you want to have all that information and yet she is the only Board member that voted no on the PBA contract because she didn't know how much it was going to cost. Why was it okay then and now when we're talking about a budget all she is saying is let's start with what the budget was last year, it was an increase to the tax payers, figure in what contract obligations you have, know where increases are going to be and have each department head subtract that increase that you know you're going to have and now work within your budget and see where that leaves you. What difference does it make if the manager presents the Board with a budget and they bring their machetes with them and they start hacking at it when the department heads give them their report.

Trustee Hurd stated that he'd like to think that is what they've been doing all along. He thinks they've empowered their employees to come forward whenever they could with money saving ideas. He remembers when Mr. Lamendola found the idea of bringing in the trailer and he saved the village a fortune. Mr. Perna has also done a lot of work that way. He doesn't mind challenging the employees. He was under the impression that the manager was required by certain dates to provide the Board with his budget. He asked if that was correct.

Mr. Dowd stated that's right. It's the manager's budget until he gives it to the Board and finalizes the budget.

Trustee Hurd asked, is the manager suppose to prepare and is he responsible for delivering to the Board his budget based on his best judgment of what the village should spend.

Mr. Dowd stated yes. The motion is an advisory resolution to the manager and how you would like him to present the budget, but if he can't do it, he can't do it.

Mayor Maher asked if the manager serves at the pleasure of the Board

Mr. Dowd stated yes.

Manager Politi stated that if that is a directive from the majority he will take that directive. It goes back to justification. If he truly can't get there he has to show why he can't get there. It is still going to come back and the Board will do as they do. That process occurs. They did it last year. It can't be give them zero because that affects services. It may take one more step before they get to that point. To give them some service level that he has to maintain first and then bring in others. Does it simply mean delivering your water and taking in sewer, making sure there is two officers and a supervisor on, DPW you can't cut bodies anymore. Is that where he is stopping or is that where he is starting from. He needs to know that.

Trustee Bowen stated that if that is what it is that is what it is. If the manager knows what that is he's already justified it and the Board has to accept it and move forward. They're not saying that everything is going to be at zero.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that so many times people say what do I get for my tax dollars. What she is looking for is what it would look like, zero, this is what it would look like, this is what would be missing, this is what would be compromised. Here is what we would have to go do get here. Then the public would have a better understanding of what does their tax dollars buy.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that they should give the manager a directive to give the Board a budget at the lowest level he believes he can operate the village at and start at that.

Trustee Leonard stated that last year the increase was 3.7% that was one of the lowest, if not the lowest in the Hudson Valley and we suffered the same decreases as every other municipality. Obviously our budget process was doing very good and they planned a year in advance that they knew they were going to be hurting. Whether they can do that again this year they don't know. It's way too early in the budget process. This Board has been as tight with the money as they could.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that she has talked to far too many people in this village that are worried about keeping their houses because they can't afford their taxes. She just feels that if they present the budget in such a manner and show them that we are working as hard as we can, here's what would happen if it was zero, here is what would happen, they would at least be able to visualize and understand where the Board would be in that process. Lets start with the bare necessities and then if we have to add this, this and this.

Trustee Hurd asked isn't that what we do every year.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold repeated her motion.

Manager Politi stated that he understands the motion.

On roll call Trustees Rumbold, Leonard, Bowen, Deputy Mayor Rumbold and Mayor Maher voted yes. Trustees Wynkoop, Norman and Hurd voted no. Motion carried.

### **Proposal for Bradley Assembly Room Sound System**

Trustee Leonard stated that John Katonah has provided the Board with a proposal for a sound system.

Mr. Katonah explained that what he is suggesting is a pretty simple system which includes microphones and mixers which are very unique, they don't need an operator to tweak with the knobs. They are very popular and are very common for this kind of environment. It allows for sixteen channels which would include a hand held microphone. The Board will have microphones with a mute switch and an amplifier and four to six speakers. This also includes installation on his behalf with no charge to the village. The prices are list prices. He thinks he can get them a lot cheaper. Some of the stuff he can get as restock. When it's all done he will provide the village with receipts of personal expenditures including the equipment.

Trustee Leonard stated that there is an eight thousand dollar grant. There is a question whether they can use that money for this. They are looking into that. There is another \$4,000 grant that has been put off until April from the state for this sound system. They are not confident about that.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if the first grant was for the dais and sound system.

Trustee Leonard stated that they have to look into that. At this point they are looking at the sound system because that's a critical need. They will know by next week.

### **Comprehensive Plan Committee**

Manager Politi stated that Trustee Leonard asked to have this on the agenda.

Trustee Leonard moved to approve the comprehensive plan review committee with the following people; from the Planning Board, Stan Plato, Chairman and Jose DeJesus, from the Walden Community Council and Zoning Board, Brenda Adams, from the Walden Business Association, Keith Hunter, at large Fred Smit and Trustees Bowen and himself. This is an advisory committee that will bring recommendations when they are done to the Board for review and approval. The five nominees have never served on the comp plan before. This is just a review of the existing comp plan that is five years old. It's been recommended that this be reviewed and up date it. Our planner Alan Sorensen would guide them along.

Mayor Maher stated that he strongly opposes that motion. Six to eight months they've been working on this and in their conversations when did he ever bring it up the to even discuss it.

Mr. Dowd indicated that there needs to be a second before this can be discussed

Seconded by Trustee Hurd.

Mayor Maher stated again that he strongly opposed this motion. It's premature to name a committee and a chair. You shouldn't name a chair for a committee, a committee should name a chair themselves. There is so much that goes into this and he doesn't feel they can minimize it by saying it's just an advisory committee. They bring their findings and their research and all the hard work they've put into this as hard working members of our community that we trust to be creative for us. It's more of a yea or nay then us taking it apart and bringing it back to them and how that operates. Trustee Leonard named individuals without asking the Board for their input.

Trustee Leonard stated that we're having a discussion.

Mayor Maher stated that Trustee Leonard named a committee and a chair without asking any other trustee including himself when he asked to take part in this conversation and had specific people that wanted to be on this committee. It's his opinion that there should be new members along with the people from the last committee. There's almost the same members and chair person our on the committee, not to negate his value, but to say maybe we should have a different approach. The process should be more involved

with the entire Board and not one individual doing something on his own. We should have this discussion together. It should be a discussion item or an action item.

Trustee Hurd stated that we're having it.

Mayor Maher stated yes we're having it in the middle of a motion being made with a committee formed where he had no part of.

Trustee Leonard stated that the committee is not formed until this Board.....

Mayor Maher stated that Trustee Leonard just made a motion to form an entire committee with a chair person.

Trustee Leonard stated that he is just one seventh of this board.

Mayor Maher stated that he would oppose this. He asked if anyone else had a discussion on this.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that it would have been nice to tell the community that they were forming this kind of committee and possibly community members would have come forward with interest in serving on it. That is what she would like to see. It's not that she doesn't respect the people that he named and she feels they would do an excellent job but if we're talking about the comprehensive plan open it up to the community. In the motion it completed the committee.

Trustee Leonard stated that as he said in his email to everyone that it's an open committee and it will be open to the public and they can participate. It ran very well last time there were two minor comments for the Orange County Planning Department.

Trustee Hurd stated that the manager asked the Board several months ago to consider to start thinking about this and put a committee together. He feels these are all good people. This is not a complete revamp, it's a update.

Mayor Maher stated that they don't know.

Trustee Norman stated this has to be discussed further.

Trustee Bowen stated that if another trustee would like to be on the committee he would welcome them to take his spot. He is definitely interested.

On roll call Trustees Hurd, Leonard and Bowen voted yes. Trustees Wynkoop, Deputy Mayor Rumbold and Mayor Maher voted no. Trustee Norman abstained.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that he voted yes.

Mayor Maher stated that the motion was defeated four to three and they can make another motion if the Board would like.

Mr. Dowd stated that the comment was that they weren't going to vote which would have been an abstention.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that is what he is saying.

Mr. Dowd stated that any member has the right to change their vote.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that he is voting yes.

Trustee Leonard read his motion again.

Mayor Maher strongly recommended that the other trustees vote no to this so they have more of an opportunity for the community at large and other trustees who want to serve on this committee to have that opportunity to be educated on what it entails and to serve on the committee.

On roll call Trustee Wynkoop, Hurd, Leonard and Bowen voted yes. Deputy Mayor Rumbold and Mayor Maher voted no and Trustee Norman abstained. Motion carried.

### **Village Website**

Trustee Hurd stated that he had asked for a fourth discussion item, Village website. He stated that the web master hasn't been keeping up with this in terms of posting minutes.

Manager Politi stated that he spoke with the planning board secretary and he asked her to send not only to the manager but to Mr. Mangan. She sent several over and it wasn't getting to him. He will make sure it gets caught up.

Trustee Leonard stated that there is nothing on the web site for the winter carnival. It's like we're not current on this.

Mayor Maher stated that it's not the web master.

Manager Politi stated that it's us not informing him. He has instructed the department heads to contact the web master when they have an event.

Trustee Hurd stated that there is no policy as to how the website is used and what it's used for or who can link to it. The manager has his section and the Mayor and the Board has their welcome message and in the past the Mayor has linked his blog.

Mayor Maher stated that it's not his blog. The web master created an application to the village web site which allowed him to blog on village issues.

Trustee Hurd asked if the rest of the Board can link in and can anybody link in and blog on this.

Mayor Maher stated that they can comment on any blog that is written.

Trustee Hurd asked if the Board should develop some sort of a policy, because it's one thing to act as a web master to police what is going on and off. He doesn't mind that he does that if everybody else has an equal opportunity, if that is what the Board decides that is what they want to do. He suggested this be put on for a work session so they can discuss it and come up with a policy that they all can agree on that is right for this web site for our Board. If one person who's on the Board wants to express and this is paid for by the village do other candidates have the right for linking up their blog or if he wants to put his web site on there is he allowed to attach his web site.

Mayor Maher stated that this has nothing to do with the blog that he has on the web site.

Trustee Hurd stated that it's not him personally it's that he is linked to the village web site. There is no policy and he would like this on the agenda for a work session.

Mayor Maher stated that it will be on the agenda as a discussion item and have a debate.

### **Public Comment on Business of the Board**

John Revella, 16 Church Street stated that he would like to thank the Board for considering not increasing taxes next year.

Mary Ellen Matisse stated that while the Board is talking about a web site policy maybe also they can talk about policy of trustees going to village events and then selling product from those events on the web sites, Mr. Hurd.

Mayor Maher stated that sounds like a personal matter.

Ms. Matisse stated that it's not a personal matter because if someone goes to an event as a trustee and then wants to profit from it can they?

Trustee Hurd stated that the photos are at cost from the company who sponsors them. He doesn't profit from it.

Mr. Matisse asked why doesn't he post them on the village web site and let people download them for free.

Trustee Hurd stated that the images that are on the web site are CD's of full resolution images that he burns and donate to the village every year. He gives them to Mr. Politi who then makes all the participants aware of the fact that if they want to borrow the disks or duplicate them they may and he may also put them on the village web site as a donation. It's not a profit what so ever.

Mayor Maher asked if he sells any of those photos he takes for village events.

Trustee Hurd stated that you pay for what it costs. He makes zero. That web site costs him \$165.00 a year and he pays for it out of his own pocket because he enjoys doing it and so his family can link up to it for images.

Ms. Pearson stated that she wishes she commented on the comprehensive plan before, she would have known.

Mayor Maher apologized for thinking that a discussion item was not going to have a motion.

Ms. Pearson asked who was the sub committee that did all the work to come up with a committee.

Trustee Leonard stated that he did it on his own with consultation with the manager, planning board members and he believes a couple trustees.

Ms. Pearson asked if these were hand picked people by Trustee Leonard.

Trustee Leonard stated no, by the group.

Mayor Maher stated that is not true.

Trustee Leonard stated that people that he spoke to on the Village Board and he discussed it with the Manager and he discussed it with the Planning Board members.

Mayor Maher asked Trustee Norman if Trustee Leonard discussed it with her.

Trustee Norman stated no.

Mayor Maher stated that he didn't have a discussion about this.

Ms. Pearson asked Trustee Wynkoop if he discussed this with Trustee Leonard.

Trustee Wynkoop stated no.

Trustee Hurd stated that they got an email with suggestions for people.

Mayor Maher stated that he did not get an email.

Ms. Pearson stated that she doesn't understand the urgency.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that he said putting it off and that is when he said no and everybody started to gripe about putting it off and that is when he said no. That wasn't his vote.

Ms. Pearson stated that Trustee Wynkoop voted yes for it.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that Trustee Leonard stated that he didn't want to do it and he said fine, no. That he where that came from. He voted yes.

Ms. Pearson stated that he voted yes to those people that will be on the committee. She agrees that it needs more discussion and the public did need to know, maybe there are people out there with fresh ideas, new eyes, people that weren't sitting on the committee before. Trustee Leonard made a comment that people on the committee weren't sitting on it before. Mr. DeJesus was.

Trustee Leonard stated that five out of the seven never served.

Ms. Pearson stated that he was the chair. She asked if they were going to hire a planner for this.

Trustee Leonard stated that they have a planner, Alan Sorensen.

Ms. Pearson indicated that he's not on retainer anymore. He's paid by the hour. She suggested a new planner with new ideas and new insight. She is questioning the planning, how much is he going to cost and if he's already been picked.

Trustee Leonard stated that he is our planner.

Ms. Pearson stated that he is your planner that you pay X amount of dollars an hour. It doesn't mean you have to use him again for the comprehensive plan. You can pick anybody.

Mr. DeJesus stated that you may not need a planner.

Manager Politi stated that the planner is there to mediate the process. It's the panel that makes the policy, not the planner.

Mayor Maher asked if the chair of this committee that they've decided on in five minutes, is he going to have the ability to say we're going to invite the planner and now we will have to pay an hourly rate for that planner.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if there was money in the budget for this.

Manager Politi stated that each year you find that money through the planning grants that come through Orange County.

Mayor Maher stated that this is the discussion he would have liked to have before they formed a committee.

Ms. Pearson stated that Manager Politi didn't answer the question. He said they usually get grants, but do we have the money.

Manager Politi stated that he did answer the question. Currently it would have to come out of engineering. You haven't even started yet. He brought this to the board months ago and they asked if we could talk about it. In trying to plan for this it's something you need to start, it's not a quick thing. It could take up to a year. Once that agreement is made you can plan your budget. You're not at that point to bring the planner in. When they did it last time the initial group was six or seven and that turned into ten or eleven as people came in. Mary Ellen came in. That is the core group.

Ms. Pearson asked if that will be in the budget process.

Manager Politi stated that he will bring that forward.

Ms. Pearson stated that there is nothing against Alan Sorensen but he already did the comprehensive plan. She feels there should be a new planner with a new set of eyes that comes up with new ideas, something that would be beneficial to the Village of Walden. Sometimes having the same people sitting you get the same concepts.

Mayor Maher stated that was a good comment.

Trustee Leonard stated that a lot of this is updating the changes in the planning, what the planners are thinking in five years. What was good five years ago not be acceptable now. We've gone from fat times to lean times.

Ms. Pearson indicated the new eyes are always good.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that is why it would have been nice to discuss it with the entire Board before we started asking people to serve on the committee. Until she got the email she didn't know Trustee Leonard was acting on behalf of the Board to do this.

Rachel Bonilla, 36 Oakland Avenue stated that the comments about the budget she doesn't understand why it is so hard to say come in at zero percent. You want to brag about 3.8%. Do you want to compare Walden's taxes to everyone else's and tell her how happy she should be? See doesn't see it.

Trustee Leonard stated that he is not against zero budgeting.

Ms. Bonilla stated that she's listened to this banter enough, so she is not asking for a response. She doesn't want to see any increases. We are going to get hammered by school taxes. She thinks its time for the village to say, this is our budget, lets get to it. She would like to ask her employer for more money because her taxes are going up. The Board should not feel free to come to them and say we need to increase your taxes. This is tough economic times so she thinks they need to hammer it and the need to say to people we can't raise taxes this year. There are three houses on Oakland Avenue for sale. Who's going to buy a house in Walden with the high taxes?

Ms. Pearson stated that she agrees with her and it is okay to tell the manager that he has to come up with a zero percent budget and it is the Board's responsibility to say that. He works for the Board and he works for the public.

Marcus Millspaugh Jr. stated that a budget is a spending plan and the Board is perfectly justified in making the details of that plan, communicate with them and say this is what we are going to do. He would like to know how much legal help does the code enforcement officer get before he gets into the court situation. Is it the lack of counsel why this thing drags out on Sherman Avenue.

Manager Politi stated that the Building Inspector passes on a great amount of information during the process.

Derek Penney, 135 W. Main Street stated that he agrees no committee should be set up in five minutes and picked by one member of this board. Every member of this board should put one name on that committee.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Trustee Norman moved to adopt the minutes of January 26, 2010. Seconded by Mayor Maher.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that she would like clarification on what the Mayor said at the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. He said when there is an emergency in the village, page 3, they were talking about issues that happen in the village if there is an emergency. She asked if they could get phone calls or emails, such as when the gas main break happened. The Mayor said the chief emailed him about it and he believed it was his responsibility to inform board members. She doesn't think the Mayor is mentioned in the emergency plan and he's not in the hierarchy of who has to inform who. She doesn't think it's the Mayor's responsibility to inform anybody of anything. If you look at the emergency plan it's the chief and the manager.

Manager Politi stated that he would at least try to make contact with the Mayor.

Mayor Maher stated that he wasn't right.

Trustee Leonard stated that he has one correction, page 5, seventh paragraph, add tanks.

All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Audited Bills**

Trustee Hurd moved to pay the audited bills of February 9, 2010. Seconded by Trustee Leonard.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked about the two cell phones that are listed as water and one as sewer.

Manager Politi stated there are two with names attached that are water.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that there was one for thirty dollars attached to sewer. If that is just a phone for emergencies, if the two people that work in water have cell phones why do we need a cell phone that lays around.

Manager Politi stated that would be for the wastewater treatment operator.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked where the phone is kept.

Manager Politi stated that Mr. Lamendola has it in his office.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked about the eleven case of copy paper.

Manager Politi stated that in the top right corner of the voucher you will see a series of codes. That paper is distributed throughout the departments.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that is a great thing. Why can't we do that with paper towels, toilet paper and rubber gloves? She sees bills from Merrill and then we have people running to the Thruway Market to buy rubber gloves, paper towels and shovels.

Manager Politi stated that many times they do come to the village office to get paper towels and toilet paper.

All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **Board Comments**

Trustee Norman thanked the recreation department for a very nice weekend. She also thanked the Friends of the Walden Youth who were all there Friday night, they gave out refreshments. Saturday due to no snow they went into the gym and a lot of families played basketball. Mike Bliss and Logan Heaney are doing a good job with the kids. She will be meeting with Mr. Bliss Thursday and the Valentine get together is Saturday.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that there were two water main breaks and DPW fixed them in record time.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold apologized for not attending the dance and winter carnival, but her sister was in town and she wasn't around to attend it. She does attend most village functions. It wasn't because she didn't care about the village.

Trustee Leonard stated that when he went to the carnival there were a number of kids using the ice skating rink. He also saw the solar lights. He also stated that he attended the sewer engineering walk through and he was very impressed with Delaware Engineering and their people. They are moving forward on the sewer treatment upgrades.

Trustee Bowen also apologized for not attending the weekend events. He wasn't aware of it until 2:30 in the afternoon. He makes it his business to be around and find out what is going on.

Mayor Maher stated that he puts a lot of time and effort into his job and although he won't get everything right, he will make mistakes, but he wants everyone to know that he loves this place, he loves this village with all his heart. Everything he tries to do, even if it's done the wrong way or its perceived to be done a different way, he loves this place and wants nothing but the best for the village. It pains him to think that he would do anything to hurt the village for personal gain or because he's a 24 year old kid on an ego trip. He's not. What he does is for the best of this village. He can be reached anytime and he would love to get into a conversation with anyone about how he stands on an issue and why he does the things he does.

Trustee Bowen stated that he will be doing a basketball clinic at Wooster Grove this weekend at 2pm.

Manager Politi advised the Board that recycling will be picked up Thursday because of the impending storm. He will try to get the message out.

### **Executive Session**

Mayor Maher stated that even though executive session is not on the agenda he moved to hold an Executive Session pursuant to 105-(f) Park and Recreation personnel of the Public Officers Law.

Sally Spencer stated that it should have been on the agenda. She feels its ridiculous that every meeting the Board has to discuss the Village Manager.

Mayor Maher stated that it's in the Manager's contract that they quarterly report. He sent it out to the Board and they will be discussing it.

Ms. Spencer stated that there are two people that are educated and they do their job. No one else on the board is educated like that. You all have to ask questions and every time you look at the Village Manager or Attorney. No one knows it themselves.

Mayor Maher stated that he disagrees.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that it's part of the process.

Ms. Spencer stated that he's trying to do his job and no one lets him. You're always questioning everything.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that when they are elected to the board they are suppose to question. The name trustee means custodian and they have to make sure that every dime that comes in is spent the way it's suppose to be spent. She doesn't know everything and the manger doesn't know everything because how many times have you heard him say I have to talk to Jan or the chief. That is how they work together.

Mayor Maher stated that if the board feels they shouldn't go into executive session let him know and he will withdraw his motion.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold apologized that they were not going to get to discuss what they were supposed to discuss. She asked that they make sure its on the agenda and maybe in the future when you add that extra agenda item at the request of Trustee Hurd, because it wasn't on the original agenda then they won't be adding those anymore.

Mayor Maher withdrew his motion. He further stated that there were four items put on the agenda after the manager and he sat down to form the agenda. This happens from time to time, it wasn't malice.

Trustee Hurd stated that he had spoken to the manager. He suggested the board members email their suggestions to the mayor.

Mayor Maher stated that is what he wanted to do for tonight

## **Adjournment**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Mitchell  
Village Clerk