

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
July 1, 2014**

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
	Trustees	Bernard Bowen
		Willie Carley
		Edmond Leonard
		Gerald Mishk

Absent:	Deputy Mayor	Sue Rumbold
		Sean Hoffman

Also Present:	John Revella, Village Manager
	Tara Bliss, Village Clerk
	Dave Donovan, Village Attorney

Presentation – Donna Quick Dispatch Area

Judge Raynard Ozman, Village Justice, made a presentation to Donna Quick. Donna is someone who served our community for over 30 years. She served as our first Dispatcher and that is what she is being honored for today. The plaque will be displayed in our Dispatcher Area in the Police Department in her honor. She served from 1969-1996 as a Full Time Dispatcher. She provided over 30 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Village of Walden and the Police Department, not only as a dispatcher but also as a part time meter reader and a crossing guard, so she was a triple hatter. Donna served during the era of “Car 54 Where are you?” and she kept track of all our cars in the Village. Even though this plaque was issues back in 1996 we didn’t forget about you, it just took us a while to make a formal presentation.

Mayor Maher thanked Donna for her service to the Village of Walden.

Hearing – 71 Wait Street

Jay Buchalski, Code Enforcement Officer, reported that on March 21st John Imhoff, owner, had 3 unlicensed vehicles on the property. He issued an advisory letter and within a few days the owner called and asked for an extension to move one by April 14th. On April 10th one was removed and he was granted a time extension to May 1st to remove the second vehicle. The 2nd car was removed and he asked for a 2 week extension on May 2nd, as of June 3rd he said he would deal with the Village Board. He was served a notice and returned mail receipt was received back to him on June 10th. The vehicles are still there at this time.

Trustee Mishk recused himself from the discussion involving this hearing.

John Imhoff, 71 Wait Street, explained that one vehicle is over 50 years old it is a 1962 Volvo which is basically a lawn ornament and will never run again. The other one runs but is not on the road. He likes keeping it there so he has an extra car if anything happens to the car he is driving. He has two lots there and Jay said he would have to move the car to the other lot which would require him to tow the car 50 feet and tear up the driveway which he doesn't want to do. It's a lot easier to just leave the car there as you can imagine. His other address is 63 Wait Street. One car would pass inspection the other would not.

Mayor Maher asked if he got it inspected could he leave the 62 in the back yard.

Manager Revella stated it has to be registered and can only have one abandoned vehicle or put it on the other lot.

John stated he would like to avoid having to move it 50 feet.

Attorney Donovan confirmed the code for the record, code 284-3. So it therefore must be registered.

John stated he was trying to see if he could go around it. Just having a car sitting on a lot will look ridiculous.

Mayor Maher explained that he can't have 2 cars there, it would need to be moved or registered. If we give you this exemption it sets a precedent for others even though yours doesn't look terrible. We would not have any authority to hold weight on others if we allow you to do it.

Attorney Donovan clarified that he can't have the 1962 Volvo at all as it must be capable of passing NYS inspection which he is stating it doesn't even run so that is unlikely.

Jay confirmed.

Mayor Maher stated that the Board can't have you let it sit there. What time frame would be sufficient to move it?

John said he would have to sell it and asked for a 1 month time period.

Trustee Carley made a motion to give John Imhoff until August 12, 2014 at 5pm to move the 1962 Volvo from the property located at 71 Wait Street or it will be on the agenda that evening for action. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (Trustee Mishk). Motion carried.

Village Manager's Report

- Had a meeting with OC DPW regarding S. Montgomery Street and the suggestions from the Board. They are willing to move the center line and stop bar but not willing to change the direction. If we wanted to do that we would need to take ownership of the road all the way to Montgomery. He declined.
- Went over to the Range with some officers who just had their qualifications this past weekend and went well.

- Conducted interviews with another Part time Police Officer candidate and the timeline that he could start. The other two new officers' first shifts are tonight.
- Met with PBA President and the Chief which went good. Talked about some personnel issues, discussed the new hires, and discussed the new sergeant position and the potentially new officer position opening up.
- Talked to the Wallkill Valley Times about the Grant application for Bradley Park amphitheater. Was a good story.
- Had some inspections from Department of Health for Summer Camp which was 100%.
- Met with Village Attorney and the Mayor on the Landlord Registry Law.
- Youth employment program job fair went very well.
- Had a good meeting on Highland Avenue with residents about sidewalks and curbs over there with Trustee Mishk and Village Engineer. Good feedback. Made some changes and are moving forward. Everyone seemed pleased.
- Conducted interviews for Police Sergeant with the Chief. Had 4 candidates. Investigator Werner was appointed today. This will open up a new Full Time Police Officer position which we will be canvassing for soon of the residency list.
- We were contacted by an NBC filming crew about doing some filming in the Village. The filming took place last week at Village Hall and they used St. Andrew's Church as well. It's a crime show on Discovery ID channel called "I'd Kill For You" about a crime that took place in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Filming took 2 days.
- Attended the Moving Up Ceremony for Walden Elementary School where we presented with the Historian the award and photo of the History Club that she presented at the last meeting.
- Had good meeting with the Investigator and the Chief about some warrants that were executed. We had a few more drug arrests in continued efforts to take care of that issue in our Village.
- Went over some information with the Attorney regarding casino proposals and we had a special meeting regarding the host community agreement. All 3 Villages signed on to the agreement which guarantees \$1 million per year for each Village. Story should be in paper tomorrow.

Trustee Bowen asked if the investigator position was now vacated.

Manager Revella replied that it was an internal position only not through civil service. We can only hire off the list in Orange County for the Sergeant and Full Time Police Officer positions. Part time applicants can apply to the Village Clerk.

Trustee Leonard asked about the Antidote for drug overdoses and that we've already had use of it and only 3 officers are trained. Why will it take until the end of August to train?

Manager Revella stated that's when the next training is, the needle injection is different than a nasal spray.

Approval of the June 27, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes

Trustee Bowen made a motion to approve the June 27, 2014 Special Meeting minutes. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. All ayes. Minutes approved.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Town of Montgomery & Library Board liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard stated he had nothing to report.

Village Clerk & Village Treasurer Liaison – Trustee Bowen

Trustee Bowen reported we have collected \$5.2 million which is 90% of our taxes as of June 30th. Remote deposits have been happening and working well. Migration of the accounts from Key bank to Sterling National should be done next week.

Police Department Liaison – Deputy Mayor Rumbold

Deputy Mayor Rumbold was absent.

Planning and Zoning Boards as well as the Building Department Liaison – Trustee Hoffman

Trustee Hoffman was absent.

Recreation & Parks Department, Emergency Services, and Valley Central School Board Liaison – Trustee Carley

Trustee Carley stated that Flag Football has been going good. Camp is great and we send kudos to our lifeguards with regard to the incident at Olley Park on 6/18 was taken care of and all inspections have been good. SYLA program is now accepting applications. The pavilion is completed at Olley Park. Next Movie night is August 2, 2014, the Lego Movie. New playground is done and perfect. Farmer's market started on the 19th. He hasn't been to a school board meeting in a while.

Village Justice and DPW Liaison - Trustee Mishk

Trustee Mishk stated he had nothing to report.

Mayor Maher Read the community events into the minutes.

Public Comment on Business of the Board

Mayor Maher explained that the Landlord Registry Law action item on the agenda tonight is so we can set the date of July 31, 2014 for the next town hall meeting. Updated law will be shown to landlords later this month.

No public comment.

Action Items

Village Manager Contract

Mayor Maher explained that the Board has reviewed the contract in executive session last meeting. The contract contains a change in the compensation and extends it for 2 years. His starting salary was based on no experience which was 5 years ago. Now 5 years later he does have experience and they did a study on some neighboring municipalities and their salaries. Pelham Manor for example has a lower population and pays over \$209,000. Compensation for us is \$93,000 and we believe it is worth it and that they made a great decision. Details of the contract can be FOIled.

Trustee Bowen added that the salaries were from Westchester and Rockland County and our Village is not comparable.

Trustee Bowen made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Village Manager's Contract. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Thruway Plaza Request – Return of Letter of Credit

Manager Revella explained there is a memo from Dean explaining the situation. Planning Board voted to approve this bond reduction as presented tonight which also includes a letter from Lanc and Tully indicating the same recommendation.

Trustee Carley made a motion to approve the request from Southern Realty and Development, LLC to reduce the Bond for site improvements that have been completed at the Thruway Plaza Site from \$267,742.00 to \$26,774.00 or a total reduction of \$240,968.00. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Local Law #4 of 2014 – No Parking on South Montgomery Street

Mayor Maher explained that John updated us in his report about what the county replied to us, that they are not interested in helping us turn it into a one way. Glad we had that meeting even if it didn't help.

Trustee Leonard made the motion for Negative Declaration under SEQRA for Local Law #4 of 2014 – No Parking on South Montgomery Street. Seconded by Trustee Carley. 4 ayes, 1 nay (Trustee Mishk), 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

Trustee Carley made a motion to adopt Local Law 4 of 2014 – No Parking on South Montgomery Street. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. 4 ayes, 1 nay (Trustee Mishk), 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

Request to transfer unassigned Fund Balance for the Fiscal Year of 2013-2014

Peter Sullivan, Treasurer, explained the resolution in front of everyone tonight that will make our budget come out evenly. It shows what happened in the Fund balance after last year. We will have a little less than \$100,000 in the Fund Balance.

Trustee Bowen made a motion to approve transferring the unassigned Fund Balance for the Fiscal Year of 2013-2014 as outlined in Resolution Number 5-14-15. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. All ayes. Motion carried.

Walden Community Council – Harvest Fest Request

Trustee Bowen made a motion to approve the Harvest Fest request from the Walden Community Council to close the Village Square, Orchard Street in front of Walden Elementary School, Orchard Street near the Firemen's Triangle, and the section of West Main Street between Pine Street and Oak Street for the Harvest Fest events on October 4, 2014 from 6am-5pm. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Barnside Café Anniversary Event Request

Mayor Maher explained that there is a request for an anniversary event for the Barnside Café to have tables outside and also approve doing tables at the Fireman's monument on Sunday, July 20th normal hours of operation 6am-3:30pm.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to approve the request from the Barnside Café for their Anniversary Event on Sunday, July 20, 2014 from 6am-3:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discover Walden – Re Grand Opening Events on 8-9-14

Nanette DeGroat, event organizer, explained the day will have many individual events throughout the day beginning 9am-6pm. It will include a Walk on the Rail Trail at 8am, a Ribbon Cutting ceremony at the Firemen's Triangle which they are requesting the Village close down for an hour 8:00-9:30am. They will have a trolley Bus driving around to do tours around the Village 45 minutes each and are planning on sharing the bus with Thruway Sports. Would like trustees to sit at the dunking booth. Car Tech will allow us to use their area for our jeep show. We would like to do a Chalk Off for kids to draw on pavement at the Walden Elementary School but if it doesn't work would want to think about shutting down the square to do that.

Mayor Maher stated he will work with her on not having to shut down the square.

Nanette continued that they would like to have use of electric on Main Street for a few businesses plugging into the electric at the bases of the trees. Has a business owner who wants to bring a Tredal on Main Street to showcase how it works, his own invention. They would also like to put out 4x4 signs at entrances to the Village. Recreation & Parks Department is letting us use their frames. We would like to have 1x5 banners on the front of each participating business from July 5th up to the event. They would like sidewalk sale events all day with tents on the sidewalks. The Fox Hill Community would like to do horse hayrides from the library entrance, in front of the post office, down John Street, and down to subway. They have shovels to clean up the mess from the horses.

Manager Revella explained the hayride would need an Orange Triangle on wagon.

Attorney Donovan added you may want police presence on call during the day monitoring this but not uncommon to see this.

Nanette continued that with the hayride the corner by the Diner may need a crossing guard for 2 hours in the morning and then again in the afternoon say 10-12 and then 2-4. Maybe less if horses can't handle it as they need a rest. Welcome to Walden packet will be included in the business directory and are asking the Village to pay \$500 towards that printing. Bikini Bike wash in front of the Gallery Tattoo Shop. Would block the parking spots from the corner of his building down which would be 9 spots total from 11-3.

Mayor Maher asked if the only businesses that affects are her own and Sweet Sensations by Sue. He also asked if she talked to Sue about that yet.

Nanette stated she was ok with it but hasn't talked to Sue about it yet. They were looking for approval to block the parking spots. He wanted to get away from the corner closer to Ciardullo's but on the opposite side of the street. It would be a bike wash no cars and there would be no fees for this.

Mayor Maher asked if they could shorten it down from 9 spots to 4 spots.

Trustee Carley stated he has a concern for traffic there as this will likely jam up the area.

Nanette stated that will not be lining up, they will need to park and then at their turn will have to come up at that time. Maybe 4 bikes at one that time. They can definitely only do 4 spots.

Trustee Carley would like assurances that they would not be lining up in the road and added that it's going to jam up without them lining up anyway, just onlookers are going to make the area jam up.

Mayor Maher stated that he just called Deputy Mayor Rumbold and she is ok with it as long as it is not in front of her store but on the opposite side of the street instead.

Nanette stated none of the spots will be in front of her business. It would be the spots past her business.

Trustee Carley asked if the residents that live there are ok with this as respectfully he wouldn't want it in front of his house, maybe they feel the same way.

Nanette stated she didn't walk around and ask the residents for a one day 4 hour event that would affect 2 apartment houses.

Mayor Maher called Deputy Mayor Rumbold again and explained the suggestion and said as long as they are not directly in front of her store she is good with it.

Manager Revella stated that our Village Code allows for temporary signs for the 1x5 banners for 30 days. If they only do 30 days they do not need Board approval.

Nanette stated they could be up for only 30 days and she will arrange that with the business owners that are participating.

Mayor Maher stated that sidewalk sales could be used provided they do not impede pedestrian traffic and the Board is ok with using the electric on Main Street where needed.

Manager Revella stated that we would need the Board to approve Crossing Guards for the hayride.

Trustee Mishk asked if insurance was needed for this.

Attorney Donovan stated that Discover Walden doesn't have their own insurance so they would need to get event insurance for the day to cover the Village and we would need to let our agent know to be sure we don't need a special rider for us. All of this is doable as it happens all the time in all communities.

Nanette stated she is working on getting that covered through the Walden Community Council.

Manager Revella suggested that the Village work with the printer on the cost of the Welcome Packet as the Village will need them anyway in lieu of giving them \$500.

Mayor Maher asked Nanette to come back to the July 15, 2014 Board meeting to go over the final details once again and at this time we can approve the event signs and the overall concept of the event tonight.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to approve the 4x4 event signs for the Discover Walden Event to be placed at the Village entrances pending approval of the Temporary Sign Request form to the Village Manager from July 5, 2014 through August 9, 2014. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to approve the concept of the Discover Walden event on August 9, 2014 subject to review and approval by the Village Manager and the Village Attorney. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Carley asked if she could please check with the residents about the Bike Wash being in their area.

Turn the Town Teal Request

Trustee Mishk made a motion to approve the request from Turn the Town Teal to allow teal ribbons to be hung on their trees in the Village Square and on Main Street for the month of September in honor of Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

Snow Removal

Manager Revella stated that the Code Enforcement Officer, Trustee Carley, and Recreation Coordinator Bliss met and discussed the current process. One change will be that Jay's camera will now date and time stamp photos as well as using a measuring tape in the photos for all future violations.

Trustee Carley added that the changes are being made so that we are consistent with rulings made at the Board level. Want to be fair across the board when and if someone does appeal.

Trustee Bowen feels that before we do a summons we should take the same photo the same time the next day. Arguments all said there was no proof and was our word against theirs and we were the bad guys. Take photo at 8am take again at 8am next day and it's done, no room for arguments.

Trustee Carley added that we don't start the process until 24 hours after the end of the storm is which is when they need to have it cleared. That means the roads are cleared and open and is after the plows may have covered them back in.

RFP – Third Party Utility Billing

Mayor Maher explained we had Dave put together an RFP to see if the Village can save any money. He worked with a company from the state and Dave finalized the document for us. We are not obligated to accept any bids if we don't like what we get back.

Trustee Leonard made a motion to authorize the Village Manager to send out the 3rd Party Utility Billing RFP to the public. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Draft Local Law #5 of 2014 – Landlord Registry Law

Mayor Maher explained we are setting up a Town Hall meeting for this revised law that was based on the last Town Hall meeting on Thursday, July 31st at 6:30pm to present the

revised law to the landlords. If there will be more than four Board members to attend we should call a special meeting but will still keep it informal.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to set the Special Town Hall Meeting for Local Law #5 - Landlord Registry Law for Thursday, July 31, 2014 at 6:30pm. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Route 208 Sidewalk and Curbing Project

John Queenan, Village Engineer, explained that NYS DOT gave us comments back after 10 months that they took to look at our papers. One comment is that our timetable is off but after 10 months of holding the papers; yes, it is. One of the other comments is to bring up the project before the public to ensure the interest is still there to do this project. This project has been on going now for over 12 years and we have been progressing slowly with this project. In 2003 we were awarded \$250,000 to do from Bank Street up to Richardson Street. The project didn't happen at that time and we picked it up in 2010 where it was ready to go per DOT in 2012. The state pushed the funding another year and we got it increased to \$840,000 which can now include the entire corridor of Ulster Avenue. In 2013 we sent it back in and we just the comments from that filing back. The 5 comments received were that there was no line for their director to sign, our timeline was out of date, the cost was out of date, the retaining walls on private property stretch would allow to grant temporary easement for construction, now they changed that they will need to have each maps for each property which we are working on this part. And the final comment was to have a public meeting as we haven't had one in a number of years to make sure there is still interest in the project. We have 15 more steps to go plus the 6 phases of design which we are at step 4 right now. We will proceed with the survey of properties when we reply to the comments and home to have our final design approved and then we have to go to each of the different areas within DOT. Also tying into having this done in federal fiscal year 2015. Looking at next year possibility. Bottom line they ran out of money and this project got slid down on the list.

Manager Revella stated that the material for the sidewalk decision has not been made yet, and we will bid it each way. Standard concrete is what we have to use per the NYS DOT specifications.

Public Comment

Nanette DeGroat, 80 North Montgomery Street, wanted to confirm we are adding fluoride as of today to the water and wants to know what the Board did to notify the residents that this is happening.

Manager Revella explained that all the local dentists were notified, our water bills had it on it multiple times, plus the last 2 community calendars.

Nanette replied that landlords are not going to tell their renters. What are you going to do to educate people about EPA rules as far as how much water should be used for specific age groups? How do you plan to get this information to the people?

Mayor Maher stated that when the Board discontinued fluoride a few years ago we sent a letter to Department of Health and was sent out the same way. This is something we could go back and forth about the statistics and argue all night about.

Trustee Carley commented respectfully what she is saying sounds like it's from an advocate prospective. There are groups out there that promote that may be a better venue for you to go.

Nanette asked if she could host a workshop if she felt it necessary.

Mayor Maher replied yes, we would host it even or find a place for it.

Mary Ellen Matise, 21 Clinton Street, wanted to know if the historical markers have been ordered.

Manager Revella replied yes.

Mary Ellen asked in terms of the Discover Walden event do we want to do buttons or key chains.

Mayor Maher replied that the Village is not sponsoring anything like that. No discussion about that but if it's something you wanted to do he suggests that she talk to Nanette and the Walden Community Council on what they would like to do. We wouldn't dictate to Nanette what is happening at the event.

Mary Ellen stated that she's been talking to John about it. She is waiting for a response from the Manager or the Board. At past events, the Village buys the buttons as we've done in the past for the past whatever years.

Trustee Bowen reiterated that Nanette is the lead and the communication should be between Nanette and the Board.

Mary Ellen stated that she is the person that designs and does the buttons. Wouldn't the Village want something that says Walden on it for the event?

Mayor Maher replied that the Village is not interested at this time. However if she would like she will need to speak to John directly about it.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Trustee Leonard made a motion to pay the audited bills. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Trustee Carley stated that the Fire Department Commission will set up a date and time for a joint meeting after their meeting on 7/14 meeting.

Trustee Bowen announced the Orange County Rural Development Advisory Corporation event tomorrow "Sustain Homes" Neighborhood Workshop at the 911 Center in Goshen with guest speakers including Congressman Maloney from 10am to 3pm with Lunch included.

Mayor Maher read a thank you card from the Veteran's Memorial Park Committee thanking the Village for the Flag Day Ceremony.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Bowen stated that he attended a church 3 in 1 concert and it was awesome Saturday evening. Gospel fest will try to come to the Village in September and looking to support that church and get others involved.

Trustee Carley also attended the concert and it was awesome and would like to work with Music in the Grove on September 6th to bring same type of thing to help bring the community together.

Trustee Mishk stated that a few months back the Planning Board came to us with idea on accessory apartment. He is interested in basically building a room that can be utilized until a person passes and he is looking into it for his property as soon as the plans are up will make application for a building permit. It's classified as an accessory unit by the state and for use for an elderly person and when they are no longer using it, it has to be dismantled or given back.

Attorney Donovan stated that Dean left him information on this as well.

Trustee Carley added that he is representing an organization called "A Little Bit of Help" and working on partnering with Walden Elementary School and talked to Village Manager and adopting a park and taking care of it. He met this morning with Mike Bliss and Jim Prescutti, the Arborist, and talked about how to cut back the Japanese Knotweed down at the Maple Street Boat Launch. As long as everything goes well they are working on moving forward on that and just wanted to put that out there.

Mayor Maher announced that HV Honor Flight headquarters got its CO today and they have 2 Youth employees starting next week and their grand opening will take place at the end of July or beginning of August.

Executive Session

Trustee Mishk moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Collective bargains with the PBA, pending litigation with Milmore, and threatened litigation. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

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

Adjournment

Trustee Mishk moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
July 1, 2014
Motions & Resolutions**

Hearing – 71 Wait Street

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Village Manager Contract

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RFP – Third Party Utility Billing

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