

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
February 21, 2017**

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

Absent:

Trustee	Brian Sebring
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Also Present:

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

Public Hearing – Local Law 2 of 2017 – Clothing Drop Boxes

Trustee Ramos made a motion to open the public hearing for Local Law 2 of 2017 – Clothing Drop Boxes. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Adams made a motion to close the public hearing for Local Law 2 of 2017 – Clothing Drop Boxes. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Adams made the motion for Negative Declaration under SEQRA for Local Law 2 of 2017 – Clothing Drop Boxes. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Mishk made the motion to adopt Local Law 2 of 2017 – Clothing Drop Boxes. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Hearing – Local Law 3 of 2017 – Sewer Penalties

Trustee Adams made a motion to open the public hearing for Local Law 3 of 2017 – Sewer Penalties. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

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Public Hearing – Local Law 4 of 2017 – Water Penalties

Trustee Adams made a motion to open the public hearing for Local Law 4 of 2017 – Water Penalties. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mary Ellen Matise, 54 Gladstone Avenue, noticed that the billing has been a bit irregular recently which creates a problem for people.

Manager Revella asked what bill she was referencing.

Mary Ellen replied the timing on recent water bills. Seemed like the amount of time given to pay the last time was shorter.

Manager Revella replied that bills are usually sent quarterly and are due 30 days later. We actually gave 5 weeks to pay this last time instead of 4 weeks.

Mary Ellen commented that it just seemed irregular.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to close the public hearing for Local Law 4 of 2017 – Water Penalties. Seconded by Trustee Adams. All ayes. Motion carried.

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Village Manager's Report

- Had a meeting with the Association of Towns, Villages, and Cities on Friday and they discussed things the County can do for us such as helping us deal with problem landlords and properties. They also talked about the programs the Governor is proposing that the County and the Association is opposed to; the tying of AIM funding to help relieve taxes due to mandates. The Governor suggested holding the funding completely and tying it to County consolidation. He also went to the state convention of the Association of Towns, Villages, and Cities this weekend and they are also opposed as well as the New York Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) is also opposed as it may not work and we shouldn't be penalized. Mandates need mandate reliefs. Schools get millions of dollars for mandate relief. Ours is much smaller in comparison. The concern about Federal funding being lost if NYS were to become a sanctuary state has been discussed in smaller groups within the conference of managers. They have been talking via chain emails as it is foolish to do this and we would likely lose funding by doing that. Concerned if Governor decided that is what he would do how it would affect everyone in the state. Does not think it would pass in the Senate, but the Assembly possibly. Comptroller DiNapoli said it would take about \$5.7 billion out of state budget with obvious serious impacts.
- Meeting with the Treasurer who is doing a lot of fixed assets things and getting ready for budget.
- Met with a Municipal Audit firm who would come in to look at our gross utility receipts. We may do this or we may do it ourselves.
- Responded to some complaints about snow removal and mailboxes. Making sure all complaints have been responded to in a timely fashion.

- The narrative on 39 Edmunds Lane was finalized and that project is moving forward. We have been getting regular bankruptcy mailings.
- We have to call the snow policy twice and we did a lot of clean up down town to avoid dangerous conditions with roadway widths due to piling snow.
- Met with Mr. Jacobowitz to discuss the Overlook project with him. The Mayor joined them for a while.
- Been working with Special Counsel on a 207c matter and a Leave of Absence matter.
- Met with Attorney Donovan and Attorney Dickover about some Planning and Zoning Board concerns and issues with the code.
- Working on a potential new credit card company who does rebates which our current company does not do.
- Water Department has been working hard and installing as many meters as they can. We have a few areas of concern and we had the Attorney write letters to those properties to get them into compliance.

Trustee Leonard asked how we stand on our snow budget.

Manager Revella replied we have to wait for this week's payroll to be finished and we just got a salt order. After this meeting we will know then. Its close but not over budget yet.

Approval of February 7, 2017 Minutes

Mayor Rumbold stated there is an amendment to the minutes. There was a motion made after executive session that didn't get recorded. Trustee Ramos made the motion to authorize the Village Attorney to prepare a contract for the sale of 27 N. Montgomery Street. Seconded by Trustee Sebring and approved unanimously.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the February 7, 2017 minutes with the aforementioned amendment. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Town of Montgomery & Library Board liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard reported that he attended the NYCOM conference and they explained that the state constitution allows us to voluntarily assist each other but does not mandate shared services. They encouraged us to keep a record of shared services. The library will be lobbying all day the first day of March as the Governor cut money out of their budget for the first time in years. He attended the MTA presentation for the Port Jervis line on the 15th. There two options were to improve sidings which would cost \$93 million and add a small yard at mid-point so trains could start from there and run from Campbell Hall to Middletown and then to NYC which is about \$92 million. The bad news is that are talking that it would take about 6 years and that's too long, we need it now.

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

Trustee Ramos reported that he met with Mr. Bliss and they talked about the Basketball program which has about 180 kids participating. They went over a few budget items including Harvest Fest and Music in the Grove Concerts and he seems to be optimistic for the summer of 2017. He attended the school board's strategic planning meeting specifically about the facilities with about 40 other people from all the schools and staff were discussing the needs for each school. Walden is in dire need of help and is the top

school, as stated by the engineer that needs serious help. Hopefully the committee will help getting issues taken care of. The next meeting is 3/18 and the principals all now need to provide a laundry list of specific needs at each facility.

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

Deputy Mayor Hoffman reported that he was on jury duty this week so could not meet with Dean this week.

DPW Liaison– Trustee Sebring

Trustee Sebring was absent.

Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Adams

Trustee Adams reported that Kelly received the draft report from the auditors today. She asked for clarification on the Orange County Tourism Grant information that was in the Clerk's report.

Clerk Bliss replied that she was told there is no guarantee of funding for the 2017 year at this time.

Trustee Adams asked if the funding that was promised to us is for last year.

Manager Revella stated that we still have not gotten a letter stating what it is for. He spoke with the County Executive this weekend and he said he would follow up with that this week.

Police Department and Justice Department Liaison – Trustee Mishk

Trustee Mishk reported that he met with Chief who has a lot of special training coming up in late March and early April. There was a vacant house on Princeton that was broken into and thanks to a vigilant neighbor who called the police they were able to apprehend 3 invaders that were in the home no doubt to rob it of whatever they could get. Also had a case of shop lifters who were picked up at Hannaford who had long lists of warrants and were carrying drugs on them at the time of the arrest. Good police work. Thanks to the neighbors that called, you just never know and should call regardless if you feel someone else might be calling.

Mayor Rumbold read the community events into the minutes.

Public Comment on Business of the Board

None.

Action Items

Fire & Safety Inspections

Tabling due to need of gathering further information. Will be on the next meeting agenda.

Introductory Local Law -Townhouse Zone Affordable Units

Tabling due to need of gathering further information. Will be on the next meeting agenda.

Public Comment

Ed Bates, 3 South Way, asked about the new DPW building and that he saw contracts were awarded for electrical, plumbing, and HVAC. Were they all given to the lowest bidder and is that standard procedure?

Manager Revella replied that we have a best value code that allows us to either take the lowest bidder or take the one with the best value.

Ed asked if there is a preference given to local business vs outside the area business. Manager Revella replied that we are not allowed to do that for this kind of project. There are some state and federal projects that look at that but it depends on where the funding is coming from and what the requirements are.

Anita Vandermark, 76 Highland Avenue, asked about what she heard about 27 N. Montgomery Street earlier in the meeting.

Manager Revella replied it was a motion to sell it. Not to worry, we are working on getting another facility for the storage but he can't say much about it at the moment. At the next meeting the Attorney will have a resolution that will have more timeline information.

Payment of the Audited Bills

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

Correspondence

None.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Leonard said everyone should have gotten a copy of his NYCOM report let him know if you have any questions. It was a productive session all in all. They had a news conference that put all the Mayors in front of the camera and each contributed their thoughts about the mandate from the Governor, which was very good in his opinion. He saw something in the budget about the DMV who has a long list of increases of fees. The good news is the budget is not finalized yet and is still a work in progress.

Mayor Rumbold asked if they addressed what happened to the supposed surplus in NYS.

Trustee Leonard stated that the proposed budget has the state \$3.5 billion in the hole, forget about any surplus. \$1.75 billion dollars which would half the short fall if they leave in the millionaire tax that the Governor wants to cut.

Trustee Ramos wanted to publicly thank Officers Collins and James for coming to his rescue during a bad snow storm he locked his keys in his car at Stewarts while it was running as he had gotten out to clean off the ice on the windshield wipers. They were great and it was much appreciated. You just never know when you will need help and they were there. He thanked the Board for their kind words and thoughts for the passing of his father this past week.

Deputy Mayor Hoffman thanked Ed for his attendance at the NYCOM conference.

Mayor Rumbold thanked Ed as well for his good report. She got an invitation to attend the Installation dinner for the Town of Montgomery Ambulance Corp that is this Saturday. If anyone can attend, let her know as she can't attend. On behalf of the Board we all express our condolences to Trustee Ramos on the loss of his dad.

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Motions & Resolutions**

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