

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
March 24, 2015**

Mayor Maher called the regular meeting of the Village of Walden Board of Trustees to order at 6:40pm.

On roll call the following were:

Present:

Mayor	Brian Maher
Deputy Mayor	Sue Rumbold
Trustees	Willie Carley
	Sean Hoffman (arrived late)
	Edmond Leonard
	Gerald Mishk

Absent:

Trustee	Bernard Bowen
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Also Present:

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

Village Manager's Report –

- We had a few snow storms pop up that added to the great situation our snow budget is in even further. Hopefully weather will be better going forward and we will be in better shape.
- The sewer sludge press is in and they are working on it. The pole for the electric is not in yet but as soon as it is will get it all wired up.
- Had a few snow removal appeals that are being worked on now, will have responses to the residents tomorrow and move forward from there.
- There is a new Police Sergeant's exam open now for Village of Walden for those that meet certain criteria. Police Department is getting a new security lock system in their office which will help us toward accreditation.
- We had a few more water breaks, hopefully there will be no more. Have been doing very well on those.
- We do have a lot of work being done on Ulster Avenue. Our DPW and our Water Department will be working on curb boxes and they already did some work on the catch basins. The State helped us and removed the trees that were required to be removed for the project and Lanc and Tully has been doing the required survey marks. The project is moving along well.
- Attended the IDA Town of Montgomery meeting. They don't meet again until May. We won't know anything until then, but we will be there to hear their opinions and weigh in on it.
- Harvest fest is coming along well. Having meetings to be discussed later.
- There are a couple local religious services doing another community service project for the Village.

- Met with the PBA negotiating committee again. It is progressing.
- Met with engineer to review the capital projects for the budget. A draft is available and after a few revisions the final should be done before the first budget session.
- We did have a water/sewer rate committee meeting which will be discussed on the agenda tonight.
- Auctions International Company is on the agenda tonight. They do auctions for surplus items at no cost to the public entity.
- We had 420 voters out of the 3,618 registered that came out on Election Day.
- He did get the budget to the Board and is online on the Village website as well. Our tax cap this year is 2.81. He presented a budget of 2.599 and has a capital projects list that we are still working on. Still waiting for the last county tax payment, the last franchise payment, and the last sales tax payment then we should be squared up for the end of the year.

Trustee Carley asked if there were photos and measurements taken in the snow appeal process.

Manager Revella replied that he does have photos for all 8 appeals he is working on and feels comfortable handling all of them. They all have varied issues, no width issues that he has seen yet this year.

Trustee Mishk asked for more information about the Masci and Hale snow removal issue listed in the Manager's report.

Manager Revella replied that we had received a phone call asking about removing some of the snow bank near their office due to the water break we were working on. We had closed off a large section of road to do work which took away some parking for them.

Trustee Mishk asked about the tree on top of the house on West Main Street.

Manager Revella replied that Dean noticed the property owner. There is a 10 day waiting period before we can move on it. The house is vacant and the branches are leaning on the house on the porch. The Building Inspector did notice the property owner.

Trustee Mishk feels the bottom half of the branch is across the sidewalk at the end and is a sizable branch in his opinion.

Manager Revella replied that Dean did not believe there was a hazard to the public but he would have to check the notice to be certain.

Approval of the February 17, 2015 Minutes

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to approve the February 17, 2015 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (Trustee Carley). Minutes Approved.

Approval of the March 3, 2015 Minutes

Trustee Leonard made a motion to approve the March 3, 2015 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (Deputy Mayor Rumbold). Minutes Approved.

Trustee's Committee Reports

Town of Montgomery & Library Board liaison – Trustee Leonard

Trustee Leonard reported nothing new.

Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Bowen

Trustee Bowen was absent.

Police Department Liaison – Deputy Mayor Rumbold

Deputy Mayor Rumbold reported that the body cameras for the Police Department are being tested at this time and Stop DWI is in progress.

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

Trustee Hoffman arrived late so he was not able to give his report.

Recreation & Parks Department, Emergency Services, and Valley Central School Board Liaison – Trustee Carley

Trustee Carley reported the Recreation & Parks Department is doing well. School board is also going well. Things are picking up for the summer getting ready to do their budget and taxes, more to come.

Village Justice and DPW Liaison - Trustee Mishk

Trustee Mishk stated that he had nothing new to report.

Manager Revella added that there is an informational presentation on April 23rd about Chickens and Hens and the Easter Egg Hunt is still on for this Saturday March 28th. Also, the new April/May calendars are out this week.

The Mayor read the community events calendar into the minutes.

Presentations -

Mayor Maher made a farewell speech and thanked people including Peter Sullivan, Treasurer; Ginny Neidermier, Library Manager; Keith Hunter, Hunter Insurance; Robert Brown, St. Baldrick's; Fred Perna, DPW Working Leader; Michael Bliss, Recreation Coordinator; Raynard Ozman, Village Justice; Anita Vandermark; Brenda Adams; Brian Sebring; Mary Ellen Matise, Village Historian; John Queenan, Village Engineer; Dave Donovan, Village Attorney; John Revella, Village Manager; Tara Bliss, Village Clerk; Edmond Leonard, Village Trustee; Willie Carley, Village Trustee; Gerald Mishk, Village Trustee; Sean Hoffman, Village Trustee; Lisenda Sutton, Little Miss Walden 2015; and Deputy Mayor Rumbold.

Public Comment on Business of the Board

None

Action Items

Memorial Day Parade Request 5/25/2015

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to approve the Memorial Day Parade Request from the American Legion and the Walden VFW for Monday, May 25, 2015 to include closure of Cross Street, West Main Street between Veterans Memorial Park and Oak Street, as well as the Square between 9am-12pm and usage of the stage and sound

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system for the program in the Square after the parade. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 23-14-15 – EZ Pass Location

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to approve Resolution 23-14-15 EZ Pass Location as well as authorizing the Village Manager to sign the agreement. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried

Surplus SUV – 2006 Chevy Tahoe

Manager Revella explained that we looked at the vehicle again, which does need work done and does have some life left in it but would need some work.

Trustee Mishk added that he would agree that it has a life left however is beyond our mechanic's abilities to get it back into service at this point. That being said the cost would be beyond what we would want to spend to fix it. He has not been able to get a hold of BOCES.

Trustee Leonard made a motion to Surplus the 2006 Chevy Tahoe with no minimum bid. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. All ayes. Motion carried.

Auctions International Contract

Manager Revella explained that the contract was reviewed with Attorney Donovan. The company does the majority of public auctions in New York State. There is no cost to the seller but there is a 10% cost to the purchaser. If the company comes and photos are taken the company takes \$30 taken out of the sale proceeds. There are no upfront costs for the Village. The Attorney requested that we add that any sales tax is bore by the purchaser not the seller. Just so everyone is aware, the item could be up for auction for 10 days or however long the auction is listed, and the Board still has the ultimate authority to accept or reject said bid.

Trustee Leonard asked if they would post a minimum bid on the listing.

Manager Revella replied that they can if we ask them to, but we don't need to. If someone only bids \$1 then we would just reject the bid.

Trustee Leonard asked if this was just internet advertising.

Manager Revella replied yes.

Trustee Hoffman asked how that affects our requirements for notice.

Manager Revella replied that we do not have to also notice.

Attorney Donovan stated that we declare surplus at the meeting and we have a contract with these folks which satisfies our obligation.

Trustee Mishk asked if we had to use this company for every surplus we do.

Manager Revella replied no, it is not exclusive.

Attorney Donovan stated for the record that he reviewed and approved the contract.

Trustee Hoffman stated he was speaking based on his experience with online bidding; could we also entertain bids from someone that knows by word of mouth that we are surplusing an item?

Manager Revella replied that he believes if we get a bid that is higher than the one on the site we could accept it as we could reject all bids from the site and sell to someone else.

Attorney Donovan confirmed that unlike a real estate agent if you are selling your house, there is no exclusivity provision in this contract. So you could reject the bids and sell to someone else with no issues.

Trustee Leonard asked how much information we give about the vehicle or items.

Manager Revella replied there is a list of details they would ask us to fill out.

Trustee Mishk made a motion authorize the Village Manager to sign the Auctions International Contract. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

Water/Sewer Rates

Mayor Maher explained that a committee consisting of Trustee Leonard, Trustee Hoffman, Treasurer Peter Sullivan, Village Engineer John Queenan, and the Village Manager met several times and came up with several options for the Board to consider about increasing the water/sewer rates.

Manager Revella stated they met several times and looked at different options and looked at revenue and expenses to see what it would look like if we did nothing over the course of a few years. Obviously doing nothing is not a good option. There are several options that could help the water/sewer funds balance out over the course of 5 years. It's important to realize that we have had no increases in the water rate since 2010 or the sewer rate since 2011.

Trustee Hoffman added that the committee met 4 times and started formulating ideas to bring to the Board. They want ideas to make sure we are doing the right thing and get some feedback and include public involvement in the process as well. Peter brought this up in January and we met 4 times to date to discuss different options, models, and objections. Tonight Peter will reinstate the problem and then John Queenan will go through those models and potential changes to the rates. Ultimately we are looking to make a change for the June billing cycle so the Board would have to take action either in April or May. So they are looking to give some initial information, have you look at what we've done and then get some feedback.

Peter Sullivan, Village Treasurer, explained the issue. Our last increases were a while ago and we are realizing less money than we were few years ago. We are down about 7-8% in terms of the current water/sewer rate. This is due to many vacant properties and people more concerned with energy conservation including water usage, which is a real problem for us. Our operating costs have increased modestly about 4.5% per year but our debt cost has gone up a lot. Our outstanding debt in this fiscal year will be \$381,000 more than

it was 4 years ago. They are big increases yes, but we've gotten a lot for it. We've fixed a lot of our water tanks on Highland Avenue, Gladstone Avenue, and Wait Street; continued work on our water pumping sites; we've completed water main replacements on Bradley Lane, Capron Street and extending it on forward; completed sewer treatment renovations that began in 2011 due to the DEC Consent Order; we are installing the Belt Filter Press to make it more efficient; we've got the I & I program where we are cameraing sewer mains gathering a lot of useful information; and replaced water line, water mains, and sewer pumping stations. We are doing a lot and will have to go on to continue to make investments in our infrastructure and our water/sewer rates need to support that. We decreased what we planned to do and deferred the projects that would have depleted our fund balance. The consequence of doing nothing is serious. We currently have \$291,000 in the water fund and based on our current expenses and rate structure, we will run out of fund balance in 2.7 years. In the sewer funds, if we do nothing, our funds would last 8 months. That is why the committee got together to determine some options to make our funds reflect our expenses.

John Queenan, Village Engineer, echoed what Peter said. Our current water rate is \$4.20 for every 100 cubic feet of water or 748 gallons. Our current sewer rate is \$4.95 for every 100 cubic feet of water or 748 gallons. That is a total of \$9.15 combined for 748 gallons. We did some comparisons around neighboring municipalities: Village of Maybrook (smaller system) \$4.15 for water and sewer with quarterly fees of \$5.00 for water and \$6.25 for sewer; Village of Montgomery (smaller system) is \$2.85 for water and \$5.04 for sewer; Village of Goshen (comparable size) is \$4.80 for water and \$4.80 for sewer with quarterly fees of \$10.00 for water and \$140.00 for sewer. Each of their rates are specific to what's going on in the community. The Village of Goshen for example has a very high sewer fee because they had to build new sewer plant. As Peter stated, without an increase in 5 years we will incur a \$574,000 deficit and there would be no water fund balance in 2.7 years. Combine that information with our increased operating costs which also play a big role in our deficit, we came up with 2 options. The first option would be to adopt a quarterly fee or adopt a quarterly fee as well as some sort of rate increase. It's a balance of how you want to get to solve the problem. In looking at those 2 scenarios if we adopted a \$10 quarterly fee for water and increased the water rate by \$0.25 making it \$4.45 for 100 cubic feet (748 gallons) which would make the water fund balance until 2020. Another option would be to adopt a quarterly fee of \$12 with no rate increase which would also make the water fund balance until 2020. On the sewer side we have the same 2 scenarios but slightly less as the sewer rate is higher now. The DEC mandates for repairs that had to be done under a consent order which is why the debt is there and the fund balance for sewer is extremely low leaving us a deficit of \$392,000 over the next 5 years. We have the same 2 options; adopt a quarterly fee or adopt a quarterly fee with a rate increase. We would suggest a \$15 quarterly fee with no sewer rate increase which would get us to balance, or adopt a quarterly fee of \$10 and increase the sewer rate by \$0.25 cents making it \$5.20 for 100 cubic feet (748 gallons) that would get us to balance. That's basically where we are and we wanted the Board to hear this and discuss what direction you wanted us to go in.

Manager Revella added for the benefit of the public that a lot is bore by DEC and the Department of Health that is pushing our water/sewer structure needs and we have to meet those standards, we don't have a choice.

Mayor Maher added that this is not something that just sprung up, we have been researching and discussing for the better part of the year to figure out how we would move forward.

Trustee Mishk asked if the quarterly fee is applicable if the water/sewer service is being used or not.

Manager Revella replied yes because the infrastructure is the same whether they use one drop of water or thousands of gallons of water.

Trustee Hoffman added that we did specifically look at that and considered because there are a lot of vacant properties that do not incur water/sewer fees but they do still receive the benefit of the service. Right now our current recommendation is to do that.

John added that the quarterly fee gives you the rest easy that we are not reliant on consumption. Consumption has dropped 8% in the last 3 years. With the quarterly fee we won't have a deficit with decreased consumption because we will have a deficit that maintains that. Most if not all utilities in the area have instituted that for that very reason.

Trustee Leonard stated that 5% of the houses in the Village are unoccupied or vacant which works out to about 110 units, fluctuating month to month. Some have water and others have been cut off. That has impacted our income on both sides.

Mayor Maher asked for a value to the \$0.25 increase for the average home owner or small business. We will still discuss that and get to that number before anything just happens.

Manager Revella stated that there will be a public hearing and time for plenty of input before anything happens.

John explained that the average single family home in the Village is billed \$210 per quarter for water/sewer. With the increase for that same home it would be additional an additional \$100 per year or \$25 per quarter which equates to an 11% increase. Not final just an idea. Remember that this would be the one increase over a 10 year period which would take you to 2020. That would work out to 1.1% increase each year over 10 years.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold commented that we had anticipated to close out the consent order but it's become clear that the DEC won't do that. When we try to analyze this and they just notified us that they want us to do work on our pump stations which we didn't anticipate; with these increases, how confident are we not knowing what the DEC will do next, that we can afford to pay for and do whatever they throw at us.

Manager Revella stated that we had anticipated to do those repairs if the DEC makes us or not and are budgeted for. We were planning on doing them anyway, because they should be done. We do have a meeting with the DEC regarding issues and further repairs they would like us to do. They are likely to keep us on consent order as long as they can.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold stated that we are talking about a 10 year period and we don't know what could happen. Those repairs and improvement you are talking about the present. 6 years down the road we don't know what could happen.

Manager Revella replied that we have budgeted a capital improvement project of several hundred thousand dollars for every year so if we had to do a full pump station every year we could do that and is anticipated and covered under this plan. Whatever ancillary issues that come up we have budgeted for also so we would be able to cover those.

John added that those capital improvements are included in the model presented.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold asked if we answer consent orders and give them an overview on the financial impact on us.

Attorney Donovan replied that in his experience with the DEC in another municipality they have remarkable unconcern about what it will cost the residents. They have things they want to enforce and will likely go through John's office to come up with a list of deficiencies and will then come up with a timeline to make us comply with their regulations. He personally attended meetings with DEC representatives that don't really care about the costs to the residents. Village of Goshen for example, his quarterly bill used to be \$90 and this quarter he paid \$450.

Trustee Leonard added that this is happening all over the state. The DEC is taking over various places through consent orders and as Dave just said, they don't care where the money comes from, they say that is our problem to figure out.

Trustee Hoffman commented that the short answer to this "do we know what they will require?" and the answer is no. We hoped to build a savings and a capital plan with this plan so that if they were not going to put a consent order on us we could work at our own pace but if they did put us on consent order, we would have that built into the rate structure.

Trustee Carley gave kudos on the presentation, it looks good, thank you. It is difficult to answer Option 1 vs. Option 2 this at this time. If a homeowner asked me the difference between them I don't know how to answer that. Not sure that it's real clear as it appears it would need to be increased again in the future. Perhaps a line chart for those to visually see that would be helpful. We need to have that spelled out a little more so we can answer the questions.

Manager Revella added that as a resident he can understand a flat fee and he can budget for that but a rate increase he might not be able to prepare for as it is hard to judge. If we have a flat fee seems better and is easier to explain. He'd prefer not to have the mix because it would be 2 questions rather than just one.

Mayor Maher stated that from a budgetary standpoint the flat fee seems like the best way to go.

John commented that it is hard with consumption so you take the average. It would work out to \$6-8 per household per quarter. It winds up being slightly more than the flat fee would work out if you can believe that.

Mayor Maher asked about the timeline and the schedule and when we want to implement.

Attorney Donovan replied that if we want this to happen in the next billing cycle, which begins May 1st, we can't increase what is presently being consumed, so we have to wait until the next consumption period. If you want it in place prior to May 1st you need to make a decision by the next meeting to allow time for the public hearing. Regardless if you choose to implement a rate increase or implement a local law to enforce a flat fee you would need to focus on that at the next meeting to be in place for May 1st. If the Board has questions between now and next meeting ask them and then we can get the answers at the next meeting.

Trustee Mishk asked if we could hold a public hearing quickly for the public to weigh in on this. Listening to this, he can see the argument coming out from a senior citizen vs a family of 4. Why should they pay the same flat fee? He would need to hear the public before we can make a decision.

Manager Revella stated that we had this debate in our meetings as well. But we still have the same pipes, the same everything to get someone 1 drop vs. a few gallons. He personally has a family of 6 and his bill is less than the average single family bill that Mr. Queenan referenced before.

Trustee Mishk stated that his first reaction is to go with the flat rate but not to jump at it too quickly.

Trustee Carley asked if we could have that spelled out a little more to be better educated to hear the options.

Attorney Donovan stated that perhaps Trustee Mishk is suggesting a town hall meeting is in order to inform the public.

Trustee Hoffman stated that the public input is great and we tried to move on this quickly but the committee did have some of these conversations ourselves and does recognize and anticipated the conversations. He does think an informational meeting would be a good idea but maybe we could piggy back it onto our next scheduled meeting.

Attorney Donovan commented that this is not easy. It's not great times to tell people they have to pay more but on the other hand, the Village is not left with many options in terms of complying with the DEC consent order.

Trustee Hoffman asked if a copy of the presentation could go on the Village website for the public to view it.

Attorney Donovan replied that we need to get our timeline set. We would need to get the notice out as soon as possible if we want to have the information session on April 7th. We are talking about having a public hearing for April 21st unless the Board decides they are not ready for this.

Manager Revella stated that we could put it online and John Queenan will have his power point presentation for the public to view.

Trustee Leonard asked us if we missed a quarter how would that affect us financially.

Peter Sullivan replied it would put us further behind, it's hard to judge. Approximately \$50,000 between the 2 funds. May have to readjust the numbers upwards if we push it out.

Trustee Mishk made a motion to hold a public informational session at the next meeting on April 7, 2015 at 6:30pm or as soon thereafter as could be heard. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Maher added that at that time the Board will decide if they choose to set a public hearing on the 21st.

Kimball Way

Mayor Maher explained the idea behind renaming the boulevard by the offices of Masci and Hale which is technically East Main Street in honor of Dr. Kimball who was instrumental in getting that office started and his family had been in the area for a long time. The suggested name would be Kimball Way. The only business this would affect is Masci and Hale who are agreeable to this idea.

Trustee Hoffman stated that in general he likes this and have been honoring people in our community. He feels it's a good practice and the elimination of duplicate named streets is better for emergency services. As long as 911 doesn't have any issue with that he is fine with it.

Mayor Maher stated that Dean says he normally works with them but that he hasn't reached out to them just yet. So if he can do that before the next meeting and then put this on the next agenda as an action item, provided the new Mayor is ok with that, that would be great.

Public Comment

Mary Ellen Matise, 21 Clinton Street, corrected the spelling of Kimball (2 LLs). She understands that water and sewer has to pay for itself, except for capital which you can put in the capital budget. It makes it difficult to fund the system because as soon as you raise the water rate people use less. That is what happened the last time it was increased. For her, her personal bill didn't really change. A flat rate means it would be \$27 per quarter for 1 person. It would add \$27 to her bill total per quarter with the flat rate in addition to the metered usage charges. This would become a hardship. Instead of a flat rate, why not use a percentage surcharge which would be more equitable. It would be based on the resident's usage.

Manager Revella referred to what Mary Ellen just stated, that people will use less just like she had mentioned.

Trustee Hoffman asked if she meant using a tiered rate.

Mary Ellen replied yes.

Trustee Hoffman stated that some municipalities do use that, and we did talk about that but our bigger concern with the Village is to keep them self-solvent and then people would use less so what would happen then.

Mary Ellen stated that people would use more and would be more equitable. Isn't it about time NYS changed this? What is the purpose of us funding this solely out of water/sewer funds.

Trustee Hoffman replied we are just trying to stay within the parameters of what we have to work with.

Mary Ellen replied she understand that but perhaps someone should be advocating at the state level for this needed change. This puts us in a real bind. The other thing she wanted to talk about was looking towards the future she is sure that everyone was appalled with the fire in Brooklyn with the kids that died and the carbon monoxide deaths in Newburgh. What are we going to do, or what can we do, to increase our inspections? We need to address this as our housing stock is going down not up.

Manager Revella stated they were talking about that today about how to step up our Landlord Registry Law to get those inspections done.

Wanda Bettencourt, 23 Sunnyside Avenue, commented that while her mother was in the ICU during the last snow fall she received a violation notice. She asks the Board respectfully to consider waiving the fee. Her husband is a disable veteran who had to go out there and clean up. The violation was received from the nasty Code Enforcement Officer who constantly gives them violation notices. He is always short and always nasty and doesn't want to deal with no one, especially her. Her mother was hospitalized in the ICU on February 20th and was there for a month. She was with her mother 24 hours/day 7 days/week, she was never home. When it snowed she asked her neighbor to help them and shovel which he did, twice.

Mayor Maher explained that we do have a process and the waiver needs to be submitted in writing to the Village Manager. Also, there are services available to help you out in the future if you need help shoveling.

Wanda stated that he never mentions ice and he specifically told her that she had to come here not that she had to go to the Village Manager. Her husband had to shovel this because he wanted this the width of the sidewalk.

Manager Revella apologized that she received wrong information but appeals need to go directly to him in writing.

Mayor Maher stated that what will happen is that this will go to John and he will go through the process and then go forward to the Board if needed.

Wanda added that we have flyers that get sent out to us every month that information with activities etc. and that should be put on there; the information about the volunteers that do shoveling on the calendar. Again, he never told her to contact John. Also, she shouldn't be fined for ice because not only did they get there once but twice to comply. We have snow-blown and shoveled for years and we were away from the house but it's our place it's our responsibility and we still complied.

Mayor Maher stated that he is sorry about this experience but the process is in place and he will get back to you.

Wanda continued about another issue that has been happening since about 5 years ago when they built the houses on Utopian and the hole it caused in her back yard. She had spoken to various Trustees about this issue. Years went by and then she got a big hole in her back yard because there is not grid in her back yard. They put a fence up and then the fence fell and she received another violation. Every time she turns around there is a violation from Jay and there is a time and a place and she doesn't think our money needs to be spent on certified mail. Don't need to spend tax payer money on certified mail, just treat people like decent human beings. He wastes \$6 every time he sends out one of these notices just for the hell of it. It all accumulates, how much money has the Village spent on certified mail. She has never come to ask why the grid has not been put in place for the drainage.

Mayor Maher reiterated that we are not going to handle this right now, happy she came tonight but she will need to have a follow up conversation with John and he will take care of it. He can't say what specifically will happen but it will be addressed.

Wanda was given Manager Revella's business card and asked to contact him with her appeal in writing.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to pay the audited bills. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Trustee Mishk explained he was pretty certain that all the Board members may have received the same correspondence from a resident on Orange Ave regarding a code violation. Evidently they put a piece of carpet into the garbage can which apparently fell out when they went off to work and it ended up on the ground. They weren't complaining about the code violation, they were complaining about the Code Enforcement Officer and being treated poorly by him.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Leonard stated that he looked at Fred's report and it appears that water and DPW had a hell of a month with snow and freeze ups and they deserve kudos for keeping the department going under the worst conditions. Keep up the good work.

Trustee Mishk thanked the Board and the public for letting him serve as a Trustee. He did the best he could while he was here. While he was here, he was a big proponent of the landlord registry law and now we see examples thankfully that didn't happen in our Village but can occur as a result of poor landlords. He worked with very professional people and as citizens, we are all lucky to have them representing us.

Trustee Hoffman stated that the Code Enforcement Officer did include a summary of the last year's code enforcement. He just wanted to be clear and he feels he carpet instance was one of them that when a notice is given, it is just a notice, if it is resolved at that point it is over. That is usually what happens in most cases and the statistics are in his report.

Deputy Mayor Rumbold described a scene in 2009 at the Walden Diner where 2 old ladies could be seen talking to a 23 year old kid. They needed some Dramamine because he

was throwing his arms all over he was talking in circles. They sat there for 45 minutes talking about why he was running for Mayor and what his dreams for the Village were, they thought he was nuts but as history will tell you he became the Mayor at age 23. The Village is much better for a lot of the things that did come to fruition in his tenure. Some things he may not have accomplished but he tried as hard as he could and learned some things along the way, never losing his great enthusiasm that he had right from the beginning. We lost one of the old ladies along the way and the one that is left is here to say it's been an adventure. She'd like to think he learned some things from them and they certainly have learned some things from him. She hopes that he has enjoyed his years and enjoyed working for the tax papers of the Village. We've had our ups and downs but has to say that what made the biggest impression on her was when he drug her into a maintenance closet and showed her a sonogram picture and told her of the future birth of his baby girl. It was at that moment she realized how much he had grown and enjoyed knowing that his life would never be the same again. That young 23rd old kid was gone and the man we all know is now here. She has to give some credit to the wonderful parents who raised him as they are both inspirations, Carmen and Dennis. You Maher's have a wonderful family with your parents and siblings and always have each other's backs and are an inspiration of what family is all about. So from the one old that is left and from a grateful Board we thank you. She presented him with a plaque honoring his service to the Village of Walden. We know you'll do great whatever you do for the rest of your life.

Mayor Maher thanked Sue and everyone for working with him and making the experience easier for him. He is proud of the accomplishments this Board has made together. He thanked his parents, Dennis and Carmen Maher, his fiancé Becky for her love and support, he can't wait to marry her and continue to grow their family. He thanked Matthew McKay, his best friend, for his support over the years. He is proud of programs like the Youth Employment Program and the organizers and kids that make it such a great program and make it a stronger community. The fact that this program and the Summer Youth Leadership Academy are going to be here long after he is gone is amazing. He thanked Fred Perna for allowing him the ability to talk about the things he talks about in the paper as accomplishments of his such as telemetry and infrastructure improvements, those accomplishments are Fred's and John's. People who tell him like it is and don't just "yes" him such as Fred and Tara and other people who are around him means a lot to him. He is grateful to Be The Movement that is no longer an organization at this time but that it was able to birth another organization with Steve Nicoli, Hudson Valley Honor Flight. Be The Movement was a wonderful organization that did many great things but HVHF has accomplished so much and grown into such a great organization and he will continue to do that. Although we did accomplish many goals and fell short on some others in the Village of Walden, the community stuff is the most important and will have a lasting impact for years to come. He remembers when he was a kid and it wasn't a good thing to be a "Waldenite" and how kids would pick on you if you lived here. They made fun of you every day. He remembers thinking what a great thing it was to be a "Waldenite". When you have a word that is meant to mean negative like that the only way to make it not be negative is to own it and to say loud and proud that we are all proud to be "Waldenites". What it used to mean in the 80's and growing up doesn't have the same meaning any more. He can't wait to spend many more decades being proud of that. He feels the day has come where people talk about Walden and being a "Waldenite" and now it is not that bad. Everyone in this room has contributed to changing that and that is something we all did together no matter what our differences are and is something we will bring to even higher levels and he can't wait to be a part of that. He is not going anywhere and he will

continue to work hard and ask everyone in this room for help and guidance and mentorship and together we will achieve so many great things for the Village of Walden, Town of Montgomery, Orange County, the Hudson Valley and ultimately the world. People will know about Walden, the people in it, and the word "Waldenite" will be something that all of us will be proud of and others will be envious of and wish they were "Waldenites" too. They will buy homes here and raise their families here and that day is coming, it is already here. He's looking forward to it progressing to that level. Thank you.

Executive Session

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person and Collective Bargaining Negotiations with the PBA. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Trustee Leonard did not attend executive session as he had to leave early.

Reconvene

Trustee Mishk moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Mayor Maher moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
March 24, 2015
Motions & Resolutions**

Approval of the February 17, 2015 Minutes

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to approve the February 17, 2015 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (Trustee Carley). Minutes Approved.

Approval of the March 3, 2015 Minutes

Trustee Leonard made a motion to approve the March 3, 2015 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Mishk. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (Deputy Mayor Rumbold). Minutes Approved.

Memorial Day Parade Request 5/25/2015

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to approve the Memorial Day Parade Request from the American Legion and the Walden VFW for Monday, May 25, 2015 to include closure of Cross Street, West Main Street between Veterans Memorial Park and Oak Street, as well as the Square between 9am-12pm and usage of the stage and sound system for the program in the Square after the parade. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 23-14-15 – EZ Pass Location

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to approve Resolution 23-14-15 EZ Pass Location as well as authorizing the Village Manager to sign the agreement. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried

Surplus SUV – 2006 Chevy Tahoe

Trustee Leonard made a motion to Surplus the 2006 Chevy Tahoe with no minimum bid. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Rumbold. All ayes. Motion carried.

Auctions International Contract

Trustee Mishk made a motion authorize the Village Manager to sign the Auctions International Contract. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Water/Sewer Rates

Trustee Mishk made a motion to hold a public informational session at the next meeting on April 7, 2015 at 6:30pm or as soon thereafter as could be heard. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Payment of the Audited Bills

Deputy Mayor Rumbold made a motion to pay the audited bills. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Deputy Mayor Rumbold moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person and Collective Bargaining Negotiations with the PBA. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Reconvene

Trustee Mishk moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Trustee Hoffman. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Mayor Maher moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Carley. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.