

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
March 13, 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
	Randi Lee Penney
	Tara Lown
	Sean Hoffman

Absent

Also Present:

John Revella, Village Manager
Lori Pinckney, Village Clerk
Kevin Dowd, Village Attorney

**Presentation – Melvin Wesenberg, Valley Central “Richard V. Aderson Award”
Recipient**

Mayor Maher commented there is a presentation to a very special Walden resident; he is a parent and also a member of the Library Board. Melvin Wesenberg is awarded the Richard V. Aderson Make a Difference Award.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented she is not sure if Melvin knew Mr. Richard Aderson, but she was on the school board and worked with him. He was her colleague and friend and one of the most generous, warm human beings and if anyone should get this award, Melvin is the same kind of person and she believes Richard would be thrilled that he is the recipient of this award.

Mayor Maher agreed with Deputy Mayor Rumbold’s comments and both presented Melvin Wesenberg with the award.

Village Manager’s Report

- Continue to camera sewer mains for INI
- Started work on culvert on Well 4, 5, & 6 road, should be completed tomorrow
- Repaired a few water main breaks
- Starting catch basin repairs this week
- Ordered more salt; we were required to buy 70% of our allocation, won’t have to buy as much next year.
- Met with Chief and Parking Enforcement Officer regarding parking enforcement concerns
- Received different phone calls regarding the RFP’s that were due today
- Received request for assistance for when Thruway is demolished; make sure people can get food, those without transportation. The owner is trying to work out transportation to get people to a place that has food.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if the Town of Montgomery bus service that we have now will do it.

Manager Revella responded he is not sure, that is between the owner and whatever transportation company they solicit. We have our own internal bus company that will assist for seniors and the Dial a Bus program.

- Meeting with the Engineer, trying to tie up Ulster Avenue project, meeting tomorrow with DOT, plan on bringing up other issues: vegetation along Rt 52, traffic light intersections, potholes, lights on the bridge. As an alternate for lights, looking at LED retrofit, it seems like it would work, getting a quote.
- Meeting with Superintendent of Schools, Principal of Walden Elementary, the Mayor and the Rec Coordinator regarding social service problems and programs to help needy families.
- Meeting with Chief of Police and bus company for elementary school, discussed student pick up and drop off, better option might be for buses to use the back of the building, will be tested next week.
- Met with FEMA couple of times regarding project reimbursements, finalizing last submission in next two weeks.
- Cleared the barbed wire fence at Bradley, grading still to be done and drainage.
- Reviewed through Chapter 8 of Comp Plan, once 9 & 10 are finalized, will meet with Committee for review and then submit it to the Board for review and comments.
- Meeting with Walden Sunshine Society who donated for the purchase of another AED unit for Wooster Grove, thanked them.
- Follow up work on State Grants for improvements along waterfront; submitted for a planning grant, been advised of another grant coming out soon.
- Fixed lights at Walden Estates, still working on other areas; working with NYSEG
- Had many visiting the Village looking for vacant parcels or parcels for rent; looks positive

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented there seems to be a lot of repairs being done on DPW equipment. She asked if this stuff is breaking now or has it been needed to be done and we now have time to fix it.

Manager Revella responded some repairs usually wait until after winter due to wear and tear from winter use; also trying to be conservative for the budget.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked about the Verizon billing, if that was worked out. She asked about the grant for Parks, the one for the amphitheatre.

Manager Revella responded the Verizon billing has been resolved.

Mayor Maher responded that we did not receive the Parks grant.

Trustee Bowen asked about the left turn on S. Montgomery Street, if there has been any feedback.

Manager Revella responded the Engineer recommended removing approximately 70-75 feet of parking – it could be shortened, but recommended bringing the fire truck out to try it.

It was also recommended asking the County if they could move the yellow line to help with the turn radius.

Trustee Hoffman asked about the salt purchase and if that is based on tonnage for the year.

Manager Revella responded he has to tell the State how much he needs for the following year. This year he purchased 400 tons after October's storm but to meet the 70% threshold, which is a required minimum, he had to purchase another 440 tons.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Energy Efficiency Committee/DPW liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard provided his NYCOM notes from the meeting he attended, more information is available if interested. He received a quote for the hydraulic fittings and hose, but it will be scaled down.

Mayor Maher provided his copy of Trustee Leonard's notes to the public.

Treasurer/Clerk liaison – Trustee Bowen

Nothing to report

Shared Services Committee/Police Dept. liaison – Trustee Rumbold

Nothing to report

Youth & Senior's Initiatives Committee/Library Board liaison– Trustee Penney

Nothing to report

Economic & Community Development Committee – Trustee Lown

Trustee Lown announced the Walden Community Council meeting tomorrow at 7pm; venue was changed to NY School of Music. She indicated herself and the Recreation Coordinator have combined the Youth Employment Program and the SYLA Grant programs to improve the application and accounting processes. The Youth Employment Program has incorporated a Job Fair Event on 6/14 to allow the youth an interview experience. There will be an application process, notification will be done on 6/25, and the employment period will be 7/2-8/3, with a resume building workshop on 7/21 and graduation on 8/9 at 7pm. The Music in the Grove has been moved to Mondays, except a larger event on 8/4. Ginny from the Library is doing the scheduling so if there are any recommended bands or if anyone is interested, please contact her or Committee member Jodi Lynn. She announced the St. Baldricks event is 3/31 as well as the Colonel Bradley Day Celebration being held at the Wallkill Valley Cemetery on Rt 52 at 1pm. She announced the Friends of Walden Youth yard sale on 3/25 and the Village Election on 3/20 from 6am-9pm. She commented that there is a lot of great information on the board in front of Village Hall, including an Easter basket program with the Secret Garden Florist. She announced the Dawn's Dream event on 3/18.

Trustee Penney commented Dawn's Dream event is a Vendor Expo from 2-4 on 3/18; Avon, Tastefully Simply, Pampered Chef, 31 Things, Wickless Candles, Premier Jewelry and Rose Olivia with handmade goods are some of the vendors. She indicated that each vendor as well as the Secret Garden Florist will be donating some of the proceeds from their sales to Dawn's Dream relay team.

Trustee Lown continued that on 4/21 there will be a Family Dance at Wooster's Grove from 7-9pm. She mentioned she received an application from the Orange County Youth Bureau, the Orange County Executives 2012 Annual Youth Awards luncheon with a deadline of 4/5, luncheon on 6/1, she asked if anyone has potential youth or questions, please contact her.

Mayor Maher confirmed the Friends of Walden Youth yard sale is still at Wooster's.

Building Dept liaison – Trustee Hoffman

Trustee Hoffman commented that he met with Dean mostly to discuss 46 Scofield Street; there is a hearing tomorrow so more information will follow after the hearing.

Manager Revella commented that April begins yard waste pick up on Thursdays. He indicated there will be a Village wide yard sale on 4/14, with bulk pickup on 4/16, so put the materials out for 4/15.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked Trustee Leonard if pick up of computers could happen again this year.

Trustee Leonard responded it could be done again, however he would change it so that residents would bring their items here and we provide a dump truck with a sign indicating the items on the truck belong to the Village of Walden.

Action Items

Confirmation of dates for the Budget Hearings

Mayor Maher announced the dates for the Budget Hearings as follows: Thursday March 29th, Friday March 30th, Tuesday April 3rd, Wednesday April 4th and Thursday April 5th. He commented that the dates might be shortened to four and the departments will be announced at the next meeting.

Trustee Lown confirmed they all start at 6:30pm.

Trustee Lown made the motion to confirm the dates of the budget hearings: 3/29, 3/30, 4/3, 4/4 & 4/5, at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Re-organization Meeting

Mayor Maher asked if it is possible to change the re-organization meeting from Monday, April 2nd to Tuesday April 3rd.

Kevin responded technically it is supposed to be the first Monday, but it can be moved to Tuesday.

Manager Revella commented that the oath of office still needs to be done on Monday.

Trustee Lown made the motion to have the re-organization meeting on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Leonard.

Mayor Maher clarified that the budget hearing will follow.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 27-11-12 Stop DWI

Manager Revella commented we have a resolution for the Board supporting the application for funding for the Stop DWI program.

Kevin commented this one is a little different than the last one. We are not going three months at a time, it is actually for the next 9 months with funding definitely set for the next three months, and then it will be done by letter. Reimbursement will be \$2460 for the next three months and after that they will send a letter indicating the amount for the following three months, and again the next three months.

Trustee Bowen moved to adopt Resolution 27-11-12 – Stop DWI. Seconded by Trustee Lown. 6 ayes, Trustee Hoffman not present. Motion carried.

Resolution 28-11-12 Youth Grant Application

Trustee Lown commented that the requirements have changed and the resolution needs to be submitted now instead of at the end.

Kevin commented this resolution is authorizing the Village to make the grant application and going on record stating we will accept it if it's awarded.

Mayor Maher indicated we are not doing two separate solutions grants; we will have one application for both the Youth Employment Program and the Student Youth Leadership Academy.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to adopt Resolution 28-11-12 Youth Grant Application. Seconded by Trustee Lown. 6 ayes, Trustee Hoffman not present. Motion carried.

Easter Sunrise Service – Reverend James Van Houten

Manager Revella commented Reverend Jim Van Houten is requesting to hold the annual Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 8th from 7-7:30am which includes the Victory Church of God, St. Andrews Episcopal Church as well as Pastor Van Houten's Walden Baptist Church.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to approve Easter Sunrise Service on April 8, 2012 from 7-7:30am in the Village Square. Seconded by Trustee Penney. 6 ayes, Trustee Hoffman not present. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

Village Taxi Code

Manager Revella commented Chief Holmes was able to obtain the City of Newburgh's Code which is mirrored by City of Middletown and he thinks it would alleviate some of the concern on West Main Street. It includes a taxi stand which would provide approximately 2 car lengths; this would be the only location where a taxi could park and they would not be allowed to park anywhere else in the Village.

Kevin commented we may have to go into attorney-client for some of this. He is in receipt of the City of Newburgh's Code as well as Chief Holmes' memo. The idea of a taxi stand may work to limit the number of taxis parked, but it might not address the issue of the employees parking their cars in legal parking spaces on West Main Street.

Trustee Bowen asked about the time limitation of parking.

Kevin responded yes, but the cars can be moved or moved to the other side of the street.

Mayor Maher responded he doesn't see any solution to that problem aside from having a discussion with the owner and asked them to use the lot.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented that as police liaison she knows that discussion has happened.

Kevin commented that a taxi stand means not parked, with either a cab driver in the car or standing next to it. He questioned if it should be called a taxi stand because they are technically not standing but parking. He knows what the purpose is but he is not sure it will resolve the issue being addressed.

Mayor Maher commented right now there are cabs parked in multiple spots and the people that drive those cabs parked in multiple spots as well, so let's limit the number of cabs in those spots.

Kevin commented this is a problem with all Villages; there is a tough time with all parking downtown. In a way, they are getting designated parking spaces for their business, which hasn't been done for other businesses. The Board has never done it before, the Board could do this and has the authority to do it, but he doesn't think it will solve the overall problem.

Manager Revella responded they are not only B&D spots, if any other company came they would also be able to use the spots.

Kevin commented that is where the enforcement of the law would be interesting; if the owner of the cab is not B&D taxi but if somebody else owns the cab and is an employee of B&D taxi.

Mayor Maher responded it will be difficult, but it provides another tool that provides them the ability to enforce.

Kevin commented for any law that is made there is a way of interpreting it. He questioned if the problem will be addressed.

Trustee Bowen commented he liked the idea of the two spots for a taxi stand.

Trustee Leonard commented there is plenty of parking in the area, there is potential in the Church lot and Oak Street lot, he doesn't see why they have to tie up all the spaces on Main Street. He counted 8 cabs on Main St last week.

Manager Revella commented he addressed some other issues with the police department; there is only one company that is permitted to pick up people in the Village. Any other company picking up in the Village is in violation of our Code and our police officers will be looking for that.

Mayor Maher commented that Chief wanted to make sure we could still issue VCL violations to taxis that do not comply from the outside and Chief asked if we have to post the entrances into the Village for this Code.

Kevin responded it is probably best to put something at the entrances to the Village.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if our code indicates only one cab company.

Manager Revella responded it does not; a taxi has to be permitted to pick up and only one company has filed the permit properly.

Kevin commented people can transport people through Walden and into Walden but they are not supposed to be picking up in Walden and taking out.

Trustee Lown asked what if an unknowing resident calls an outside taxi company.

Manager Revella responded it has nothing to do with the resident, it's the cab company and all the cab companies are aware of the permit process.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold confirmed that a cab company just needs to fill out an application and file it with the Village in order to be permitted to pick up Walden residents.

Kevin confirmed yes and all the drivers and the cabs need to be inspected.

Manager Revella responded that's why a lot of companies don't do it because they don't want us to know who is driving their cars.

Mayor Maher asked if the police can issue VCL violations.

Kevin responded village code, yes but he recommended putting a sign up. This law has been in effect for 20 years and there may have been a sign originally, but it does not exist now.

Mayor Maher asked the Board their thoughts on the two spots. He thinks it's a good idea but it should be accompanied with another firm request asking the owner if the employees could park in the Oak Street lot and he suggested a letter from the business association supporting that as well. He recommended asking one more time very nicely along with this law.

Trustee Leonard agreed with this approach.

Trustee Lown asked if the business association been involved.

Mayor Maher responded he believes it's only been discussed. He asked Kevin what needs to be done to create these two spots.

Kevin suggested creating a separate section in the Village Taxi Code and/or VNT that designates parking spaces on West Main Street for taxi parking. He could provide that at the next meeting, it could be introduced and start the process.

Trustee Bowen asked if the spots have to be right in front of the taxi company.

Mayor Maher asked if the spots could be in the municipal lot.

Trustee Bowen responded he wouldn't put them in the lot, maybe move them further down.

Mayor Maher suggested Kevin come to the Board with a couple of proposals.

Kevin responded a talk with the owner is planned on; there might be a location that's agreeable.

Garbage Code

Manager Revella commented the Code has some language that may be too broad in its scope; the Board may want to narrow the scope so enforcement is a bit easier. There have been some issues with aggressive enforcement based on the interpretation of the language.

Mayor Maher commented a few Board members suggested some word changes; he asked for those suggestions.

Manager Revella suggested language that would be more appropriate includes keeping the cans out of the front of the home instead of invisible from the road.

Trustee Hoffman commented he spoke with the building inspector a bit about this. This was added as a local law for some reason or purpose and he asked the inspector about it. He was told it was in response to a problem going on at the time and there is concern that if it is eliminated we might be back to where we started. The Code says "invisible" which doesn't provide the code enforcement officer any latitude. They toyed around with some ideas such as wording like inconspicuous or orderly to differentiate between a garbage can that is invisible from the street versus one that is in a neat and tidy manner.

Trustee Bowen asked what the problems before were.

Trustee Hoffman responded people left their cans curbside and that's where they remained for the entire week, garbage would spill over and spread through the street.

Kevin commented the word "invisible" seems to be the problem. It could be stated they can't have the cans in the front of the house but it could be on the sides as long as the covers are on them. The neat and tidy is subjective and if they are still out of control there are other sections of the property maintenance law they can be cited on. The Board needs to decide where the cans need to be without using the word invisible.

Mayor Maher asked how long it will take to make the change to the law.

Kevin responded he will prepare the law, it has to be introduced and a public hearing needs to be set.

Mayor Maher asked if a motion can be made for the garbage law not to be enforced during this re-evaluation of the law.

Kevin responded a moratorium is usually done by local law. He commented it should be handled administratively; the code enforcement officer can not be told not to enforce the code but it can be enforced in a proper manner.

Mayor Maher commented Kevin will work on a new local law with changes to the word invisible and stating the cans can not be located in the front yard.

Trustee Hoffman commented if there is a corner lot there are two front yards.

Manager Revella commented the front of the house is where the front door is.

Trustee Hoffman commented he has a type of property where he can't get it on his side yard.

Trustee Lown agreed and it doesn't solve the issue of the seniors that are unable to bring them from the side or back yard.

Mayor Maher suggested "as close to the home as possible".

Manager Revella commented about the townhomes on Northgate and Ivy Hill.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented some kind of code is needed because there are people in the Village that don't have pride in their ownership, since we know what it looked like before.

Kevin commented if they are going to have to put them in the front, if there is no other place to put them, they could be in some kind of enclosure.

Trustee Penney responded that would require people to build something in front of their house and it could be as unsightly as a garbage can. She keeps her garbage can in front of her garage and that's the only location where it won't blow away.

Mayor Maher commented maybe in the past the issue was enforcement.

Trustee Hoffman speculated that the provisions in the code weren't strong enough at the time and that's why this was added.

Kevin responded this was clearly put there for a purpose because there was a problem and it was addressed when they went to village-wide pick up and the Village is better than it was in those days.

Mayor Maher commented when this law gets changed, the people who have been doing it right will continue to do it right and not get Noticed and there will be a limited number of these violations since people have been used to it for so long and if it becomes an issue there are other sections of the code to address it.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold responded we will see more garbage cans. If we don't have some kind of code the cans will be in the middle of driveways and all over the place.

Trustee Hoffman asked if we use something subjective in nature and the Code Enforcement Officer Notices them, a hearing is scheduled and that's where it gets determined if it's reasonable.

Kevin responded yes they would go to local court either under a property maintenance violation or garbage code violation and given an appearance ticket.

Trustee Hoffman confirmed that the Code Enforcement Officer's word is not final so he doesn't have a problem with giving him that discretion.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented that right now there is no discretion; if it's not invisible he has to cite someone.

Kevin read the garbage code: All containers shall be removed from the curb or street and to a place invisible from the street by 9:00 p.m. on the day of collection.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented she doesn't mind the word inconspicuous.

Trustee Penney added closest to the house.

Trustee Hoffman recommended orderly. There is too great a diversity among the houses in the Village and a one size fits all will not work.

Manager Revella commented there is also an issue with the garbage company permitting process, there is one company that did not submit to the permit process, they were advised and noticed in writing and we've received no response. He has advised the police department since the company is still picking up.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked when this happens do we contact those businesses that the garbage company is picking up for. She was concerned about overflowing dumpsters.

Manager Revella responded he is not privy to that information.

Trustee Hoffman asked to talk about the times of putting out the trash cans, between 5pm and 11pm the day before collection.

Kevin responded that was decided so people wouldn't be putting out their cans 2 days in advance.

Trustee Lown suggested eliminating the 11pm but keeping the portion about trash can't be put out before 5pm the day before collection.

Trustee Bowen agreed to get rid of the 11pm.

Trustee Penney agreed too.

Trustee Leonard agreed.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented she would like the 11pm left in.

Kevin confirmed the time for taking the garbage out, now it needs to be determined when it could be taken in.

Trustee Bowen commented the 9pm is sufficient. As a commuter, he feels it's adequate time.

Trustee Penney asked about those that work an afternoon shift and don't get home until 10:30 at night. She indicated her garbage isn't picked up until 4 or 4:30 and by then she is already at work.

Mayor Maher suggested 9am the following day.

Trustee Leonard agreed since there won't be enforcement until 9am anyway.

All trustees agreed.

Public Comment

Jessica Metzger, 4 Gracewood Court, thanked Ed Leonard for attending the NYCOM conference; she was happy to read there will be \$15 Billion for infrastructure and she feels it is very important and one of the Village's biggest challenges. She thanked the Sunshine Society for their donation for the AEDs, they are very important. She asked about section 5 of the Village Agenda titled Trustee's Committee Reports. She asked Mayor Maher if this section is specifically for the Trustees who are liaisons to the different departments to discuss the action with the committee they represent.

Mayor Maher responded that was the original purpose, but since then it's become more general.

Jessica agreed it has been loose and it should specifically adhere to just the committees that the trustees were assigned and that is where the public comment was taken away. The committee report section was given to the trustees to hear Village business and not the functions or charities that the trustees are involved with; that should be reserved for miscellaneous comments. She confirmed the RFPs were due today; she asked how many RFPs were received and the names of the agencies that submitted. She asked for each one.

Manager Revella answered with the following, from memory.

Attorneys: (3) Kevin Dowd, Blustein, Shapiro, Rich & Barone, Jacobowitz & Gubits

Accounting: (2) O'Connor & Davies; Vanacore & Debenedictus

Planner: (2) Alan Sorenson, Turner Miller Group

Engineer: (several) Fusco, Lanc & Tully, Barlett Judasm, Liam & Goetz,

Police Study: (2) Matrix Solutions and Patterns for Progress

Jessica provided a handout which contained a section of the minutes from July 2009. She commented in 2008 there was a large push for police consolidation. At that time, Mayor Pearson and Trustee Rumbold were in office and a committee was formed. She indicated a formal study was not done. Once Mayor Maher was elected in April 2009, the very first time anywhere in the minutes that police consolidation was brought up was in the July 14, 2009 meeting. It was brought up again at the July 28, 2009 and August 9, 2009 meetings and then it was dropped and never brought up again until the meeting where the RFP was

requested this year. She has reached out to community leaders and the mayor of a local municipality within the Town of Montgomery and they are not going to contribute any funds for this study. She would appreciate the Board's consideration in trying to gather the data that Mayor Maher knows exists since he worked on the Committee after he was elected. She indicated Deputy Mayor Rumbold and Chief of Police were also on the Committee, with Supervisor Hayes and Councilman Dempsey. She commented she knows Chief Amthor is involved since the very next night after Mayor Maher requested the RFP, the Chief of Police for the Town of Montgomery gave a presentation to the Republican Committee on what consolidation would look like. She was surprised by that since she didn't believe the Supervisor was aware that an RFP was being requested from our Village and at the time she asked Mayor Maher what the support was from the other leaders in the community and he responded he had conversations with them and had their support. She commented she is not getting the same answer from the other leaders in the community.

Mayor Maher responded he is not sure why they would say that because he was in touch with them and they are in support of looking into this consolidation; all of them have said that to him to his face.

Jessica provided written correspondence from one of the other leaders in the Town of Montgomery who stated there would be no money to support the study; they would be happy to look at the study after it was done but this leader explicitly said that he had a discussion with the Mayor and told him under no circumstances would his municipality give Walden any money to fund the study. She explained that she doesn't oppose the study, but before the Village spends any money, it is owed to the Village, and it is owed to the people that live here, to gather the data that did not start in 2009 when Mayor Maher came here. There is data from 2008 and she recommended that every Board member should find that data and read that data prior to hiring any firm. She asked that the two firms be researched and respectfully suggested that the Board not hire any firm that has any personal affiliation with anyone on the Board. She commented it needs to be handled ethically.

Trustee Hoffman asked what Jessica meant by a personal relationship.

Jessica responded that if Sean's employer submitted for an RFP, she doesn't feel the Village should be hiring his employer. She indicated if someone has a contract with you or someone who does business with you and you pay them or are a vendor service to you or your business, then we shouldn't be hiring them. She commented that it has to be done properly and given to someone who is independent. She indicated the study needs to be given to someone who has the most knowledge about this kind of thing; the study done by the State in the 70's or 80's should be requested as well. She commented that at 4:15 this afternoon a neighbor handed a letter to her son asking that the letter be read into the minutes. The letter was addressed to the Mayor and the Board. She handed the letter to a trustee thinking the letter would be read at the meeting, but have since found out the letter can not be read.

Kevin responded that after reviewing the letter it can certainly be accepted since it was written by a member of the public and it will be shown as being accepted by the Board, but some of the manners in that letter tend to be towards a personnel issue with one of our Village Employees. It wouldn't be prudent or appropriate to be read aloud; it doesn't mean the matter won't be addressed; in fact it should be addressed. The Village Board will

accept that letter and distribute to everyone, he doesn't feel it should be read aloud at this point in time.

Jessica confirmed that if she didn't hand over the letter and read it aloud herself that would have been okay.

Kevin responded you could not be stopped, but the Mayor could certainly ask you not to read it in its entirety.

Jessica commented she wouldn't say any names but she feels the letter is extremely relevant to one of the discussion items tonight. This resident of the Village really wanted her letter read and for it to be part of the minutes of the meeting.

Kevin responded it is up to the Board to decide what letters become part of the record or are read into the record, that's not the requirement of any law and they can actually tell you to stop reading a letter into the record.

Jessica commented the letter pertains to excessive enforcement relating to garbage. She thanked the Board for spending an hour on the issue, but it's been an issue since she has been coming to meetings. She commented she read two full years of minutes and the taxi issue and the garbage issue were in there repeatedly. She recommended the letter be read by each Board member.

Becky Pearson, 167 Walnut Street, commented there can be discussion of the RFPs in public and asked why we are looking for RFPs. She would like to hear discussion on the purpose of the RFPs. She proposed the date for the Arbor Day Celebration as 5/3 with no rain date because she's coordinating with the school. She commented she read through the Planning Board minutes and NYSEG is giving \$6500 or \$8000 for trees, she asked what is the plan for trees and the tree specifically for Midge.

Manager Revella responded we are looking at putting up a grove for street trees.

Becky commented about the Comp Plan Committee; she asked if the final plan will be available before the meeting.

Manager Revella responded he wants to make sure everyone has about 10 days to review the plan before the next meeting.

Becky commented about the lights on the bridge and the junction boxes being the problem. She indicated there was research done and the State was responsible for that and there was a contract with the State and we are responsible for it. She asked if there is something legally since they fixed it once.

Kevin responded the contract had been completed; they did it once, they are not going to do it again.

Becky commented she heard there is no grant money for the park at Bradley, but there was work done in conjunction with that grant money. She asked if the parking lot will be done anyway.

Manager Revella responded we did some in-house landscaping and he confirmed we were planning on putting the playground there anyway and extending the parking lot on the right all the way to the skate park.

Becky commented there used to be a committee for the Farmer's Market and she has been hearing that it is being changed from Thursday to Friday and being moved from the Square to Wooster's park. She expressed concern about the walkers and asked if there still is a Committee.

Manager Revella responded one of the issues from last year was there were many rain out days, the gym would provide a location for rain days for the Farmers Market.

Becky commented about the parking on the street and suggested parking meters. It would provide revenue and it may alleviate some of the problems that are happening and possibly more cost effective than the parking enforcement officer. She mentioned the garbage issue and the many years of discussion about it and the reason it is the way it is was because of crap everywhere all day and all week long. She commented about her neighbor who has his garbage on the side of his house and it's ugly and it's everywhere and why should she have to look at it. She understands the seniors and the people who don't have access to their yards, but there has to be some type of wording that would work. She does not agree with the wording "side of the yard". She mentioned Main Street and the cans there from apartments above the buildings. She feels the issue deserves more discussion from the Board. She mentioned a concern about outside taxis coming in similar to what Trustee Lown mentioned.

Mary Ellen Matise, 21 Clinton Street, asked if it was possible to put a taxi parking requirement of only two taxis parked on the street in the application permit process. At one time, there were only two taxis which is probably why there were no fees. She commented she feels garbage is still an issue based on the number of notices that were given out. She mentioned that maybe the dumpsters need to be looked at too; they are disgusting and overflowing. She asked about Mr. Esposito and who is paying him.

Mayor Maher responded that was part of the budget; an allocated line for specific purpose of engineering.

Mary Ellen confirmed that he was paid by the Village. She asked about the status of the Sign Law.

Trustee Hoffman responded that Dean is working on a list of non conforming signs, which will be the first step.

Mary Ellen commented the whole issue of internally lit signs goes back to the first clock; it was rejected at that time. Then the other part of the sign law that there have been many objections to is the tag line or logo, which is counter productive. The Village fathers, going back over 100 years ago, didn't want a name on the clock because that would be advertising. She asked if the street sweeper has been fixed.

Manager Revella responded yes, it's been out.

Mary Ellen mentioned Salvatore Guttilla, the saxophonist that has played for Harvest Fest many times, was in a motorcycle accident and died Sunday. She indicated the Women's Club and the Community Council have sent condolences to the family and she suggested the Board send condolences as well. She mentioned she was disappointed there was no candidate night even though there was no opposition. She provided a letter from Lisa Melville dated January 26th.

Trustees Lown, Hoffman and Bowen indicated they have not seen this letter. Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked to see the letter as well.

Mayor Maher indicated he has seen this letter via email.

Mary Ellen asked Kevin to reply to her about the negative declaration. She mentioned whether or not we are asking Hannaford's to do an archeological investigation of the thruway site and the historic significance of the building similar to what was done with the knife factory. The Village can ask the applicant to do the investigation and that is one of Lisa's concerns. Mary Ellen's concern is that she found out by chance there will be a site visit on April 3rd. The demolition code only says the historical society has to be notified, she would like to see either the Board direct the Manager to include the Historian or if you are thinking of changing this law since this will be the 3rd time involving a demolition that the Historian hasn't been contacted. In the meantime she would like it addressed so it doesn't keep happening. Lisa also brings up and Mary Ellen agrees is when a new owner comes in we don't get rec fees from them, but maybe we could get something else seeing the historical significance of what they are replacing, they are taking away the very last thing that ever had to do with the knife industry in Walden and it might be a good time to think about asking for something.

Mayor Maher responded they are in ongoing discussions with the new owner.

Approval of the Minutes – February 28, 2012

Deputy Mayor Rumbold motioned to approve the minutes from February 28, 2012. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Rumbold motioned to pay the audited bills. Seconded by Trustee Lown.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold indicated only the bills with the approved number of signatures.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Deputy Mayor Rumbold indicated she received a letter from Alison Conrad regarding the garbage issue.

Mayor Maher indicated it will be part of the minutes.

Trustee Lown read a thank you note sent to the Leadership Day Awards Committee from William Holmes who received the Ronald I. Jacobowitz Youth of the Year Award.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Lown apologized for the phone call that she received. She thanked everyone for the new billing process, it is much easier and she appreciates everyone's hard work on it.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented she had a business owner Pat on Main Street who used to have a Village garbage can in front of her business that she loved having there, but where is it and will it be back.

Manager Revella responded we are in the process of replacing all the garbage cans on the street; they were dangerous. He didn't know if she would get one back.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold has an issue with the guy that was supposed to power wash the bathrooms; the ladies room is disgusting, the toilet is gross and the dust is thick.

Executive Session – Review of RFPs for Attorney, Accountant, Planner and Engineers, Property Purchase

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to go into executive session to discuss property purchase and review the RFPs for Attorney, Accountant, Planner and Engineer. Trustee Lown seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

Trustee Lown moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

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

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
March 13, 2012
Motions & Resolutions**

Confirmation of dates for the Budget Hearings

Trustee Lown made the motion to confirm the dates of the budget hearings: 3/29, 3/30, 4/3, 4/4 & 4/5, at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Re-organization Meeting

Trustee Lown made the motion to have the re-organization meeting on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 27-11-12 Stop DWI

Trustee Bowen moved to adopt Resolution 27-11-12 – Stop DWI. Seconded by Trustee Lown. 6 ayes, Trustee Hoffman not present. Motion carried.

Resolution 28-11-12 Youth Grant Application

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to adopt Resolution 28-11-12 Youth Grant Application. Seconded by Trustee Lown. 6 ayes, Trustee Hoffman not present. Motion carried.

Easter Sunrise Service – Reverend James Van Houten

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to approve Easter Sunrise Service on April 8, 2012 from 7-7:30am in the Village Square. Seconded by Trustee Penney. 6 ayes, Trustee Hoffman not present. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes – February 28, 2012

Deputy Mayor Rumbold motioned to approve the minutes from February 28, 2012. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Rumbold motioned to pay the audited bills. Seconded by Trustee Lown. All ayes. Motion carried.

Executive Session – Review of RFPs for Attorney, Accountant, Planner and Engineers, Property Purchase

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to go into executive session to discuss property purchase and review the RFPs for Attorney, Accountant, Planner and Engineer. Trustee Lown seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

Trustee Lown moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

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

