

**Village of Walden  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
September 17, 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	Faith Moore John Ramos Larry Kraus Brian Sebring Dan Svarczkopf Lynn E. Thompson

Absent:

Also Present:	John Revella, Village Manager Gina Somma, Deputy Village Clerk Dave Donovan, Village Attorney
---------------	---

**Village Manager's Report**

- Everything for Harvest is going well. It's all set up and ready to go. There are a couple of minor tweaks with the schedule and the schedule of events as well. Community Council and Rec Coordinator have been going over that extensively.
- Went over sidewalk and paving projects with the engineer. The Ulster Ave project is going well. The road for Scofield is being done. They're doing the sidewalk corners on Scofield. They should put concrete in tomorrow and then the paving will happen soon after that. They'll get notices out to everybody before they pave.
- The last week in September, probably the first week in October, they're doing Oakland Avenue sidewalks.
- For anyone who doesn't know, they are doing the railroad crossing at Coldenham Road, the first week in November.
- Went over some Workers Comp issues with Chief and the Clerk. A couple personal matters that happened and we need to take care of.
- Went over some of our documents with the DEC and with the engineer as well.
- Had a couple insurance inspections.
- We had the insurance audit from Worker's Comp. We ended up getting a reduction after the audit. That should come out soon. And our regular audit is happening right now. They came in one day last week and they'll be coming in again soon and continuing until they finish the audit.
- I don't have much updates regarding the union negotiations, but the PBA did get new union counsel. We're trying to work through that to get some updates.
- Had a very informative meeting with District Attorney Hoover regarding new laws for

police services and policies put in place regarding the bail reform. Chief is also aware and he also had that meeting. Hopefully, it doesn't hurt us too much. But there'll be some changes.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Is traffic going to be impacted with Coldenham Road?

**Manager Revella:** Yes. It will be closed while they're doing it. Shouldn't be long, maybe two days. It will be closed while they're working on it, but I think they'll open it up when they're not working. I'll get clarification from DOT when they're doing that.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Is AMPAC aware that's going on?

**Manager Revella:** They're aware that the crossing is getting upgraded. They are waiting for exact dates so they can tell the drivers and their workers.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Plus any deliveries.

**Manager Revella:** The deliveries come down Grant to Elm. Truffa is going to have an issue. Also, we did receive another annexation petition. Dave is just reviewing it now before giving any memos to the board. .

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Different property?

**Manager Revella:** Yes.

#### **Approval of August 20, 2019 and September 3, 2019 Minutes**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the August 20, 2019 and September 3, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. 6 ayes. 1 abstention (Deputy Mayor Moore). Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Moore made a motion to approve the September 3, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. 6 ayes. 1 abstention (Trustee Svarczkopf). Motion carried.

#### **Trustee's Committee Reports**

##### **Village Offices Liaison – Trustee Svarczkopf**

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Water/Sewer bills were a couple of days late due to officially taking on-line payments. The due date was moved out 4 days.

##### **Town of Montgomery & Library Board Liaison – Trustee Kraus**

**Trustee Kraus:** The library was pretty busy this summer. They had 98 new sign-ups for library cards. This Thursday, an Astronomy Professor is coming in at 6:30pm for a demonstration and presentation with 2 telescopes set up so you can see stars.

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

**Trustee Thompson:** Brian and I attended the Town of Montgomery meetings. I'll let him give you the report from the last meeting. On September 12th, the two of us also went over to the Town of Montgomery for the two firms that would like to work on the Comprehensive Plan. Whoever gets hired both of them felt that they could have a plan in place in about twelve months. They decided that the committee to work on their Comp Plan would be adequate. Its 7-9 members and both firms that interviewed really stressed that they wanted the public input. So, people are not on the Comp Plan Committee for the Town, they really would like to have people come to all the meetings. Mr. Sorensen did Comp Plan for the Village several years ago. I ran into him the day after the meeting

and he actually said that some of the plans he's worked on, the input from the community was more beneficial to the planning process. I everybody will try and go to some of those. We had a meeting with the Building Department and the Finance Department, Mr. Revella, Dan was in on a conference call, Mayor and myself were there to talk about some issues that we've been having with the new computers and you know people trying to get the work done it's difficult with access and whatnot but we're working on it and there will be some future computer training coming along and that should help to speed up things and streamline the process. I had an e-mail back and forth with the Building Inspector. He's moving ahead with the fire and safety inspections. Everything is on target. But it's really hurting to not have a Code Enforcement Officer. I don't believe we've had a multitude of applicants for the position. The Building Inspector would like the board to really consider perhaps advertising for a Full Time employee that maybe we would have some candidates that are really looking for a serious job. Since there is no Code Officer, I would just like to ask that, if anyone on the board, in the community, sees something, take a picture of it and email it to Dean and John.

#### **Police Department and Justice Department Liaison – Deputy Mayor Moore**

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** On that conversation, I would like to thank Dean for taking care of the issue that I saw that I've been complaining about and I was very pleased to see it taken care of this morning. Thank you. The Police Department, D.A.R.E. program has started. I reviewed the mileage and gas usage. I just wanted to let everybody know that Officer Watt received a thank you from a family that he helped and assisted on Orchard.

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

**Trustee Ramos:** The soccer program is up and running. We have 80 players, 4 coaches. A good turnout for this year. Harvest Fest is up and running. I couldn't be more proud of the Walden Community Council and the Parks and Recreation for getting the facilities at Bradley up to what we're going to need for that day. The school district, we had a meeting today, for some projects that are in the works and will be announced later on once everything is established.

#### **DPW Liaison– Trustee Sebring**

**Trustee Sebring:** The DPW is busy patching streets, flushing sewers. They did grind Scofield Street so the Water Department marked out the water valves and manholes for the grinding that took place. The mechanic has been busy working on putting accessories on a new body on one of our trucks that were required.

Mayor Rumbold read the community events into the minutes.

#### **Public Comment on Business of the Board**

**Becky Pearson:** 167 Walnut St. I hope you really take some more time to talk about and discuss it. I know there was a report the last time about the report on contamination. Did you get those answers? You are going to be setting a precedent. You just heard that there's 40 acres across the street that's probably going to be coming before you. The Town's zoning is 2 acres. Ours quadruple that, so, how many more homes? Did anybody check with DEC on the sewer plan whether that's capable? I know that was a question last time too. If you want to do that, I hope you have all those answers and you talk about it. I haven't heard much from the public about talking about it. Hopefully there'll be some discussion tonight about instead of just voting for it. Mary Ellen and Mickey had a really good idea. Why not have the Town set up a water/sewer district? Still keep it in the Town and be able to still get your revenue. I think you need to take your time. There are a lot of things happening in. There's another piece of property in Northern Ave that wanted to annex in that didn't happen because of the sewer capacity. There's more development that could be that way. How

big do you want the Village to go? Services will be impacted in the future. Just because you think you're getting more tax dollars doesn't mean you're not going to add three more police cars or end up having more hires to fill those spaces. It needs the time to for more discussion to see what direction you want to take this Village in. How big do you want to get? Thank you for talking about the sign regulations. I do hope you take some time to discuss it and really understand what will happen within the next 5, 10, 15, 20 years. How big do you want to become?

**Mary Ellen Matise:** 54 Gladstone Ave. When you were talking about the Comp Plan, I was thinking about the business up on East Main Street. So, when you're talking about annexing things in and I think that it's an extreme move to annex Amthor in just to give them water and sewer. We could provide them with water and sewer and they have to do their own hookups anyway. But then we wouldn't be stuck with a site that could be contaminated. I would really make the effort to make them clean up before they come in to the Village. What are we going to do there? We thought East Main Street was going to be a great business hub. It really isn't. Have Dunkin Donuts and Stewart's and that's about it. Thought that whole strip was going to be developed into business and commercial. When you talk about downtown privatization, all of this plays a part in it, because you move the focus in to two different parts of the geographic. I think you need to really take a hard look at it. In the Town you get two units per acre, within the Village you get four. The property across the street has a legitimate request. But then we're increasing our size. Services still cost more than the money you get in taxes. One thing leads to another, and then what's next? I don't know what the zoning is on Coldenham Road at that location. Guess the Town zoning must be farm. I don't know what our zoning is there except townhouses. It's residential.

## **Action Items**

### **Library**

**Ginny Neidermeir:** Director of the Library. I'm here tonight to ask for permission, if I can move ahead on a project that I applied for a grant for. We currently have air conditioning units that are slowly dying. I had an opportunity to apply for a 50% matching rate. I'd like to address the air conditioning on the second floor and I'd also like to address the community room on the second floor, upgrading it. Renovating it, making it presentable and repurposing the janitor's corner closet in that space. It's not my space, it belongs to the municipality. I'm just asking for a resolution or permission to move ahead or hear thoughts.

**Attorney Donovan:** Money is going to be spent out of your budget?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** Yes. But I will probably ask for the money from the Village because it isn't my space, but I'm willing to apply for this grant, get 50% of it and then spend our money. I would be asking for some funding for the HVAC on the second floor and in return I would foot the bill for the community room.

**Attorney Donovan:** Do we know a little bit about the grant? Does it require a resolution from the Village Board authorizing the application?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** No. I'm just asking permission. My grant doesn't ask for that. My grant simply asks for permission from SHIPPO.

**Attorney Donovan:** Just so I'm clear, you're asking the board for permission to make the application for the grant?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** No. Asking to make the changes in the building, because it's not library space. It would impact the hall way. The HVAC would come from the hallway dropdown sort of venting system to come into the three rooms in the library and also upgrade the air conditioning and community room. So, all of this project is relocated to the second floor, but that space is not library space.

**Attorney Donovan:** Are you guys comfortable? Typically, you have some sort of either a written narrative or what exactly is going to be done or you have some sort of plan.

**Mayor Rumbold:** The narrative is in the grant.

**Attorney Donovan:** Have you guys seen it?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** No, but I can email that to the board.

**Attorney Donovan:** What I don't want to have happen is that X gets and you thought Y was going to get done, or more than you anticipated was going to get done. If you're all comfortable, then a motion authorizing Ginny to proceed would be fine.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** The community room is used for Planning and Zoning, what's the plan for?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** It's used for everybody. The plan would be to upgrade the electric to code, change the lights out. Remove the carpet. Paint closets. Remove what's in there now, which simply is a storage space with sliding doors that fall off the track. Would have doors that have doors that can lock. There would be bench seating, storage space around one wall. 2 storage units in the back of the room. Then janitor's closet would be repurposed to a small kitchenette area to accommodate a lot of the communities and organizations that need storage. Install sink, cabinetry, storage space.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Is it just HVAC or are you going to do more with the library with the grant?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** No. What I need to focus on now is the HVAC, because those wall units are dying. I need to think about a plan for either replacing those wall units or getting a whole new unit of central HVAC for that floor. Right now it's being air conditioned by wall units.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** How is the rest of the building?

**Manager Revella:** We have 1 unit for the first floor and 1 unit for the third floor office space, but you can see the wall units in the rest of the 3rd floor as well.

**Ginny Neidermeir:** I talked to Dean at length about it.

**Manager Revella:** They were all from 1994, when the building was renovated. They're not energy efficient.

**Building Inspector Stickles:** The air conditioning unit for this room is above the court.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** And there's forced air?

**Manager Revella:** Those are heaters and AC, yes.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** If we're doing the second floor, is there a reason for us to look at doing the rest of them? I know they won't be part of the grant.

**Manager Revella:** Eventually, yes. But they're separate units.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Would it be easier to tie them all together in one or is it better just to keep it all separate?

**Manager Revella:** It's separate because this room wasn't used every day, so why would you keep it the same as the rest of the rooms that are used every day.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** When is the grant due?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** The grant is due. It's in.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** And you haven't been awarded yet?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** No, because the way our grant process works is all of the libraries apply for, NYS has funding, construction money that they dole out to library systems. So, if you're going to apply for it, the libraries apply to their system. We package up our grant. We send it to RCLS and they review all of the library grants to make sure that we all have our ducks in a row. Then it gets packaged up under the library system and gets sent to Albany.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** Do you have an idea when they award it?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** They usually award it in the spring.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** I'm totally comfortable with doing the upgrades and I would like to review the plan is. I think that it's respectful.

**Ginny Neidermeir:** I can email the floor plan, the proposed prices.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** I'd like to know what the cost would be on our end.

**Ginny Neidermeir:** The estimate would be about \$20-25,000. The grant is \$130,000. We would receive 50% of that, \$65,000. So, you're actually doing this big project for half the price, but built into the grant are my architect fees. That's about \$15,000. That's just the price of my grant. This is the first year that we've been allowed to build in architect fees. These are all proposals because doing the grants in the past, all of these prices change, so we would get a new proposal, new prices and maybe a new plan by the time we set this in motion. The HVAC could cost \$40,000.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Most of it would be spent on next year's budget anyway. Or would it be this year?

**Ginny Neidermeir:** No. We should be awarded in the spring. Nothing would be started before June 1st.

**Trustee Thompson:** I feel like the library is such an asset to our community. We need to preserve it, maintain it. The work they did on the children's room is absolutely wonderful. There's been no negative feedback at all that I've heard from anybody. That community room is utilized constantly.

It is due for a facelift. There's plenty of room for the activities that you and your staff put on there. I see what it's like there for Zoning and Planning Board. It would be great if we could have a screen for projected images. I think the upgrades are overdue. I think it's wonderful that there's a great opportunity. It sounds like you have a really good chance of getting the money. It's my understanding anything that gets done in this building, the Village Manager has to approve because of what's in the deeded paperwork of this building. John, you're very well aware of what she has planned and you don't seem to have a problem with it. I feel like we need to trust Ginny. Please send us the documentation.

**Ginny Neidermeir:** And we're all invested in this building. The library board came up with a master plan in 2010. In doing that, one of the opportunities that we were looking at was the balcony area. Which has to be addressed at some point. But we all use the community room and we use it as much as anybody else and so the Library Board decided to move ahead with the community room instead of working back in the library and upgrading the balcony area.

Trustee Ramos made a motion to authorize the library to go ahead with the plans. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. 6 ayes. 1 abstention (Deputy Mayor Moore). Motion carried.

### **Annexation – Amthor Property**

**Attorney Donovan:** The law provides that within 90 days after the close of the public hearing each Governing board, us and the Town of Montgomery has to vote. There has to be a resolution, there has to be findings that everything is proper. I don't think we're in a position to do that yet. Couple of open issues, right? What was concerned about the condition of the property in terms of the environmental issues? Bearing in mind of course that's a private cleanup, wouldn't be a municipal clean up, but that was an issue that you had. Had an open issue regarding water and sewer tie ins and we had an open issue regarding the agreement for zoning. I had spoken to the manager earlier about maybe putting together some sort of, committee, to kind of work on the nuts and bolts and maybe meet outside of meetings and report back here because ultimately if the annexation is going to be approved, you need a motion from the Town of Montgomery, a resolution from Town of Montgomery, a resolution from this board and all those details should be addressed. I don't think we have finality on those details as we sit here tonight.

**Mayor Rumbold:** So, you're suggesting that we need a committee of board members?

**Manager Revella:** Yes. And the applicant, correct?

**Attorney Donovan:** I think we would need to work with them as well, and then report back to the board just so we hash out the issues. I can report to the board that Dean and I had some conversation because Dean had some questions and some issues on what the allowable uses would be and how they would be regulated with a pre-existing nonconforming uses, permitted uses, that we won't be in a position where you approve the annexation, then a week later you don't know the answer.

**Mayor Rumbold:** How do you do that? Because it's not an area that's in the Village, or would it be in the zoning?

**Attorney Donovan:** There's a provision in the law that allows for an agreement between the Village and the property owner relative to the zoning. The applicant's attorney did prepare a proposed agreement that I think the board has, but I think that the Village needs to be comfortable that that's what you want. I'm suggesting a working committee to drill down on this to make sure it is what the

Village wants and make sure that that's going to be something that the applicant can live with it so we don't have any issues.

**Manager Revella:** We did receive a response, I hope it was forwarded, a temporary one about the environmental impact statement that was done on the property and when that was done. It was kind of touched on. There was an update since then from the applicant that wasn't shared with everyone yet. Just got it.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Would anyone be interested in doing the committee?

**Trustee Thompson:** I would be interested.

**Trustee Ramos:** I would be interested.

**Trustee Sebring:** I would be.

**Trustee Thompson:** Would we be including the Building Inspectors?

**Manager Revella:** Include anyone we want. Preclude anyone we want.

**Trustee Thompson:** I'm thinking that might be something we should consider, to include him.

**Attorney Donovan:** I'm suggesting a working group, it wouldn't be an official committee of the board. It's a working group and then you can solicit input from anyone.

**Trustee Ramos:** You mentioned that we have a timetable.

**Attorney Donovan:** 90 days from the close of the hearing. We're within that 90 day period now.

**Trustee Ramos:** Just for clarification, are going to charter us with specific tasks to do?

**Manager Revella:** We have to go through the zoning impacts, is number one.

**Attorney Donovan:** I would start with the proposed agreement that we received. The draft of the proposed zoning. If you don't have that I can recirculate that.

### **Discussion – Sign Regulations**

**Attorney Donovan:** Want to only highlight the issue we frequently get, can we do this or can we do that. If you go over 55 miles an hour in a 55 miles hour zone, you're guilty of speeding. Signage is a little bit more of an art, than a science. By that I mean because the First Amendment is involved. There are certain things that you try to regulate political speech, they're subject to a high level of scrutiny and the government would have to have a compelling interest to impose a regulation. Basically, the way the law works is, you have general principles and you apply those general principles to your individual ordinance. My own conclusion is pretty much as it was at the last meeting, if you wanted to say no signage at all in McKinley Park, you could likely do that. If you wanted to say no political signs in McKinley Park, you could not do that. If you wanted to expand your no signage, you could do that until such time and I can't draw a bright line for you here, until such time as you may be diminishing the opportunity for political speech. We're only by allowing it in a certain place that's not visible, because courts want to protect political speech that you may have an issue with that.

**Mayor Rumbold:** You can single out McKinley Park?

**Attorney Donovan:** No signage.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Just say no signage at McKinley Park and leave everything as it was before?

**Attorney Donovan:** In my view, yes. But I'm saying that no signage means, no agitation, no advertising for Harvest Fest.

**Mayor Rumbold:** We've never allowed any signage there.

**Manager Revella:** Fireman's Triangle would be the other place I would like you to consider.

**Mayor Rumbold:** You want McKinley and the Fireman's Triangle?

**Manager Revella:** Those are designated parks that's easy to distinguish.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Latter part of your statement said that we can do that until it impacts political speech.

**Attorney Donovan:** At some point in time, a court may say you've restricted speech. For an extreme example, if you said, no signage anywhere in the Village except where people can't see the signs. Now you've reduced political discourse such that no one can see anything. I don't know where that where that line is. I'm very comfortable, with saying no signage in McKinley Park and Fireman's Triangle Park.

**Trustee Thompson:** Why would we not want to say no signs in any of our Village Parks?

**Manager Revella:** Because we have our own.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Everyone is in favor of having our Attorney to write up a local law.

#### **Discussion – Updating Audio, Visual, Sound in Meeting Rooms**

**Manager Revella:** After the last presentation, there was some question about what we have available for audio/visual in this room and whether it can be improved with little or no cost. Trustee Svarczkopf had some questions about it and maybe has some ideas.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Downstairs, 65" TV with a little device called Air Tame, which iPhone, Android, Windows, can connect wirelessly. That will make it so anyone can walk in, connect to these devices within seconds and then use the projector without a huge set up. I know some you really like these display cases that rarely get updated, but if we could drop some of them and put some announcements for the Village. I think that might be helpful for when you're sitting here in court.

**Manager Revella:** Digital screens?

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Digital signage and then upgrading the sign downstairs to digital sign. I think it would be portrayed in a little different light as you come in for traffic tickets and other things.

**Mayor Rumbold:** During court, these screens would be running advertisements?

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Yes. The things that are happening in our Village. Our signage around this building will be updated a lot more if they can do it from the third floor and with these devices, you can update all of those things from one screen and we can run all of our digital signage through that. Doesn't need to be on during court. It was just an idea. I think very specifically for presentations in here.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** We've talked before about the possibility of a digital display to replace the one that's outside. Have you looked at what type? Weatherproof?

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** It's just a TV, the actual enclosure that it's in is probably \$15-1,800. It's locked, vented.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** Would somebody walking past being able to connect to it and change?

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** No.

**Manager Revella:** The cost is just the TV and the case?

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Downstairs, install, \$2,000. Up here, projector probably, \$1,500 alone. Just those two projectors, you're talking around \$4,000 and then digital signage here, \$300 for each TV. But it saves the Clerk coming down changing things over time. It keeps things way more up to date and it saves on manpower.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Can you put something together so during budget that can be discussed?

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Yes.

#### **Discussion – 151 Coldenham Rd Outside Water/Sewer Usage**

**Manager Revella:** We have some feedback from our engineers. He wants to make sure that the discharge for the sewer part is handled properly so that when it gets to our sewer plant, we're not having issues. Water there was really no comment on because we had sufficient capacity and they're using water now and the amount that was requested wasn't out of control. But the discharge is what he questioned. So, I'm not sure if before the board says anything that they can actually request some pre-treatment before discharging into our system.

**Mayor Rumbold:** The house now has water and sewer service from the Village. What the owner is asking for is there's a barn and that's in the Town of Montgomery. They want to do is to be as simplified as possible run a lateral from the barn, hook into the sewer that's already established with the house.

**Manager Revella:** Their plan is to do the brewery there. Small at first and eventually at capacity would be a little bit higher up. That's where he's getting the ranges from in the email.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Engineer Queenan gave us his impression. Is he making a suggestion of how to solve the issue?

**Manager Revella:** He pointed out the issues that need to be resolved by the owners in order for him to be comfortable with it being discharged in our system. Right now, it's not.

**Mayor Rumbold:** The owners have been given this information?

**Manager Revella:** I just got it today, so not yet. Otherwise, they're already using our system. They could have just used our system, but they're being courteous and asked for permission. He believes that if he can get these three points handled, he would be comfortable with it. But until that happens he's not. If the board is comfortable with making a recommendation to the owners before taking action.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Dave, should we be legally making any recommendation at all to the owner? If we can give them this information from our engineer, they could under their own volition.

**Attorney Donovan:** They can address those issues, so that everyone's comfortable, our engineer is comfortable, they're comfortable that they can accommodate the issues that he's raising.

**Mayor Rumbold:** When are you going to make this available to them?

**Manager Revella:** Now. \*Gave owner information\*

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** What's your timeline?

**Applicant (151 Coldenham Road):** Everything else is ready to submit now.

#### **Public Comment**

**Becky Pearson:** 167 Walnut St. Will the environmental that you're getting from Amthor's be available to the public? If it is or isn't, will you have another public hearing? You're creating a committee. You're making suggestions. You're coming up with ideas. Will there be another part of the public hearing that the public gets to talk?

**Mayor Rumbold:** I don't think the board has had that discussion yet. We're going one step at a time from the advice of our attorney.

**Becky Pearson:** If the public can get a piece of that study, it would be nice to read as well.

**Mrs. Battaglia:** I was told the meeting started at 7:30, I came to hear about the sign regulations. Can I ask one of you later what was the decision was, if there was any?

**Mayor Rumbold:** We're having our attorney draft a local law to prohibit signage in McKinley and the Firemen's Triangle Parks.

**Mrs. Battaglia:** Nothing about the size of the signs?

**Mayor Rumbold:** There'll be no signs at all in McKinley and Fireman's Triangle.

**Mrs. Battaglia:** That's it?

**Mayor Rumbold:** That's it.

**Mrs. Battaglia:** I've lived in Walden more than 30 years. And I've never seen the enormous signs are up at the moment and have been out for so long. They are like billboards. I mean they've been out for months and I understand they're going to be out until November.

**Trustee Thompson:** Are they in the Village?

**Manager Revella:** Yes. We can't regulate that. The court says we can't.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** They went up for primary and now up for the election.

**Mrs. Battaglia:** My point is, shouldn't they be taken down between those times? And nothing the Village can do about that?

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** I think the part that you missed is that our attorney was talking about is unfortunately constitutional. Especially with political signs. We cannot regulate it. Not the Village. Not the Town.

**Manager Revella:** Call the candidates and let them know how you feel.

#### **Payment of the Audited Bills**

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

#### **Correspondence**

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** I wasn't in the last meeting, but received stuff from Mr. Jacobowitz. I know we all did.

**Manager Revella:** Since then?

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** I maybe, I'm not sure.

**Trustee Thompson:** I received an email from Carina Tipton. She's an engineer. She's on the CAC with the Town. She had some information and insights about some of the issues with the Sailfish project. I sent it off to John. I believe he's going to send it to Lanc and Tully if it has any impact on their thought process.

#### **Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees**

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** Just to respond, the only thing that you, the voters, can do is possibly talk to Rod Winchell and say I'm not voting for you if you don't take your big signs down. That would be the only thing that you can do. We, as a Village can't do anything. I read about a Tri-Board meeting. Is there something for that?

**Manager Revella:** We reached out to get dates. I know we've heard back from two boards. We're waiting for the third.

**Trustee Svarczkopf:** I know looking at the dates, have we looked at what we're going to discuss?

**Mayor Rumbold:** We don't know what we're doing, so we'll wait for advice.

**Trustee Kraus:** I just want to give a shout out to DPW and Fred Perna, for paving Church St. He's doing a great job. I walk Church St all the time and there were big holes there. I know they have a lot of things on their plate, but I just wanted let them know that it's a good job.

**Trustee Thompson:** This wasn't part of the committee, but I just wanted you to know what's going on. I did meet with local governance from climate smart, the other member of our task force is Mr. Revella, was not able to attend, but Patricia Hannigan was here and Mary Ellen also joined. It was very informative. She gave a lot of directions, some literature that I can share with everyone about the goals and the points and she really focused a lot about the grade scores and how beneficial this will be for a multitude of random opportunities to get these scores up. I spoke to the Town because it was our understanding of the Town attorney that we do not need an intermunicipal agreement to work the Town's CAC, if the Town joined the Climate Smart Initiative. Our resolution, Maybrook's resolution and a letter from John, went to the Town and been given to their attorney and Frank and he's also recommending that they join the program. Hopefully that will be happening and we can collectively work together. Thursday morning at 9 a.m. John and I are meeting Mr. Cage industry leader, at the Rail Trail. Giving him a guided tour of the things that need to be fixed. I sent 40 pictures. They're providing the vehicle. Brian if you'd like to join us. There is still no maintenance schedule on the Rail Trail. I have a petition prepared for the Hill Street Bridge. Brian and I have already made a decision that we will be going door to door to collect signatures from our residents. Anyone on board if you'd like to petition to try and collect some signatures feel free. I have already told the Town we are doing this.

**Mayor Rumbold:** Signatures could be any surrounding street?

**Manager Revella:** Absolutely.

**Trustee Thompson:** Brian and I would like to focus on the East side of the Village because they are the ones that have been impacted the most. But it could be anyone in the Village. These are taxpayer assets. It's in our Village. But it's your bridge. We've waited almost seven years and two opportunities to apply for DOT grant funding. Do what other Village's do, take out a loan, budget the money. It's your duty to maintain and repair that property.

**Mayor Rumbold:** I think we reminded them of that, because we have a copy of the agreement that was signed. They've been made aware it was their responsibility.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** I will help you to get signatures.

**Trustee Thompson:** The last thing, I think one of the reasons we have a liaison on our board with the school board is because we want to have collaborative efforts with the school district. There is an issue at East Coldenham that someone on the CAC for the Town has identified and brought it to my attention because they know we have a liaison, Mr. Ramos. I spoke to John tonight, he agreed that he would be a facilitator to try and bring this topic back. The hope is that we could eventually implement some of these activities and all of the Valley Central Schools. But there is an issue at East Coldenham that they would like addressed. David Church from the county is aware of this. He also believes this is a wonderful idea. Then hopefully expanded it to include the other schools in our district. This all ties in to the Climate Smart and the river and the brook. But there is a water issue at East Coldenham.

**Deputy Mayor Moore:** I just want to remind everybody that there will be a blood drive at Harvest Fest this year, from 11-3pm. There is a shortage of blood, so if you would like to, please give blood

at Harvest Fest. I also want to publicly thank my colleagues and members of the community for their support of when Jared went to boot camp. We got a letter from him yesterday. He's loving it.

**Trustee Ramos:** Just wanted to let everyone know that the Walden Community Council will be hosting the Meet the Candidates evening. Time and venue to be determined. That would be a good time for you to come in and discuss some issues. Who deemed the Hill Street Bridge defunct?

**Manager Revella:** I'm pretty sure it was DOT.

**Mayor Rumbold:** I'm just encouraging everyone in the Village to stop by the Harvest Fest on Saturday the 28th. Starts at 11am at Bradley Park. The committee works 12 months out of the year to coordinate the events and get the day together. It's just nice if people in the Village come out and support it. It is a community effort. There is also a baking contest. Pies. You have some great judges. Get involved. Come on down. It's a great day for our community. We are going to have a Tri-Board meeting. We did try before and unfortunately it didn't work out. If anybody has any suggestions of what they would like the agenda. We don't usually have an agenda. It's usually at 6 o'clock before a regular meeting. Basically to touch base and see what's going on and see how members of the board are feeling about what's happening in the Village.

#### **Executive Session**

None

**Village of Walden Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting  
September 17, 2019  
Motions & Resolutions**

**Approval of August 20, 2019 and September 3, 2019 Minutes**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to approve the August 20, 2019 and September 3, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Sebring. 6 ayes. 1 abstention (Deputy Mayor Moore). Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Moore made a motion to approve the September 3, 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. 6 ayes. 1 abstention (Trustee Svarczkopf). Motion carried.

**Library**

Trustee Ramos made a motion to authorize the library to go ahead with the plans. Seconded by Trustee Thompson. 6 ayes. 1 abstention (Deputy Mayor Moore). Motion carried

**Payment of the Audited Bills**

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

**Executive Session**

None