

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
May 17, 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

Village Manager's Report –

- Had discussions with Congressman Maloney's office and the County Executive's office regarding economic development in our area. Moving forward and keep pushing for it to come to fruition. Will have an update at next meeting. There are some entities that would like to come to our Village and would like to help with that.
- Been working on PESH compliance issues as a result of hearing. May have an opportunity of some grant funding to remediate those issues. Will keep you posted on that as well.
- Interviewed some candidates for parks employees to get caught up on the citations we have to cut lawns that have been cited. Made 2 hires and now we have a full staff to mow the parks and get everything back up to the Village's standards.
- The Library requested a library assistant list from civil service so make a new hire.
- Met with the Finance department to go over invoices and timelines of things.
- Met with Chief Holmes regarding the active shooter drill at the school soon and vehicle maintenance and computers.
- Well 5 rehab is completed with electric upgrades.
- Ordered new street signs and replacement signs to fix and replace.
- Met with a communications company regarding different kinds of radios and possibilities for the Village when the County gets their new radios. We will need a different scenario at a reduced cost when that takes effect.
- Attended a wonderful ceremony last Saturday for John Ciardullo for Korean War medal honors. The family is very thankful for the support. It was a great turn out and a wonderful event.
- Began review of the CFA application with the Planner. Will submit for the community center again this year.

Trustee Adams asked about the meeting he had in his report on page 8 about insurance.

Manager Revella replied it was with the Deputy Treasurer/Clerk about her personal health insurance.

Mayor Rumbold asked if we have gotten anything more from the beautification committee about Main Street. Has had several people asking about it.

Manager Revella stated that we have had difficulty getting a contractor in to get pricing. Have gotten a few different planter ideas.

Becky McNally, 52 Oakland Avenue and Beautification Committee Member, stated that temporarily this weekend she is going to put out at the main intersections planters with flowers in them and should be ok for now to be replaced permanently at a later date. It is difficult to find planters that will fit where we want to put them.

Mayor Rumbold stated she has been researching something we could get to cover the peeling paint on the bottom of the light poles.

Manager Revella stated that we do have it in the budget to replace those on Main Street. It was like they were being sand blasted by the plows and the new lights hopefully won't have that issue. Will also have electric at the top for wreaths and hoping to have a hook to hang plants or flags.

Becky added that they discussed the possibility of putting flags up and sharing the cost with those that would advertise on them.

Mayor Rumbold added that she talked to Ginny Neidermeir about artwork on flags to hang.

Becky asked if there was a timeframe to replace the poles and if it would be worth painting them.

Manager Revella replied we tried and the paint comes right off when it rains.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Adams stated there is a correction on the February 16, 2016 minutes on page 5 the name Kevin needs to be replaced with Debbie Wilson.

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the February 16, 2016 with the stated correction, March 1, 2016, March 22, 2016, April 19, 2016, and the May 3, 2016 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Minutes approved.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Town of Montgomery & Library Board liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard attended the Library meeting and they are looking at the 2nd floor for renovation only in their preliminary discussions. Also attend the Friends of the Library meeting who will be the lead agency for the end of life conference they will hold this fall.

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

Trustee Ramos reported he spoke to Mr. Bliss who is going through interviews for lifeguards and camp counselors in anticipation for summer camp. The School vote is today. He did attend the meet the candidate's night a week ago and hopes everyone went out to vote. They have proposed a 0.48% tax levy and did a good job on the budget.

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

Deputy Mayor Hoffman met with Dean this morning and went over in detail the Zoning Board interpretations that are going before the board as he hasn't had interpretations in a while. There is also a use variance before the board for 175 S. Montgomery Street. We also spoke about the Solar Panel moratorium and his interpretation of the Townhouse Law.

DPW Liaison– Trustee Sebring

Trustee Sebring reported that he didn't meet with Fred as he is away at a conference this week. He spoke with Larry and he is a little slow but keeping himself busy straightening things out and getting ready for the new building. Fixed a flat tire on the Police Department car. We are at the end of the fiscal year so don't have a lot of funds until the new fiscal year starts.

Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Adams

Trustee Adams reported that she met with Kelly and Tara who have added their reports to the packets as the other department heads do already. Met with Tara on May 11th and talked about a lot of items and she emailed the Board about the meeting. One of the items was the Summer Youth Employment Program and after the email went out the paperwork came out about the 2017 grant funding application that is due on June 10th. Any discussion about her doing that program next year would need to be decided so that she can submit the application on time. She does this program in addition to her duties.

Clerk Bliss stated it's a great program that benefits the youth and the community at large as hopefully the youth will be able to come back to the Village to make an impact here. She feels there is no issue with running the program above and beyond her job duties.

The Board agreed that the Clerk could submit for funding for next year's program.

Trustee Adams added that Kelly wanted to let the Board know that the court revenue is the gross amount not all ours as it passes through to NYS.

Police Department and Justice Department Liaison – Trustee Mishk

Trustee Mishk reported that he met with Chief and the police department awards will be here at 7pm on Thursday. Also got a grant from Division of Criminal Justice Services for half of the computer system they need.

Mayor Rumbold read the community events into the minutes.

Manager Revella stated there are 2 add ons to the agenda: property maintenance hearing request for 5 Hiddenview Drive and a request for support of a grant for historic markers.

Public Comment on Business of the Board

Becky Pearson, 167 Walnut Street, commented on the more streamlined agenda. Not sure what the Townhouse law is doing on the agenda as she recalls at the last meeting the Board was not going to discuss it until someone came before the Board.

Manager Revella stated we have an assessment from the planner so it's to report on the impact to the project as requested.

Action Items

Resolution 60-15-16 – Levying Village Taxes

Trustee Mishk made a motion to approve Resolution 60-15-16 – Levying Village Taxes. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

Local Law #5 Solar Panel Moratorium

Attorney Donovan explained that this includes a 6 month period from the date of filing the law for no action while we mull over what to do with the exception of roof mounted panels. Would need to set a public hearing if the Board wanted to move forward with this Local Law. No SEQR review is required.

Trustee Sebring made a motion to set a public hearing for Introductory Local Law #5 - Solar Panel Moratorium. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 61-15-16 - Non Union Policies

Manager Revella explained this is about insurance levels and includes opt out options for employees. Brings them into alignment the contributions to health care costs with the new union contracts.

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve Resolution 61-15-16 – Non Union Policies. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Townhouse Law

Manager Revella suggested this be tabled.

The Board agreed.

Proposed Modification of Fee Ordinance

Attorney Donovan explained this came up during the relevying process that the planning and zoning board fees currently cannot be levied onto properties. It cannot be done without adoption of a local law. We have the power to charge and collect the fees would need to add that due process be in place where they get billed and have time to pay said fees before they are levyied. The Board could charge him to do a Local Law if the Board is inclined to do this.

The Board agreed to have a draft local law at the next meeting.

Hearing Request – 5 Hiddenview Drive

Trustee Sebring made a motion to set a hearing for 5 Hiddenview Drive for Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 6:30pm or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

Grant Request – Historic Marker for First Reformed Church

Mary Ellen Matisse, Village Historian, sent John a request yesterday to be put on the agenda tonight as she has been working with Mickey Millspaugh and they came up with wording for a historic marker grant to the Pomeroy Foundation for the Hill Church now known as the First Reformed Church. We could apply for this building as well as we can't get a listing on the registry for it. Asking for a resolution in support of application.

Trustee Adams made a motion to authorize that the Village Historian and the Village Manager can apply for the grant for the 2 Historic Markers to the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for the Municipal Building as well as the First Reformed Church. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Becky McNally, 52 Oakland Avenue, heard that they felt there was a low vote turn out for the school board out of the High school and when she was there it was almost 1,000 at 5:30pm today. She asked about the cement squares on Main Street as well as the Crosswalk issues at the end of Wait Street. You don't see that crosswalk until you are on it and there are no signs there. Going to have an accident there.

Manager Revella replied that he addressed the cement under his report that he has contacted 3 contractors and haven't gotten pricing yet. As far as the crosswalks, NYS was supposed to put up signs as it's a state road like they did on Main Street and by Highland Avenue. He can follow up with the representative from DOT.

Becky thanked the guys for planting the flowers, they did a great job but not there isn't enough mulch. It's thin and will lose the plants there if not thicker.

Manager Revella replied that in 2 weeks they can get more mulch when we are in the new fiscal year.

Becky asked about the Masci & Hale building as she sees a lot of activity and wanted to know if a business goes in there would they be interested in turning the grassy area in front of the building into parking spaces to have more parking in that area.

Manager Revella replied it is not a business going in there, it is a single family home. He can suggest they move the island and make it a curb and make more parking. Good idea will look into it.

Becky Pearson, 167 Walnut Street, what are we tabling with the Townhouse Law. She is confused as she thought the Board finalized what you wanted which was to wait for an applicant to request this before doing anything else.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman replied we tabled the discussion because we got the information late and the Board didn't get a chance to review it so the Manager suggested tabling the topic. He still feels that the request should come from an applicant. He feels there was a miscommunication of his request to find out the impact on the project that is on the books if we changed from 20% to 10% affordable housing which was not in the analysis from the last time.

Becky stated that the Village of Montgomery employees were putting up a building at the park. Why can't we do the same thing? The project didn't go out to bid for that they are using a contractor and they do the work themselves, saves a lot of money, why can't we do it ourselves as well. We used to put in our own sidewalks, why can't we do it ourselves.

Manager Revella replied that the rates for Workmen Comp for paving and concrete work is triple the amount it once was. They are likely doing that to avoid paying prevailing wage which may or may not be legal. Our workers should not be doing that kind of work here. It sounds simple enough, but it becomes complicated due to lawsuits etc.

Becky doesn't understand why we can just have our guys mix up some bags of concrete and do what needs to get done.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman replied that her description was a little over simplification of it. He's seen some other agencies employees working within their skill set and supplement with a mason worker. They figure out what they can do and contract out the remaining portions, he has seen success with that.

Becky replied good; let's try that. There has been talk of a dog park in the Village of Walden and she heard maybe at Olley Park. She feels that is our most beautiful park and every dog park she has seen is dirty. She suggests doing it at Bradley Park instead where there already is dirt.

Mayor Rumbold replied that nothing has been set in stone about the location, just a lot of discussions.

Mary Ellen Matise, 54 Gladstone Avenue, asked what the date of the park master plan was.

Manager Revella replied it was made and adopted as part of the Village Comprehensive Plan in 2012. Going to need to review it again next year or the year after.

Mary Ellen hoped the Board would consider certified local government again as it gets tax credits for homeowners and is very beneficial; it did wonders for Peekskill. We have the right urbanized census district and low income census district for it.

Anita Vandermark, 76 Highland Avenue, thanked Tara Bliss for her work with the Summer Youth Employment Program as it's a big undertaking. She hoped everyone would get the word out and get people to fly their flags. Thanks to Brenda, Becky, and Jodi for the beautification at Veterans Park. Did Wooster Grove Park get fixed up with mulch yet? She also hopes that we will look into the cross walk area that was brought up tonight.

Manager Revella replied the mulch has indeed been added and that he would ask Mr. Pullar to get the signs up and if not will paint stop bars in front and in back of the crosswalks.

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

Trustee Leonard commented that the event last week for John Ciardullo was outstanding and the turnout was exceptional.

Trustee Adams confirmed that line up for the parade is at 9:30am on Memorial Day.

Trustee Mishk commented that there are many signs around the Village for different private events. He understands those on the telephone poles but today he saw a 16 x 16 sign advertising a pizzeria in Walkkill. It's getting crazy again. Also he reported 6 street lights that are out.

Manager Revella stated that NYSEG has given permission to anyone to remove the signs on the telephone poles. The switch to those lights was off and there is a bulb that needs to be replaced on Veterans Bridge.

Mayor Rumbold commented that the Ciardullo ceremony was wonderful. She asked about the weeds along the Tin Brook from the bridge to the bridge and when they would be cut.

Manager Revella stated that he let Mike Bliss know and if he has time to get there they will and he will also notify the state as well. The state already went through once before the season began. They are Japanese knotweed which is one of the most evasive species in the world and they don't want you to cut it down you are supposed to treat it. Our arborist treats it.

Executive Session

Trustee Adams moved to go into executive session to discuss the personnel history of a particular person. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

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

Adjournment

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

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Motions & Resolutions**

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