

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees
Public Meeting on Fluoride
May 28, 2013**

Mayor Maher called the organizational meeting of the Village of Walden Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm.

On roll call the following were:

Present:	Mayor	Brian Maher
	Deputy Mayor	Sue Rumbold
	Trustees	Edmond Leonard
		Bernard Bowen
		Gerald Mishk
		Sean Hoffman
		Willie Carley

Not Present:

Also Present:	John Revella, Village Manager
	Tara Bliss, Village Clerk

Mayor Maher welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the way the meeting would run. He also explained that in order to remove fluoride from the water the Board only needed to make a motion to do so.

Presentations on Agenda Topic

Orange County Dept of Health Dr. Jean Hudson OC Commissioner of Health with Dr. Kumar. She stated they were here to provide the facts. Fluoride and teeth are well known to keep teeth healthy. Fluoride in the water was done as a study which covered more seniors with their teeth than ever. Due to the increase of fluoride, the state has reduced the recommended level. Recently Middletown has gone on to putting fluoride in the water as does Kyrias Joel. People don't want things added without their say so and it should be a community decision. The community controls the supply. Something simple can make a huge difference. Third thing is living organism being built up and broken down. And they studied fluoride in hope that it would help but it doesn't, it makes bones denser.

Dr. Kumar, OC Dept of Health, NY is one of the first states to implement fluoridation study that was done in Newburgh and Kingston. They have published about 40 different reports on safety and benefits on fluoridation in NYS. He has served on many expert panels, such as the Nation Academy of Research which consists of people who are opposed and promoting. Also a number of studies, recently asked John Dule, who chaired the committee to give his impression of the national research of fluoride in drinking water. It was said that there are no adverse health effects associated with fluoridation at 1 point per million. In the US the upper limit is 4 points per million which is dental fluorosis.

Trustee Carley asked Dr. Kumar to explain what fluorosis is.

Dr. Kumar continued that fluorosis is made of the following enamel defects that are very common. Here in the Town of Newburgh when they added fluoride he measured presence before and after. Before fluoride was 30% and it went down to 14%. The Town did increase the prevalence of fluorosis. Study showed it was a benefit and it is protective of preventing cavities. CDC saves every dollar invested. Most frequently asked question is can you show me the evidence that it works in NYS. His study was published in 2010 made in 2006 consistent savings to the Medicaid program; about 30% plus. If it saves 5% in Medicaid costs the government will embrace it which is a huge savings for the Medicaid program. CDC and the Surgeon General support fluoridation. Almost all major health organizations support fluoridation. Strongly urge you to continue fluoridation.

Lee Burgess, Senior Engineer, 22 years at OC Dept of Health, stated he looks at in terms of engineering as far as equipment and safety to the public. He did the review on the plans here in Walden and made recommendations so that it did comply on the standards for any chemical installation of the drinking system. He reviews the daily reports that are submitted which is a report on fluoride or chlorine products. His job is to ensure that the feed is being done properly and maintained at the proper levels. There are certain thresholds we target and we want to stay in that range. Testing is also done at the state level to validate the accuracy of the testing of these water levels and regular basis monitoring at the local level.

Trustee Carley asked 2010 study how long was it.

Dr. Kumar said it was administrative Medicaid data looking at the variation by county. We found that claims submitted by the dentists for fillings, extractions and root canals etc. in children, had very low claims compared to the counties that were fluoridated. Conducted by several investigators and independent study of 20,000 children and tested 2 interventions in school fluoridation.

Mayor Maher stated that this synthetic is not the same as natural but he has found that it is the same. Can you speak to that question?

Dr. Kumar said as part of the councils report the EPA special report on fluoride chemicals, there are studies that looked at the difference in the absorption rate; is there a difference between chemicals. As far as he knows, there are no differences.

Mayor Maher said there are a lot of speculation for infants and babies in a statement made by the ADA which stirred up the public.

Dr. Kumar replied that the only undesired effect of fluoride is 4 parts per million which is where you start seeing unaesthetic parts of fluoride. You will see white specs on teeth. They found it was protective against cavities and if you compare the benefits versus the risk, it is beneficial.

Mayor Maher asked about the parts per million we would allow in the water, is it possible for thyroid disease or ulcers etc.

Dr. Kumar replied some studies done at high concentrations and other parts of the world, but in the US we don't see any affects. The EPA maximum capacity level is 1 part per million. What if you lower it? The only thing that will happen is that the levels of fluorosis will drop. All the other things we looked at will not change. No other evidence suggest it will

affect kidney disease, Alzheimer's, cancer, nothing will change from bringing down from 4 parts and we are here to talk about 1 part per million

Mayor Maher asked Manager Revella to let everyone know what parts per million would be going in to our water supply and what are we doing naturally in our water.

Manager Revella said we would fluctuate between 0 and .4 parts per million. We would be added to .7

Mayor Maher states .7 parts per million would be put into our water.

Dr. Kumar said that everyone gets fluoride. Tea drinkers get a lot of fluoride. Beer and wine and spinach all contain some amount of fluoride also. Everyone is exposed to it.

Mayor Maher says numbers that he gets is 74% of Americans are exposed to fluoridation. 33K new Americans have been exposed to water fluoridation. It's not deteriorating.

Dr. Kumar said in NY, 12.9 million people are drinking fluoridated water. NYC has been fluoridated since 1954 and we are long time history of the safety of the fluoridation.

Trustee Hoffman understood his expertise in NYS but what about nationally.

Dr. Kumar as far as he knew all cities except Portland and some of the other cities

Trustee Hoffman confirmed that it's not a regional thing. See it on both coasts, down south, everywhere.

Dr. Kumar answered yes.

Trustee Carley asked him who paid for that study and was it an independent study.

Dr. Kumar said specifically contracted with RAND so that it would be independent. It was published in the American Journal of Health. The best studies that he can think of that were independent and normally it is reviewed but in that specific one, they contracted with the company and they reviewed this study and published the review in the 1986 American Journal.

Trustee Carley questioned which parts of government don't support.

Dr. Kumar said he can't think of anyone.

Trustee Carley said we know the medical side supports it.

Lee said that in West Point, both water systems are fluoridated and on a federal level they support as well.

Trustee Carley said independent study should be reviewed from independent committee. Have any one depend on an independent study as a bench mark to decide if we are doing it or not.

Dr. Kumar said the Guide to community preventative studies task force, national committee. Their recommendation is strong evidence for water fluoridation. Independent set up by congress to discuss all public health programs. 2000 and was updated in 2013.

Trustee Mishk asked if the supplies of the fluoride certified

Lee said that all the chemicals have to be NSF160 Nation Sanitation Foundation Company; which is an independent company. They would have to supply a certificate or noted in the directories of the listed.

Trustee Carley asked about tea drinkers, beer, wine drinkers, have increased fluoride because of what they consume. Now in conjunction with the fluoride in the water are we now over fluoridating.

Dr. Kumar said 1st chapter in the national council research addresses this. In general people get anywhere from 1 to 3 milligrams from all different sources. 1 liter generally is the limit. Even when you double that it does not change anything.

Trustee Leonard asked if all fluoride is absorbed or passed through.

Dr. Kumar said that most goes into our bone and the rest is excreted.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked when he did the study with Medicaid claims were any other considerations made such as better oral hygiene by the patient or was it just monetary and looked at the claims that were submitted and paid.

Dr. Kumar said there were 4 variables in the study: number of dentists in the county that accept Medicaid patients and the percent of the population that was white, and education. We adjusted for 4 different variables. Only 3 types of claims: fillings, root canals, etc., and what we saw was an effect of cavity related procedures.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked how about sealants?

Dr. Kumar said in children under the age of 6 where it is very low we saw a correlation between the extent of fluoridation and dental clearance.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold said the number of pulpotomies.

Dr. Kumar replied that those are all under root canals.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold said just for the public because they may not understand the difference between a pulpotomy and a root canal. EPA ordered that pesticide companies have to stop using fluoride because of the evidence of the fluorosis. Pesticide companies are fighting those decisions made by the EPA.

Dr. Kumar asked to see the citation. EPA commissioned that report was about total intake and its association and the constitution of pesticides and the fluoridation. There are different sources.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked why he thought they should be removed from the pesticides.

Dr. Kumar said you have to ask the EPA.

Trustee Carley stated the US EPA proposes 2011 January banning a pesticide used on coco beans and dry roots out of concern for children's health.

Dr. Kumar said it's about 4 parts per million. They are looking at the maximum contaminant level just like any other. We suggested to lower to 4 parts per million to a lower recommendation. It's been there for a long time it was involuntary up until now. We give a recommendation. Not to use it for children. Below 2 parts per million the prevalence is almost zero. He wrote the chapter on dental fluorosis so he's very familiar with that.

Mayor Maher said there were some other discussions about obtaining fluoride that does not come from our country. It would be our choice to add to the water.

Lee said as long as it meets the standards and is properly labeled. It has to be certified down to the carrier.

Trustee Hoffman said that we do our chemical bid specs is that NSF standard in the spec.

Manager Revella stated that the last time we purchased it; it was to the specs from the Dept of Health.

Trustee Carley said someone who argues with your point of view. What do they say and is it true or not? Myths that may be out there

Dr. Hudson replied people concerned about control. It's a community water system. If it was state or federal it would be a non-issue right now. It would already be in the water. Dentists are very pro this and you would think they would not be to get more money from the dental needs.

Dr. Kumar said the reason he does the study is because he wants to know the answers and he wants to find the answer to the real questions the previous studies compared to what has been done. The analysis has to be done at the tooth level. He did that analysis and published the study. The question in 2006 was do we need it when all the other sources are available. It was a good question which is why we did the study. If they wanted it done now they would not fund it because it's a proven benefit. So he had to find a different way to do a study so that the data showed it was a good correlation. Sealants could have made a difference but they excluded sealants so that the info was still conclusive. Per child cost saving was \$24. In second estimate, we didn't include cost of transportation, x-rays, assumed that they were delivering a simple one service.

Trustee Carley asked that based off what he was saying, was there any type of other correlation that with any other health problems or issues that came out of that study that was noted.

Dr. Kumar said no, just dental claims. In NY, we have looked at mortality, morbidity, all kinds of disorders. Had 40 different publications looking

Dr. Hudson stated that it's important to save on Medicaid. Each claim represents a child in pain, out of school etc. Population base, we don't look at 300 children, we look at 30,000

Trustee Hoffman asked that all started in 2010 because of the cost of placing cost. Anything we can do to save on the wear on the pumps and better practices there.

Lee said that he couldn't say about better practices as he is not here. When it's hooked up and installed, as it's intended to be, a natural wear on the equipment, depends on the equipment that was purchased as far as life expectancy. As far as feeding the chemical, the product, the injection into the system and storage of the chemicals is the same. Equipment that is required for the operator's safety is in place at this point

Trustee Carley asked if it is corrosive

Lee replied yes, which is why operator safety is important. We require it and is recommended standards that we use it, including ventilation and other products that we might use for PH adjustment. Work with many municipalities throughout the counties, across the state. Operators are certified and trained with the chemicals. Tested against those chemicals, take rectification credits every 3 years. Should be getting a diverse education to back that up

Trustee Carley asked so the public knows, how is it transported, is it liquid or dry. When we mix it with the water how concentrated is it. We went and looked at it but the public might not know.

Lee responded that he can't speak on a particular product that we are using, does come as a liquid in a drum, does come in a powder and solid form. Liquid is most popular

Trustee Bowen questioned that the staff is all certified.

Manager Revella confirmed yes all 3 in the water department personnel. We used the liquid and likely to use liquid again.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if it's a toxin. Is the product that comes treated as a toxic?

Lee stated that if used properly, not treated as toxic.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if the chemical in its package is it treated like a toxic.

Lee said yes at the concentration.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold questioned that it's treated as toxic until put into the water supply because of the dilution.

Lee said correct. Hazardous material until it's entered in the water.

Mayor Maher asked if there was any difference between fluoride and any other chemical such as chlorine that would suggest toxic.

Lee Chlorine would be considered the same. They feed it into the system at .2 per million similar feed rates.

Trustee Hoffman asked if orthophosphate considered the same

Lee answered orthophosphate is as nasty as they come. If handled properly it does a great job. It's intended for corrosion control.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if there were different levels of toxins

Dr. Hudson said 3 chemicals is more dangerous in their packaged form is not that way.

Trustee Leonard said that in previous discussions, it was recommended to replace the equipment every year. Do you agree?

Lee said no, not necessary if properly handled and maintained. Tubing may need to be replaced on a regular basis depending on the scale, but the pump itself, no.

Manager Revella said as an example the time they were fluoridating, they were replacing the fluoridation pumps twice per year. We would use a different type of pump when it comes back

Trustee Hoffman asked for total cost for replacement and chemicals

Manager Revella replied \$16,000 per year.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold questioned that if the dilution of toxins was to control dilution? What if we dumped a container in the river, would it be considered a toxin if it's diluted with river water.

Manager Revella said that there is a certain volume amount that once you pass that threshold it is considered a hazardous spill.

Public Comment

Jessica Metzger, 4 Gracewood Court, asked when the last time it was tested was.

Manager Revella said it's tested daily. Level fluctuates between 0-.4 and is recommended to be at .7

Pam DiMartino, 57 Plains Road, said she would agree to disagree. Grew up in a village where we fluoridated the water. Familiar with Dr. Scobie, he was the one who introduced it in Newburgh. Her mouth has tons of cavities, has had fluoride water since she was able to drink. Had good dental care and brushed teeth every night, cleaning every 6 months. Don't understand with so many products on the market that you can do this yourself. With the environment the way that it is, we are breathing in so much stuff that we can't control. When there is something like this that you can control, why would we do this? We don't need it. Children can go to the dentist and have fluoride treatments. And when they do go, they are told not to swallow when they get fluoride treatments. Also doesn't agree that it's good for cardiac conditions.

Gerry Berger said to keep in line with what was just said he never thought about because he always considered it was safe. Nothing should be added to our public water system, other than the chemicals that are needed to keep it safe for drinking. To him, it's a no brainer; we shouldn't be putting stuff in the water. There should be some water act that prevents this from happening from future Board having it introduced. Fluoride has nothing to do with keeping it clean and safe.

Mayor Maher stated that they reintroduced. Wanted to clarify it has always been done this way.

Gerry said yes he knows that but then it was taken out and it shouldn't be reintroduced to the water supply. What does it have to do with keeping the water safe for drinking. That should be only interest. Fluoride or not nothing should be added.

Dr. Tim Hale, 27 years practicing at Masci and Hale Dental here in Walden. One part per million is safe and economical and protective. Literature supports a 20-40% reduction in decay. Don't take his word for it but these findings are supported by the American Dental Association American medical association and dozens of others. States that fluoride in water does not cause cancer and does not reduce the I.Q. of children or thyroid or kidney disease that is incorrectly reported on the internet. Reliable websites regarding fluoridation can such as ADA.org, I like my teeth.org. NYS campaigns at the upper task bar. Only know adverse effect is dental fluorosis, which are tiny white spots on teeth. At one part per million, more resistance to decay and less than 3% of these cases if 4 parts per million or higher. Usual cause is not as a result below the age of 8 is because they swallow tooth paste not the water. Unsupervised brushing. Fluoride toothpaste is 1000 more concentrated than in municipal water. That's why they are thinking of changing to 1 part per million to .7 parts per million. If people in the water district are denied the advantages of fluoridated water, there would be consequences. Fluoride would need to be supplemented for children aged between 3-15yrs. This method is less effective than water fluoridation and only covers part of the population. Dental Medicaid costs per patient is \$23.65 higher. Knows there are 2 sides to every issue but the facts are the facts. We hope this clarifies. We took oaths to protect our community. We wouldn't steer you wrong.

Meg Atwood, Slate Hill, OCCC taught for 30 years in the department of dental hygiene. In mandated curriculum, she teaches at least 10 academic hours on fluoridation. Passionate about it and how effective it is. Worked for 20 year to secure water fluoridation in Middletown and now it is fluoridated. Proud to say that. Questions concerns have been raised and answered well. One concern was if it's so safe, why is there a warning and told not to swallow during fluoride treatment. It's really a dosage issue; fluoride toothpaste is 1000 times more. Children should only use pea size when brushing under the age of 6. Treatments are 9000 or 10000 parts per million. Understand that if a child gets a fluoride treatment, they get it once or twice per year in a more concentrated point at that time. If they drink water they get a mini treatment every time they drink or brush teeth or eat food. Results in a dramatic decrease in dental decay. Demographics of Walden today is a poor community 45K per year and 64% makes less than 60K per year. People who say that it's my right not to have fluoride in drinking water is one issue, but consider you are denying the right to good dental health to a large part of the population if you deny this. They cannot pay for dental treatment because it's more costly. Urges to think about to advocate for youth program and the poor in the community which is one of the best public health decisions you can make.

Dr. Peter Masci, Masci & Hale, stated he was speaking on behalf of Dr. Bill Hermmann and Dr. Mitchell, Dr. Hale, the late Dr. Kimble, and himself. Collectively 150 years of clinical experience in this Village. In 1953 instrumental of putting fluoride in the water, this has been there ever since, until recently. Water fluoridation has been in place in our country for over 66 years. And over 3000 articles and studies have clearly documented the benefits of water fluoridation. Benefits that serve over 2 million people. Skipping back a couple generations, 4 out of 10 Americans over the age 65 have no teeth. Suffer from ill-fitting dentures and we see malnutrition and breakdown in the elder years. Those that do have teeth are suffering from severe dry mouth from many medications. A senior a few weeks ago, 5-6 fillings needed. Fluoride rinse twice daily for all their seniors. The difference between topical and water fluoridation. Baby boomers are plagued with fillings, crowns, root canals. And then there's the Generation x that have seen a major reduction in tooth decay. Have no decay but they are not genetically superior and do not brush better but do eat more sugar than he ever did. It's because of fluoridation. Think of families after families whose children have no decay. One room will see a senior who has no teeth and then next room, a person in their 20's who has a perfect set of teeth with no decay. Amazing to see that today. As elected officials, they are there to ensure the health, safety and welfare of our community. Public health officials to guide you. ADA, AAP, NYS Health Dept and OC health dept. 3 years ago fluoride was not added because of a resolution and faulty. Dr. Baker, practicing pediatrician for 34 years. His practice has had over more patients, including his own children, on fluoride supplements with very impressive results. Suggested to visit the American Dental Association website read the facts. They assumed that Walden's water had the long standing fluoridation and we are sad to hear they have suspended the addition of fluoridation and hope to see a restart ASAP. When talking about fluorosis, 1 part per million is like 1 drop in an Olympic swimming pool. Or it's like taking one step in 20 miles. If we were to walk from here to Galleria assuming is 20 miles, one step is the equivalent. Teeth become resistant. That's the difference. Children under the age of 8 have poor swallowing and if unsupervised are ingesting too much because of the toothpaste being 1000 times stronger. Stated they will see more spots from braces than from fluorosis, in their practice

Nanette DeGroat, 80 North Montgomery Street, math teacher. Thanks for coming. Feels this is something really important. Didn't think was a big deal couple years ago. Such a big issue about it so she looked into it and did her own research. Here to try and find a common ground here. Few things to agree on. Fluoride is the most negatively charged element in the world. Most interactive element because it is constantly searching for the highest positively charged molecule in its vicinity. Known to disrupt molecular lines to constantly create stronger ones. Chemical storage company sells containers that transport corrosive decomposes in heat. Giving off toxic fluoride compounds. Uses terrific element has so many great usages. Inhibits their uptake of serotonin. Cause of most psychotropic drugs like Prozac and Zoloft. Used in petroleum. Ceramics more porous, etched glass, cryolige vikane, polish aluminum. Used in pesticides, it goes in and effectively destroys enzymes. Pharmaceutical companies know that it inhibits the production of melatonin, serotonin, insulin, thyroxin and slows calcium metabolism. These are facts about fluoride. Not going to argue about whether or not it does or doesn't help the thyroid. Fluoride compounds transport substances beyond natural safety barriers. Compounds attract iodine. Nature of fluoride itself is very disruptive to many things. Second area is the idea of managing our intake. Fluoride is a corrosive poison which is monitored by the EPA. On the basis done on more recent fluoride exposures studies as outlined in the second EPA
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report. Have access to fluoride sources than they did when water fluoridation was first introduced. Managing fluoride intake, other sources, toothpaste, mouth rinse, dental veneers, sealants processed foods, baby cereals, wine, beer, mechanically separated chicken, canned fish. In one can of soda, you can get anywhere between .0 to 1.28. Juices and teas are higher, all over vegetables, lettuce, potatoes, raisins, cabbage, tomatoes, tomato paste. It's in concentrated form at that point because they are the most sprayed grapes. Machinery is meant to bring it up to .7 levels. What if you do have the other sources of intake? What if you do have small child compared to a larger child? Whether you are anti or for it, it does have to be monitored. You have to be sure you aren't getting too much of it. Could individuals go over the safe limit depending on their diet lifestyle, and other health issues? According to OC health department it's a two prong effort between education and world location. State and county health department websites, didn't see anything that will help us manager fluoride intake. There is nothing there to write out to parents or people with diabetes etc. American kidney foundation, no longer supports fluoridation. How come it's not on our website teaching us to get from other places. 2% milk has the same as the water. We all agree that anything added to our water must be both safe and effective. Pro or anti you want to know its going to help. Don't you want proof? Of course you do. There are all kinds of different fluorides. Hundreds of companies have this; they are taking their byproduct and putting in to the water. Out of FL and they don't have the same rules and regulations. We should know the country of origins. We all agree that the standards and compliance laws that NY State has in place must be adhered to. The manufacturer must be held accountable in supplying proper documentation showing compliance. Here's the thing agreeing or disagreeing the ownace should not be put on any of you. Put back on the manufacturer. Make sure we are getting the right compliance and certificates. There's a difference between being certified and meeting standards. You can have all the certifications you want but you have to meet the standards. It is our right to ask for it to meet the standards. Full disclosure or content, all impurities in their product and country of origin should be disclosed to us. Do you want to know where it's coming from; of course you do. It's important for due diligence to put this into place. NYS is part of the 10 state standard/NSF standard 60 is part of it. Have to have a proposed maximum use level of project composition of the formulation, reaction mixture used to manufacture the chemical.

(Nanette showed power point presentation)

Nanette continued that all studies that have been done and used have been mostly epidemiological studies. What's the difference between an epidemiological and a toxicology study: Epidemiological study looks at it as a whole and looks at trend; toxicology studies are done on rats to see the cause and effect on them when they get a dosage. Idea of using was never part of any tests that were done in the 40s 50s or 60s, which is what we are putting into the water. If it's ok the manufacturer will have the toxicological study to prove that. Any portion of the product will need the country of origin to be sure its safe for lifetime consumption for infant's children the elderly and others. There should be a declaration from the manufacturer of safe and effective. Which she feels has to be in place to ensure the product conforms to AWWA standard B703. They used to tell women it was ok to smoke during pregnancy. Let's be proactive. This is upsetting for parents; we want to know that we have a safety net. As parents, we know they aren't doing it the right way and not with toothpaste. If fluoride is going to help with tooth decay, she wants it in there but if we are going to have to wait to see if we can find a manufacturer that goes along with this criteria, how can we be proactive to get that. What can we do? Dental hygienist, what

about xylitol? What about chewing gum every day after they eat? What if we were the first to do that? Is there another additive? What happens when the next board comes along? Dec 2009 NY Times, NYC water board, to add lithium to the water because too many people are depressed and don't take their meds. So why not add it to the water? It will help everyone. Is that ok? No. So Boston doctor's report wanted to add statins to the water for high cholesterol control because too many have high cholesterol. FDA said to do it right away. People without high cholesterol should never be exposed to that. What if whoever comes in and says safe water act? What about that? Needs to pass criteria and needs to meet NYS standards. ADA website, 2010 dosage schedule, fluoride supplement for birth to 6 months should be none. And 6 months to 3 years should be less than .3. Kids get a lot because they are little. Not just through the water but also the vegetables that are coming home. Try to find manufacturer that meets the NYS standards. It's the board's job to make sure they meet the standards. Doesn't remove the ownership from everyone.

Oscar Alleyne, 12 Windrift Lane, wanted to add a few things for clarification. There is a difference between fluorine and fluoride. Scientific research and trends we look at environmental health. We looked at risk assessment. Essentially develop mechanism to see what community members are getting exposed to. We must realize that the federal and state government needs MSDS for each chemical used anywhere; toner or hydrochloric water treatment plant; occupational exposures at a work setting vs. those at a day to day life. Point is we cannot look at fair as the main source of making safe sound decision making. A decision based on evidence and practicality. He is an Epidemiologist in Rockland. We have individuals who spent an amount of time in clinical or professional practice with the best available evidence to assist you in making a sound decision. Oral health is a main issue we have seen the course of years because of poor dental hygiene. Any water supply that may be against fluoride as well as other chemicals that are toxic if touched in a manner. Make sure that the info is accurate in the ability for each of us to make sound public health decisions.

Cindy Westinheimer, 7 Highland Ave, concerned about what role the board is playing. A doctor in our lives, what they think would be best for their health. Where does that end? What if they want to add another chemical into the water? Do you add a different drug or chemical down the road? Should the village residents have a say in this? Should this be brought out for a vote? It's an important issues whether for or against.

Mayor Maher said they actually looked into this and it's not in the current law. We could change that but we would have to talk to our attorney. Not open for referendum. Election process put us in charge which includes public health to get the best information to make decisions. We don't play doctors; we do the best we can do to work diligently. None of them have agendas, they're here to serve.

Hannah Westinheimer, 7 Highland Ave, stated after a blood analysis did have mild reaction to fluoride. You put fluoride into the system; she will be poisoning herself, bathing, washing, and eating. She is not happy about this. Not sure what she's going to do but it won't improve her health.

Manager Revella commented that tooth decay or cavities can be interchanged. And Dr. Baker asked him a few years ago and he's going to see him but maybe he forgot he talked to him.

Final Comment from Board Members

Trustee Mishk said after he came to the board a few months ago, he wasn't aware of issue and that we had stopped adding it to the water. When comments made, he suggested this meeting and as a result through several emails, did his own research and it's a tough decision because he heard both sides. Most internet research, not a lot of faith in that, said check against cons for gave an opposite opinion. He had fluoride his whole life. Dr. Baker was children's physician and grandchildren's physician. Everything he has looked into suggests that fluoride in general is a good thing. It's kind of crazy but not sure where boards opinion is going to be but did learn a lot on the experience on benefits and not benefits. Ask ourselves is that we have to have the right chemicals and the right sources to move forward.

Trustee Carley said thanks to the health professionals, we appreciate your time to come help our Village make a decision. Thanked the public as well, because we do try hard as a board to include the public opinion. The decisions are not made in a vacuum. Outside professionals from the Village time in the resources and studies dedicating time. He thanked Nanette for bringing up the topic and desire to see safe water. Part of her conversation is she is right and we would know what does go into the water and what doesn't. Also appreciate the county and state and engineer, still here from a different prospective. Need to understand the effects from all angles in our water and how it's going to deal with the workers, the public, everyone. Believe that we have to do our best for the public in general, we have to make due diligence, public is placed first before our own thoughts. We debate and deliberate and think about and come back again just to make sure. We did not do this in a vacuum this has been going on for a couple of months. Appreciates everything that happened tonight; real good information. Feels that government's role in taking care of our citizens but also supports everyone's 1st amendment rights. What about the adverse stuff? Address those. Need to hear both sides to make a sound decision. Due diligence has been done by doing this and specifically we are going in the right direction deliberating this and am positive about continuing with this

Trustee Hoffman said it was a good discussion; it was passionate and very respectful. Its science is evolving, it's important to circle back. Some that hit home were Dr. Masci's obligation to public health and welfare. Good decisions based on the information provided.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold said that they had this discussion before and she was the lone voice against putting fluoride in water. Do not have dental license but have worked in the industry for 34 years. Fluoride administered in her office and have no problem with topical when done with dentist or dental hygienist. Adding to our water supply and forcing citizens that they pay for. They not only have to drink it but have to pay for it. As government says we are the custodians of public health. Law gives us the right to do just that. We did send a letter to the manufacturer. We asked simple question. If we use their product, is it safe. They refused to answer us. If she wanted to sell a product, would want to send a letter and sing its praises and go on record as saying it was fabulous. But they didn't give them the courtesy of an answer. We talked about Medicaid savings. What about the fertilizer industry that they get because they are able to sell their toxins to municipalities. Let's follow the money. Fluoride industry makes a lot of money for a lot of people. ADA does get money from manufacturers for endorsing their products. Everyone is on the fluoride bandwagon. Fluoride was never meant to be ingested, only used topically. Fluoride was first started by a gentleman who was an aluminum manufacturer who sold us their toxic waste. Government always tells us the truth. How many times have you turned on your TV

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and saw a law firm advertising a lawsuit about a drug that was approved by the FDA. Drug companies, pay the FDA and do their own research and then do testing and decide if it's safe. Hear the fine print. Test and do as rigorously as the FDA says they have now we have issues with those drugs. EPA increased the dilution of the fluoride into the water. Coffee and you add milk, are you only diluting the coffee or the milk as well? Common sense says both. Toxins are also diluting the fluoride. Claim says amount of time you have a drink you are providing miracles to your teeth, it is ridiculous. Are studies that say, fluoride is not good to be added to water. Group of EPA scientists said to get it out of water who have been ignored. Dentists and physicians who agree not all have one common stance. In her opinion, EPA knows exactly what is in our water and is using dilution to solve a sticky situation. When it's applied topically, it is wonderful but if they ever had to admit that adding to water is a farce and health hazard there would be uproar. In her opinion the EPA says dilute it more and lower the level which was very high for many years. We have natural fluoride in our water. We have .3 not adding that much. Is it worth jeopardizing the health of the people in our village by adding .4 more to that. Such a thing in law called reasonable doubt. You cannot convict someone if you're on a jury if you have reasonable doubt. I have reasonable doubt that adding fluoride to the water supply is the miracle everyone says it is. Especially since the EPA changes what they initially said. It says there are issues and they know it. Question and with all due respect, have never worked for a dentist who would do anything to hurt their patients or communities they work with. They see these things and want to think it does what it says it will. Still of the same mind not adding to our water to get a measly .3% take a chance with everything else in the cocktail. Willing to take the chance that the rest is harmful and put back into the water. People are getting more than enough fluoride because they are getting it from other sources. USDA foods and beverages contain fluoride, not only our water has it. Times have changed and our ideas need to change with them.

Trustee Bowen expressed his thanks to everyone. Believes in the fluoride, grew up with it. Very much educated on this information. Not a problem putting it in especially with the experts that came in and spoke to the benefits of the topic.

Trustee Leonard Thanked everyone. Quality of the project and most chemicals do come with analysis. Agency in Wisconsin monitors the quality of the product. We would be looking at these things in the future to make sure we are using a high quality. Newburgh test guinea pig and go by the science and he is in favor of adding it and monitoring it vigorously.

Mayor Maher said there have been expert reports and excellent questions. Don't have to agree. Important to have members that question each other and still respect each other afterwards. Points parts per million is a big key. All of its negatives same could be said for materials that could be introduced chlorine. Is it worth to jeopardize the community health; no absolutely not. In his opinion with the research, that is not the case. Not risking Village of Walden residents but promoting good oral hygiene. Is there reasonable doubt that it would be detrimental; no, none there. Questions integrity and decisions which is tough but not always a fact. Private industry found out who to dispose and make \$ for it? It's a great thing as long as it's in the interest of public health. Shouldn't begrudge others for making money and the notion that the EPA knows and doesn't want to admit it and it will filter down to our local dentists etc. is blatantly disrespectful in his opinion. They said they're there because they care, they're passionate for it. He did his own research and is relying on people who helped raise him. We have a common ground; amazing residents who

care and are passionate. While we might disagree, we can respectfully do so. And today was a great example of what Walden is all about. At this point a motion may or may not be made. If none made fluoride will continue.

Manager Revella said they have some paperwork to do but ready.

Mayor Maher asked if these approvals are in line with state standards.

Manager Revella said it's the fluoride they have been using since he came to office is still here, but he can't speak to what we had before.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to stop putting fluoride in our Village water system. Trustee Hoffman seconded.

Trustee Carley clarified that there's a big difference between 3% and .3 parts per million. So if 20 miles and one step, that's one part per million. 3% is a major difference, maybe 6 steps. That's the difference. Even when we deal with law and making decisions she brought up reasonable doubt. There is a preponderance of evidence that fluoride does work and we should keep it in the water. He just wanted to clarify that for the public benefit.

Roll Call:

Trustee Mishk – No

Trustee Carley - No

Trustee Hoffman - No

Deputy Mayor Rumbold - Yes

Trustee Bowen - No

Trustee Leonard - No

Mayor Maher - No

Motion failed

Manager Revella stated for the benefit of the public that he and his children all drink this water so he will ensure that it's the most safe and best fluoride possible.

Motion to Adjourn

Deputy Mayor Rumbold motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes.

Meeting adjourned.