

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
August 20, 2019**

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	John Ramos Larry Kraus Brian Sebring Dan Svarczkopf Lynn E. Thompson

Absent: Faith Moore

Also Present:	John Revella, Village Manager Marisa Kraus, Village Clerk Kelly A. Kelly, Village Treasurer Dave Donovan, Village Attorney
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Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan

Trustee Thompson made a motion to open Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Rumbold: Were there any changes to the Comprehensive Plan?

Manage Revella: Not from the last time we saw. We made comments since the last time.

Kristen O'Donnell: Since the last time we met, your board referred it to the Orange County Planning. Based on my review that I reviewed it with the Village Manager there were a couple of changes. They were non-substantive for the most part. The county is drafting a water trail project. Which I thought it was a good idea. Other things were just minor corrections.

Manage Revella: What the county suggested has to do with the Walkkill River usage, which actually complies with what we've been doing at the waterfront with the boat launch and boardwalk project. They just wanted to tie that together and mention it in our plan so that their plan actually coincides with our plan. We'll take a look.

Mayor Rumbold: So, no areas changed. Whatever they're zoned for now, the Comprehensive Plan recommend that we keep them? From the last that I saw, everything stayed the same?

Manage Revella: Except for some use changes from the 2012 plan. Montgomery Street and specific zones, for example we don't allow commercial laundering. More of an industrial use.

Kristen O'Donnell: There were several of those outdated industrial uses that we've recommended removal. Gas plants and things of that nature.

Trustee Ramos: So, we incorporated everything, because on item number 20, the park study. We discussed during our sessions, where the products align with the right names.

Kristen O'Donnell: Yes, it was. There was one sentence in the plan that still referred to Marcus "Mickey" Millspaugh Park as Maple Stream. So it was changed to be accurate.

Jerry Jacobowitz: Here as a tax payer. Is the intent to take action tonight on the Comprehensive Plan?

Manage Revella: We may do a Negative Declaration.

Jerry Jacobowitz: But are you going to adopt Comprehensive Plan?

Mayor Rumbold: Just said that tonight we're probably going to do a Negative Declaration. That's what the plan is. It's whatever the board's pleasure is. Do you have a comment about the Comprehensive Plan?

Jerry Jacobowitz: I sure do. I don't think you can adopt this Comprehensive Plan, because you're not compliant with the law. On the Village's web page, under the Planning Board, *Read statement from the website* I am not aware that the Planning Board participated in the development of this Comprehensive Plan and therefore based on your own statements that have been given to the public and based on the New York State law, you cannot adopt this Comprehensive Plan that you didn't follow your own procedures.

Manage Revella: The members of the Planning Board did participate in the Comprehensive Plan.

Jerry Jacobowitz: Well, you had people on the committee from the Planning Board.

Manage Revella: Correct.

Jerry Jacobowitz: No, that's not adequate. That's not a meeting with the Planning Board. You don't even have a majority vote on your Comprehensive Plan Committee. You have 2. That's not a quorum. Therefore, they could not take action as a Planning Board. That's the first thing. The second one is, on page eighty six, number 67 and 68. That's the sum and substance of your Comprehensive Plan for the future for the Village of Walden economic growth, health and prosperity. Geared for the downtown design guidelines for facade renovations. And 68, incentives to encourage new investment with low interest loans and grants for facade improvements. That's all you're talking about in this plan for the future, concerning your vital economic life of a community. It just seems to me that whoever was on this committee and they're lovely people, they're all well intended, they're all nice people, people I know. They got off track. Because the Comprehensive Plan should deal with the future of the community and what should be done in the future of the community that's going to make it healthy and a nice place to live. It should also be a good place the shop and to find services and goods. If you look at Main Street, you'll see that there are many instances where that is not happening. And this plan says nothing. Not one word about how to revitalize your Main Street and your economic life of the community. I think it's a very bad omission, because Main St pays a big share of your taxes. That number goes down as your economic life gets shortened, because of Main Street's inability to provide attractive and successful

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businesses. This plan says nothing about doing anything to change that. If you drive down the street and look at the properties you'll see that they're empties and vacant lots. There have been vacant lots on Main St for 15 years. Nobody is willing to come and put in capital to build any building on Main Street. Why? Because if they read this thing, they wouldn't come here with a 10 foot pole.

Manage Revella: You know why the person that owns that lot hasn't built there. That has nothing to do with that.

Jerry Jacobowitz: All you have to do is look at the businesses that left. They went where the population is. This plan says nothing about solving your Main Street business economic health. If you adopt this plan without that kind of thing in it, you're doing a disservice. You're all well intended, but whoever lead you down this primrose path, didn't really understand what they were doing and what a Comprehensive Plan is supposed to be. If you look back, the Comprehensive Plan of August 2005. How many have read that? 2. Comprehensive plan for May 2012. How many have read that? 3. So, how can you as a board attempt to adopt a Comprehensive Plan in 2019, without regard for what everybody tried to do in 2005 and 2012. And didn't accomplish it or some may have been accomplished. If you read all the recommendations, I think there's a few things that did get done. The key is what you are going to do to implement these things so then the plans that you want to have happen, have a chance of happening. This plan can be improved. You've got beautiful buildings shown here. What about the buildings that you don't want to take a picture of? What are you doing about it? They affect the value of everything on that street. No taxes from them means you pay more taxes. This plan doesn't do the job. The other point is, correct me if I'm wrong, when was there ever a time that the public was invited to come?

Mayor Rumbold: The public was invited to be members of the Comprehensive Plan. They were invited to come to serve on the committee.

Jerry Jacobowitz: There were 2.

Mayor Rumbold: They answered the advertisement for people that wanted to be part of the Comprehensive Plan. The agenda tonight is the Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan before it's adopted.

Jerry Jacobowitz: But if the hearing is tonight and you're going to adopt it tonight, when is there a chance for the public?

Mayor Rumbold: You can comment. The board may agree or disagree with your comments. It's the pleasure of the board. If you have any other comments. We'd like to hear them now.

Attorney Donovan: You indicated that there was some legal impediment.

Jerry Jacobowitz: The Village at Walden Planning Board description and analysis that's provided to the public that quotes from Article 6a of the village law of the State of New York. The Planning Board of the Village shall have full power and authority to prepare a master plan.

Attorney Donovan: That's if it's delegated to the Planning Board. It doesn't have to be delegated.
Read section 7-722 of NYS Village Law, Subdivision 5

Jerry Jacobowitz: Your Village says it shall.

Attorney Donovan: What code section?

Jerry Jacobowitz: I'm saying it to where it says what I just read from the website. This is the village's interpretation of what that section said.

Attorney Donovan: So, it's not in the Village Code.

Jerry Jacobowitz: I can't tell you it's not in the Village Code. I did not look in the Village of Walden Code.

Attorney Donovan: I just searched and I see a definition, but I don't see a requirement.

Jerry Jacobowitz: It's right here with the Village. I didn't make it up.

Attorney Donovan: But it's not in the Village Code.

Jerry Jacobowitz: You're saying because it's not in the code, therefore it's not applicable. I understand what you're saying, but I'm saying it doesn't have to be in the code to be applicable. My other comment is about public transportation. The bus lines, years ago, were contacted when there was an attempt to have a project down on Grant Street. There was an interest in buses serving Walden. Nothing ever happened. It's now 10 years later. We still don't have very much public transportation in Walden. It would seem to me that a Comprehensive Plan that's looking at the future, would want to have a provision for public transportation. There's a lot of talk in here about open space and recreation. As I understand, Walden ratio of park land to population is very good. You don't have a lot of property that can be developed into something that will generate taxes. If you mean by open space, that you would have clustering to shrink the footprint of buildings and therefore you'd have more room around them. That's planning. But if open spaces meaning that we have X number of acres of land undeveloped and Y number of those should never be developed. That's a terrible thing. Because taxes are always going to go up. You need more ratables on your tax rolls. Ratables are things built on land.

Mayor Rumbold: That's why we depend on zoning to make sure there's certain areas in the village where businesses go. Because they don't use services. They don't send children to school. We don't have to plow their streets. That's why we have areas in the village where we zone them so that someone can build a business, a warehouse, instead of houses, homes, townhouses, apartments. Whatever the case may be where they're going to use village services.

Jerry Jacobowitz: There's no question that's a good policy. But if it's going to be surrendered because you want open space that's not good.

Mayor Rumbold: I don't know that it's surrendered because we want open space. I think it's zoned so that we can control again through a Comprehensive Plan.

Jerry Jacobowitz: That's not what this says. This is talking about a planning policy to encourage more open space. The next one about school. Your share of the VCSD budget is very small. We've got kids from all over in our school system. That's a state decision to centralize schools. Enrollment has gone down and our taxes have gone up. It's not the number of school age children that drive our taxes. It's the cost of running our school system. Now we're just one part of the VCSD.

Mayor Rumbold: Where is this in our Comprehensive Plan?

Jerry Jacobowitz: That's my point, it's not in here. We have our school kids bused out of Walden and go to other places for their elementary school education. Which takes with them their parents and their money. You lose that economic engine by diminishing your small presence.

Mayor Rumbold: That's not a decision The Village. That's a decision of the school district.

Jerry Jacobowitz: I knew you'd say that.

Manage Revella: But if you look at page 62 and 63, it does refer to that. We do try to entice the school district to keep those kids able to walk and bike to school.

Jerry Jacobowitz: But there's nothing in it about what's good for Walden.

Mayor Rumbold: That's what's good for Walden. We encourages the school district.

Jerry Jacobowitz: I agree with you. Are you proud of Orchard Street in front of the school? If you were going to buy a house in Montgomery or buy one in Walden and you have a kid in elementary school and you went down Orchard Street in Walden, versus any street in Montgomery, the difference is overwhelming. Our playground is like in the Bronx. A blacktop area with swings and a few other things on it. Go look at Montgomery. Beautiful grassy area outside their school. What is our situation? If you wanted to make a difference, you would destroy the houses by the school and you would make that available to the school district because it's in the Village of Walden's interest to have good schools. We get the short end of the stick.

Trustee Ramos: I beg to differ. There are 2 members of the board who live in the Village of Walden.

Jerry Jacobowitz: Then they're not doing their job. Because there's no reason why we should have a school like we have here and playgrounds that we have. Thank you very much for listening.

Mary Ellen Matise: 54 Gladstone. I think this is the second or third time recently, that you have come here and berated this board and talked down the Village of Walden. This is about the plan that I worked on for 2005, 2012 and this plan. And compared to the Village of Montgomery, I would live in the Village of Walden any day. I recommend people move to the Village of Walden any day of the week. This is the most convenient village in the whole town. We have everything. We might not have every store on Main Street that we once had prior to 1955, but we have everything in the village. I think the 2005 was really comprehensive and so we've tweaked it. A lot of changes. Made all the updates to the census records. Which was very important. So, that we have an idea of what our population is now. For a group of volunteers and people serving on other boards and people who have busy lives. I think we did a damn good job. I think that we tried to address with the guidance of the manager and the planner, everything that needed to be updated and addressed at this time. The only thing I had a question about, did we get an updated list of all the recommendations chart?

Manage Revella: No.

Kristen O'Donnell: It's in the online version.

Mary Ellen Matise: I don't know that we've discussed that as a committee and I'm just wondering how many things still left undone, like the Well Head Protection. Which we still haven't done and that's been a recommendation since 2005.

Trustee Sebring made a motion to close Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Village Manager's Report

- Had a couple meetings with the DOT on Ulster Avenue. We were delayed due to permit office that the board was aware of. Had to go to Poughkeepsie and make phone calls, in order to get our paperwork to push through faster. There was issues with the permit office in Newburgh. Poughkeepsie did come through for us. Trying to get the contracts back here.
- Had a good meeting with an energy audit company with Trustee Thompson about energy saving projects.
- Went over a few different FOIL issues with Attorney Donovan and the Clerk.
- Great time at the summer camp year end picnic. Very well attended. Everyone that I talked to there was praising how much children enjoyed it.
- Went over capital projects with Superintendent and engineer.
- Talked about the personal matters with Chief Holmes, including the new hire.
- We did have to re-advertise for the part time help in the office. We had a temp there for the summer. We did end up making an offer to someone to be more permanent.
- We're advertising for Code Enforcement and Parking Enforcement. Trying to get some part time employees in there. Our part time Code Enforcer had to resign for personal reasons.
- The closest bank branch for us is closing. Have to travel a little farther for now until we find an alternate solution. Been talking to Senator Skoufis about banking district like Maybrook has. They were able to go around the State Law and doing thrift bank deposits through that method.
- Went over some civil service items with the County. The Clerk and I attended a seminar on as well for updates.
- We had submitted a River Front Grant. Trustee Thompson was helpful on getting some letters for us.
- Met with the DEC about funding opportunity. About our projects going forward to the consent order.
- Had some conversations and correspondence with the owners of 151 Coldenham Rd about increasing their water and sewer usage. Our engineer is looking at it now to see what we need to do going forward.
- Today I had a Transportation Council meeting and they gave me an update on when they're going to do the railroad improvement t Coldenham Rd. I will give that update to you tomorrow.

Trustee Svarczkopf: When is the start date for Ulster Ave?

Manage Revella: That's the meeting tomorrow. We don't know yet.

Trustee Svarczkopf: Do we lose the money if we don't start?

Manage Revella: No. But there's penalties if they don't finish on time. Even though the delay wasn't their fault. So, they're trying to work on an amendment for that, because the fault was with DOT.

Trustee Thompson: The ECG people, are they waiting for the date from us?

Manage Revella: They got it and are reviewing it.

Manage Revella: I do have to announce publicly, a new member of the Planning Board, Phil Hopkins took his oath as an Alternate Member and Brenda Adams is back on the Zoning Board.

Mayor Rumbold: Can you please refresh the board's memory about how long we've been trying to get Ulster Avenue.

Manage Revella: 2004.

Mayor Rumbold: 15 years later, we still had issues with paperwork.

Manage Revella: Yes. The state permit office said that they lost our permit application paperwork.

Approval of July 16, 2019 & August 6, 2019 Minutes

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the July 16, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the August 6, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. 5 ayes. 1 abstention (Trustee Svarczkopf). Motion carried.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Svarczkopf

Trustee Svarczkopf: Our audit is a little bit behind, but it will start soon. We did send out abandoned property notices. I wanted to thank the Clerk for helping to set up with the joint meeting tonight. So, we sent out 2nd year invoices.

Manage Revella: 1st and 2nd.

Trustee Svarczkopf: But I thought that we just passed that law, so, how is it 2nd year invoices?

Manage Revella: June 1st.

Trustee Svarczkopf: Got it.

Town of Montgomery & Library Board Liaison – Trustee Kraus

Trustee Kraus: Ginny is on vacation. Rev Ani came in and had a speaker from Tibet. It's a good turnout. Very informative. She's waiting for the school year to start.

Planning and Zoning Boards as well as the Building Department Liaison – Trustee Thompson

Trustee Thompson: Met with Mr. Stickles and he is where he needs to be with the fire and safety inspections. He's been incredibly busy. It's was a huge to have the Code Enforcement Officer have to resign. They're still having some issues with the new computer system but moving forward. Things are working out. Unfortunately, I missed the July 24th Zoning Board meeting. This month's is cancelled. I have been going to the Planning Board meetings. There's been a lot of topics on their agenda. I also have gone to town meetings. I think Brian's going to give a report on that. We're having difficulty with attendance at Zoning Board meetings. It's happened at the Planning Board. I August 20, 2019

was very surprised that the Chair People do not have contact information for all their members. It's my understanding if someone on one of the boards is not going to attend, to notify Mr. Stickles, so he can cancel and we don't have the attorney and engineer traveling for nothing. People get very frustrated. The boards are only meeting once a month. Some of the residents have been very polite but very frustrated. Hoping when he comes back he can address it with both boards.

Manage Revella: We'll send them a copy of the list of membership with all the contact information.

Trustee Thompson: I'm seeing it as a source of angst. And if anybody out there would like to volunteer to be on the Planning or Zoning Board please contact the Village Manager.

Trustee Svarczkopf: Do those board members have village emails?

Manage Revella: They haven't yet.

Mayor Rumbold: What happens to members that don't notify the Building Inspector that they're not going to be there?

Manage Revella: There's no removal procedure except doing an article.

Attorney Donovan: You can remove a member after a public hearing. But it has to be reasonable.

Trustee Thompson: I just feel like it's a bit of a disservice to the community when the boards aren't full and can't function. People want to do projects. They want to do business here.

Police Department and Justice Department Liaison – Deputy Mayor Moore

None

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

Trustee Ramos: 316 in attendance for summer camp. Great year. Had a number of good successes. Parents telling the camp counselors what a great time they had. Still looking feverishly for our community center. School Board, the bond was being voted on today. They had a bomb scare at the School District. High School and Middle School was on lockdown. They had a 94% graduation rate. Kudos to the VCSD staff, Superintendent and members of his board. We got a new kindergarten teacher.

DPW Liaison– Trustee Sebring

Trustee Sebring: I talked to Fred today. They replaced the hydrant on Ulster Avenue. Patched a lot of streets. They were cleaning catch basins and repairing them. They did the DEC requirements of the sewer line. The mechanic put a new body on one of the trucks which saved us a lot of money. The Water Department replaced 9 water meters. The Town of Montgomery, they hired one new man out there, starting off as an MEO 1. They put out bids for the bathroom at Berea Park. Which will be water line, sewer hookup, leach field, concrete building for the bathrooms. Some of the work they're going to do in-house to save money. They had Mr. Anderson, an engineer from Montgomery. He gave him a bid for the new highway garage. What it would cost just for an estimate for the construction. They put 2 people on the IEDA committee. Then last weekend they worked over the weekend to install the new air conditioners on the roof. The meeting there last week, we were disturbed twice by the fire alarm system.

Trustee Thompson: The July 18th town meeting, did we have a Village Board meeting after that?
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Manage Revella: We had the special board meeting for bills.

Trustee Thompson: That town meeting was the one where they discussed the condition of town bridges. Brian and I are contemplating putting together a petition about the Hill St Bridge here. Their interim Highway Superintendent made a comment that he doesn't think that the people of Village of Walden want that bridge fixed. Supervisor Winchell and the young man that's going to be running for Highway Superintendent, both indicate that they do want to get that bridge repaired. So, Brian and I have been discussing to go to the East side of town and see what kind of support we can get from our residents about that bridge. It was very enlightening to hear the state of several of bridges in the town.

Trustee Sebring: 3 bridges, Corbett Rd, Hart's Lane and 1 bridge by the Sewer Plant. And in order to work on it they had to get a DEC permit. They'll be getting those permits and get to work. Sewer Plant Operator from VRI, was there describing the problems that they have in the town that have not been addressed in many years. Some of the lines are the old asbestos and it's a pressure fed line and it's getting time to where they may blow through the pipe and there is a lot of water infiltration. At least, 100k gallons a day on Neely Town Rd area. They want a camera that to find the leaks. The cost is going to be astronomical. The engineer from Lanc and Tully stated that he doesn't think that we need to replace the bridge on Hill Street. No our engineer. An engineer for the town from Lanc and Tully.

Trustee Thompson: They said it would be \$48k and that's for the structure. We shall see.

Mayor Rumbold read the community events into the minutes.

Public Comment on Business of the Board

None

Action Items

Comprehensive Plan

Attorney Donovan: What you have in front of you is a full Environmental Assessment Form. Which we explained in part 3, with a lengthy declaration that is prepared by the Planner, indicating that the adoption of the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan will not result in any adverse environmental impact.

Trustee Ramos made a motion Negative Declaration. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Jerry Jacobowitz: *Gave hand out to the Board* 2 things, this is a supplement to what had been previously submitted about Edmund's Lane. The Planning Board has taken action. A letter was sent to the Village Board I want to bring to your attention, it's in your Comprehensive Plan, page 19. It talks about the Edmunds Lane residential possibility. If you read the Planning Board's letter and what's in the Comprehensive Plan, I think you'll see that the Planning Board has made a suggestion to you in accordance with and consistent with the village's master plan. The second thing is that based on the Planning Board's recommendation. I think it would be very helpful to have a sit down and try to come up with what would be a good plan. There many possibilities and the way the Planning Board report reads, you'll see that they're suggesting flexibility in design with respect to mixed residential. It's up to you if you want to do it. If you don't want to do it, then we will make

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submissions that make whatever sense. But this is an opportunity for the Village Board to participate. I'm available whenever you choose. Pending before you is a request and a recommendation.

Mayor Rumbold: What I think we'll do is give the board time to read over what was sent from the Planning Board. Then consider whether they want to even entertain the thought of making a zoning change. The board may not. It's at their pleasure. If I get 2 board members that want to put it on the agenda or want to have a meeting to try to change something, we can do that, but it really is not incumbent on the board. The board can just accept this report and go on as it's not a requirement that we accept their recommendation. So, I'm going to let my board members read what came from the Planning Board and make a decision whether they even want to entertain a zoning change. We really don't have to do anything.

Jerry Jacobowitz: I do recognize that you folks should participate in some way. .

Don Berger: Mr. Winchell made this comment, what's good for the Town is good for the Village. What's good for the Village is good for the Town. I think everybody would agree. I'm going to talk about the massive growth that's going on in the Town. What I find to be the major problem to me is the lack of conversation between the 3 Villages and the Town. Will give you credit, have seen you guys there. Unfortunately, the other Villages don't seem to show up. That's a real problem. The things that are happening right now with these massive warehouse that they're building. It's not in your Village, but it's in the Town that borders your Village. If the Villages don't get involved, we're going to lose everything. We have 3 relatively nice Villages here. We have a really nice Town. But we're losing to these developers. We're losing to a Town, as I believe Lynn said, is out of control. If you go to their meetings, you'll see on their agendas and just in the Planning Board, in one day, they will have 10-11 subject matters of possible growth in Town. How can they have something like that and process every one of them properly? They can't. What I get from the Village I live in, "it's not our problem, and it's outside the limits." That is the lamest excuse any Village Board can use. You're not protecting your Village. This growth that's going on, it does pertain to the Villages. I'm not going to get into the Montgomery Medline issue, but I will just briefly talk about what's here with you guys. You have Amazon Sailfish. It's going directly impact your water supply. You guys need to speak on that. My overall point is that the 3 Mayors, Village Manager, need to address the Town and propose to slow things down. Have everyone discuss these things. I know Lynn speaks at the meetings, but I'm not seeing an overall group of Government Officials in our 3 Villages and Town sitting down and discussing the ramifications of everything that's happening surrounding this. I don't know where you guys stand on anything. I know that I'm from the Village of Montgomery. Village of Montgomery is in danger of no longer being the Village of Montgomery. Perhaps the same with Walden down the road. You don't know what this Town is doing. You have had 3 Master Plans, every 7 year cycle. Do you all know when the last Master Plan for the Town has been in effect? 1988. You all should be very concerned about that. You all should be writing letters to the Town. Perhaps talking to the Planning Board Chair. The Town Supervisor. For all these issues we have here you should be writing letters against this growth. Something has to be done at the Village level, because my group, we're just residents. You people are the people that are the spokesmen for our community. That's why you've been elected. Every Village will be hearing from my group. If we don't have smart Government Officials, not the County and Town because they're not very smart. I'm counting on these 3 Villages to speak up against what's happening because our Villages. It's never ever going to be the same, you're never going to be able to walk the streets and have fun. The kids will never be able to bounce a basketball on Main Street in fear of getting killed. Look what happened on Osiris Rd. Nobody listened to us. They're only going to listen to us if you guys carry us through this.

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Mary Ellen Matise: Did you register for the Climate Smart Community?

Manage Revella: We're working on that and have the committee. We're working on the Town as well to have a committee.

Trustee Thompson: CAC. September 10th, I'm meeting with Pat and received a packet to get started on everything. John and I are going to contact people together. The Town is also being asked to join the Climate Smart so that we can work together.

Mary Ellen Matise: I thought that was the reason for Jason being there the other night.

Trustee Thompson: No. Jason was there to talk to them about the Wallkill River Watershed Alliance. Their attorney is recommending that join Climate Smart.

Mary Ellen Matise: I was thinking that maybe do a public information meeting for the residents in the Village.

Trustee Thompson: We might be in good shape at that point to do that.

Mary Ellen Matise: There's still a bunch of pot holes on Gladstone.

Manage Revella: They're not done yet. They haven't done our route yet. Church St isn't done yet either.

Becky Pearson: 167 Walnut St. Where do we stand on the Ulster Ave blue stone?

Manage Revella: It's going to be stored at DPW for future discussion.

Becky Pearson: I called today, the phone is still not right.

Manage Revella: Had to order new routers, because someone in the Netherlands hacked our system.

Becky Pearson: Bank deposits, you can't just do it electronically?

Manage Revella: We can, we do the checks, not cash.

Becky Pearson: The Village looked at Amthor property before for purchase and chose not to. Was it for possible contamination?

Manage Revella: I can't say what the reason was.

Becky Pearson: Whatever the reason was, just remember that. Also, the sign on the Monuments. It's not about the person, it's about the sign on it. When I was mayor, at a meeting there was a motion. *Read motion from meeting minutes* They made a motion not to put any signs on the parks, monuments or Village Square. Indicated the board makes a policy and someone puts a sign there that's not permitted, the Village can take it down and call the person to come get it. There was a motion made to establish that policy. I don't know if you want to follow up with that and make a new one.

Attorney Donovan: You have constitutional issues. Say you can have this sign, but not that sign. If you want to say no signs, that would apply to everybody. If its Village owned lands, and you say "Bake Sale at the Firehouse", you can't do that either. Nothing is nothing.

Mayor Rumbold: If the Village owned the land then that would include the boulevard. Or is that State?

Manage Revella: I think it's something you guys should discuss further. Like what areas make more sense today? This area makes sense. It's a sight line issue. I had some questions about some fences as well for sight line.

Becky Pearson: Is there something the Village can do that they have to be taken down after a certain amount of time?

Manage Revella: Not allowed.

Mayor Rumbold: There were signs that were changed on the boulevard several times because of sight line issues because they were too big.

Attorney Donovan: Safety is an overriding concern.

Mayor Rumbold: But there were a couple of signs that were put on the boulevard that were too big and we made changes.

Trustee Sebring: I've taken a couple down too.

Trustee Thompson: I also read something, it's not a law, but its sign etiquette, that they should be taken down within 7 days after an election.

Mayor Rumbold: If you choose not to have any etiquette, then you leave it up.

Mickey Millsbaugh: 10 Jessup. If somebody is remiss for not raising the roof on the dangerous condition on the sidewalk on East Main St. Brought a picture from 2 years to John's attention that it was starting to fade.

Mayor Rumbold: Where is it?

Manage Revella: East Main St near the bridge.

Mickey Millsbaugh: They've got the barrels there that people move and walk across then.

Mayor Rumbold: It's NYS DOT.

Mickey Millsbaugh: You should be at the Senators.

Manage Revella: He saw it when he was here.

Mickey Millspaugh: You should be on his case, like every Monday he gets a call. The second thing was, sent John a note on it. Came down Maple St, the concrete pour, you have coal joints looking at you. Somebody is not watching that job.

Manage Revella: They failed it. The engineer failed it. They have to fix it. It was poor workmanship. So, the engineer did their job. I'm not sure what they found.

Mickey Millspaugh: You have to watch the contractors.

Mayor Rumbold: Supposed to have a Clerk of the Works.

Manage Revella: We do. The day they took the forms off, John Q. was here and went down there and failed it.

Mickey Millspaugh: I checked to see if the Ulster Ave plans were here and they weren't. So, I went to their office and spent a few minutes looking. I asked the jobs specs. They don't have any. They use the states standards specs. You're going to have to watch that. I didn't see the gas line noted on there. Contractors love to find things that are not on the plan. Do you have the contract docs?

Manage Revella: I do have them. I'll check on them at the office tomorrow.

Mickey Millspaugh: No note on the plans about those trees. Some of those trees, I do not think are healthy.

Manage Revella: Jim Presutti marked the ones that were supposed to be taken out. There is one that was cut in half that we couldn't remove because of NYSEG. NYSEG hasn't removed their guide wire. But the rest on that list that Jim Presutti said were bad, were cut.

Mickey Millspaugh: They're your responsibility?

Manage Revella: Yes.

Mickey Millspaugh: They going to come out?

Manage Revella: The one that's left? Yes.

Mickey Millspaugh: I hadn't seen Comprehensive Plan until tonight. I thought a lot of meaningless boilerplate in there. Like the soils. Who's going to use that? The County has a comp report that you can get in detail.

Resident: Ridge Ave. We have a large feral cat problem. Female cat broke in basement window and had babies. Then those cats have babies. Every time I call the Humane Society, they say they have too many cats, can't take them. No one can take them. My neighbor decided to kill 3 of them. Police did absolutely zilch. The problem started with neighbors who are renting and when they leave, they leave them behind. Is there any way we can make a moratorium or when people come to the Town, they have to bring a spade/neuter slip? No reason anyone should be breeding animals in the Town. Hunter Insurance will give a \$5 coupon to get them neutered at T.A.R.A. I once had 3 cats, I now have at least a dozen. Is there any way we can enforce some kind of rule, they move into this Town, you must register money, take your cash and bring your slip to the office?

Manage Revella: We can't force someone to neuter their cats.

Trustee Thompson: But there's not even licensing law.

Manage Revella: Not for cats.

Resident: And that's the problem. Those cats can have kittens every 3 months.

Mayor Rumbold: We have a group behind where I work over by the Orchard Street parking lot.

Resident I do not want to upset the neighbors. But now I have to assume responsibility for feeding or not feeding the cats. We have to put a foot down and stop all these cats from coming in.

Mayor Rumbold: The animal control officer for the Town doesn't deal with cats. She deals with dogs.

Manage Revella: All we can do is give out information on T.A.R.A. We try to update that post when the car comes around.

Resident: It's really awful. I have to say it probably the majority of renters. A guy came in renting and brought 4 kittens in September and left them on his porch. If there's anything you could do, I would appreciate it.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Trustee Ramos made a motion to pay the Audited Bills. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

None

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Svarczkopf: Where are we on the building security?

Manage Revella: We're getting another bid from the key fab company. We got one so far, need a second quote.

Trustee Svarczkopf: And the glass?

Manage Revella: That's next step. We're working on the doors right now.

Trustee Thompson: We had a discussion about not leaving the building open 24 hours a day.

Manage Revella: That was not voted on. There was no consensus.

Trustee Thompson: I would like to revisit that.

Manage Revella: We cannot shut the building down right now. We're working on that also. Once we can lock the front door, we can have that discussion.

Trustee Svarczkopf: I want to start looking at upgrading some of the tech in this room. Visual and sound. The projector that's permanently mounted and bright enough. Possibly putting some tv's up for signage for all the boards.

Trustee Thompson: I think John mentioned that I stumbled upon a grant that we're eligible for. Mike Bliss, John Ramos, John Revella, myself, got it in under the wire. Feeling optimistic. It would give us just about enough money to complete the boat launch project. Brian and I went to NYSERDA Conference. Very interesting about the battery storage facilities. If we do move forward with the Annexation, thought that would be an area that could be considered. But there's a lot of information and rules and regulations about those projects. I hope the Town Board is doing their due diligence. There were 3 members from the Planning Board at the conference. There's a lot of things going on with the Wallkill River Watershed Alliance. September 14th, they're having a kayak event in New Paltz. There are sponsorships available if anybody wants to go. River is cleaning up. The Tin Brook meeting did not take place this past month.

Mayor Rumbold: Senator Skoufis was here last week at the diner doing a Town Hall meeting. A bunch of us attended. Had a question and answer period. Talked about what's happening in Albany. Some things I thought were very good and other things I was a little reticent about. It was nice to see him here that he chose Walden to come. We thank him for that. I also want to say thank you to the Comprehensive Plan Committee for their work on this document. They are volunteers. They spend a lot of hours. They do refer to previous comp plans when they when they do this and generate it. I read it. And I didn't find anything wrong with it. Some people may think that it's not complete enough. I happen to think as one of our speakers did, that the Village of Walden should be proud that they keep up with the Comprehensive Plan. We do have a plan for this Village that may not fit what the speaker has in mind for the Village. The other issue is, the Village of Walden knows full well what it's like to have a State Road that goes smack down the middle of our Village. We've lived with the tractor trailers and the only time recently that I can think of that they didn't come through our Village was when Veterans Bridge was being worked on and the traffic stopped for a period of time. When you have a State Road, you have trucks that are allowed to drive on it and unfortunately as much as you want to say we don't want them here, they come. We've learned to live with it. Do I love it? I work right on Main Street and sometimes I feel like I'm in Midtown Manhattan. Because of the traffic that goes through our Village. But Walden has lived with it for many, many years. I just wanted to say that it is something that you have to deal with. This Village has been dealing with it for many years and maybe because we've been dealing with it for many years where we're more inclined to accept it. We still manage to be a viable Village in the Town of Montgomery.

Executive Session-Personal history of a particular employee

Trustee Ramos made a motion to enter Executive Session – Personal history of a particular employee. Seconded by Trustee Svarczkopf. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

Trustee Kraus made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
August 20, 2019
Motions & Resolutions**

Approval of July 16, 2019 & August 6, 2019 Minutes

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the July 16, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the August 6, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. 5 ayes. 1 abstention (Trustee Svarczkopf). Motion carried.

Comprehensive Plan

Trustee Thompson made a motion to open Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Sebring made a motion to close Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Ramos made a motion Negative Declaration. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Trustee Ramos made a motion to pay the Audited Bills. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Executive Session-Personal history of a particular employee

Trustee Ramos made a motion to enter Executive Session – Personal history of a particular employee. Seconded by Trustee Svarczkopf. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

Trustee Kraus made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Trustee Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.