

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
January 24, 2012**

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

On roll call the following were:

Present:	Mayor	Brian Maher
	Deputy Mayor	Sue Rumbold
	Trustees	Edmond Leonard
		Bernard Bowen
		Tara Lown
		Sean Hoffman
Absent		Randi Lee Penney

Also Present: John Revella, Village Manager
Lori Pinckney, Village Clerk
Kevin Dowd, Village Attorney

Mayor Maher announced Trustee Penney's grandmother passed away a few hours ago, Barbara Baxter. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Randi and the Baxter family.

Presentation – Peter Sullivan, Village Treasurer – 2% tax cap

Peter provided handouts (enclosed) regarding the tax cap levy calculation according the State Comptroller. He indicated our pensions are going up by \$100,000 for the employers and \$47,000 for the police and fire. The 2% cap for us would be 2.9%, so we have work to do. He pointed out the pension costs and debt service retirement cost next year alone will go up around \$400,000 so there is a lot of work to do.

The good news is we are doing well on this year's budget. He hit the highlights of the budget projection handout. 95% of taxpayers paid on time. We are doing well on the non-property tax revenues. Sales tax revenues are higher than projected. Mortgage tax is a negative. Our refuse revenues are holding well. We were the beneficiary for many workers' compensation paybacks which amounted to \$100,000. Our recreation fees were \$5000 higher than projected. On the spending side, the police department salary and overtime are \$41,000+ over budget; one of the officers is fully retired now and is off the regular payroll, which will help next year. Recreation personal services are over due to higher program activities and Irene recovery. Snow removal cost is about \$3000 less than budgeted. Water and sewer look good, estimating revenues to come in slightly under budget, a bit more overtime costs due to water main breaks. There is a savings on the sewer side due to double budgeting one of the bond issues, there wasn't \$100,000 of expense that was thought.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked since the long-awaited meters were installed, has there been an increase in those revenues due to actual readings.

Manager Revella responded the estimated bills were close; some were under so we should realize an increase by the end of the year. There should be a small spike from that.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if we had to borrow from the general fund and pay it back in order to pay our bills.

Manager Revella responded not in water, but once in sewer.

Peter indicated we have a lot of debt service which is not good for the water/sewer cycle; it's about \$100,000 in the general fund from sewer.

Manager Revella responded that will be paid back in the next two billing cycles. The sewer fund will be doing better once we receive grant funds we were awarded.

Mayor Maher commented that will be \$75,000.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if the auditors said anything about having to borrow from the general fund to meet expenses.

Manager Revella responded it is very common and as long as it gets paid back by the end of the fiscal year and kept very clear track of, it's okay.

Trustee Bowen asked if Peter could elaborate on the cost-benefit analysis on the utility billing.

Peter responded on implementing our billing system, KVS gave us some billing service vendors that could help us and we did a pilgrimage to the post office to save on postage. The bills will be sequenced such that the bills will be in walking order sequence for the carrier which allows for a \$.10 break and their service bid to us was \$.20 per bill. Right now, just the cost of printing the bills is \$.22 per bill. We have about \$1600 in hard cost savings and \$3200 in soft cost savings.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if that is for next year or do you want to implement it now.

Manager Revella responded now, next billing cycle is next month. Pending review and approval by Village Attorney, we are requesting permission of the Board to do that.

Trustee Hoffman asked if it was bid.

Peter responded yes, he received 2 bids, one for \$.42 per piece and one for \$.20 per piece.

Trustee Bowen asked if we have references from the person at \$.20.

Peter responded yes, we called the references on the low bid. The coordination with KVS is crucial to making it work.

Village Manager's Report

- Numerous water main breaks due to lack of snow cover that insulates the ground. We have one possibly now that's being checked. We had another one due to the power company's contractor drilling through our water main – the area wasn't properly marked.
- Our first winter snowstorm went well – utilized Code Red. We had over 80% response from Code Red that people were contacted.
- Continue to camera sewer lines

- Several conversations with garbage company – scheduling a meeting this week with them before we start levying fines.
- Cameras on the street were repaired – wiring issues.
- Waiting on bids from contractors regarding the lights on the bridge and Main St.
- DPW collected Christmas Trees – brought chips to Fox Hill Community at no cost to Village
- Road and Street Signs are being manufactured and will be here in 2 weeks.
- Couple of meetings with Orange County Business Accelerator re: developing business in the Village, pretty positive.
- Meetings with Delaware Engineering regarding close out of the sewer plant – there were a few holdover bills that were reviewed with the Attorney.
- Negotiations continue with CSEA, another meeting tomorrow
- Reviewing budget and mid year report -- added something to next calendar notifying residents of new version of water/sewer bill.
- Met with Orange County Citizens Foundation and Village Engineer re: pedestrian friendly improvements to downtown and the Square. Possible re-design of the Square – meeting in February
- Follow up meetings with FEMA, trying to close out FEMA projects. Reimbursement should be soon, other reimbursements will take awhile since they are long-term projects.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if these are new issues that we are talking to the garbage company about or the same. She asked how long their contract is.

Manager Revella responded these are additional issues added onto the original issues. This is the first meeting with their attorney, where we will discuss levying fines. The contract ends December this year.

Trustee Lown asked about the water main break caused by electric company, if there was any reimbursement for the overtime or expenses.

Manager Revella responded we are seeking reimbursement not only for the overtime but for the equipment and the things we had to purchase.

Mayor Maher asked who do you ask reimbursement from.

Manager Revella responded the contractor, JBL Contracting out of NJ, and we'll copy Central Hudson on it since they hired the contractor.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold confirmed we've been reimbursed for these things before. She asked how much.

Manager Revella responded a couple thousand dollars.

Trustee Lown commented about the Chief's report regarding the intersection at McKinley monument and it doesn't really seem like a fix to her.

Manager Revella responded it was a test case to see what the effect would be. During the time the officer is there, it's fine. But there are no changes without an officer present. We are trying to create new habits for people and we're testing to see if it would make any effect and it did.

Trustee Lown asked about the status of the speed humps.

Manager Revella responded we have information on 4 different locations with the speed machine we have. Chief is scheduling a meeting with the Town of Newburgh Supervisor to discuss positives and negatives.

Trustee Lown asked about the meeting with the Buddhist Temple if a date has been set.

Manager Revella responded a soft date is the first weekend in October for the Pilgrimage Tour of the 5 Temples.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Energy Efficiency Committee/DPW liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard commented he has nothing to report regarding efficiency; however he met with Michael at the barber shop with regard to the taking of the two spots on S. Montgomery St. Michael would like one parking spot kept because of the older people that are customers. Ed recommended our engineer go out and take a look at the swing on the left turn. He indicated nobody was at the Pet Grooming Shop.

Treasurer/Clerk liaison – Trustee Bowen

Trustee Bowen indicated that Peter did the update.

Shared Services Committee/Police Dept. liaison – Trustee Rumbold

Nothing to report

Economic & Community Development Committee – Trustee Lown

Trustee Lown thanked everyone who made Leadership Day possible; it was a huge success. On Jan 31st at 6:30 there will be a meeting of the Association of Towns & Villages; on Wed, Feb 1 there is a WBA meeting at Village Hall, second floor at 7pm; there's a WCC meeting at Walden Savings Bank on 2/8 at 7pm. John and Brian have been working on the redesign of the Town Square and on Saturday 2/11 there will be a town hall meeting/workshop on the redesign here. It will be from 9:30am-3pm. The first session will be 10-12, break for lunch which will be provided, then resume from 1-3.

Mayor Maher commented this was a discussion that was sparked by the WCC for a grant they received and came to the Village Board with an idea redesigning the square. We used those funds instead to put those disposables out there, those benches that's what those were used for. A big reason was the Board and a lot of residents thought it would be important to get feedback from our community if the Village Square was to be redesigned. The Orange County Citizens Foundation has offered their resources, architect and environmental engineer, to come here on their own time, volunteering, to talk to our resident's about the redesign at the town hall meeting. Registration is at 9:30, with the first session 10-12, lunch provided from 12-1, with a second session from 1-3.

Trustee Lown commented the WCC will be having their Honoree Dinner, bring a covered dish, Monday, 2/13 at 6:30 at the First Reformed Church; they will be accepting donations of new and unused pajamas to benefit Inspire. The dinner will be honoring Brenda and Chris Adams which are outstanding community members.

Building Dept liaison – Trustee Hoffman

Trustee Hoffman commented the building department is slow this time of year; Dean continues working on closing out open permits.

Business of the Board of Trustees

Introductory Local Law I-1 of 2012 – Townhouse Zone Amendment

Mayor Maher commented the purpose of this discussion of the Board is to consider having a public hearing on this local law that our attorney has drafted.

Kevin responded yes, the applicant had submitted a draft at the last meeting and he re-worked it. They are asking for 20% of the market rate units to be 20' wide which will be dispersed on the site as the Planning Board directs which will probably be on the uphill units as the SEQRA documents say they are going to be. The law needs to be introduced and a public hearing set.

Mayor Maher commented we all received a lot more information, did a lot more research and it is our duty to either set or not set a public hearing to give an opportunity for the applicant and also the residents to have their voice heard at a public hearing which he believed to be not the next meeting, but the following meeting.

Kevin responded it's up to the Board when you want to set it. If you set it, it has to go to the County and they have 30 days in which to respond, most of the time they get it in earlier, but not all the time. It has to be referred to your own Planning Board for their report and recommendation and it also needs to get sent to the Town of Montgomery since it is within 500 feet of their water properties.

Mayor Maher indicated there are three weeks until our next meeting.

Trustee Lown indicated the applicant will not be available on the 28th.

Trustee Hoffman confirmed we could close the public hearing but wait to take action.

Trustee Bowen made the motion to set the public hearing on Introductory Local Law 1 of 2012 for February 14, 2012 at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented that she provided all the Board members a written copy of the data that she referenced at the last meeting that substantiates the statements she made. She provided extra copies. It is public record on the Town of Montgomery website.

All ayes. Motion carried.

57 Capron Street – Request for fee/tax review

Manager Revella asked if Ms. Beck was present. She requested the Board review her bills, more specifically her property tax bills, there were additional levies for unpaid water and unpaid property maintenance bills and she is questioning the library tax on her bill.

Deputy Mayor moved to deny the request. Seconded by Trustee Lown.

Kevin commented partial payment of real property taxes is not allowed in Orange County, so what she is asking for is not allowed anyway.

Mayor Maher commented everything she has asked for is not allowed.

Trustee Leonard commented Ms. Beck is claiming the apartments were unoccupied, yet there is water consumption.

Manager Revella responded the water usage is for three months prior.

Trustee Lown responded there could be a leak too.

Mayor Maher clarified that the letter the Manager will write to her will clearly indicate the law.

Manager Revella responded yes, she will be aware in the future that if the tenants don't pay she will be responsible.

Trustee Lown commented she researched and Ms. Beck always gets these bills put on her taxes. She also indicated all the documentation is present, like the maintenance bills.

All ayes. Motion carried.

RFP's for Reorganizational Meeting

Mayor Maher commented there are 4 RFP's for the reorganizational meeting for attorney, accounting firm, engineer and planner. He commented that Sue and he had the idea of adding one more RFP for consolidation. It has been talked about in the past; there have been further talks with the Town about doing a study. The problem has been somebody going forward and putting it out there that we would like to do a study. He proposed the Village put out an RFP to accept bids from companies that would do an impact study, impact statement, of what it would look like for a Town of Montgomery Police Dept with all 3 Villages incorporated. We would invite, after the RFP process, the leaders of both Villages and the Town to come in and go through them and see if it's worth looking into and interviewing. He feels there has been a lot of talk on the issue and not really anyone stepping up and saying we should be doing something. At the very minimum, we should have a study so we can have a discussion. He feels this would be a first step in a process of a larger discussion and he would like to add it to our RFP process. He went through at length with John earlier so we could approve it based on similar language, same dates, just basically requesting proposals for a comprehensive study for consolidation.

Trustee Bowen asked if that's a similar one like they did in Chester.

Mayor Maher responded yes, exactly. The same language, the same usage, same type of thing, that's what we'd like to do here. The issue has only been municipalities not being willing to put any money into it. This is simply an RFP; there will be a small cost. He is asking the Village to take on that initial small cost to bring people to the table to at least have that discussion. He thinks it's important his last three years he's really realized that someone has to do that in order for any of this to take place.

Trustee Leonard asked if there will be some language in the RFP to specify the firms have some background. It is his understanding that there aren't many firms that have the background for consolidation and establishing the cost after consolidation.

Mayor Maher recommended leaving it general and then leave it to the individuals reviewing the RFP's to see who has the experience so we don't minimize what we might get back.

Trustee Bowen asked if there has been any feedback from the Chester scenario.

Mayor Maher responded yes, the Chester scenario has developed a lot of conversation and they are putting it on their ballot for November for their residents to vote on. Before we ever get to that process we would want a study done which could take from 6 months to a year itself. If we wanted to have a discussion at a later date, probably not for this budget, but maybe for next year's budget, we'd have to have it now. He feels it's responsible to do it.

Trustee Hoffman asked before we go ahead and put the time and effort into preparing the proposals, would we make an award on the proposal and would we have enough money in the budget to cover it.

Mayor Maher responded no, and we would absolutely want the other two villages and the Town to put money into it as well. If they are willing to do that, we move forward. There's not even going to be a discussion about it unless someone makes a move and starts the process.

Manager Revella responded there might be money available from the State level for shared services.

Mayor Maher commented not to say no we can't or no there won't, but they should be shared by everybody, but this first move no one's going to do unless someone does it. He asked the Board if it can be added into the motion.

Trustee Hoffman asked if we received any comments from any of the other Villages or the Town on this.

Mayor Maher responded the other Villages and the Town say they agree that a study should be done, so he thinks they would take part in reviewing the RFP process if we took the initiative to have it. On talking to all heads of the two Villages and the Town, he truly is at peace in saying that publicly.

Trustee Leonard commented that at our previous attempts at police consolidation that was the sticking point, the fact that we had no study to back up what we were trying to do – to prove that it was going to be cost effective.

Mayor Maher indicated that we still won't have a study, but we will have requests for firms to do a study and that's better than just talking about it forever and not doing anything about it.

Trustee Bowen asked how much it would cost to send out the RFP.

Manager Revella responded the cost of the ad in the paper.

Mayor Maher guessed \$250.

Trustee Bowen indicated he approved the survey.

Trustee Leonard made the motion to approve the five RFP's pending the language of the 5th. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Winding Brook Pump House

Mayor Maher commented we had a discussion but never took a vote. He indicated the Manager tracked down the minutes to provide an answer for Sue.

Manager Revella commented Lori searched the Planning Board minutes and the Board of Trustees minutes. There was no mention of accepting the pump station, there was discussion of possible dedication of the roads, but they were never accepted either.

Trustee Lown commented that Lanc & Tully has reviewed this and they do not feel that it's a good move.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to not approve dedication of the Winding Brook Pump Station. Seconded by Trustee Bowen.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented just going with our Engineers, as a Board she feels we have to go with their recommendation.

Trustee Hoffman commented even if we wanted to take the pump station, there are other items and matters that preclude us from servicing that pump station properly, the fact that the pipes feeding in are not under our control.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 18-11-12, Appointment of Election Inspectors

Mayor Maher read the resolution.

Trustee Leonard moved to adopt Resolution 18-11-12, Appointment of Election Inspectors. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Hearing Date for violation at 23 Oak Street

Manager Revella commented we just need to set dates.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to set the hearing date for 23 Oak Street for February 14, 2012 at 7pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Hearing Date for violation at 106 First Street

Trustee Bowen moved to set the hearing date for 106 First Street for February 14, 2012 at 7:15pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Hearing Date for violation at 1 Sherman Avenue

Trustee Leonard moved to set the hearing date for 1 Sherman Avenue for February 14, 2012 at 7:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approve lowest bid for Utility Billing

Manager Revella commented the motion would be to approve the lowest bid for utility billing to start at the next billing cycle subject to Kevin's approval.

Trustee Bowen made the motion to approve the bid for Utility Billing. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion Item

Local Law, No parking on S. Montgomery Street near Route 52.

Trustee Leonard made the recommendation to have the Village Engineers go out and review the intersection to make it go smoothly. He asked how much of the curb would be able to cut.

Manager Revella responded we could cut as much as we want, it just needs to be coordinated with the County DOT and Town and State.

Mayor Maher commented the turn is unpopular, it is tough to navigate. He commented he is leery about taking away parking spots.

Manager Revella responded we can work on alternates on Walker Street to assist.

Trustee Leonard commented both the business owners park on Walker, so they are not taking the spots in front of the businesses.

Mayor Maher responded he would like the owners and the residents to be part of the discussion.

Trustee Lown recommended a town hall meeting possibly. In her opinion, it's going to largely affect the residents too if the parking spots are going to be taken away.

Trustee Leonard responded the big apartment building has a very large lot in the back and the landlord encourages tenants to park there.

Mayor Maher commented once a public hearing is set, the residents will have their venue.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if the fire department has any input about the radius.

Manager Revella responded they are concerned; they want more room. It would not just be the parking spots, it's also about removing the curbing.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented if you can't safely accomplish what needs to be accomplished, would you consider reverting that one way street back to what it was.

Mayor Maher responded he certainly would.

Trustee Leonard responded he wouldn't; he has had two near accidents.

Mayor Maher commented he's had about 10 near accidents there. That's why we created the law, to avoid a near accident. One thing we don't want to do is take an issue that we have and create an even bigger problem from it. So if the end result is the lesser of the two evils we'll have to take all the information and make a decision.

Manager Revella responded the signage is one of the issues; the signs should be in within the next two weeks. We re-did the striping and that helped a bit but once we get the signs it

will be very apparent that it's a one-way. He indicated the next step would be to have the Engineer prepare a report and get input from the fire chief and the police chief.

Mayor Maher recommended setting the date for February 28th with that information.

Public Comment

Carol & Eckert Phillips, 11 Evergreen Lane, commented they received a letter that they are responsible for cleaning the circumference of the pond at Beazer Homes. They disagree and provided a copy of the plan of their property as well as a book received at the time they purchased their home, which clearly indicates the Homeowners Association is responsible.

Trustee Bowen indicated the Board was told that the HOA is responsible for it and not the home owners. The Code Enforcement Officer needs to be notified so that the HOA gets the letter and not the individual homeowners.

Carol commented they came to the Village Offices this morning and her husband was not given the opportunity to voice his concern and was almost dismissed until he brought the HOA book to their attention. She indicated the lady he spoke to was extremely abrasive.

Mayor Maher apologized for their inconvenience.

Manager Revella introduced himself and provided his contact information.

Eckert commented his concern about some potholes on S. Montgomery.

Manager Revella responded that is a County Road, so the County will need to fix it.

Trustee Leonard commented that is was the Planning Board's belief that the HOA would own the pond and he was very surprised it was conveyed to the two residents on the other side.

Jessica Metzger, 4 Gracewood Court, commented about the 5 people that walked out of the room 10 minutes ago. She believed those people were here to discuss Winding Brook and at some point last year without a public discussion the Mayor decided to change the format of the Agenda not to include a public comment portion prior to the business of the Village. She commented it is very unfortunate and tonight is an exact demonstration, an example of why that needs to be reinstated. She indicated every time she comes to a meeting she brings it up and if holding your meetings in an open government fashion is something you portray yourself to be here, it's not accurate. She asked the Board and Mayor to consider at least the way it was before. If you have a comment on the business of the Board, we all have to sit here and listen to your business and you represent us and you're not giving the public a chance to comment on something that you're possibly going to be making a decision on is very unfortunate. She commented about the S. Montgomery Street turn and everyone's intentions are always so good, but time and time again, things are being done without proper attention being paid to these matters. She is shocked that this was done before all these matters were looked into and prior to the road being changed: the parking, the curb and the fire department. She commented it has been a dangerous intersection forever and although she doesn't know what the answer is, she agrees you have to go with the lesser of the two evils. She commented that we as a Village and a Board have so many important things going on, but it always seems like you're back-tracking and having to form a committee or do more research. Now another thing is going to be repeated. Three years ago, only two of the

current Trustee's were here; Sean, Tara and Randi were not here and John was not the Village Manager. At that time there was a huge push to consolidate the police departments which may be very advantageous to all of us. There's been a lot of research done on this and she believes there are two departments that have merged within Orange County within the last decade. She thinks as a Village we need to stay away from our friends; just because we are friends with another municipality and they are doing something doesn't mean we have to do it. There is a lot of nepotism that takes place here in the Village and within these meetings. We need to branch out from that and find someone who is really a professional, someone to define and prove to us that this can work. She commented again that the Board is going to spend money and to just plug it into the RFP thing and not have it on the Agenda is another one of those oh- here we go, lets just vote on it and you did it. She recommended the Board have the Chief of Police from Village of Maybrook and Village of Montgomery come in. She believes at the time, neither of those municipalities had any interest in it. She's sure from what she understands, that has completely changed now that Butch Amthor is the Chief of Police of Maybrook. She recommended gathering all those people together and the Supervisors and sit down and see what the real interest is before the Village of Walden spends a dime. She indicated to Brian that this has all been done before and he was here and it was a hot issue. It is not something that has gone unexplored. She indicated that Brian dropped it like a hot potato, it was here in front of this Village and the minutes will prove to everyone that was the case and all of a sudden everything just stopped and everyone stopped talking about it. She doesn't know why that happened, but indicated Brian is the politician so maybe he knows. She indicated the trustees that were not here at the time, but Brian was and Sue was and Ed was. It was discussed at length; there were so many meetings on it. She doesn't understand Brian's thought processes on doing this tonight.

Mayor Maher responded he explained it previously.

Jessica asked hasn't there been a study before; she asked who is going to be hired and who do you expect to respond.

Mayor Maher responded there hasn't been a study before. He indicated this is going to be sent out generally for any company as she suggested and as he totally agrees should be outside the Village of Walden with no interest or ties to anyone which is part of the problem with the last process, so they can come in be paid a certain price, whatever that might be, and we would then talk about having a study done.

Jessica asked why are we putting any money forward if we don't know the other municipalities are in.

Mayor Maher responded he's confidently stated he believes they would be willing to meet to look at RFPs because he believes they are.

Jessica asked why don't you gather a committee or form a committee town-wide from other municipalities and first see what data is out there and already has been accumulated from last time this happened.

Mayor Maher responded as she stated we've done this in the past and the biggest point everyone made in not moving forward was a study. This will put us one step closer to that, so that when we do exactly what Jessica is stating, which he intends to, and the Board would intend to, we will be better prepared.

Jessica confirmed that when this was dropped three years ago, Brian is saying, confidently, that it was dropped because there was no study.

Mayor Maher responded no; absolutely it was because what was done was not a study. It was a collection of thoughts and facts from a committee that had the issues that Jessica spoke to: people did know each other a little too much and a lot was dropped or a lot wasn't said because it wasn't done professionally by someone from the outside and number two it was stopped by the Town and they did not want it to move forward based on the process that took place and he publicly admitted that a big part of that process was his moving it without doing the due diligence that should have been done, which is hopefully what will be done moving forward.

Jessica commented it is a fabulous idea to research it, she just doesn't want to see the Village spend money unnecessarily like has been done before. She thinks in the essence of staying away from people we know, we need to step away from anything Chester is doing considering that Steve Newhaus used to work here as a Deputy Village Manager many years ago. He is also politically affiliated with our Mayor so we need to step back and meet with people who are not in the inner circle. We don't want headlines in our Village like in other municipalities in the County. She commented she's been coming to this Board on and off since 1998 and sometimes she sits here and shakes her head; she hears things that are absolutely not true and when she speaks at the podium and people shake their head at you, but for someone who has been around since 1998, believe her that everything can be verified in meeting minutes. Lastly, she asked what is going on with Alfred Park.

Manager Revella responded we received the removable basketball hoop, but by the time we received it, weather wasn't permitting us to do the other work at the site. He commented we removed the fence and other material, but replacing the hoop is integral to other things around it. He estimates April.

Marcus Millspaugh, 10 Jessup Street, commented that the talk to the garbage company must have worked; his can was standing up and the lid was in it. He commented he was in PA recently and the centerline was textured to make you aware if you crossed the centerline. He thought that could be a possibility other than speed bumps.

Manager Revella responded he is not sure we could use them across the lane.

Marcus indicated the Historical Society received a letter from the Building Department regarding the Thruway demolition. He asked if there is going to be a Village representative or is the Society going to be photographing or a combination of both.

Manager Revella responded he hoped there to be a combination. He and Brian met with the new owners to request that the Historical Society be permitted to enter and review the project and they were amenable to that.

Mary Ellen Matise, Clinton Street, commented that she spoke to Dean and he did send the letter out from the Planning Dept. Dean recalls the discussion about the law, but there is nothing in the Code that says someone from the Village will be there and there is nothing about the Historical Society. She commented we worked on that Demolition Code and the involvement of the Historical Society.

Kevin referenced the section of the Code which indicates a Village Representative. Chapter 128 from July 2007 states when a demolition permit is going to be issued for any building determined to be historically significant there is a 15 day delay in issuing the permit so that a Village Representative be given the chance to survey and photograph the building or structure or any of their features for cataloging the same for historic preservation purposes.

Manager Revella commented that could be anyone, but he would take it upon himself to be the representative. He and Brian felt it would be necessary to bring a Historical Society representative with them.

Mary Ellen responded that was part of the whole discussion. She's not sure what Code Dean is reading. She commented she was at the Town Hall and noticed the tax rate sheet. The tax rate for the Villages went up 3.8%. She commented the break for the people in the Town held closer to the 2%, so it seems that Part A gets a bigger increase than the A & B combined. She found a property similar to her own and figured her Town, County, Fire, Village and Garbage comes to \$2256 per year, but if she was in the Town, it would only be \$1070 per year. She would still be responsible for her water and sewer lines going to the street; she didn't figure in the water or sewer rates. Everyone from the Town thinks she is getting so much more; she's getting the right to provide infrastructure for stores that people in the Town come and shop at and other shops/doctor offices/legal offices, but they are not sharing in the tax rate to provide services. She referenced a tiny house that's for sale on East Main St near Elm St with a price of \$125,000 for 1092 sq feet with annual taxes of \$4233 which includes school taxes. She asked who would buy it. The Village needs to be affordable for the people that live here and we can't be footing the bill for the whole town.

Anita Vandermark, 76 Highland Avenue, commented about the intersection of East Main Street going up Highland, a fire truck would never be able to get up there. She commented about parents waiting for their school children, although they are there for a short time, park on both sides of the street. She announced that three new businesses opened up in the Village: Jose DeJesus opened Cream N Sugar, Sue Rumbold's Sweet Sensations by Sue and Joe Hall opened the Quarter Note Café. She congratulated each of them. She congratulated Tara on the wonderful job she did on Leadership Day. She commented that John Revella and Mike Bliss are participating in the Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics. She asked about the Scofflaw and if it has been completed and if there was revenue from it.

Manager Revella responded he doesn't think it's completed yet.

Mayor Maher commented the prosecutor came in and it brought in a lot of extra revenue.

Susan Picarillo, Property Manager for the Winding Brook Townhouses commented how nice it was to hear that the Board was commended for so many things going on and are expecting dollars in other places in the Village; it's wonderful to hear because this Village actually needs it, but she is very disappointed in the decision that was made tonight regarding the Winding Brook Pump House. She and her Board members got up after the decision, but on a fluke she came back to listen to the comments and indicated someone else that had issues with their Association. She was disappointed there was no public comment period prior to action items. This has been going on for 15 years and that this Board whether it's everyone here today or the previous members here since 1996 working on this Pump Station, working in good faith with this Association making them believe that this was going to be dedicated.

She referenced a comment Sue may have made about searching the minutes for a resolution that was passed. Whether that resolution was passed or not, they've acted in good faith and so has the previous Board and they have complied with every request that the Village made of them. She commented that on behalf of the Association and herself as property manager they are very disappointed in the decision. They also believed there would be more discussion; she wrote a letter to John Revella on the 17th if there was any progress. She received a response on the 22nd that it would be on the Agenda tonight, only 2 days ago. She was hoping there would be more discussion on it and it wouldn't just be put to a vote with open comment after that vote. She recommended that should be considered for the future for the residents of the Village. She was led to believe there would be more discussion on it. She commented all the voters of Winding Brook will certainly take this into consideration in the future also.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented that when Jessica asked if any studies were done on consolidation, it was stated no, but that is not entirely accurate. She knows of at least 2 that were done; one was done during Carl Helstrom's tenure. They weren't done by an agency, they were done by the State of New York. She has seen the one done by Chester and it wasn't as detailed, but there were two studies. She believes one was done at the request of the Village of Maybrook.

Approval of the Minutes – January 10, 2012

Trustee Leonard moved to adopt the minutes from January 10, 2012. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. 5 ayes, 1 abstention by Trustee Lown. Minutes approved.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made the motion to pay the audited bills pending required signatures. Trustee Bowen seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Trustee Lown read a note she received from Larry & Jean Winum regarding the Leadership Day Awards.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Leonard commented that he spoke with the applicant for Hannaford's and the possibility of a bike rack in front of the store. He gave him a verbal agreement and it turns out he is an avid biker also. The NYCOM winter meeting is next month, if interested see John.

Trustee Bowen commented he and Stephanie met with the business owners about the street signs. One concern was the taxis parked on Main St and taking up most of the block on both sides. Some of the recommendations that came about include a courtesy letter, which he will talk to Kevin about. There is nothing in our Code.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if there was 2 hour parking there.

Trustee Bowen responded yes in certain sections and that is where the ticket agent should be going around.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold responded but the same thing will happen there that happens in Orchard Street Parking Lot, they go out and move the car 10 feet so it doesn't alleviate the

problem. She's surprised there isn't an ordinance in the Village when it comes to a business like that, that has an increased number of cars in their fleet.

Kevin responded the regulations are that the drivers are properly licensed, that the vehicles are property equipped, maintained, inspected and registered. That law is from 1981 and he doesn't believe it's changed at all since. At one time there were two taxi cab companies and now we are down to one. This is apparently a new issue that we can pursue with the Chief.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented kudos to Tara for Leadership Program, it was wonderful and it makes her proud to live here. It was nice to hear Lou Heimbach's speech. She commented that part of this job is to take criticism for decisions that are made and there have been times that she has researched backwards, forwards, up and down, and made a decision and been criticized that she didn't do enough before making the decision because someone didn't agree with it. She takes this job seriously, she reads everything she can read and talks to other people. She doesn't make decisions off the cuff, but she is a human being like the rest of the Board members and mistakes can be made and adjustments might have to be made. It doesn't mean they acted in haste and didn't look at things, it just means that given their best thoughts and intentions, something didn't work as planned. She is bothered by being accused of not doing enough research before making a decision. She assured everyone that sits here that she worked out the hours she spends on Village business and it worked out to \$1.22 per hour. She doesn't just show up to meetings twice per month; she apologized to those that are disappointed with the decisions the Board makes sometimes. The Board takes things very seriously and tries to make the best decisions they can but unfortunately it doesn't always work out the way everyone wants it to.

Trustee Lown thanked everyone for the double sided packets. She commented she is very excited about the windows and that each window has a curtain. She read Dean's comment about not opening the curtains from ground level. She thanked John for all the FEMA work, it's appreciated. She thanked Peter for all his research. She commented that Leadership Day was amazing and thanked everyone for their support.

Trustee Hoffman asked if there has been a date set for the Tri Board meeting.

Mayor Maher responded no, he's trying to coordinate with the Planning and Zoning Board. He commented that it was publicly noted that Nancy Mitchell was overpaid by \$1000 on her payouts, but that does not seem to be the case. He wants it publicly known and the State Auditors agree with the analysis that Nancy Mitchell was not overpaid on her payouts.

Executive Session – Personnel – Village Office/DPW

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel: Village Office and DPW. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

Trustee Leonard moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Trustee Lown moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
January 24, 2012
Motions & Resolutions**

Introductory Local Law I-1 of 2012 – Townhouse Zone Amendment

Trustee Bowen made the motion to set the public hearing on Introductory Local Law 1 of 2012 for February 14, 2012 at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

57 Capron Street – Request for fee/tax review

Deputy Mayor moved to deny the request. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

RFP's for Reorganizational Meeting

Trustee Leonard made the motion to approve the five RFP's pending the language of the 5th. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Winding Brook Pump House

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to not approve dedication of the Winding Brook Pump Station. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 18-11-12, Appointment of Election Inspectors

Trustee Leonard moved to adopt Resolution 18-11-12, Appointment of Election Inspectors. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Hearing Date for violation at 23 Oak Street

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to set the hearing date for 23 Oak Street for February 14, 2012 at 7pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Hearing Date for violation at 106 First Street

Trustee Bowen moved to set the hearing date for 106 First Street for February 14, 2012 at 7:15pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Hearing Date for violation at 1 Sherman Avenue

Trustee Leonard moved to set the hearing date for 1 Sherman Avenue for February 14, 2012 at 7:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approve lowest bid for Utility Billing

Trustee Bowen made the motion to approve the bid for Utility Billing. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes – January 10, 2012

Trustee Leonard moved to adopt the minutes from January 10, 2012. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. 5 ayes, 1 abstention by Trustee Lown. Minutes approved.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made the motion to pay the audited bills pending required signatures. Trustee Bowen seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Executive Session – Personnel – Village Office/DPW

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Reconvene

Trustee Leonard moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Trustee Lown moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.