

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
March 1, 2016**

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

On roll call the following were:

Present:

Mayor	Sue Rumbold
Deputy Mayor	Sean Hoffman
Trustees	Brenda Adams
	Edmond Leonard
	Gerald Mishk, Jr.
	John Ramos
	Brian Sebring

Absent:

Also Present:

John Revella, Village Manager
Tara Bliss, Village Clerk
Dave Donovan, Village Attorney

Presentation – Auditors Report

Jennifer George, Partner at Vanacore, DeBenedictus, DiGiovanni, and Weddell, reviewed the highlights of the report. The Auditors didn't find anything wrong with the financial statements and everything is good to go. The Village is in a good health net position. At the end of the day net position increased by \$84 million. In reviewing the budget to actual they are happy to say that every fund did better than budgeted. Fixed assets has improved over the last few years. For equipment disposals suggest increase documentation and double check when adding assets. Records have improved over the years but always recommend more training as things continue to change. Suggesting sewer transfers get done more timely so bank balance reflects more closely to ledger. Cross training continues and suggest adding another level of review on capital projects. Your revenue should equal your expenditures. In 2015-2016 you had planned to get a surplus budget more than you will actually spend. It is not good to budget that way. Suggesting there be a line marked contingency instead of showing a surplus. Can always do a budget transfer later on down the road.

Village Manager's Report –

- Almost done with the 10 year capital improvement plan with the Engineer. Will bring to the budget sessions.
- Board has begun interviewing candidates for the Treasurer position.
- Met with Thruway Sporting Goods and the Recreation coordinator on their proposed event at Olley Park on the agenda tonight.
- Been working with the attorney on a few things, nothing public yet.

- Have a DOT meeting on Friday to go over our projects, Ulster Avenue Sidewalks and Pedestrian Bridge. Let me know any other concerns anyone has including on Main Street.
- Attended the Walden Women's Club Dinner honoring Christina Plate and Diane Decker of Will Spay Pets. It was a nice event.
- The RFPs were finalized today with the Clerk and Attorney and are due back the 31st of March and will be posted in the paper. That includes the Garbage contract.
- Had PBA meetings with Special Counsel reviewing disciplinary disputes most are minor and hopefully will be resolved quickly.
- Met with the County Executive regarding a few things one of which is a property purchase that he will review with the Board in executive session tonight.
- Did another review of the budget and will be preparing the finalized one for the Board.

Trustee Mishk asked about billing back NYSEG listed in his report.

Manager Revella replied that currently the supply and transmission are two different companies and we are making both of them NYSEG as they are a cheaper rate now. NYSEG rate currently fluctuates daily. 7.4

Trustee Adams asked if at the DOT meeting on Friday if they will approve our Ulster Avenue project.

Manager Revella replied no. We still have to do final design and finalize a timeline for them to confirm with us. We have finished all we have had to do but their review process takes so long. Ours took a long time and we had to foot the bill for 3 steps to the project because the state didn't have some surveys. Hopeful to get a bid finalized before September 1st and are hoping to get that achieved at this meeting.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman asked about the water meter status.

Manager Revella replied that the contracts are done and all orders have been made. Need to schedule a meeting with utility billing to make sure we can do this. Start with one area and start going. List of non-functioning first and then go from there as a priority.

Mayor Rumbold asked about the street sweeper.

Manager Revella replied it is good, it has been out there. 2 employees are fully trained on it. Will always have 2 people trained on it so we don't have any issues.

Mayor Rumbold asked about Planning and Zoning Board minutes.

Clerk Bliss stated she hasn't gotten any since May 2015.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman stated that the Clerk for those Boards has been out and they have 8 outstanding minutes with 4 on the next agenda for approval.

Approval of the December 1, 2015 Minutes

Tabled as the minutes were not available.

Approval of the December 15, 2015 Minutes

Tabled as the minutes were not available.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Town of Montgomery & Library Board liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard reported that the Library Board has a Board meeting tomorrow. Hopes everyone enjoyed his NYCOM report.

Recreation & Parks Department and Valley Central School Board Liaison – Trustee Ramos

Trustee Ramos reported that he had correspondence with Mr. Xanthis at school board and will hopefully have a new superintendent soon. They are interviewing candidates now. New schedule for next year proposed to start on the Friday before Labor Day. Might be more correspondence with that. Almost completed with National Recreation and Park Association Gold Medal and hopefully we get some National recognition on that. Thanks to Mrs. Lynn for her quote for the package.

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

Deputy Mayor Hoffman reported that he met with Dean and the secretary has been behind on minutes 4 are on next agenda. He is busy with the state report for Building Inspectors once filed he will send to everyone. Planning Board hearing for 98-100 Gladstone Avenue which was adjourned and a proposed Green Laundromat at Thruway Plaza near Daxxon.

DPW Liaison– Trustee Sebring

Trustee Sebring reported he met with Larry and Fred this morning and he went over everything that's been going on. Been well up on everything. Larry has been busy fixing things and everything is running. Slowing down a bit but doing well.

Mayor Rumbold stated the Board would like to see an inventory list from the Mechanic.

Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Adams

Trustee Adams reported that we received the auditor's report and they will be here tonight. Prepared to go into the budget with some good information. Peter has offered if we cannot get a Treasurer by April 1st start date we were targeting that he would stay on for the transition. Thank you Peter.

Police Department Liaison – Trustee Mishk

Trustee Mishk reported that he met with Chief and they discussed issues with officers about day light savings issues and their time. Attended last week a training meeting with the Chaplains. They are very interested and going to do some ride alongs and more training with them. We are ready to go to print with new parking tickets and going online with those.

The Deputy Mayor read the community events into the minutes.

Public Comment on Business of the Board

None.

Action Items

92-94 West Main St – Subordination Agreement

Attorney Donovan stated that one of our rehab loans is refinancing and they have a sufficient equity. We are in the second position on it as it is. We are not changing the status quo just borrowing more money against first mortgage.

Trustee Sebring made a motion approve the Subordination Agreement for 92-94 West Main Street. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Surplus Old DPW Truck #6

Trustee Sebring made a motion to surplus old DPW Truck #6 with Auctions International. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Surplus Old PD Car #2

Deputy Mayor Hoffman made a motion to surplus old PD Car #2 with Auctions International. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

Set Budget Session Dates

Manager Revella stated that the budgets will be in the hands of the Board on March 21, 2016. Now we need to set the budget work session dates.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to set the 2016-2017 budget work sessions for 6pm on Wednesday, April 6, 2016; Thursday, April 7, 2016; Monday, April 11, 2016; Wednesday, April 13, 2016; and Thursday, April 14, 2016 on the 3rd floor of the municipal building. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. All ayes. Motion carried.

Thruway Sporting Goods

Brett Concors and Mario Torchio, Thruway Sporting Goods, stated they want to host an event at Olley Park with numerous activities on May 21, 2016. Not charging an entrance fee at all and really sports centered outdoor activities from 10am to 5pm but aren't expecting more than 500 people at once.

Manager Revella stated that Chief is ok with this, he just wanted to make sure the Board was ok with this type of use of the park and them monopolizing the whole park for the day.

Brett stated that in addition to the enclosed safe archery trailer they were considering having a youth archery shoot not in the trailer. They would be supervised by members of their staff and experts in the archery field and by local community organizations. Identified a place in the park with ample area with no houses behind it and ample open space. We were looking to see if the Board would waive the fee for the day due to the promotion of the park. Push use of Olley Park that it's there and it's kind of hidden and exploring the potential to have the fee waived that in exchange for using the Village logo in all their advertising in the papers and signage. We're looking to see if the Village wanted to help either volunteer some employees or parks department to oversee some of the activities during that day. Mike Bliss is interested in having a table there to educate the public on what the Recreation Department does offer. Also wanted a temporary event sign request and that we can use the Village's sandwich boards at all the entrances to the Village starting April 21, 2016. Looking for help with parking, directing people. Want to have a village presence there and don't want to have folks park in inappropriate areas. The insurance rider would be updated for the event.

Trustee Adams commented that the volunteer from the Recreation Department staff would cost money and is not sure about that.

Manager Revella stated we discussed staff for the day but not sure how many would be needed above the Village information table. Perhaps Boy Scout volunteers could help with the parking. Someone will be on staff as a point of contact.

Brett stated they are not set on having a Village person as they do have other groups, just wanted to bring it up, but not necessary.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman stated that he likes the idea of the event and sounds like a nice partnership and is good to support the businesses. This is a different type of event than the Board normally sees and he wants it to go off well on both sides. He thinks the point tonight is to see if we are in favor of it. He is not ready to go ahead and approve this just yet without more details as there are too many unknown variables right now. Would like to see them come back with a little bit more details and present it to the Board at the next meeting with specifics and a layout of where each of the event will be in the park.

Trustee Ramos asked if lifeguard assistance is needed for the Kayak demonstration.

Brett replied they have done it in the past without a lifeguard as we require everyone to sign a waiver and have employees and company reps who ensure lifejackets are on everyone and everyone is safe. Experienced kayakers there. American canoe association presenting a safety presentation and can incorporate that into the demos. HV Kayak anglers association who are versed in safety and performance.

Mayor Rumbold asked if electricity would be needed. Concerned that 5 trailers would be running all day.

Brett replied he doesn't think so. So far no one has said yes to that question yet. It's an outdoors event so trying to unplug so to speak.

Mayor Rumbold stated that it sounds like a nice event but don't want to incur a lot of costs for employees and electricity and that kind of thing. Appreciate wanting to promote the park but it is a private enterprise so don't want to cost the taxpayers additional money. Would like to have you meet with Mike prior to the next meeting on March 22nd. We are generally in favor of the event but would like to see a plan with activities with more detail, more specifics on items listed and the costs that the Village might incur.

Brett said he could send it to John and he could then share with the Board.

Temporary Sign Request – Enterprise Steamer Co #2 3/19/16 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the Temporary Sign Request from Enterprise Steamer Company #2 for their March 19, 2016 Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Hearing Request - 20 Lafayette Street

Manager Revella stated that there are abandoned vehicles parked on the lawn at this property.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman made a motion to set a hearing for 20 Lafayette Street for Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 6:30pm or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sunrise Service request

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the Sunrise Service to be held in the Firemen's triangle on Sunday, March 27, 2016 from 7am to 7:30 am. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

HR 218

Trustee Mishk stated there is a draft policy that Chief has drafted for your review. There would be no cost to the Village. Limit to 2 weapons per qualification. And will be done when the Village employees are getting qualified. At most there are 2 people who would be interested in this that are not employees who would need to qualify to the standard of the Village.

Attorney Donovan stated he reviewed this and had no concerns or reservations. Nothing jumps out at him as being inappropriate or illegal. He would suggest making this an internal Police Department policy from a purely legal point of view.

Manager Revella stated they wanted to make some language changes if the Board wanted to go forward with this.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman would like to review this and evaluate this after one year as we stated if it didn't work out we could discontinue after one year. He would like a report to confirm there is no cost at that evaluation time.

Mayor Rumbold wants to insure there are no costs to Village and that they work on the language and present at the next meeting.

Public Comment

Mary Ellen Matise, 54 Gladstone Avenue, let everyone know that Veterans are once again being picked up at Shoprite in Montgomery Town of Montgomery Bus service. Dial A Bus and Senior Bus communicating with the Manager and the Mayor and the Town Supervisor. Contact the Veterans Agency to find out more information. We need to let Veterans know about the program. April 10th is Col Bradley Day at noon and local history day will be at 2pm.

Ed Bates, 3 South Way, stated he is all about appearances and efficiencies. In the 14 years he has lived here there have been broken tiles in front of the Clerk's office. It's not expensive to repair those tiles and may even be a safety hazard. He feels they should be repaired. If the street sweeper only has 2 people trained to use it he suggests training them all so that someone is always available. Scheduling not sweeping streets on days that trash is collected. It takes longer to do it that way and not as efficient to go in and out of all the trash cans.

Anita Vandermark, 76 Highland Avenue, asked about the Thruway Event at Olley Park. Is the Police Chief involved as they will need traffic control in the area? Also, what is the normal fee? And finally what about cleaning up?

Manager Revella stated that was all taken into consideration. The Chief is ok with the event. The fee is normally \$100 for the first 4 hours. They do the clean up too including the bathrooms and we can charge them if they don't clean it.

Payment of the Audited Bills

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

Correspondence

None.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Deputy Mayor Hoffman read the following statement: On June 1, 2015, my previous employer, Riddick Associates, PC, was acquired by H2M architects + engineers, a 290-person multi-disciplined professional consulting and design firm with seven (7) office locations within New York and New Jersey. In connection with the acquisition, I accepted an employment offer with H2M as a civil engineer working at the Suffern, NY office. A revised Village of Walden Disclosure Form dated June 2, 2015 was submitted to the Village Clerk to reflect my change in employment. Recently, it came to my attention H2M's White Plains office submitted a proposal for professional architectural and engineering services to the Walden Fire District for a proposed storage building. I reviewed the proposal with our firm's Director of Architecture in conjunction with Article 18 of the General Municipal Law and the Village Code of Ethics. This information was forwarded to the Village of Walden Board of Ethics who confirmed there to be no conflict of interest. Nevertheless, to maintain public confidence I am publicly disclose the matter this evening. In addition, I will refrain from any involvement in the project and have established an "ethical wall" so I do not inadvertently receive any interoffice project communication.

Trustee Sebring stated he went to the 911 Center for a training about a solar campaign. The 3 Villages are participating but the Town is not going to participate. Should be interesting to see that a campaign is coming for that. Was a lengthy meeting. Also NYS has extra money for charging stations for electric cars. Maybe we consider having one if they have extra money.

Trustee Adams asked about scheduling street sweeping in areas on certain days to avoid cars on the road.

Manager Revella replied there is not sufficient parking areas and can't schedule ahead of time. They will try to avoid congested areas and try to go back later when less congested. They will need to be done a few times since they haven't been done in a year and a half.

Trustee Mishk complimented the street sweeper as it did a nice job.

Executive Session

Trustee Adams moved to go into executive session to discuss attorney client privilege with respect to Wileman Avenue and HR 218. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

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

Adjournment

Trustee Leonard moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

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