

Board of Trustees of the Village of Walden
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2020, 6:30P.M.
One Municipal Square
The Agenda

The December 1, 2020 Village Board meeting will be conducted in accordance with the applicable Executive Orders heretofore issued by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo suspending certain provisions of the New York State Open Meetings Law. The public may view the meeting live by logging in to the Village's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/villageofwalden> if desired.

Public comment will be accepted at the meeting when permitted through the Facebook Livestream. Written comments will be accepted for a period of **five (5)** days following the meeting. Written comments may be submitted by email at mkraus@villageofwalden.org or by regular mail to 1 Municipal Square, Walden, NY 12586.

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Presentation – Greater Montgomery Business Council
4. Village Manager's Report
5. Approval of Minutes – November 5, 2020 & November 17, 2020
6. Public Comment Business of the Board
7. Business of the Board of Trustees
 - A. Resolution 10-20-21 – Records Retention Policy
 - B. Police Reform
 - C. Annexation - Biagini
8. Public Comment
9. Payment of Audited Bills
10. Correspondence
11. Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees
12. Executive Session – CSEA and PBA Negotiations
13. Adjournment

RESOLUTION

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WALDEN
RESOLUTION NO.**

WHEREAS, the Village of Walden wishes to set forth and establish a records retention policy in accordance with and pursuant to the requirements of New York law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, by the Village Board of the Village of Walden, County of Orange, that *Records Retention and Disposition Schedule MU-1*, issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted by the Village of Walden for the purpose of legally disposing of those records listed therein and in accordance therewith; and it is further

RESOLVED, that, in accordance with Article 57-A, only those records will be disposed of that are described in *Records Retention and Disposition Schedule MU-1* after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein and only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

MOTION to adopt by _____ and seconded by _____. The vote was ___ ayes to ___ nays with ___ abstentions. The Mayor declared the resolution adopted on _____, 2020.

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Walden at a regular meeting held on _____, 2020. Public notice was given and the meeting was conducted in full compliance with the New York Open Meeting Law (Public Officers Law, Sections 100-111). Minutes of the meeting will be available by the Act.

Marisa Kraus, Village Clerk

(Seal)

**Village of Walden
RESOLUTION NO. 11-20-21
DESIGNATING PLACE AND TIME OF
ANNUAL ELECTION**

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Walden, held on the 1st of December of 2020 on a motion made by and seconded by , it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the next annual election of the Village of Walden will be held at the Municipal Building – 3rd Floor Bradley Assembly Room, 1 Municipal Square., in said Village, on Wednesday, the 16th day of March, 2021 between the hours of 8:00 am and 9:00 pm.

The vote was ayes to nays with abstentions. The declared the resolution adopted on December 1, 2020.

CERTIFICATE

The foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Walden at a regular meeting held on December 1, 2020. Public notice was given and the meeting was conducted in full compliance with the New York Open Meeting Law (Public Officers Law, Sections 100-111). Minutes of the meeting will be available as provided by law.

Marisa Kraus, Village Clerk
(seal)

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Special Meeting
November 5, 2020**

Mayor Taylor called the regular meeting of the Village of Walden Board of Trustees to order at 4:00pm.

On roll call the following were:

Present:	Mayor	Sue Taylor
	Trustees	John Ramos Lynn Thompson Willie Carley Brian Sebring

Absent	Cheryl Baker
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Also Present:	John Revella, Village Manager Marisa Kraus, Village Clerk
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Action Items

Payment of Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to pay Audited Bills. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Tax Relevy

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to approve Tax Relevy. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Special Meeting
November 5, 2020
Motions & Resolutions

Payment of Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to pay Audited Bills. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Tax Relevy

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to approve Tax Relevy. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
November 17, 2020**

Mayor Taylor called the regular meeting of the Village of Walden Board of Trustees to order at 6:30pm.

On roll call the following were:	Mayor:	Susan Taylor
Present:	Deputy Mayor	John Ramos
	Trustees	Brian Sebring
		Willie Carley
		John Elliott
		Cheryl Baker
		Lynn E. Thompson

Absent:

Also Present:	John Revella, Village Manager
	Marisa Kraus, Village Clerk
	Kelly A. Kelly, Village Treasurer
	Dave Donovan, Village Attorney

Mayor Taylor introduced John Elliot as new Trustee that will be filling the remainder of the term of Faith Moore.

Village Manager's Report

Manager Revella: Attended a couple meetings with PBA, CSEA. We have some updates for exec tonight. Reviewed several FOILS with the Village Attorney and the Clerk, as well as the special counsel. Trying to get those responses out as quickly as possible. We have Christmas in the Square still scheduled for December 3rd. We have everything lined up, the tree and activities. Obviously we'll need to continue to social distance and be mindful of sanitary practices to make sure we're not spreading Covid. Went over the retro calculations to see where we are, we'll go over those in exec as well. I toured all the Village facilities with Trustee Baker and Deputy Treasurer Tapia. Trustee Elliot will be doing that shortly as well. He came in yesterday for his oath and walked around the building. We're working on our police reform and emergency preparedness with the Village Attorney. Went through outside sewer user and potential sewer assessments with the Village Engineer and the Village Attorney. I am sure we will have some discussion tonight on the agenda. Been reviewing some climate smart initiative items with the Village Engineer so we can get some more things posted. Trustee Thompson has been spearheading that for the Village as well. Had a conference with our auditors, the Village Treasurer and librarian, to make sure we're up to speed and ready for audit that's coming up. I want to give thanks to the Melville Family for donating the tree for the square. The Rec Department did give out 650 bags of candy on Halloween. The Building Department started the fire and safety inspections, those are ongoing. The new employee is getting up to speed on everything so that they can continue to assist in the department to get code compliance. They are bringing some people to court now that it's back open. The Clerk is preparing the bimonthly calendar and coordinating Leadership Day. Likely it will be moved to April due to Covid concerns as well. The Treasurer is working on getting ready for the upcoming audit and still working on Edmunds updates that are going on with the Building Department. Worker's Comp audit is coming up as well. Was able to get the tax relevy completed for county filing. DPW has put up the holiday banners and wreaths. Rec Department, assisting in putting up the lights. They've been doing some training and classes, it's just difficult the way that the classes are run to do them

online. The trucks and sanders are ready for winter. They want to thank Amthor for donating a piece of steel that they needed for a project. Still doing a couple of updates at the police station, modernizing, organizing. They've completed traffic studies on another section. They've done several so far to see where there are traffic problems. After each traffic study, they determine if they need saturation patrols to effectuate some control there with speed. They didn't report any issues for Halloween. They did have a report of a swatting incident which was posted online. They're doing commercial traffic enforcement details. We still have some issues with overtime due to 207c issues with officers out. Courts are open, limited hearings and appearances. The library has Covid restrictions still regulated by RCLS.

Approval of October 20, 2020 Minutes

Trustee Thompson: Next to last page, the person's name from Climate Smart is Carolyn, not Karen.

Trustee Thompson made a motion to approve the October 20, 2020 Minutes with corrections. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Action Items

Fee Schedule – Building Permit Fees

Manager Revella: The Building Inspector looked at it and we concurred. There has not been any change at all since 2009 in building permit fees, even though the work costs more as costs go up for payroll, etc. They thought it behoove of us to moderately increase those fees to cover those costs.

Trustee Carley: Just for clarity. I just want to make sure that 0 to 750, that is talking about the cost of the project?

Manager Revella: Yes.

Trustee Carley made a motion to adopt Fee Schedule – Building Permit Fees. Seconded by Trustee Baker. All ayes. Motion carried.

Annexation - Biagini

Manager Revella: I just wanted to make sure everyone had a chance to look at the full EAF. Dave may just have a point to make on that before we move forward.

Attorney Donovan: The full Environmental Assessment Form was received and has been circulated to the Town of Montgomery. In terms of our timeline, 90 days from the close of the public hearing would put us at December 15th, which is the time the board should look to take action and there should be some coordination with the Town of Montgomery. If this is something the board wants to pursue there would be a resolution to approve the annexation that night. There should be some coordination with the Town of Montgomery. The last annexation, the same resolutions were adopted. Just to confirm what the zoning designation would be that the property comes into the Village.

Mayor Taylor: Have we heard anything further from the Town of Montgomery, because my concern with that property, as I stated when we had the joint meeting with the Town of Montgomery, was where's the well head protection? The Supervisor said that they were working on it. Where is that? I'm having a hard time approving something like that, if we don't have anything in place from the Town about wellhead production in that area.

Manager Revella: The property comes in to the Village, and then we control it and can protect the wells. The wellhead protection will be for property that's still in the Town. For that area outside of

this property and for property along Delong and Lake Osiris Road, would be the ones that we want to effectuate that.

Trustee Thompson: I have to say, we did put together a group to begin work on that. I was in contact with the people in the group from the Town of Montgomery. They want to take the lead in that committee to start the dialog and there's been nothing set up as of right now. John Ramos, can you correct me on that?

Deputy Mayor Ramos: No, you're absolutely right. There hasn't been any moving forward, decisions or whether to get the group together.

Mayor Taylor: I know we're on a timeline.

Manager Revella: We have December 1st board meeting and we have December 15th board meeting.

Trustee Thompson: It was a little confusing to me reading through the EAF. This is just basically about the annexation. This is not about any project, all of the yes's and no's are strictly about the annexation process.

Manager Revella: That's correct.

Trustee Thompson: it got a little confusing because I kept thinking of the project and I had to keep reminding myself that it's the process. I agree with the Mayor, I have some concerns about this because we asked for a few things that we wanted to accomplish and that hasn't been happening.

Manager Revella: With this project or you mean wellhead protection? Because this doesn't have to do with wellhead protection.

Trustee Thompson: Was sitting down with the Town to talk about these things as they could pertain to this particular annexation.

Manager Revella: This annexation would moot the whole point of wellhead protection for this property because it would be in the Village. Wellhead protection is for property outside of the Village that we don't control, to have some control for our water source.

Trustee Thompson: I thought the goal was to sort of have everything come together, but we're OK, that's not finished. We can still move forward with this.

Manager Revella: They are 2 separate things. Yes. We want the wellhead protection still, but this doesn't control that.

Mayor Taylor: We'll move ahead with this process and the board's going to have to come to a conclusion whether this is something that we want to pursue or not.

Manager Revella: That's correct.

Sewer Assessment

Manager Revella: This is kind of multifaceted. We know we've been working on issues with the sewer plant, the sewer system in general under consent orders. We've gotten through them, we've worked on projects. We know we have a lot of work to do for our sewer system, regardless of new users or not. We want to make sure that we're on the same page and moving forward with projects.

At the same time, if people want to come in as outside users, what do we charge them and how does that work? Where's that price point supposed to be? If we even want them at all right now until we have this settled. Just something to talk about and discuss how we want to go about doing that.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: I kind of agree with John. We have to get ahead of this and look toward the future. Things are going to get old. I think we should have some forethought on what the process is going to be. How much are we going to charge new users or are we going to allow new users to come in?

Trustee Carley: Are we talking about just a planning part or is he talking about actually moving and doing?

Manager Revella: Both. We have some plans in place now and preliminary figures to talk about, but nothing solid or confirmed and then we have some requests for people to get sewer use and we have to address them one way or another. We have one waiting in the waiting room on Northern Avenue, which is in the Town that wants us to consider for becoming an outside user for sewer. We don't have anyone that does that yet. We have outside water users, a couple, but are we going to consider outside sewer users? And if we are, what would we charge them and how we go about calculating that charge? That's what we're kind of talking about as well.

Mayor Taylor: You want to kind of lay the groundwork for what we're going to do in the future for property that we annexed, that then becomes Village property or you have some people who are in the Town that want to access our sewer. They would be considered an outside user. I guess the question is, we have to prepare for users in the Village, what would that cost for them to hook up to our system? The board needs to decide if you want to accept outside users who are not in the Village, but want to access our sewer system for projects outside the Village. That's kind of a two tiered question.

Trustee Carley: I think we should move forward on it and we could talk about later, annexation in general because I don't know if we have a policy on that or not. Do we have any type of guidelines that we go by other than what the state says or how to do it?

Manager Revella: We do have the state guidelines. We also have some in our Comp Plan, when we consider annexations, they need to be in congruent zoning when it comes in or the least dense zone. That's what the rule really is.

Trustee Carley: I hate to belabor this, I agree that we should move forward, bottom line. I don't know what the preliminary plan looks like and maybe DPW knows. I don't know if the rest of the board knows. If we can look at that, what is a preliminary plan and then start growing from there so we can take it home, do some homework and then come back with some factual information or suggestions.

Trustee Thompson: We already have issues with the sewer plant. I know we go by what our engineers advise about additional capacity, how do you propose to figure out their rates when we don't really seem to know what we can handle with what we have now? We can't afford a brand new wastewater treatment plant. I'm a little confused.

Manager Revella: We have some plans together for what we need to do for our sewer plant regardless. There's new users that are already in the Village that we're obligated to give them capacity and to give them connections. What should we charge them as well? We need to make sure we're able to afford the repairs and improvements on our system. Because they're needed, regardless of whether we have one more user or not. We also have to take into consideration if the Village is

built out completely, what is it going to cost us? What does that look like in our sewer plant? And if we want to consider outside users, most places charge double or some other rate for that to compensate or some other incentive as an assessment to be able to cover the cost of that use.

Trustee Thompson: We need to do this then to provide the necessary upgrades to increase the capacity, is that what you're saying? And to fix what needs to be fixed regardless.

Manager Revella: Make sure we have sufficient capacity.

Trustee Thompson: Are you asking us to consider spreading an increase throughout the entire Village or just new users?

Manager Revella: Right now we're going to have some improvements coming up that will be bonded over time. Which we have in our budget to do that. We also have a larger assessment on new users to cover that cost if the burden isn't as large on the residents at large. But if you're coming in on a new project, maybe you should pay more to hook up, so we have funds towards those capital improvements because of the need.

Trustee Elliot: I'm not exactly up to speed on all of that. I'm catching it as I go. Is our sewer system capable of taking on a whole bunch of new users?

Manager Revella: That's what we're evaluating now, whether we have the capacity sufficient now. Regardless, if we don't have it, should we be contemplating that so we have it for what we have in the pipeline right now? We have I&I issues so some days we have plenty of capacity and some days we don't, depending on the system on that day.

Trustee Sebring: I believe that we should be looking into the new rates for all the hookups that are coming into our sewer system for the fact that they will help pay for the cost of the repairs that the Village residents are paying now, but the new ones coming in will pay an extra charge. I believe that we should be looking into setting up a new fee schedule for new hookups. For properties within the Village and outside users possibly. Consolidate it all into one so we know what we're dealing with.

Mayor Taylor: I guess the way I feel about it now that within the Village, we need to establish that so that I consider them new users are bearing some of the cost to improve the system as it is now. I think I would have a very hard time at this point accepting any outside users into our system. We need to make sure we have the capacity that we're adhering to the consent order to get our system repaired to service Village residents. Even though someone would pay to be an outside user, I don't know if we want to get into that business right now until such time that our facility is capable of handling what we need to handle for Village residents.

Manager Revella: Just wanted to let you know that we do have the engineer in the lobby waiting to speak, he's just going to let us know what they're requesting.

Trustee Carley: I just have a question, do we have the number of new within the Village users?

Manager Revella: Potential? There are 204 units of townhouses along Coldenham Road that are potentially coming in. We have a senior facility. That's just above 60 units on North Montgomery Street. Then we have a few subdivisions around Town.

Robert Hagopian: We're requesting to allow 9 lots to be brought into the Village for wastewater and that would accumulate about 5,000 gallons a day.

Mayor Taylor: Why aren't you utilizing what other people do when they live in the Town of Montgomery, they have sewer systems, leech fields, septic systems?

Robert Hagopian: Right now we have a plan prepared to have one central sewer for the subdivision of the 9 lots and we showed it to the Planning Board Chairman and he told us that we should go in front of the Town board to find out if the Town would entertain creating a district for central arrangement.

Manager Revella: You mean you went in front of the Town Planning Board and they suggested go in front of the Village Board, correct?

Robert Hagopian: Correct. Because it would be a big waste of time for the Planning Board to go through a whole review process to create a district for the Town to take over. It makes sense to find out if the Town will create a district and before we go through the whole planning process. As we approach the Town to see if they would entertain creating a sewer district, to have 1 large septic system, which would be a leech field, for the 9 properties, the Town Board suggested to approach the Village of Walden because the property is about 400 feet away and it would be environmentally better to have wastewater treated through a treatment plant opposed to having more septic's, even though both are acceptable.

Mayor Taylor: Basically, the Town didn't want to create a sewer district for this project, is that what you're telling us?

Robert Hagopian: No. They suggested to see if the Village of Walden will allow us in because it would be easier and better before they entertained creating a district.

Mayor Taylor: I'm a bit confused, I would think that would be something that the Town should answer. That property is in the Town. Why they wouldn't address that and see if that's feasible before as a last resort. You would come to the Village of Walden to say you can't get anything from the Town of Montgomery, is it a possibility to hook into the Village of Walden? That seems a little bit backwards to me.

Robert Hagopian: The Town board directed us to go to the Village because there's a full treatment plant in the Village and the Town does not have sewage collection in this area. If the Village will entertain it, then that would be great. If not, we would be going back to the Town board and asking them to make a district for this property or properties and we would proceed in that way. But it just made sense to that board that if there is sewage treatment available, try to take advantage of that.

Mayor Taylor: And if you hooked into the Village of Walden, the Town wouldn't have to be responsible to maintain another sewer district.

Robert Hagopian: Not necessarily, they would still maintain the district, it would be just all the waste water would flow into the Village. They would make sure that the collection system in Montgomery would be properly maintained.

Trustee Carley: I see what you're saying, that when you bring in 9 lots, to me, at 5,000 a day, that's 1.8 million a year. If we don't know exactly how our end users are, that could be a burden on the Village. Once that comes into our area, the Town is absolved of all responsibility and we get stuck with the damage and get stuck with everything else. It appears to me, respectfully, the administrator is comfortable with the Town doing whatever it wants as a district or come to us. And he's fine with every which way it goes. So it's not a mandatory have to come into the Village.

Manager Revella: They were just suggesting that it was more environmentally friendly. Is that what this Town suggested?

Robert Hagopian: Yes. DEC for years always said it's better to have wastewater go through a treatment plant as opposed to individual septic's, because individual septic's have an expectation of approximately around 20 years and then they will clog up and then you'd have to build another one. The design that I created has a 100% replacement area. In theory yes, you can have 1 large wastewater system of septic system, but every 20 years it has been built and created. It just seemed like an easier answer if the Village has a very large treatment plant. It's only 5,000 gallons a day and the funds would be obviously paid to the Village for the treatment.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: Did your initial plans ever indicate that you were going to have a communal septic system where 9 residences are going to flow into a single unit and have the leech field's run out from that? Was that an inaccurate?

Robert Hagopian: No, that is accurate. That's what the initial plan is. That's what we present to the Town of Montgomery Planning Board. He said before they go forward, find out if the Town board would even allow a district, because why waste time going through a whole planning process and then find out that the Town would not? That's when we went to the Town and the Town said the Village is right next door. Maybe that would be the best solution.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: During your initial assessment there with the communal, are there 2 water sources that are going to pass through the property?

Robert Hagopian: Yes. The Tin Brook and the Wallkill River meet at the edge of the property.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: That's why the Town suggested that you come to us?

Robert Hagopian: No, because we can have the septic system far enough away. But there is an environmental benefit of not putting wastewater in the ground, if there's a treatment plant available.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: How many acres is that site?

Robert Hagopian: The property is about 24 acres. I did present this plan to the Orange County Department of Health and they do allow the concept of having 1 large wastewater system there.

Trustee Thompson: I 100% agree with you on this one, Sue. It's a little mind boggling to me that the Town just thinks we can keep handling all of these wastewater issues in our antiquated wastewater treatment plant. I think 5,000 gallons a day for 365 days a year is a lot of sewer to be treated. I do have concerns about the project being so close to the river and the brook and I get it, that this containment system is probably not ideal, but I don't know if I'm willing to agree to this type of a project with our wastewater treatment plant. That means there's going to have to be a pump station put in place over there.

Robert Hagopian: Yes, there will be a pump station for the project that will be maintained by the Town of Montgomery.

Trustee Thompson: That's also interesting. I agree with the Mayor that this should be looked at closer by the Town. It would make it easier for the Town if the Village said yes, but right now this is their responsibility, this project and the waste water.

Robert Hagopian: Yes.

Trustee Sebring: I believe that the Town should take a closer look at this, because I agree with you too, there are just too many unknown questions and it's close to the Tin Brook and to Wallkill River. At one time, I believe this project had come up before the Village board. I believe that we should take a harder look at it and let the Town look at it real hard and see what they come up with. Once they have made a decision, then we'll have more information from the Town to make our decision.

Mayor Taylor: Once you make a decision like this and you agree to this property, there are other properties on Northern Avenue that are in the Town. What's good for 1 is good for another. Maybe someone septic is failing, you know what? Instead of putting in a new septic system in, let's hook into the Village of Walden. Then the neighbor wants to hook into. It's cheaper for me to hook into a Village and pay them whatever their rates are than to maintain a sewer system. I can understand the dilemma and the question about environmental feasibility for this project, but the main focus should be, we need to service the Village of Walden first and foremost. The residents that live here. I don't think that we should even be thinking about taking in outside users, regardless of whatever the fee is going to be, to put stress and strain on our system when we have projects that are under that consent order that have to be done, that are going to have to be bonded. I don't think we should be even thinking about taking in outside users until everything is done with our system and it can serve the Village residents first and foremost.

Robert Hagopian: I see this as an opportunity for the applicant, Town of Montgomery and the Village, because a Village usually gets paid more as an outside user or additional funds and the project will be built to new standards being a very tight system. If the Village has some weak spots, at least some of those additional funds can help with the weak spots. We're not forced to come to the Village. That will not make or break the project. It was just an avenue that the Town of Montgomery asked us to pursue that maybe would be a good fit. I don't feel that we're asking or begging. We're not stuck either way. We can find another path, if the Village finds that it doesn't fit.

Mayor Taylor: What I'm hearing from a majority of board members is that right now they're not of the mind that it does fit. If anybody disagrees with me, you can jump in and tell me that I'm not hearing things correctly.

Manager Revella: We've been pretty consistent with discussing outside users in general. We try to provide for those in the Village and if this project was in the Village, obviously we would make do and make it work. But as a property in the Town of Montgomery, it's very difficult to be able to provide that capacity to somebody outside the Village when we have other people that are in the Village, including others that actually want to be a part of the Village that may help in the future. It's very difficult as a Village as well to be in that position to make use and have capacity set aside for an outside user.

Mayor Taylor: Does that answer your question, administrator?

Robert Hagopian: Yes.

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to deny request to become an outside user for sewer capacity of the project. Seconded by Trustee Carley.

Roll Call:

Trustee Carley: Yay

Trustee Baker: Yay

Trustee Elliott: Yay
Trustee Thompson: Yay
Trustee Sebring: Yay
Deputy Mayor Ramos: Yay
Mayor Taylor: Yay

Motion carried.

ZBA/PB Training

Manager Revella: Planning Board and Zoning Board members are required to have 4 hours of training a year. It's been difficult because trainings have been canceled, postponed. Some people have managed better than others, but since it's been difficult for others and have different schedules. The thought was to waive it for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Trustee Thompson: This is happening because of Covid. Covid is on the rise again. So, what are we extending this to and what provisions are we going to put in place if people have difficulty taking their classes for the next year? How long do we keep extending?

Manager Revella: Until May 31, 2020.

Trustee Thompson: Then after that?

Mayor Taylor: You would you would have to reevaluate it because the next fiscal year is June.

Trustee Thompson: I just have a problem with this whole thing because I know how many things I've taken during Covid and a lot of people were not working. So, they had more time to do self-learning if they chose to. Even though certain things were canceled, there were still a lot of programs out there. I think people just had a lot of things going on and perhaps they disregarded the requirements that they needed to be on their boards. I get that. It's been a really difficult year for a lot of people, for a lot of different reasons. You sit on these boards and you have a responsibility, you have a duty and you know that when you sit on the board. I'm okay with saying we're going to let it go till May of 2021, but I just don't like the idea that we're going to keep reevaluating and we're going to keep giving second, third, fourth, fifth chances. I think we need to say we're going to give you some leniency, however, start looking now for programs and classes. Its 4 hours. It's not a lot. It doesn't have to be 4 hours at once. I hope people are taking their responsibilities and their educational commitments to the various boards seriously and I think they need to know, we're giving you a pass, but you need to get on your game.

Trustee Carley: I think it's fair to waive the initial one here now, because when Covid hit, it disrupted a lot of things and it was unprecedented. So, people handled things in different ways. I think it's good for the board to be flexible when it can be flexible. But historically, from when I was initially on the board before we made sure everybody did what they were supposed to do. I don't think it's a question of if we're going to let people slack or not or that people not taking their position seriously, because based off my understanding, everyone is always taking it seriously. You have an outlier here and there, but primarily everyone does take their position and their training seriously. This was just unprecedented. It's good that we could we can afford the opportunity to say, let's waive this and then move forward next year.

Mayor Taylor: Are they not offering anything online for these people?

Manager Revella: They are. Some of the courses are certified, some is not. That's part of the problem. We have proof from some people that they went to a class, but it's not like it was before

where they get a certificate.

Mayor Taylor: Are these free?

Manager Revella: Most of them are and if they're not, we usually pay for it as the Village.

Mayor Taylor: Are we paying for something and they're not getting our certificate for?

Manager Revella: We haven't done that yet now.

Mayor Taylor: Do they log people in? There has to be some kind of a trail of who's attending these classes.

Manager Revella: Based on who signs up, I would think but I'm not sure.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: NYCOM and all those other classes, all at the end offer you the opportunity to receive a certificate in the mail or online. You can just print it off on the computer.

Mayor Taylor: I'm in favor of waiving it until May, but I really think this needs to be addressed with Orange County. How are these people supposed to perform their duties if they can't take the necessary classes and get the education that they need to do these jobs? Maybe they need to step up a little bit and try to find some more classes that people can take that come with certificates, so that they can fulfill their obligations. I'd like to see them working. We can waive it, but if classes come up, I think the members of those boards should be willing to take them.

Trustee Thompson made a motion to waive training requirements until May 31, 2021 for Zoning and Planning Board. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment of Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to approve Payment of Audited Bills. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Trustee Thompson: Received an email from Sam B Phelps IV.

Mayor Taylor: I think everyone but John Elliot received that same email. Cheryl did you get that email?

Trustee Baker: I did. Nothing else.

Trustee Sebring: I received the one from Sam Phelps and Mercedes Ortiz.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: I received the same 2 emails and letters.

Manager Revella: Since we have some restrictions here, you didn't know, but you got about 200 letters in your mailbox. All about a project in the Town.

Mayor Taylor: Does someone want to deliver them to me.

Manager Revella: They're all the same letter. They are letters in support of a Danskammer upgrade project.

Deputy Mayor Ramos: Town of Newburgh.

Mayor Taylor: Why am I getting them?

Manager Revella: They're addressed to the mayor.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Thompson: Do you have any new information for us yet on the Street Light Project?

Manager Revella: NYSEG has not given me an update on the light replacement project.

Trustee Thompson: Where are we as far as this 203 committee that we need to have in place by April?

Manager Revella: We had a kickoff meeting today. We'll have some meetings coming up for the public as well. We'll be announcing those, so they can participate. We have a few different things, including an email set up for anyone that needs to or wants to enquire or send information on the police reform initiative. It's on the Police Department, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter accounts. It'll be on our website as well and Facebook as well.

Trustee Thompson: Just curious because it seems like it's been very quiet about that.

Manager Revella: We're probably ahead of everyone else in the County.

Trustee Thompson: Good. I had 2 people complain to me that the information on our web page about when our Zoning Board and Planning Boards meet is not accurate. I know that the Zoning Board is changing their time of their meetings. That just happened recently at their last meeting. I honestly did not go and look, but I was told that the Planning Board is still on there, that they're meeting twice a month. If maybe you and Marisa could check on that.

Clerk Kraus: It's corrected.

Trustee Thompson: Thank you so much.

Mayor Taylor: Are we aggressively looking for members of the community to join that 203 committee?

Manager Revella: It's not a 203 committee. We're supposed to get feedback and input from stakeholders, not necessarily become members of the committee.

Mayor Taylor: How are we reaching members of the community? I don't know that everybody knows to go on the website or the PBA website, the Police Department website. Are we doing fliers? What kind of outreach are we doing to try to get as much community input as possible?

Manager Revella: We just set up some dates now, that'll be on the bi-monthly calendar, on the website. We'll put something in the Wallkill Valley Times and it's on all of those social media platforms.

Mayor Taylor: Are we going to do anything like a flier to put in businesses? I know not everybody's going to a restaurant, but in business windows, handouts in restaurants, because there are people in the community that we need to reach to get their input and I don't know if those are the sources that are going to be most visited by those members of our community.

Manager Revella: We'll take every method that's available to us to make sure that everyone's aware. We reached out to community groups as well. And we'll continue to do that. Church community leaders, organizations as well.

Mayor Taylor: I served on this board for many years and I just thought that I wanted to make everyone aware that I'm going to be retiring from the Village Board. I am not intending on running for reelection in March, if that's when the election is. We all know that can change. I just thought, in fairness to anyone that wanted to become a candidate, that I'm not running for reelection and I'm going to retire from public service.

Executive Session – Collective Bargaining Negotiations with PBA, CSEA

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations with PBA, CSEA. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

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

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
November 17, 2020
Motions & Resolutions**

Approval of October 20, 2020 Minutes

Trustee Thompson: Next to last page, the person's name from Climate Smart is Carolyn, not Karen.

Trustee Thompson made a motion to approve the October 20, 2020 Minutes with corrections. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Fee Schedule – Building Permit Fees

Trustee Carley made a motion to adopt Fee Schedule – Building Permit Fees. Seconded by Trustee Baker. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sewer Assessment

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to deny request to become an outside user for sewer capacity of the project. Seconded by Trustee Carley.

Roll Call:

Trustee Carley: Yay
Trustee Baker: Yay
Trustee Elliott: Yay
Trustee Thompson: Yay
Trustee Sebring: Yay
Deputy Mayor Ramos: Yay
Mayor Taylor: Yay

Motion carried.

ZBA/PB Training

Trustee Thompson made a motion to waive training requirements until May 31, 2021 for Zoning and Planning Board. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment of Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Ramos made a motion to approve Payment of Audited Bills. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. All ayes. Motion carried.

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