

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
November 15, 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 – Solar, Orange County Planning Department

Mayor Rumbold clarified that we are mostly talking about the kind that would go on the ground not the rooftop. She understands that Solar Arrays are a better fit in a Town setting vs a Village as there is more space in Towns.

Kate Schmidt from Orange County Planning Department discussed solar information that is going on in the county. She feels that the Nyack legislation is the most progressive one that she just got recently and doesn't believe she has shared with us yet. Right now the legislation isn't perfect, we still need more research. They are asking for NYSERDA to do some more research. State code doesn't really cover Villages and it's going to take more research before it does. She doesn't suggest that Villages ban ground mounts but maybe suggests a special permission permit instead of that. She also suggests a ground mount canopy over driveways as an alternative to consider. There are tree issues that come with this that need to be considered as well and at whose expense. Maybe smaller property owners can combine on a larger property such as an industrial building for Community Solar where people can buy into that and know they are participating in green renewable energy. Montgomery, Middletown, and Newburgh are planning on doing more research through a program. Passed out their last research results and invited us to participate in this new program; Solarize is a program that makes it easier and more affordable for homes to go solar through community-wide education, pre-qualified installation, partner, and group purchasing discounts.

Village Manager's Report

- Met with the Treasurer about follow up on the AUD

- Water Bills are currently being checked for discrepancies. Some people were getting no bill or a very high bill so they should be out soon.
- Discussed Planning Board Escrow accounts with the Attorney, Clerk, and Treasurer in response to a FOIL request.
- Historic marker grant funding has been received for this building and the church up the street. Markers have been ordered and we will get them in the spring.
- Got a letter from Human Rights that they denied Ms Hammond compliant.
- We have a Core Logic meeting next Monday about software options.
- Attended the Town Board budget meeting with Trustee Ramos and they are giving us \$21,000 this year, which is the same as the Village of Montgomery but we requested they review it to come into parody. Same thing with the library, they got more but not even close to what they asked for. Didn't tell us just saw it in the proposed budget. There is no tax increase for A fund tax payers which is good.
- Veterans Day ceremony was excellent and the weather was great. No issues from the start to the end of the ceremony.
- Met with some folks on Gladstone Avenue who are looking to get a speed hump donated at no cost to the Village, even though our data does not show a need for one there.
- Have a meeting with a Kelly Williams Agent who is trying to put in a facility that may not be permitted and will have more follow up on that after the meeting.
- Met with Trustee Sebring, the Engineer, and the Recreation Coordinator about the lights on Main Street and in the Square. We are getting quotes for lighting in general which are very expensive and they are going to do a light study as well.
- Commercial Rehab loan documents should be ready for next meeting.
- We had an issue with a Village tax parcel 27 N. Montgomery Street. They took us off for the current year this has been remedied by our Attorney. However in 2013 the Village paid the tax but not in 2014 so it went to the county. Our attorney is working directly with the County to see if it could be removed as it is tax exempt.

Trustee Adams asked about 14 Riverview Street as she heard that people were going in it at night but sounds like people are just hanging out there. If the locks are on, how are they getting in? Does someone have a key?

Manager Revella replied that we don't know that he may have given out a key. During certain hours there is no justification for it and Dean is following up on it.

Trustee Mishk added that we got communication from the owner to do a vacation check but the owner has yet to respond.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman asked about the additional \$100 for rock removal at the new DPW facility and if it is affecting the timeline and are we still on budget.

Manager Revella replied the timeline is fine, footings are all poured and the steel should be going up next week. The fee is nominal so we are close to budget at this point.

Mayor Rumbold asked if we are snow ready and if he had heard about the Town paying for part time health care for workers.

Manager Revella replied yes, we are snow ready and yes, that is the plan according to the budget hearing he attended.

Approval of November 1, 2016 Minutes

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the November 1, 2016 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Mayor Rumbold explained that the reporting for DPW has changed. The Manager and Liaison will work with the working leader because he is not a department head so it's a little oversight issue there.

Town of Montgomery & Library Board liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard reported that the Library applied to the State for a grant and will hopefully hear back in March. If they get it they would rehab the 2nd floor Community Room. Shawangunk trail fill material that was blocking us is now out of the way which is the first step in the rehab process of connecting that trail system.

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

Trustee Ramos reported that he was on the selection committee for the new assistant superintendent position will be given to Mr. Bellarosa. Mrs. Phelps class had attended the school board meeting where 7 students gave a great presentation. The line for the tax collector that we've been discussing is still in the discussions at this point. He met with Mr. Bliss and they are busy getting ready for the winter season. Indoor soccer and basketball are going well.

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

Deputy Mayor Hoffman reported that he was unable to meet with Dean due to their conflicting schedules but he spoke with Dean and reviewed 24 Ulster Avenue.

DPW Liaison– Trustee Sebring

Trustee Sebring reported that they have been flushing sewers, cutting brush in prep for winter, installed sanders on the trucks, and the footings are installed for the new building.

Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Adams

Trustee Adams reported that our auditing firm has merged and they sent us a new engagement letter well after the fact which we are addressing. She and Kelly are taking a webinar tomorrow regarding fund balance policy development.

Police Department and Justice Department Liaison – Trustee Mishk

Trustee Mishk reported that he met with Chief today and he reported he has 2 cars down which are being worked on. Night firing is the end of this week. He's having an issue with part timers not being available to fill shifts. He asked Chief for more stats so we can address potentially hiring more part time officers. We have to address the issues with the contract first pertaining to the hours they are available. Not just the officers but also the dispatchers.

Mayor Rumbold read the community events into the minutes.

Public Comment on Business of the Board

None.

Action Items

Hearing Request – 61 Scofield Street

Jay Buchalski, Code Enforcement Officer, explained there is construction debris still all over the back of the property and has not heard from the property owner to date.

Trustee Leonard made a motion to set a hearing for 61 Scofield Street for Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 6:30pm or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Hearing Request – 37 Wileman Avenue

Jay Buchalski, Code Enforcement Officer, explained there is a chicken coup on the property. They did rearranged some things in the coup area but nothing else has changed as of today.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to set a hearing for 37 Wileman Avenue for Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 6:30pm or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Wait Street Sidewalk Project Bids

Manager Revella stated that we still did not hear back from the County on whether they were able to find more funding but we do have \$30,000 in CDBG funding coming already. We have budgeted \$81,000 in our bond plus the CDBG funding. We don't want to lose the prices from the vendors but need to make sure the prices will last until we do the work.

Attorney Donovan suggested awarding the bid contingent upon the consent from the vendor that the same pricing being would be honored when the work begins.

Trustee Mishk made a motion award the Wait Street Sidewalk Project bids to Consorti Brothers Paving & Sealcoating, Inc. in the amount of \$83,705.20 contingent upon consent that the same pricing will be honored when we do the work. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

Introductory Local Law 9 of 2016 – Police Disciplinary Procedures

Attorney Donovan suggests this be vetted through our labor counsel first before we go forward. State law imposes the Board to vote on discipline but they can designate the Manager to investigate or be responsible for meeting out discipline. Currently John already does meet out the discipline but if they don't like what he says they can grieve his decision. The CBA is not part of the litigation because a violation of CBA needs to go through their CBA process. It is a long process to get back to us, so will be back on at that point. It does not supersede the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) as he explained before. He suggests asking the Attorney General for another opinion due to our Village Manager 15A form of government as the last opinion stated it needed to go out for mandatory referendum. He is not sure if it is the same with a 15A Village Manager form of government so he suggests the Board ask the Attorney General for another opinion before he would be comfortable suggesting the Board move forward with this, feels it's too risky an issue without being certain the Board has that authority.

Manager Revella explained that he is not suggesting a referendum as it is costly.

The Board agreed to wait for the opinion.

Introductory Local Law 10 of 2016 - Truck Routes

Attorney Donovan stated we reviewed this law at the last meeting and he did receive feedback from the Board and he made those revisions. If the Board is so inclined they could set a public hearing for this Local Law.

Clerk Bliss stated that since Local Laws have to be filed with the state in numerical order, this local law now becomes Local Law 9 of 2016.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to set a public hearing for Introductory Local Law 9 of 2016 - Truck Routes for Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 6:30pm or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Temporary Event Sign Request – Firehouse Breakfast with Santa

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the Temporary Event Sign Request from the Walden Fire Department for their December 4, 2016 Breakfast with Santa Event. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Proposal from SI Play for Recreation & Parks Department

Manager Revella explained that this is a proposal for online registration software which would increase the coordinating and communicating with participants and coaches for our programs including soccer, summer camp, basketball, flag football, and tennis. It would significantly save on time but we would need to adjust the cost of our programs to cover the expense of the software. Most everything would be electronic but paper registrations would still be offered if someone didn't have a computer to access this. We were looking at Option A which is a \$200 one-time set up fee and \$199 per year. The cost per participant we would need to look at based on our program registrations and would be outlined in a contract.

Trustee Ramos added that the more participants we have the more the cost goes down. The more expensive part listed in the proposal is for web design not function which is why Mr. Bliss is looking at the basic package to keep costs down. As a coach himself he would benefit from this type of program as he can communicate with the parents faster without making individual calls to cancel or change a practice or a game.

Kelly A. Kelly, Village Treasurer, commented that this would save us a lot of time including Anthony's time, and her time not to mention it would better our segregation of duties as there is a lot of cash that comes in through their department.

Manager Revella stated that once a participant is enrolled in the system, they stay in the system and it automatically gets updated which is a convenience to the parent as well.

Trustee Sebring made a motion to authorize the Village Manager to enter into a contract with Sports Illustrated Play for online registration software for use by the Recreation & Parks Department approving design option A at a cost of \$199.00 annually and a one-time set up fee of \$200.00 as listed in their proposal dated September 9, 2016 subject to the

Village Attorney approving said contract. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Temporary Event Sign Request – VFW Breakfast with Santa

Trustee Adams made a motion to approve the Temporary Event Sign Request from the VFW for their December 3, 2016 Breakfast with Santa Event. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Payment of the Audited Bills

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

Correspondence

None.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Leonard said that the Veterans program was wonderful as always and they had a great turn out and beautiful weather.

Trustee Ramos added that there were 185 people who attended the Veterans Ceremony and he was honored to speak as the MC on behalf of the Veterans.

Trustee Adams thanked everyone for their help with the Veterans Day Ceremony, especially Sue for her wonderful speech, John for being a great MC, and Brian for his help getting it all together.

Trustee Mishk stated that he feels it is time to address an issue in our landlord registry. A neighbor of 14 Riverview Street suggested we change the code for fire inspections from every 2 years and consider having it every year. It may help with the landlord registry.

Mayor Rumbold commented that there is a great Veterans program tomorrow evening here at 7pm and they are looking for a nice turn out. Great job to everyone for their work on the Veterans Day Ceremony. Sadly our community lost Ric Cagney who proudly served his community for many years, 52 years in the Walden Fire Department. She will miss him a lot and is sure everyone will miss him.

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Motions & Resolutions**

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