

**Village of Walden  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
February 3, 2015**

Mayor Maher called the regular meeting of the Village of Walden Board of Trustees to order at 6:49pm.

On roll call the following were:

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

Absent:

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

**Village Manager's Report –**

- Finalized the Landlord Registry forms and letter which will be going out to landlords shortly.
- Met with the committee about Water/Sewer billing options. Will be meeting again and will update as we come to a resolution in the future.
- Attended the Orange County Transportation Council meeting working on the state projects and trying to balance the TIP amendment. They are over budget based on their projections at this point. There are some major bridges that need to be repaired, and we are trying to prioritize. The bridge on 211 leaving the Village of Montgomery will be out of commission for several months starting this spring. There will be a detour as they are completely replacing that bridge.
- Met with the Recreation Coordinator and the Code Enforcement Officer about snow citations and removal. Unfortunately we do have 24 vacant or foreclosed properties that they have to do all the time.
- Had regular conferences with VRI last few weeks. Updating on our sewer pump stations and trying to get our application finalized for the Pine Street pump station renovations and got an update on the sludge press. They are waiting on equipment from Albany and then they can get mobilizing that.
- Met with the Librarian about their upcoming capital project on the first floor that will include large scale renovation with a new circulation desk closer to the main door as a great entrance way, new shelving, and new flooring.
- Had a lot of conference calls about the blizzard that didn't materialize. We had to stay on call for the state of emergency.
- Has some minor water breaks and today we finished a water main break.
- During the ice storm we did have one truck that slid down a hill and was damaged.

Trustee Mishk asked how we made out being down one truck this past storm.

Manager Revella replied that we were not able to use the sander because it was damaged but the truck is ok to use and wasn't damaged. It took a bit longer to salt but we were able to plow efficiently as normal.

Trustee Hoffman asked what the ETA is on sludge press.

Manager Revella replied it is supposed to be here by the end of week. So they can start assembling and all the other work was done already.

Trustee Hoffman asked how long until it is operational.

Manager Revella replied we won't be able to put sludge through for about 8 weeks.

### **Approval of the January 6, 2015 Minutes**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion approve the minutes from January 6, 2015. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Minutes approved.

### **Approval of the January 20, 2015 Minutes**

Tabled.

### **Trustee's Committee Reports**

#### **Town of Montgomery & Library Board liaison – Trustee Leonard**

Trustee Leonard reported that he talked to the Library Director who informed her that after a lot of discussions with their Board has decided not to go out for a tax increase this year. She will look for donations and grant funding to help with costs this year.

#### **Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Bowen**

Trustee Bowen stated he had nothing to report at this time.

#### **Police Department Liaison – Deputy Mayor Rumbold**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold reported that they are looking to have an awards ceremony for Police officers, not finalized yet but discussing with the Chief and the PBA.

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

Trustee Hoffman reported that they met about the water/sewer billing options as Village Manager previously stated.

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

Trustee Carley reported that Recreation and Parks are doing great. Had over 200 kids for basketball this year. Having a meeting about Music in the Grove concert series on Friday for the concerts that will be held on Wednesday nights in July and August.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if at the next School Board meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> he could bring up the need to bring the votes back to the elementary schools. It is a hardship for many to get out to the High School to vote, especially for Senior Citizens and it would be nice if the Board agreed and let our liaison comment about bringing the vote back.

Trustee Carley suggested he call and speak to the Board Members to see if they would entertain putting it on the agenda and then he can follow up during public comment.

Trustee Hoffman suggested doing something a little more formal like sending a letter from the Mayor and then following up at public comment.

Trustee Carley said he would like to start with the call first and let us know if he needs the letter.

### **Village Justice and DPW Liaison - Trustee Mishk**

Trustee Mishk stated that everything has already been covered.

The Mayor read the community events calendar into the minutes.

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

Mayor Maher explained that he knew many of the people here tonight are here to speak about the last discussion item on our agenda tonight. He plans on taking copious notes and remember everything that is said tonight and then when they get to their discussion later on in the agenda to address all the comments that have been made on the topic.

Peter Masci, Masci & Hale Family Dentistry - 88 East Main Street, thanked everyone for coming tonight to discuss the 2" snow emergency law that adversely affects many of our Walden businesses. He wanted to give a little history on our business community. In 1999 Main Street was falling apart like many around the state and we had about 20 commercial properties that were vacant or for sale. A group of 15 business professionals and residents got together and formed a not for profit Walden Local Development Corporation that developed a marketing plan called Feeling Good About Walden to help fix up Main Street. We raised \$40,000 to develop a marketing plan, many businesses each donated \$2,000 each as an investment into their community to help raise awareness of what we had to offer to businesses and to boost revitalization of Walden. Sam Wright helped us create a radio promotion for us and the late John Katonah launched the first Village website. Derrik Wynkoop and Mark at the bank produced these great brochures to highlight the vacant properties that were for sale here in the Village. Then we invited 60 realtors in Orange and Ulster County to come and tour the properties featured in the brochure. We met at Jim Smith Chevrolet, gave them breakfast and then filled two Shortline buses to give them a tour. We featured the great neighborhoods, the commercial properties for sale, as well as our multiple parks and facilities. We had lunch and several keynote speakers to talk about the wonderful things our community had to offer. It was a very successful event and many properties were turned over as a result of this event. At the same time David Church was hired to assist with the planning for the revitalization of Walden's downtown area. He discussed with us the pros and cons of our community. A lot of us were concerned with the traffic flow and congestion through the downtown area. He viewed that traffic flow as a positive and recommended capturing and managing the traffic going through the downtown area. You have to have needs and accessibility and you have to be convenience in order to capture that traffic. Today more than ever, consumers are extremely demanding. Small businesses are competing with the gallerias, the strip mall, the Woodbury commons and especially the internet. So to tell the consumers there is no store front parking when there is 2" of snow is not convenient and is not business friendly. Many businesses rely heavily if not completely on store front and street parking and with 2" of snow they have no parking. We live in the northeast, it's

going to snow. We need to work together to manage this and amend this law so that it's a win win for the both the Village and the business community.

Bill Kirnan, 47 Walker Street, commented that as the Walden Local Development Corporation President we've been dormant for past few years, our last project was the Packaged Lighting building which someone finally did buy. He is also an ex Town Councilman of 12 years so he has an interest in what is going on in the Walden community. He has always thought the 2" law was a little bit business insensitive. A number of years ago he had proposed to increase the snowfall to 4" or to create a zoned area for plowing system which never went anywhere when he brought it up 4-5 years ago and it did die at that time. He still feels the same way and things it is time to consider it again as this is not a business friendly policy. You can't walk and do business at Ciardullo's, you can't go and get some treats at Sweet Sensations by Sue, and he can't even work with all his tools and his truck at Honor Flight because there is nowhere to park. He has talked to business owners and thinks a lot are dismayed with the existing law as you can see by the number of people who are here tonight and have showed an interest in this issue. He realized we have costs and overtime to be considered but he sincerely believes now is the time to take a look at increasing the 2" maximum in the present law. He believes you could take out the 2" and make it by direction of the Board by resolution and change it at any time up or down without having to revisit the local law. Of course you should review that with the attorney but he believes that at any time you can call a public hearing within 5 days and make that change that number. He is suggesting that you please consider 4". With the current time frame, if you did it by resolution, it would only work time wise for March and April but at least you could see if it would work or not. If it doesn't you can go back to your resolution and drop it back down. That would be his first suggestion. He handed out a map to the Board of a proposed Snow Emergency Overlay Zone suggestion for the commercial district in the Village. He had proposed this a number of years ago and has since then added a few areas including North Street that has businesses there looking for parking and on Orange Avenue in front of the health center to consider as well. The Zone would start by West Side Deli and go to the corner of East Main Street and then continue to Orange Avenue. It would include Bank Street, Village Square, Walnut Street, as well as Orchard Street to Main Street and all of East Main Street past the tin brook across from the ice cream stand and would include what is referred to as the boulevard. All of Cherry Street, Grant Street, Hepper Street, and John Street are also in this overlay zone. Please take a look at that and consider this overlay. Incidentally, all the cars parked in St. Andrews Court are illegally parked there every snow storm and is not excluded based on this law.

Manager Revella stated that St. Andrews Court is a public street that has a parking lot off of it.

Bill said it is not 35 feet wide.

Manager Revella replied that road is only 10 feet wide.

Bill continued that the tax maps should be updated then. In any case he suggests that the Board review this, visit some businesses, see who would be affected and come up with a reasonable time frame to consider the overlay for these areas for a snow emergency and they clear the rest of the Village while the emergency is on and then get there before the

businesses open the next day. Let's see how that works out to help the businesses. He would appreciate it if it could be considered.

Trustee Hoffman asked if he considered daycares and houses of worship when he structured the map.

Bill replied that should be considered for Saturdays and Sundays he forgot to bring that up, but that is for you to consider.

Trustee Hoffman replied that would expand the area from what is shown here.

Bill replied that this is just a suggestion, just a start. You could add or subtract, this is just something for you to look into.

Bonnie McDermott, 45 Main Street - Secret Garden Florist, spoke on behalf of herself as well as Rong Xia Zhu, 47 Main Street - Ming Jie, and as business owners it's absurd for 2" as most of her business is done in the snow and rain. Her busiest holidays are Valentine's Day and Christmas, so a 2" is a big problem for her. In the 7 years she has been in business, last year there was a blizzard on Valentine's Day and it was the best Valentine's Day she's had since she's been in the Village. She thinks it needs to be amended or something needs to be done.

Charles Frank, 285 Berea Road, wanted to speak on behalf of the Library. It's a little nostalgic to hear after 22 years the sludge press is still on the agenda. He wanted to make a few points in addition to what was already said. The first is when you look at the cost of snow removal for the residents more importantly for the businesses. You have to consider the fact that lost revenue is in their equation but not in the Village's. So for every hour you are taking away from them you have to consider that you are taxing them for snow removal and then charging them again by not allowing them to conduct business and making them close their businesses for snow of 2". Any student of government knows that residents don't cover the cost of the services required to support those residential properties. The profit line is through the commercial property taxes so you need to maintain a good level of commercial property and a vigorous and vital business community. He feels it's important that the Village look at that in their processes, procedures, and schedules that they put in place to address snow removal. Bill's overlay is a great idea but the scheduling has to look at that also. He is here tonight on behalf of the Library and even though they are not the revenue generating business they still have to deal with the fact that there is no parking. He saw there are signs out there that say there will be no parking in the lot tomorrow from 7am to 4pm for snow removal. That means there will be virtually no parking available when the Village does things like removing the snow in the parking lots. He really feels the Board should consider off shift work so the business community can function well and flourish here. To have patrons walk to the library a long distance is not realistic. He'll take the heat for the fact that the Oak Street parking lot has been there for 22 years and it doesn't get used nearly enough. He thought it would have been a great idea but if the public won't go there, they won't go there and we then have to come up with an alternative solution. Lastly he feels that a good alternative notification system is needed. The website and even the radio are great technology but in today's world you don't always have access to websites all the time. Especially for people coming into the Village. Visitors may not be aware of these things so people get ticketed or towed. He feels that texts, signs, whatever all need to be part of the discussion.

Tom Tighe, 22 Bank Street - Millspaugh Funeral Directors, has plowed for over 40 years and he doesn't think that 2" is a snow emergency, it's a snow annoyance. We're in the northeast it's going to snow. He purposely does his plowing when there is less traffic anyway. His business does a lot of hours in the afternoon or evening and they have a small parking lot and the bank helps us but there are times that we need to park on the street. It's hard to tell people who are coming to pay their respects that due to 2" you can't park there. Places like Masci and Hale don't have other parking options so it's definitely not business friendly. He would like the Board to consider something. Doesn't even have to be in the inches as most of the plowing gets done after hours anyways. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Becky McNally, 52 Oakland Avenue, stated she is not familiar with all of the local law 2 of 1994 but her feeling is that 2" or 4" is not the issue. The word removal is the issue. She knows from working at the food pantry today a lot of people couldn't find a place to park. There were a lot of people who had difficulties today. They couldn't get over the banks or access to the sidewalks and they couldn't find a place to park. She is wondering if we could do better in removing snow that is plowed. As a nurse she can tell you that their shifts would rotate. If there is a problem with overtime perhaps there is some flexible scheduling for those that maintain the roads during certain months of the year. Maybe consider shift changes as necessary as part of the solution.

Keith Millspaugh, 52 Main Street - Millspaugh Furniture, added that we talked about the announcement of the snow emergency but we shouldn't be on the radio saying there is a snow emergency in Walden as it sounds like there is a ton of snow in Walden and nowhere else because no one else says that. He pays a lot of money for radio ads and then you go and tell people not to come to Walden due to snow. It makes no sense. Removing the snow, yes there has to be some time after that happens to remove it. He also has a store in Warwick and they remove it overnight to get rid of it by working off shift to clear it within 24 hours. We have our snow removed 3 times yesterday and this morning but the State trucks filled the sidewalks but the Village also does it on Bank Street. We try to keep up with the snow and the Village or the State just goes and puts it right back in. A few years ago the Walden Business Association started up again and one of the recommendation was that if the businesses could push the snow into the street then have the Village or the State take it somewhere that would save the whole 24 hours later to take care of it as you are taking care of us upfront. That has to be a cooperative effort to time it when the plow comes through. The more business friendly the policy can be the more attractive Walden is for businesses. If you have a policy that keeps people away from businesses, why would anyone want to come to Walden?

## **Discussion**

### **Local Law #2 of 2015 – Village Snow Policy**

Mayor Maher concluded that based on the public response he would like to move this discussion item up now while it is fresh on everyone's mind. We heard 7 public comments and have some potential solutions such as the Business Overlay, increase the measurement from 2" to 4", potential off shift work which would have costs associated with that, and announcement changes. Do we use the CodeRED system for snow emergencies to let residents know?

Manager Revella replied no as many times the call would happen at 2am.

Mayor Maher asked if we could use text and emails only.

Manager Revella stated that there are a lot of people who have signed up for the calls, but not text or email so that could be an issue. 188 text messages and there are over 2000 phone calls.

Mayor Maher replied that we could sign people up by going door to door over a few days so that could potentially be a good option for us so it doesn't go over the airwaves. Another solution was to push snow into the street but not sure how feasible that is. Working through shifts would be subject to contract negotiations and things that our employees can or cannot do. Not easy to do but is a potential.

Manager Revella replied that is correct. We can do it but we don't have a large personnel and they have to work during the day for testing but it's possible. Snow removal on Thursday and if we have to do it again we will try to do that at 10pm until whenever.

Mayor Maher asked about the suggestion of whether or not to go through a resolution instead of a local law.

Attorney Donovan replied that the existing law would need to be modified to remove the 2" and then the resolution to alter would need to be added to the law as well. You could not do that tonight as the law says 2".

Manager Revella added that just to clarify there have been times that we have had 2" or more and not declared a snow emergency. If it requires plowing that's when the emergency comes to play. It's based on the road conditions.

Mayor Maher asked why we need the snow emergency specifically for the plows is it due to the widths of the roads so they can fit through the streets.

Manager Revella replied that it depends on the road conditions sometimes it is the width of the streets and sometimes it's due to the slippery conditions of the roads. Do we want our trucks meandering through the streets when it's slippery?

Trustee Leonard stated he has heard a lot tonight and would like to think about it and digest the information given tonight but he is open to changes. The State does a lot of our roads and we have no control with when their plows come.

Mayor Maher replied that he has spoken to a representative of the NYS DOT and they are willing to work with us and do whatever we ask them to do.

Manager Revella clarified that the State said they would be willing to not plow State roads during certain hours.

Mayor Maher replied yes, they would accept and respect that if we had a local law in place.

Trustee Hoffman asked if the State would be looking to charge us more.

Mayor Maher replied that they didn't say that but we can ask. He spoke with Bill Pullar Assistant Engineer at DOT who is also a Walden resident as well as his boss.

Trustee Bowen stated he liked the idea of off shift/evening clean up. He would be ok with changing it to 4" or 3" but 2" we can just roll over that.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold wanted to mention for the record that she works for a business on Main Street and also owns a business on West Main Street. She has worked for the business on Main Street for 20 years and has never had a patient ticketed or towed in front of either business when there was a snow emergency declared. She asked about CodeRED and was told the same thing as we wouldn't want a call at 2am and not hearing texts at 2am either so not sure how else to alert residents to move their cars. She assumes that if people know a storm is coming they would put their car off the street to avoid issues.

Manager Revella commented that using CodeRED alerts wouldn't get those people who don't live in the Village so it wouldn't fully solve the issue.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold continued that we used to remove snow overnight and residents complained that lived in apartments that they didn't want to hear the banging of the trucks and the beeping overnight and felt it was evasive to their quality of life. She heard what Bonnie said about being her best Valentine's Day last year when it was a snow emergency. She doesn't feel a snow emergency stops people at all from coming into her business. They may not stay because they want to get what they are getting and leaving. So if she doesn't have a good business day on a snow day it isn't the fault of the snow emergency. When she talked to Chief about this issue his concern is the safety on the streets. Just because they find there is 2" and the snow emergency has been declared she doesn't think that people may understand that there is not a plow on every street in the Village. We may start in some areas when it's 2" but not get to some streets until there is 4" on those streets depending on the rate of snow fall. Many streets are difficult to navigate when there is snow on the streets and cars are parked on both sides of the street. She personally doesn't like to go over Tin Brook Bridge to get to Highland Avenue but sometimes she can't go up Woodruff because she's afraid to go up that way and slide into cars parked on both sides of the street.

Mayor Maher asked if she would consider after we get some costs and legally see what we can and cannot do making some of the suggested changes.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold replied she is willing to discuss solutions but feels safety comes first in the Village. We have to make our streets safe. She understands what the owners feel but a lot of her customers are from out of the Village and they don't know when there is a snow emergency. They come park do what they have to do and leave. It's mostly the residents that don't linger because of the emergency. Patients if she knows there is an emergency she makes sure she has their cell phones to call them in advance and let them know in advance they won't be able to park on the street. She is open to discussing it but she depends on the Manager and the DPW to guide her as far as what they need to do and what they feel the best thing is to do to make the streets passable and safe for everyone.

Manager Revella added that sometimes the issues with the radio is that sometimes the DJ's don't get it correctly and declare "states of emergency in Walden". He's working on a

language difference to help fix that issue. He and Chief have suggested changing the language to say no street parking instead of the work emergency at all.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold added that there was a car parked on West Main Street during the last snow emergency and the state plows that street and by the time he went to clean it off it was buried and the side mirror was gone. Park at your own risk.

Trustee Hoffman commented that the original law was adopted in 1994 and has been in place for a long time. Does anyone know why it 2" at that time?

Mayor Maher replied that Chief told him that the reason was a judge at one point went to prosecute and there wasn't any measurement taken with a calibrated ruler so 80-100 cases were dismissed.

Trustee Hoffman continued that with that logic, then we should have some sort of measurement in the law we shouldn't leave it up to the discretion of the Village Manager.

Manager Revella added that was why a lot of places went to a blanket time frame 10pm-6pm and we can't do that. He is open to the discussion but feels the budget is tight this year so he is not sure if the current budget will allow us to do a trial and error with new overtime rates and doing work at long hours without making major modifications from other areas.

Mayor Maher replied that his personal goal with only a few meetings left in my term, is to come up with potential solutions to this and the financial impact projections. Our Attorney has stated that the earliest we would be presented with a draft local law would be sometime in March.

Trustee Hoffman stated that we have worked around this before with artificial deadlines and schedules and a lot of times it produces a quick decision not the right decision. Obviously this is a problem but we don't even know exactly why 2" was selected in the past. He would rather take the time to research, do it properly, and be done right.

Mayor Maher said he didn't disagree with him. He would love to have it done in his last few meetings but realistically the Board will need to take the time that it needs to be done correctly.

Trustee Carley commented that we need to err on the side safety first. He believes what John said that language is very important and can bring a whole different connotation. In reference to the 2" vs. 4", he's not sure about that as he sees people that can't drive in that and sees accidents left and right at 2" here in the Village and other municipalities as well. It varies and is something he needs to consider. He is sensitive to business side and does understands. You can shove and move the snow but there are variables to consider. There were some good suggestions tonight which is a good start.

Trustee Mishk stated that he is pro-business and thinks need to readdress their parking whenever the word safety comes into effect too. If we were to plow later some of our hills on Wait Street and Scofield for example; frequently he's seen people that can't get over the hill at 1" or 2". That being said, removal of snow at night is the issue with contracts but we can likely force them to do that but what will that cost us to bring in contractors to help

with the removal. Another point to make is that he assumes no one got tickets last Valentine's Day last year which she said was her best Valentine's Day so people were still doing business. Back to safety, it's not just the businesses or those driving in town but it's also the people trying to get home or out to work. They need to be able to drive on the roads also. The overlay may be the answer but we really have to explore that. Becky commented on the issue with access to the street and that responsibility belongs to the businesses not the Village.

Becky said she checked on that and store keepers do have 24 hours to do that after the emergency has been done. If not done in 24 hours the Village will come in charge them \$200 and clean it up, that is already in place. But 24 hours seems like a long time. She's from Michigan they really get snow out there. Is there a way to communicate and see what other places who are used to dealing with this type of thing and seeing what they do?

Trustee Mishk said in Buffalo for example they get a ton of snow but they are also budgeted and equipped better. We can do that too but then the tax payers get taxed for that.

Becky replied that is true but perhaps with the safety concern you have, maybe they came to a standard that is agreeable to everyone and satisfactory. Why reinvent the wheel?

Manager Revella replied that they have chain requirements and they pack the roads.

Mayor Maher stated that she is making generalities, and it certainly won't hurt for us to see what they do.

Trustee Mishk added that as far as the radio broadcasts we could use snow policy in effect not the word emergency. He has been talking for a while about a business district where the Village maintains the roads and the sidewalk but that would mean more money to the businesses. All roads and sidewalks would be maintained at the same time and in the same manner, he's talked to the Manager and a few Trustees about that before.

Mayor Maher concluded that if the Board would allow him to, he will meet with John and our Attorney in the next few weeks to get some facts together, samples of other laws, cost analysis, and get the information for everyone to help us make the right decision.

Trustee Hoffman suggested it might be wise given his remaining time to have another Trustee help you due to your limited time left with the Village.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold suggested our DPW Liaison, Trustee Mishk.

Manager Revella also suggested a business liaison as well as.

Bonnie commented about what Sue had said about the residents in the complex that complained in the past. Show her a resident that brings you revenue. Most of the businesses bring you revenue so if they move snow at night you should be more concerned with taking care of the businesses that bring you revenue instead of a tenant. Talking about revenue, tenants don't do that, businesses do. She understands safety is a topic, but what about the safety in the parking lot behind her store. She fell coming here tonight because it is never cleaned until after the fact. That hurts businesses also.

Manager Revella stated that we can't clean the lot first as that is where the people go while the streets are being cleared but then we do clear that lot first.

Trustee Hoffman asked the Village Manager to explain why the cleaning of the lots is delayed for the benefit of the public.

Manager Revella replied that a lot of properties in the Village do not have off street parking so we allow people to park in those lots during the snow storms so they are off the streets. That way they are off the streets during the storms. Soon as the storm is over we post it so that we can clean it the next day within 24 hours. We have to give 24 hours' notice so we aren't towing a ton of cars. We do clear it as soon as possible for example 7am tomorrow they will start and should be done in a few hours. Should be done with all 3 lots by 2pm. They also remove the posting signs as soon as they are done with an area so people know they can park there again.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold thanked the Millspaugh family one of the oldest families in the Village who stayed after everyone else that was here had their say for that topic left.

### **Action Items**

#### **Resolution 19-14-15 Election Inspectors**

Trustee Leonard made a motion to approve Resolution 19-14-15 Election Inspectors. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Knights of Columbus Car Show Request**

Manager Revella explained this is the annual Car show request for July 11, 2015 with a rain date for July 18, 2015. It's the same footprint as before, just like Harvest Fest. One correction in the letter is to close Orchard Street to Pine Street not West Main Street to Pine Street. There is no request for a stage, just garbage cans as they have done in the past.

Trustee Bowen made a motion to approve closing of the Square from 8am to 5pm to include Orchard Street to Pine Street and Maple Street to Pine Street for the Knights of Columbus Car Show to be held on Saturday, July 11, 2015 with a rain date of Saturday, July 18, 2015. Seconded by Trustee Carley. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 abstentions (Mayor Maher and Trustee Mishk). Motion carried.

#### **Col. Bradley Day Celebrations**

Mayor Maher explained there is a letter from our historian Mary Ellen Matisse. There are funds in our budget this year to do a larger Col Bradley Day celebration this year as it's the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Civil War and 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this building due to Col Bradley's efforts. We are proposing a reenactment parade and ceremony in the square to commemorate when the Orange Blossoms returned home and would not be limited to Civil War reenactors but would incorporate Veterans of all wars. It would be honoring the past and celebrating the present and future also. Looking for a good amount of participants. Budget is \$1,500-\$2,000 in extra costs.

Manager Revella added that there is a \$1,000 in the Historian line for ancillaries such as this event. We are short about \$500 but if that parade is already considered in the police budget then we are correct to handle the cost.

Mayor Maher stated that the route would be similar to the OC Firemen's Parade. Chief requested a 2 hour period depending on how long it will be he may need less of a time frame. We would need the stage, sound system, up to 100 chairs, and garbage cans in the square.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if they sent queries to organizations before we close the streets.

Mayor Maher replied that they wanted to make sure there was interest in this date before closing down these streets. Once approved we would get out and get interest. If less of a turn out we wouldn't close them. Deadline to participate trying for April 1<sup>st</sup> for participants.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold clarified that most of the cost was for Police. What about DPW to clean up.

Manager Revella replied possibility we would need 1 DPW worker on a weekend so the cost would be about \$100 per employee.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked about parking. She suggested needing parking at Oak Street and have people bused up the hill.

Mayor Maher replied they are not sure yet that will be based off interest.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold confirmed that the maximum budget is \$2,000.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to approve the Col Bradley Day Celebration to be held on Saturday, April 18, 2015 to include closure of the Square from Noon until 5pm and the following streets as necessary for the parade line up and parade route from noon to 3pm Cross Street, South Street, Bradley Avenue, McKinley Avenue, First Street to South Street, Berwick Street, and West Main Street to Oak Street as well as use of the stage, sound system, garbage cans, and up to 100 chairs with a budget not to exceed \$2,000. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All Ayes. Motion Carried

Mayor Maher explained they have no rain date at this time. They will consider that as we continue to meet and revisit it should we need to.

### **Olley Park Dam**

Manager Revella explained that the DEC requires we do a full dam assessment every 10 years. Our 10 years is up this year. We would need approval for this which would also upgrade our dam to a class not C so that we no longer need this type of assessment in the future. This is likely to be billed in the next budget year as it takes at least 2 months to do the work.

Trustee Hoffman stated that in his experience the price is good and in his field he knows the DEC requirements are strict.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to authorize the Village Manager to sign the Olley Park Dam contract with Lanc & Tully in the amount of \$21,000. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

## **Discussion Items**

### **Newburgh Postal Office Potential Closing**

Mayor Maher explained this has been an issue for several years now we've sent correspondence to support via resolution for this office not to close.

Trustee Leonard stated that office closing will have significant economic impact if this closes. Plus mail having to go to Albany takes 2 days longer.

Manager Revella stated they gave us sample resolution we can conform and vote on this at the next meeting if the Board is inclined to do so.

### **Budget Sessions**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to set the 2015-2016 Village Budget work sessions for Wednesday, April 8, 2015; Monday, April 13, 2015; Tuesday, April 14, 2015; and Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 6pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the municipal building. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Potential April Board Meeting Date Change**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to set the Reorganization Meeting for Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 6:30pm to be directly followed by the regular Board of Trustees Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the municipal building. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **ECHO-Cottages**

No new information at this time. Tabled until the next meeting.

### **Public Comment**

Peter Millsbaugh, 15 High Street, commented that his father was going along Brian's agenda but he had to leave as he had an appointment and he has a few points to make on his behalf. One thing is something he pointed out to his dad; back in the fall there were street cleanings and the Village put up signs that have the words "no parking" in large letters and then the times in smaller letters. People will pull up, see the large letters saying "no parking" and not read the smaller print and leave. He has personally had customers come into the store saying that they were going to come in before but they didn't because of a sign like that and it makes him wonder how many people they have missed. Today he watched as people were driving up and looked at their business; he is personally responsible for making the cut outs from the sidewalk for public access and he feels he does a good job to make it wide. For a driver to pull up and get out that's fine but it's when passengers pull up to the access they have to let them out and get into a spot and then get into the store. Instead of the signs going up the day before perhaps they can go up the night before.

Manager Revella replied that he did look into that suggestion. The spots that have a 2 hour limit we can do that but not where there is unlimited parking as we have to give a 24 hour notice for those spots. He tried to work on that before as it was an issue. They were putting them first thing in the morning.

Peter replied that they certainly appreciate that. He continued that he understands the differences between businesses there are those that you can go in quickly and be done within 10 minutes. If you purchase furniture however you don't necessarily realize it before

you are in our store for 5-6 hours at a time. Becky is one of our sales people, she can tell you that sometimes she's with them all day. Someone a few years back came in and their car was being towed and then they had to take the car out of towing. They were looking to furnish an entire house they left that day and we never heard from them again. Those are the types of businesses that are affected by something like this. It is the business owner's responsibility to clean off the sidewalks and create accesses from the street. But at some point you have no place to put the snow if you want to keep going. We have a big parking lot on Main Street so we pile snow here and there and eventually we run out of spaces to put it. When you don't have that type of space where do you go with the snow when you are on top of another business? Before his father left he said that if no one else volunteers he will volunteer for the committee to help get a plan together. If any of you know his father he really is about efficiency and his position at Millspaugh Furniture is to make them as efficient as possible. His father is in his ear all the time about efficiency and he feels the Village can be more efficient. The Village does do a good job of keeping our streets clean and clear and making them very dry. What he feels they can improve on is perhaps working with the state on plowing it would be a great thing. If we can come up with a plan and eliminate the snow by pushing it into the street for the plow trucks to take away immediately. Yesterday he cleared out the snow on Main Street sidewalks 3 separate times. Luckily he is young and can handle clearing the snow again and again. It's not just the snow from the sidewalks that has to get removed, it's also that heavier snow that has been salted and turned to slush which those big yellow State trucks throw onto the sidewalk. He feels that is an area we can improve the efficiency of. People come here they say their peace they leave, not much gets resolved or accomplished like that. They vent they feel better they leave. He would like to see the Village follow through on something. He knows it's a lot to consider as you have to take a look at what's going to be the most efficient for the Village, for the residents, and for the businesses. You have to decide what we can do to improve our streets, our businesses, to keep our tenants safe, and to keep those that are traveling through our Village safe. He'd be happy to work with people to solve this issue to make businesses have a better opportunity to do more business when it does snow. Hopefully you will consider that and come up with a resolution that will increase safety and efficiency.

Jessica Metzger, 4 Gracewood Court, asked if something happened to cause this discussion this evening. This has been in effect since the 1990s so she's wondering what precipitated this discussion.

Mayor Maher replied that a few business owners that weren't used to being affected by this and now they are being affected who lobbied some other businesses to attend the meeting.

Jessica commented that nothing specifically happened and nothing was changed that made this happen. These businesses just came in here to complain.

Mayor Maher replied that he put it on the agenda based on the feedback he got from several business owners.

Jessica replied that what she understood was that something changed and the businesses weren't notified.

Trustee Hoffman replied that nothing was changed by this Board.

Jessica continued that she has this feeling that this can definitely be resolved. It almost seemed like something happened, like someone was ticketed or someone lost business. Having lived her here own life she always thought that the Village does a great job and that DPW and the Police Department work well with businesses and try to understand that. Driving through other communities that are much more congested than we are, they are doing it better and without making the cars move off of their business district. She thinks it is something the Board will need much more than just 4 meetings to explore, maybe much more than 4 months to explore and it has to be a group effort not just the effort of someone wanting to take care of something before they leave. It has to be long lasting and also has to be something that takes time and is beneficial to all the residents not just the businesses. She tries to use Village businesses but couldn't about 3 weeks ago as it was difficult to get to the building, Dr. Guneratne's old building. She thinks the Board owes the businesses and the tenants to look into this. She is confused by the uproar this evening and feels there might be more to it than what is being discussed here. She hopes and sincerely believes that the Board will do the right thing. The business overlay sounds like a great idea to help this as well as some shift work early in the morning to get those areas done and then concentrate on residential. Sometimes she doesn't see a plow truck until 7 or 8 hours into a storm. That's fine as she is not leaving her home but she is also not a business. Businesses are different and have different needs and feels the Board should take their time and make sure it's done in an accurate way. Col Bradley Day Celebration is a great idea and she is looking forward to a great event. If the Historian needs help, she hopes she asks for it and puts it out there as she feels a lot of people would be interested in helping. With regard to changes the order of a meeting agenda at times just to appease the people in the room, she does not feel it is right to do that just to appease an audience. She respectfully hopes this doesn't happen going forward as it looks unprofessional. Had you followed the agenda those people here would have had to listen to all the business of the Board and who knows, it may have generated some much needed interest in all the things you are talking about, not just the one topic they came to speak about and then left.

### **Payment of the Audited Bills**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to pay the audited bills. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

None.

### **Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented that the Mayor had mentioned that the state was willing to work with us on the plowing and she finds that interesting as we have to call them every 5 minutes to take care of things that are their responsibility all the time. All the sudden they are going to help us when they normally ignore us. She hears Jess's comments about the businesses, but we are unique in that we don't have a business district. Next to her store on Main Street is a house. We are in a situation where we are trying to do things to help the businesses but she can tell you that it's going to be to the detriment to the person living next door. She was saddened by the comment that the tenant doesn't matter. They do matter as their quality of life needs to be considered when trying to come up with a solution for this and anything we do with for the Village. She feels it will be a tight rope that we're walking when trying to accomplish something for the businesses and at the same time keeping in mind that many of those businesses are smack in the middle of a residential area. She would not be happy if she's the person

living next to the business that needs to get plowed out first between the hours of 10pm and 6am and she has to listen to the plow trucks banging. It will take a while to come up with something for this. Frankly, the number of times since she's been on the Board, we have had to back track over decisions made in haste. If not done before the end of this winter that's just what we will have to deal with. We need to take our time because we want to do it right and do it right for everyone.

Trustee Hoffman stated that he was the one that kicked off the mixed use comments and his concern would be the migration of the people in the residential area. If they aren't going to be ticketed in the business district, if it was him, he would park his car there and then walk back up to his house. We need to be careful and walk the tight rope and balance the residential with the business.

Trustee Carley commented that the Police Department has a Chaplain Program and Chief is looking forward to Board approval so we can move forward with the program. The goal is to put together a program to help any community member when they need it. We have leaders from many churches here in Walden and want to make sure the Board is behind the program. He is looking for something official so they can move forward with the program.

Attorney Donovan stated that Chief and he have discussed this issue, he had some initial questions and they have been answered. He's fine with the program from his prospective.

Trustee Hoffman asked if we need to make any formal action.

Attorney Donovan replied he doesn't know what the Chief requires.

Trustee Carley replied that he just wants the formal ok.

Attorney Donovan asked if we can have Chief write a formal letter to the Board explaining the program and what he is looking for and we can have the Board move forward in 2 weeks.

Manager Revella replied that he would follow up on that.

### **Executive Session**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to go into Executive Session to discuss potential purchase of real estate. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

### **Reconvene**

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

### **Real Property Motion**

Mayor Maher moved to allow the Village Manager to get and appraisal of certain real property. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting  
February 3, 2015  
Motions & Resolutions**

**Approval of the January 6, 2015 Minutes**

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion approve the minutes from January 6, 2015. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Minutes approved.

**Resolution 19-14-15 Election Inspectors**

Trustee Leonard made a motion to approve Resolution 19-14-15 Election Inspectors. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Knights of Columbus Car Show Request**

Trustee Bowen made a motion to approve closing of the Square from 8am to 5pm to include Orchard Street to Pine Street and Maple Street to Pine Street for the Knights of Columbus Car Show to be held on Saturday, July 11, 2015 with a rain date of Saturday, July 18, 2015. Seconded by Trustee Carley. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 abstentions (Mayor Maher and Trustee Mishk). Motion carried.

**Col. Bradley Day Celebrations**

Trustee Mishk made a motion to approve the Col Bradley Day Celebration to be held on Saturday, April 18, 2015 to include closure of the Square from Noon until 5pm and the following streets as necessary for the parade line up and parade route from noon to 3pm Cross Street, South Street, Bradley Avenue, McKinley Avenue, First Street to South Street, Berwick Street, and West Main Street to Oak Street as well as use of the stage, sound system, garbage cans, and up to 100 chairs with a budget not to exceed \$2,000. Seconded by Trustee Bowen. All Ayes. Motion Carried

**Olley Park Dam**

Trustee Mishk made a motion to authorize the Village Manager to sign the Olley Park Dam contract with Lanc & Tully in the amount of \$21,000. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried

**Budget Sessions**

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**Adjournment**

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