

**Village of Walden  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
April 19, 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       |
| Trustees | Brenda Adams      |
|          | Gerald Mishk, Jr. |
|          | John Ramos        |
|          | Brian Sebring     |

Absent:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Deputy Mayor | Sean Hoffman (left just before<br>Manager's report was given) |
| Trustee      | Edmond Leonard  |

Also Present:

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

**Local Law 4 of 2016 - Tax Cap Override**

Trustee Sebring made a motion to adopt Local Law 4 of 2016 - Tax Cap Override. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Hearing – 2016-2017 Budget**

Trustee Sebring made a motion to open the public hearing for the 2016 – 2017 Budget. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

Ed Bates, 3 South Way, thanked the Board for their work on the budget. He understands what an arduous task it is and the amount of things to consider and the time to work on such an inclusive budget. A line by line budget is never an easy thing. At the end of the last workshop he commented on how hard they all worked on the budget and what a great job they did. He wanted to add that had he been successful in the election he would have voted to use some fund balance to bring the percentage of increase down a little bit. There is some money to work with in the budget and understands that in the case of an emergency to fall back on would be a nice thing. The increase for a senior on a fixed income is a difficult thing for him to accept. Accepts the fact that there were no shortcuts and no one took it lightly. He appreciates the work put in reaching that budget.

Becky Pearson, 167 Walnut Street, also thanked the Board very much for the work, she appreciates it. Wasn't able to be at all sessions on time. The community center was not discussed and she keeps hearing about it. Is it planned for this budget? What was the finalization on that?

Mayor Rumbold replied that there was a committee formed of the Recreation Coordinator, Anita Vandermark, Trustee Ramos, Jodi Lynn, and the Manager to discuss fundraising for

that. It is not in the budget. We asked to have some kind of a rendition based on what the committee said on what a sample design might look like to aide in the fundraising efforts.

Becky asked if the design would come from the committee.

Mayor Rumbold clarified it would be ideas of what it would look like on the outside. Wanted it to look historic, asked for some ideas and brain stormed.

Becky commented about money that the electric company gave to us for trees. Where is that in the budget?

Manager Revella replied it is not in a line, it's a reserve fund. Not a budgeted item.

Becky asked how much was in it.

Manager Revella replied over \$7,000.

Becky asked if we took out the Farmers Market and fireworks.

Manager Revella replied yes we decreased the lines by that much money.

Becky stated that Brenda talked about retirement that might be happening this year and who would be coming in and the time frame. Good discussion but heard no finalization on that. Instead of 17 weeks making it a full time 4 weeks in budget. DPW new building is in the capital plan but this would be the old firehouse and the old other historic building we are in on Cherry Street. She asked if the firehouse was up for sale and the other building as well.

Manager Revella replied no but if someone would try to buy it we would be willing to sell. If that is the case, and we find we don't need it, but we won't know about that until then. We are open to discussion.

Becky asked about the full time office position that is open and doesn't understand why it can't start off part time and go into full time. Don't see how much time is taken up with new things from 5 years ago. Don't understand. Planning and engineering and that we were hiring a planner under the same engineering firm. Why do we need a planner if we don't need them?

Manager Revella replied we only pay them if they work. If we use them the rate would be the rate in the RFP from the engineer. They have a planner on staff and would be at the planner rate. Engineer is more expensive in this case, not always that way. There is no line for planner in the budget.

Becky asked about baskets and hooks for Main Street that we had at one time, got them from Tom at Twin Ponds and they took them back every January, they may still have them. Already have them might want to think about. Bought at least 20 and were beautiful. Asked businesses to water them. Kind of desolate on Main Street.

Manager Revella replied that we do not have them.

Mayor Rumbold remembers 3 were smashed and broken from kids with long sticks.

Becky commented that she doesn't understand if we need as many crossing guards as we have. Do we need the meter reader? Do we still have parking issues on Main Street with less businesses? In the past she has gone to the school board and asked them to put it in the budget, actually she went to the Town. Legality of church and state couldn't mix together.

Mayor Rumbold replied it comes out of the A fund larger amount of people. Their theory is that students come from Villages and Town feels that's where it should come from if we care to have crossing guards. Traffic has not decreased, it has increased and the number of speeding cars and people going through the crosswalks even when a guard is there is pretty heavy as well. Did some effort on the street crossings and got a number of offenders. We do it when we can as it's not a regular shift and does cost money.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to close the public hearing for the 2016 – 2017 Budget. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Rumbold thanked everyone for their comments. They did come to sessions and it is nice to have public there to hear those discussions. Thank you for participation. She thanked the Manager and Department Heads who had difficult discussions on how to keep the budget as tight as possible and they accomplished that. Fund balance question was difficult decision for them to make but do believe that with the state of the economy and what is going on within NYS we need to be as fiscally prudent as we can and guard that fund balance as much as we can. If we use it to keep taxes down this year we may be setting ourselves up for more dire circumstances next year. John Revella worked magic before with numbers and always finds a way to make our money stretch as much as possible so we don't have to make as many difficult decisions as we did last year.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to adopt the 2016 – 2017 Budget. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Rumbold stated that the trees on Main Street are being removed because the root system has become evasive and is crushing the electrical lines and were on their way to crushing the lamp post and signal lights electrical. Had to remove it and had to use tiny little saws as they were wrapped around the lines and then they could bring in the loader to pick up the rest of the root. Wanted to congratulate them on a yeomen's job. Saved the street lights and the signal lights.

#### **Village Manager's Report –**

- Follow up meetings with County Executive's office and local businesses to entice them to come to our village both light industrial and residential.
- Revamp our workmen's comp rates which helped our budget.
- Still fighting with the electrical supplier.
- Auctions International again was a great success for our surplus items. Got more revenue for surplus items.
- Met with Senator Larkin about grant funding for the Village. Hopefully able to use towards the Community Center along with other funding. Still have a long road to go.

- Met with the Village Planner and Engineer about a few grants out there to get here. One is for Water/sewer and another for General CFA which would be including the Community Center and another one that might help pay for the DPW building.
- Spoke last Saturday at the Buddhist Temple for the welcoming of their religious leader who is here for a month half for religious teachings.
- Meeting with the Millspaugh family and Engineer about a possible park project.
- Conferences with the Attorney regarding complaints and projects. Also met with him about the PESH an OSHA standards so we are compliant with regulations. Met with them today in White Plains and went over standards and postings. Want to make sure our new building is up to code as a template for other communities.
- Working with DPW and the tree project to make sure it doesn't get out of hand.
- Met with VRI, Working Leader, and Engineer about sewer projects and working toward making the DEC happy.
- Good meeting with the finance office and the water department and Software Company. Found a good one to handle our new water sewer billing. Will also allow residents to pay using ACH and credit cards with a fee.

#### **Approval of the April 5, 2016 Minutes**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the April 5, 2016 minutes. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Minutes Approved.

#### **Approval of the Reorganizational Meeting April 5, 2016 Minutes**

Trustee Sebring made a motion to approve the Reorganizational Meeting April 5, 2016 minutes. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Minutes Approved.

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

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

Trustee Leonard was absent

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

Trustee Ramos reported he went to the meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> prior to the vote on the budget and Mel Wesenberg assured him that they were diligent in voting on the budget and tried to cut as much as they can. Their number is 1.91%. He asked how we can do better next year. Asked to slow up on the hiring process. Have 13 retirements coming in June and need a formal plan on either eliminating the positions or rehiring. Parks and Recreation is going smoothly. Summer camp is coming up and will be great.

Trustee Sebring asked if they answered the question about money they lost because the paperwork wasn't put in on time for \$900,000 they lost.

Manager Revella replied they are trying to get that reinstated.

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

Deputy Mayor Hoffman was absent.

### **DPW Liaison– Trustee Sebring**

Trustee Sebring reported that he saw Fred and Larry yesterday and went into great length on how to keep vehicles going to get one or two more years out of them. Was a great discussion and a lot of things will happen once we are in a new budget. They are really trying to make them last longer.

Mayor Rumbold stated that the problem is that the small size of DPW facility couldn't accommodate all of our equipment and they couldn't be kept inside.

### **Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Adams**

Trustee Adams reported that she will meet next week with John and Kelly about policies and things to implement to help us out. Based on numbers from Peter we will likely still be considered in fiscal stress. One reason we can't use fund balance as it will put us in more trouble with the state.

### **Police Department and Justice Department Liaison – Trustee Mishk**

Trustee Mishk reported that he met with Chief and will be speaking to NYCOMCO tomorrow about our radio contract and what they will do for us as the county will take that over in the future. It is being pushed back to the end of 2017 as the county is still negotiating. Sending 3 officers to the Stop DWI program given locally. Helps with vehicle stops, detection of drugs, and detecting probable cause to search impaired drivers. Officer Montanaro will be attending a tactical training next week. Most of these trainings benefit us and is a contractual requirement. Spoke to the Judge about the Scoff law program about going to go after old parking tickets out there. The Judge assured him that he would contact the same company he contacted before. He is also rearranging the court so that it won't cost us as much overtime. The new tickets have been ordered.

Mayor Rumbold read the community events into the minutes.

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

None.

### **Action Items**

#### **Award Bids - Various Surplus Items**

Trustee Mishk made a motion to award the bids for various surplus items for the total amount of \$12,709.54 from Auctions International. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Village Manager Contract**

Trustee Adams made a motion to extend the Village Manager's contract under the same terms for 30 days. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Garbage Contract**

Manager Revella explained that we only received one bid from IWS for the same pricing as the last 3 years for both residential and commercial with an option for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year. He recommends they award for 1 year and the alternate for residential and commercial. Only received the one complaint which was read into the minutes. We still have a supervisor in the Village whenever there is garbage pick-up. Marisa Kellerhouse is here from IWS if there are any questions. We've had concerns but they have been very responsive to our concerns which is all we can ask for them to do.

Trustee Mishk talked about one issue which is when they leave cans in the street after taking off the sidewalk. Watched more that when that happens it's a new driver to that area. Usually corrected when he does make the complaint.

Trustee Adams asked about whether the tire collection listed in the RFP would be once per year or with bulk pick up. It's a great addition.

Manager Revella replied that it would be with the bulk. Exact terms would need to be talked about first and we'll put out an announcement and release.

Mayor Rumbold asked if they anticipate taking electronics at some point.

Manager Revella suggested that perhaps we could arrange on a certain date but at one location not throughout the Village. Thought we could work in one collection in the fall or late summer to get one in.

Marisa Kellerhouse, IWS, replied that this is a touchy subject and a county wide issue. We need to work together to get with private haulers as they are charging astronomically for e-waste.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to award the garbage bid to Interstate Waste Services subject to final review and approval of the Village Attorney and the Village Manager and a final contract. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Flag Day Ceremony – 6/12/16 at 1pm at Veterans Park**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the Flag Day Ceremony for June 12, 2016 at 1pm at Veterans Park to include use of the Village sound system and any needed tables and chairs. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Outdoor Café Permit - Marina's Café**

Manager Revella explained that the Building Inspector and the Chief would recommend the Board decline this permit based on it being a high traffic and high congestion area. Additionally it would encroach on the sidewalk and pedestrians would have to go into the street to get around the tables and chairs. Additionally there is no parking along that area.

Trustee Adams made a motion to decline the Outdoor Café Permit from Marina's Café. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Temporary Event Sign – Walden VFW – 5/28/16 Ken Rain Memorial Ride**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the Temporary Event Sign from the Walden VFW for their event to be held on 5/28/16 - Ken Rain Memorial Ride. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

#### **Building Inspector Request to Waive Permit Fee**

Manager Revella received a request from the Building Inspector to waive the building permit fee for a project that Eagle Scout Shawn McKeever of Troop 31 is working on. He will be constructing a cedar pergola at the Most Precious Blood Church on Walnut Street. The cost is \$36.00.

Mayor Rumbold stated she would personally pay the fee and handed the Clerk a check.

Manager Revella stated that we received an SLA application for Franco's Pizza on the patio/deck.

Trustee Mishk asked that it be given to the Police Department for their review and processing.

### **Public Comment**

Ed Bates, 3 South Way, commented on future development in the community of which to him there doesn't seem that there is any. He sees individual houses going up and is semi aware of some projects in the planning that have been in the planning stage for a while. He doesn't understand Planning and Zoning Boards role in approving or delaying or what the requirements might be if a developer wanted to put in a few 100 homes or something like that. Does the Board actively participate in opening that up so that people know that they they are in fact interested and handle the increase in populations as well as the draw on the facilities? His concern would be the possibilities of increasing the tax base. Not sure what areas it might be but generally wanted to know if the board actively seeks developers.

Manager Revella stated that he does that and the Board assists. He attends County meetings and we are a member of different associations that assist with that as well. OC programs that say do you have this we will look at it. Also have realtors through a Public Relations program to assist us. There is a project for Townhouses of over 200 units but that delay is on developer's side not our sides. We do whatever we can to help but the developer is going at their own pace not ours. They applied for their own extension. We have to make sure it's the right fit for the Village, not the wrong kind.

Ed commented that the work at the plaza has been tremendous but Main Street seems to be neglected.

Manager Revella stated we are working on an economic development project but we can't talk about it just yet. As soon as it happens it will be a boom to us but they are in planning stages at this point so can't talk about it yet.

Becky McNally, 52 Oakland Avenue, stated that the trees look good being gone on Main Street and hopefully the root system better. Wanted to remind you we had a meeting and be assured that the iron grates are being saved to be repurposed. We also discussed that when they were removed that the area around them would be replaced with cement not black top.

Manager Revella replied yes the grates are being saved and it won't stay black top, it will come out and be concrete. Trying to do all at once to save some money.

Becky continued that now that they are gone the lamp post lights look more obvious how they are peeling. We discussed a few years ago we would have to take them down and send them out to be redone at \$1,000 each. Is there no way of doing it in house?

Manager Revella replied that we tried painting one and it didn't last one rain storm. The plan is to replace them with a newer darker color that doesn't peel. Looking to do that with the road signs as well, will look nice.

Becky commented about the Walden public image and we discussed the cohesiveness as we do have various talents. Someone suggested on the road signs putting up a sign on the inside "Walden Community of Opportunity" so trucks don't hit them. Every other flag could be the businesses and would be able to further project our community image.

Manager Revella forgot to mention that the Welcome packet is now posted on website. Always going to be a work in progress as businesses come in and out but if anyone has suggestions, let us know.

Mayor Rumbold commented she was just talking with the Clerk and the Library Manager about a contest for kids to do drawings and then make them into book marks and possibly extending that to create art work on flags to be hung on Main Street.

Becky Pearson, 167 Walnut Street, asked what the Mayor was paying \$36 for.

Clerk Bliss replied a Building permit for an Eagle Scout project that is not on Village property.

Becky asked why they declined the Outdoor Café permit for Marina's Café.

Mayor Rumbold reiterated that the Chief and the Building Inspector didn't feel there was enough clearance for people using the sidewalks to pass to give those that are eating enough space in that area. There is also parking between the white lines and the sidewalk.

Becky asked if it was different than in front of what is now Barnside. That is one of the areas of heavies flow of traffic in the Village, she is sad to see it didn't happen.

Manager Revella stated that if she wanted to apply again for the side of her building if the owner were agreeable to that she could go that avenue.

Ellen Matisse, 54 Gladstone Avenue, asked if the Manager got her email about tree maintenance and the DEC grant. She hoped that maybe we would move forward with it and apply for up to \$25,000 for maintenance of trees not just for Main Street, all the Village. Wondering if it would be a good time to conserve tax payer dollars to start the thinking and working of certified local government again. Small cities grants need a commission, even it if combines people from planning and zoning, because then we can access a lot more state money to help us out in the long run.

Anita Vandermark, 76 Highland Avenue, stated that on days when we have the recycling that's when they have hands on your can and do not use the side arm. When they put them back they put them wherever they want to put it not where it was picked up. Called to the guy to come back but happy the Village contacted them as they did come back out. She added to the calendar the 6pm free community dinners at Victory Church of God last Wednesday of the month. Also Debbie Robb will be holding harvest fest meetings at 6:30pm last Wednesdays at the VFW.

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

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



### **Correspondence**

Mayor Rumbold got a small package of old Walden postcards found in Hackensack NJ. She would like to give them to the Historical Society.

Trustee Adams made a motion to donate the old Walden postcards that were mailed to the Mayor from Hackensack NJ to the Historical Society of Walden and the Wallkill Valley. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

Trustee Adams commented that the Bradley Day ceremony very nicely done, thank you Mary Ellen.

Trustee Sebring asked why there was no report this week from the Code Enforcement Officer, just curious what happened.

Manager Revella stated he was correct, there was not one in there this week.

Mayor Rumbold also went to the Bradley Day Ceremony and it was very nice thank you Mary Ellen for your hard work and those attendees. She wished more people would come out to that. She thinks about Col Bradley and what he did for the Village and wondered what he would think of us and what we are doing. Sure he is pleased he is remembered. Mary Ellen deserves a lot of thanks. Heard that the presentation of the Knife History was good. Thank you again, we all appreciate it.

Trustee Mishk commented that Stewarts donated \$375 to Police Department. They continue to support the community and he wanted to mention it.

Mayor Rumbold stated we really do appreciate the businesses in the Village who go above and beyond to help provide events and special things in the community. She hopes that citizens of the Village patronize these businesses and support them in turn.

### **Adjournment**

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

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting  
April 19, 2016  
Motions & Resolutions**

**Local Law 4 of 2016 - Tax Cap Override**

Trustee Sebring made a motion to adopt Local Law 4 of 2016 - Tax Cap Override. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Hearing – 2016-2017 Budget**

Trustee Sebring made a motion to open the public hearing for the 2016 – 2017 Budget. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to close the public hearing for the 2016 – 2017 Budget. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to adopt the 2016 – 2017 Budget. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Approval of the April 5, 2016 Minutes**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the April 5, 2016 minutes. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Minutes Approved.

**Approval of the Reorganizational Meeting April 5, 2016 Minutes**

Trustee Sebring made a motion to approve the Reorganizational Meeting April 5, 2016 minutes. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Minutes Approved.

**Award Bids - Various Surplus Items**

Trustee Mishk made a motion to award the bids for various surplus items for the total amount of \$12,709.54 from Auctions International. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Village Manager Contract**

Trustee Adams made a motion to extend the Village Manager's contract under the same terms for 30 days. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Garbage Contract**

Trustee Mishk made a motion to award the garbage bid to Interstate Waste Services subject to final review and approval of the Village Attorney and the Village Manager and a final contract. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Flag Day Ceremony – 6/12/16 at 1pm at Veterans Park**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the Flag Day Ceremony for June 12, 2016 at 1pm at Veterans Park to include use of the Village sound system and any needed tables and chairs. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Outdoor Café Permit - Marina's Café**

Trustee Adams made a motion to decline the Outdoor Café Permit from Marina's Café. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Temporary Event Sign – Walden VFW – 5/28/16 Ken Rain Memorial Ride**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the Temporary Event Sign from the Walden VFW for their event to be held on 5/28/16 - Ken Rain Memorial Ride. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Payment of the Audited Bills**

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

**Correspondence**

Trustee Adams made a motion to donate the old Walden postcards that were mailed to the Mayor from Hackensack NJ to the Historical Society of Walden and the Walkkill Valley. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

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