

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
October 15, 2024**

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

On roll call the following were:	Mayor:	John Ramos
Present:	Deputy Mayor	Chris Batson
	Trustees	Becky Pearson
		Liz Kyle (late)
		Bill Taylor
		Ralph Garrison, Jr.

Absent: Kristie Hall

Also Present: John Revella, Village Manager
Michelle Butcher, Deputy Village Clerk
Dave Donovan, Village Attorney

Chief Herlihy introduced new Full Time Police Officer, Ryan Duffany.

Manager Revella: There were a couple of questions for the Police Department regarding the noise ordinance. If you had any questions on enforcement or something, what was it? Just to make sure you ask those questions.

Trustee Pearson: We were asking about the noise. I know when the whole issue was happening, we're going over code review right now and we wanted to know about the decibel meter and how often it gets calibrated. Who uses it? How it gets used? I had asked John to bring him, the last time it was Sergeant Werner was talking to me about it, but to have somebody come and talk to us about how it works, how we calibrate it, what happens do we send it out? Do we do it here? Just some information if there is something we need to add to our law.

Chief Herlihy: Then if we're going to strengthen our code, then I would suggest purchasing a good decibel meter and then our calibration would be once a year, recommended and then we will train all of our officers in it with the addition of all of our newest officers, probably the only certified people that we have would be myself, Sergeant Werner, Sergeant Montanaro, Sergeant Dudas and Officer Reynolds. We have not trained anybody else on it because we do not have a proper working decibel meter at this time.

Trustee Taylor: Do we document the training?

Chief Herlihy: We would, yes.

Trustee Pearson: And how long has it been not working?

Chief Herlihy: I'd have to check records on that. It hasn't been calibrated in a while.

Trustee Pearson: Can we still use that one and recalibrate it? Or do you think we really need a new one?

Chief Herlihy: We can, but I would probably search for a new one.

Trustee Pearson: Somebody was talking about an app.

Chief Herlihy: Just to read decibels on the app? We could research it and we'd have to see how that would need to be calibrated and if the device that ran the app would need to be calibrated, or if there was some way to calibrate the actual app.

Trustee Pearson: And do you have an idea of how much those run?

Chief Herlihy: I could get a couple of prices by the next meeting.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Is 1 the right number? Do we need 2?

Chief Herlihy: I would have at least the backup. That way we wouldn't have to worry about if we sent one out for calibration, if something was wrong with it. At least we have a backup to fall on. If they're not that expensive.

Trustee Taylor: That calibration is outsourced as we speak. Do we know who's doing that for us?

Chief Herlihy: We don't have anyone that we have sent out recently. The last time I did, I think it was cheaper to buy a new unit than it was to calibrate.

Trustee Taylor: The meter we have now is calibrated or not calibrated?

Chief Herlihy: No, it's not.

Trustee Pearson: Do we have a lot of noise complaints or not?

Chief Herlihy: We do get noise complaints. But either by the time we get there, the noise is quelled or we ask them to turn it down and they do so.

Trustee Pearson: But it's more common than uncommon. Like people will call you for that type of complaint.

Chief Herlihy: Yes, but not a vast number of complaints.

Trustee Taylor: It's unenforceable at this point, right? If it's not calibrated, we can't utilize the instrument as we speak.

Chief Herlihy: Correct. I mean you could use it, we could get a general reading, but if it was challenged, there's no calibration to back it up.

Mayor Ramos: You'll get a couple pricings on a couple of them. Thank you.

Village Manager's Report

- Had meetings with various staff, including Rec Coordinator going over capital projects
- Waterfront Park, a lot of the punch list items were taken care of. We're going to be monitoring that for the seeding, if anything else might need to be touched up over there

- Talked to the Building Department about violations at different properties
- Interviewed dispatcher candidates with the Chief. 2 new part timers were hired.
- Went over the bid package for the kitchen at Olley Park with the Village Engineer. That bid is out
- Had a meeting with the Town of Montgomery and the library regarding the district proposition. They'll be at the Town Board meeting again tomorrow
- Went over bank reqs, phone integration with the Deputy Treasurer/Clerk and spectrum
- Went over Chief candidates from the list and ongoing canvassing
- Conference with the CDBG committee to go over past awards and progress for payments
- Covered DPW during time off
- Met with Treasurer to go over potential purchase order policy
- Recreation Department, senior bus trip sign up is now. Jets trip is planned for December 1st. Outdoor soccer is well. Teen Center is going well. Indoor pickleball is going well. There's a bunch of programs at the Community Center
- Building Department issued 23 new permits, 30 violations, 5 stop work orders, 2 COs, FOIL Requests and 2 court proceedings
- Clerk's been updating Facebook and website, going over FOILs, minutes, dig permits
- Finance Dept, going over invoices, Edmunds, bank reqs, NYSEG invoices
- Public Works still pressing sludge, resident complaints. Water Department conducted 36 mark outs, replaced 7 meters, 13 endpoints, 2 closings and 2 daily inspections. Doing stump removal and grinding. Trying to put in more trees. Sidewalk repairs, catch basins, patching roads and cutting back routes for plowing
- Police Dept, 35 traffic stops, issued 22 summonses, 4 mvas, 9 arrests and 270 blotters

Manager Revella: The library wanted to make sure anyone that lives in Town of Montgomery, outside of the villages, there's a ballot initiative on the back of the ballot for November regarding the library district.

Trustee Pearson: I should have asked when the Chief was here, the accreditation that we're working on, where are we? It's been years. Can we get a report on that?

Manager Revella: Yes.

Trustee Pearson: You said the final check off on Waterfront Park, was there some things left or is it finished?

Manager Revella: They did punch list last week, most of it. I just want to make sure that it actually is going to hold because they did some reseeding and they're sprinkling. I don't know if it's going to hold, so if it doesn't, that'll still be punch list items for sure.

Trustee Pearson: In here there was water meter replacements. How many do we have outstanding?

Manager Revella: 900 at least. We put together a mailing. It should be out soon and then there'll be a comment on the bills as well for December 1st.

Trustee Pearson: There's a drainage project on Oak Street. What's that all about?

Manager Revella: There was. They fixed their drainage on their property. It wasn't us. It was private. He was inspecting it. He has to inspect those digs.

Trustee Pearson: Orange County Transit legal matters discussed. Are we discussing that this evening? I thought somebody was supposed to be here. We had made a motion to have him come last time. We had directed you by e-mail or text or whatever it was.

Manager Revella: I didn't get a response. I don't know if there was no response to me from them and there's no response from the attorney today that I know of.

Attorney Donovan: I spoke to their attorney couple weeks ago who told me he wasn't really involved anymore, but he called the gentleman who said that it was scheduled. The construction was scheduled. We all then got the newspaper article after that, relative to the legal issues and the subsequent e-mail that came from the contractor that was forwarded that they're supposed to commence work November 4th. You know what I know.

Trustee Pearson: Where do we stand in all that? We just have to wait until November 4th? What is our duty? What can we do?

Attorney Donovan: Relative to what issue though? You're asking for legal advice on that?

Trustee Pearson: I am.

Manager Revella: Not here.

Attorney Donovan: It's not going to be any different than what I told you before.

Trustee Taylor: John, follow up on that. Relevant to the start date of November 4th comes to fruition, what impact is that going to have on traffic in the village?

Manager Revella: On 52, they'll have to be down to one lane. They'll have to have flaggers, that's required by DOT.

Trustee Taylor: When do we plan on notifying the residents that that's forthcoming?

Manager Revella: When we have a solid date. It's not something we usually do, but just like when NYSEG just shows up and does what they want.

Trustee Taylor: I thought that solid date was November 4th.

Manager Revella: I don't know.

Trustee Pearson: When do the blacktop plants close?

Manager Revella: They haven't said yet. Usually it is the end of November. Last year, I think it was first week in December.

Trustee Taylor: Going back to the proposed solid date, are we going to wait? Or are we going to pursue, is that still a viable date? Do they anticipate that that's going to happen because it's going to impact the residents and all of a sudden, we got traffic issues? We knew it was coming and we didn't check into it.

Manager Revella: It's a one day dig for the water line across the road. The sewer, I'm not sure how long it's going to be for them, but they haven't given us a construction schedule yet. I can't really

say when it's going to be knocked out or when it's going to be closed if they don't give us a schedule.

Trustee Pearson: Did they approve the sewer line going up the properties or on the road?

Manager Revella: Along the edge, I'm not sure where though.

Trustee Pearson: Did you just say that their attorneys no longer his attorney?

Attorney Donovan: I did not say that. I said he wasn't presently doing work for him.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Just a couple of brief follow-ups. I did hear you say that the kitchen bid package is out for Senior Center. Any idea when that will be back?

Manager Revella: I think it's due back Tuesday. I'm not positive it's in the ad. I have to check the ad. But it was out last week and it's for two weeks. I'm not sure of the exact dates.

Trustee Pearson: Were some picked up?

Manager Revella: They don't get picked up here, they get picked up from the engineer.

Approval of October 1, 2024 Minutes

Trustee Pearson made a motion to approve October 1, 2024 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Taylor. 4 ayes. 1 abstention (Trustee Garrison). Motion carried.

Public Comment

Cheryl Baker: Here on behalf of the Walden Business Council. I would like to address several pressing concerns regarding parking in our village, particularly in the downtown business area. Our local businesses are heavily reliant on accessible and available parking for their employees and customers. After careful consideration, the Business Council has compiled the set of recommendations to improve our current parking situation to support the local economy. First one, limited parking passes for businesses. We propose implementing a system of limited parking passes specifically for business owners and their employees. This would ensure that those who contribute daily to the economic activity of this village ever reliable access to parking. Villages such as Sleepy Hollow and Farmingdale has successfully implemented similar programs allowing businesses to operate efficiently without occupying high demand customer spaces. Second recommendation, timed parking on Oak St. Introducing timed parking restrictions in the Oak St. lot will encourage turnover, insure availability for customers that will be particularly beneficial during peak business hours, providing greater access for shoppers and visitors. Similar timed parking have already been implemented in our Orchard St parking lot and you see in other municipalities whether it be Newburgh to Boston Spa to maintain the steady flow of parking availability. Our third recommendation is increased and improved municipal signage. We recommend enhancing municipal signage both in quantity and visibility to better direct visitors to available parking areas. Larger, clearer signs will reduce confusion and frustration, guiding both residents and visitors to parking locations with ease. This is an inexpensive and impactful step to help reduce the confusion with parking. Our fourth, utilization of eminent domain. We strongly urge the village to consider using eminent domain to acquire underutilized or derelict properties for parking expansion. This approach has been successfully utilized in towns like Oyster Bay, where properties near the Hicksville train station were targeted for expansion due to parking shortages. Other municipalities like Mount Kisco, Port Chester and Harrison have similarly used eminent domain to address parking needs as part of a broader redevelopment effort. Acquiring such properties would significantly increase available parking space and benefit the public by supporting local businesses.

Additionally, federal funds are available specifically for this purpose under various urban renewal redevelopment grants. Community Development grants like CDBG's, which can help offset costs associated with property acquisition and infrastructure improvement. These funds are designed specifically to aid in urban renewal projects that benefit the public and could be a valuable resource for increasing parking capacity while simultaneously improving the village landscape and removing derelict properties. In regards to meter parking, while we strongly recommend against introducing meter parking on Main Street. Meter parking has shown to negatively impact small business districts in towns like Patchogue and Farmingdale. Local businesses have experienced a downturn in foot traffic once meters were installed. Driving customers to larger centers with free parking, giving that our Main Street businesses are already struggling. We believe that meter parking could further discourage parking. We believe these initiatives will greatly enhance parking accessibility and in turn support the continued growth and vitality of the Walden Business District. Thank you for considering these recommendations and we look forward to collaborating with the village further on these matters.

Keshia Mackey: The last time I came here in reference to my handicap pass. I was told by the manager that he would get back in contact with me. It's been 2 weeks and I haven't heard anything as of yet. What I do want to know is the young lady that was sitting on the side of you the last time we were here, does she work in that office over there?

Manager Revella: The Village Clerk.

Keshia Mackey: That's the one that said she was the manager and it was her discretion not to give me my pass back. You raised your hand and said that you was the manager and you knew all along that I was referring to her because I said the lady with the black hair.

Manager Revella: I pointed at her when you were here last meeting.

Keshia Mackey: You whispered in her ear. If she had a discretion, she could have stated to everyone to her peers why she had a discretion, why not to give my pass back? My point is, the last time I saw you, you looked me in my face and said you was gonna call me. I spoke to Michelle. She told me you haven't made a decision yet. I came up here once or twice and I spoke to her on the phone and she said you was in a meeting and she couldn't chase you around. I don't know what all this personal stuff is. I don't know what the discretion is and I don't understand why my doctor said I needed something and I haven't heard from anybody as of yet. It can't be that big of a problem.

Manager Revella: The Village Clerk, it's in her discretion alone. Not mine. Not this boards either on whether to issue or not issue your permit.

Keshia Mackey: When I last came here, you, as the manager said you was going to look into it. What does that mean? You never did.

Manager Revella: I didn't know until I found out. I got a letter on Friday about it.

Keshia Mackey: Did you call me?

Manager Revella: Not yet. I was going to talk to the Clerk. She's not here today. I haven't seen her since Friday. Yesterday was a holiday. Saturday and Sunday there's no work.

Keshia Mackey: As a disabled person, it's starting to feel like I'm being discriminated against because it was two weeks ago. The Mayor? No one has said anything. What is this about? What are you here for? This is to get something resolved right for your constituents, isn't it?

Manager Revella: This board has nothing to do with the handicap permit.

Keshia Mackey: I'm just trying to understand how, what is this? This how we resolve things here?

Manager Revella: The Village Clerk is the one that makes that decision and that's the only person that I'm aware of.

Attorney Donovan: According to the NYS DMV website and I'll just read about handicapped parking permits from the website, "Misuse of Parking Permits or Plates". This is not me stating this. This is what comes off the DMV website. "It's a serious misuse of license plates and permits for people with disabilities, when someone other than the person with a disability uses the plates or permits the parking space reserved for people with disabilities. These license plates or parking permits are valid only when the person with a disability who received the plates or permit is driving the vehicle or is a passenger in it. If you misuse plates or parking permit or allow someone else to use them. The DMV may revoke the license plates. The locality that issued the permit may revoke the permit or they may deny the renewal". The Village Board has delegated that responsibility to issue the permits to the Village Clerk. The Village Clerk, as I understand it, has made a determination to revoke the permit and that's where we are.

Keshia Mackey: Where did that come from? I wasn't driving anything. The car was parked with the pass on it in the handicap spot.

Attorney Donovan: I'm just reading to the board and the Clerk made that decision. Someone else had your parking permit, not you. Correct? And that other person was using it. Correct?

Keshia Mackey: It was in my car and it was parked.

Attorney Donovan: Right. But that wasn't you. You weren't using it.

Keshia Mackey: My car was disabled. It was not working. I left my car in the parking spot. In a handicap spot with the plaque on it. Where's your point?

Attorney Donovan: The point is that the Clerk has the ability to revoke your permit. And she's done that.

Manager Revella: Correct.

Keshia Mackey: Just like that, with discretion. What is this discretion? That's a feeling.

Manager Revella: That's what the law says. Just so you know the Town Clerk is going to discuss the matter with you. She's supposed to be sending you a letter. That's what she told me. I got the letter from the Clerk on Friday. I didn't get a chance to talk to her about it because she left at noon and she hasn't been back since. I haven't been able to talk to her to confirm the information in it. But I do know that the Town Clerk is going to send you a letter about the process of getting your permit.

Keshia Mackey: I got to go to Montgomery.

Manager Revella: The Town Clerk in Montgomery on 110 Bracken Rd. Tara Stickles.

Mary Ellen Matise: The item about timed parking on Scofield St. Number one, I don't get this description. The location you're saying from a .56 feet from the corner of Orchard St. I recall the Building Inspector getting up and asking for this 30 minute parking. That's what this is in reference to, and that he was referencing the spot in front of the Building Department.

Manager Revella: Yes.

Mary Ellen Matise: That spot is really the corner of Scofield St and Andrews Ct. I don't see why this is referencing Orchard St. which is across the street for a measurement.

Manager Revella: It's not what that's talking about. That is referencing the corner of Orchard St and Scofield St from the corner, which is the southwest corner. That intersection, on this side of the building over here up 56 feet, that's where it starts. 30 minute parking and then from there it goes 100 and something feet up to the driveway of the Building Department. All of that is 30 minute parking from 9:00 to 9:00. There's already 2 spots there that are 30 minute parking. We're just making one more.

Mary Ellen Matise: How far up Scofield St does this go?

Manager Revella: 56 feet is where the end of the handicapped space is. Then from there you start measuring up to the driveway of the Building Department.

Mary Ellen Matise: Is this going to impact any of the residential houses going up the hill?

Manager Revella: It stops at the driveway of the Building Department, right at the lower edge.

Mary Ellen Matise: That seems less than 127 feet. It's just the spot right in front of the Building Department.

Manager Revella: That's being added, correct.

Mary Ellen Matise: 9am to 9pm. The Building Department closes at 3.

Manager Revella: Those three spots are all in the same code. Why not make it useful for the library too?

Mary Ellen Matise: If they ever enforce it because people park out there for hours and hours at a time.

Manager Revella: Separate issue.

76-80 West Main St – Unsafe Building

Andrew Concolino: I've been getting ready to start the work. I got the power getting turned off. I've been emailing you all the updates. I invited my engineer to come tonight just to give you a little brief, we're working on plans. I know it's supposed to have a scope of work and more deadlines. I'm still waiting for an environmental test at the end of the month and the results won't come till November. We're working on that. I'll come to another board meeting if you need me to. Have a better plan.

Anthony Maluso: I'm a professional engineer registered in New York. Andrew contacted me in 2019 to develop a plan to stabilize and renovate 76-80 West Main. COVID happened. Supply chain issues. A large spike in the cost of building supplies followed. We had a building permit, we got

from Dean, the former Building Inspector, to stabilize the building and it remains as it was basically since 2020-2021, so it's stabilized but the building permit needs to be updated and renewed so we can continue to stabilize that building. Right now, the permit is expired. That building is sandwiched in between number 72, the brick building and 82. I want to extend an offer to the owners of the bank building to come and look at their wall before we start to do any work near it. Part of the work we had to do to stabilize it was to put in new foundation. Their building is beautiful on the outside, but if you look at the one wall that is not a party wall, it's a separate wall. It's a completely different story and someone from that ownership needs to look at it, have their engineer look at it because it's bowed, deflected and cracked and we don't want to acquire that responsibility. The way they're designed, the buildings really don't touch each other. But all the drainage from each building runs into common areas that all the buildings on the party line share. There's a big drainage problem with 72 in that some of the old clay pipes that once routed the drainage away from the building, are filled with debris and new pipes just run from the roof down onto the pavement. I saw yesterday they were in the process of gutting the building. And all the garbage is piled up outside. It makes me wonder if they have any kind of asbestos abatement project going on because all the debris, the sheetrock is just laying out in the street in the backyard. Are there any questions that you would like to ask me as their engineer, how we plan to execute stabilizing the building or moving forward? First, we want to have the neighbors look at their own buildings because if we were to fix this building, they would never be able to access their own buildings to make the repairs from the outside. And now is a good time for them to actually look at it and have access to their own outside walls.

Trustee Pearson: I did see that garbage laying out in the parking lot. They didn't have a dumpster or anything. I just saw piled up out there. But my question is, are you planning on not tearing it down then and you're planning on rebuilding? You were going to let us know what type of plan you had.

Anthony Maluso: We'd like to stabilize it for now just to get through the winter and then with the board's approval, submit a plan to rebuild it. But we wouldn't want to demolish the building and then fall under site plan review and start looking at things that are already grandfathered in, like how many parking spaces that building is entitled to. I think it has needed parking anyway, but we wouldn't want to go through a whole new site planning process just for that building. We want to maintain the right to reconstruct the building so we wouldn't want to take it down on a Monday and have the board tell us on Tuesday, you can't rebuild it. How do we negotiate that process?

Trustee Pearson: Are there parking spaces back there? There are parking spaces that you have to get through his parking lot to you?

Andrew Concolino: It's just the right of way in the back. On the survey, there's a small right of way, but I don't own any of the property on the actual parking lot.

Trustee Pearson: So, you don't have any parking in the back at all.

Andrew Concolino: No, there's just like a little alleyway where you can get into the back doors.

Anthony Maluso: Historically, that was a butcher shop. In the basement, there is like a six foot crawl space. They had all the refrigeration equipment. That needs to get looked at. We need to do some work on the foundation also. *inaudible* have someone look at 72. Come out and have their engineer make an assessment. *inaudible* once the walls are up, you'll never have access again.

Trustee Pearson: What do you have to do to shore it up more? What's the process?

Anthony Maluso: It's built on a series of 6x6, 8x8 posts as foundations and we were going to put in concrete to stabilize the structure. The buildings don't touch each other. The floor cantilevers over like the last two feet. Off the outside footing or foundation and then it goes up vertically from there. So, we were going to replace those wooden posts with concrete. And that's what's on the old plan that was approved.

Trustee Taylor: Have we delineated this plan, so to speak?

Andrew Concolino: I sent a copy of it to John the manager a couple days ago.

Manager Revella: And Rob.

Andrew Concolino: Filed with the Building Department from like 2020.

Manager Revella: The plan from 2020 is still valid? That's the question.

**Building Inspector Wallner inaudible from audience* - NO*

Andrew Concolino: I don't remember the exact dates, but I could find them.

Trustee Taylor: I believe that's what we discussed at the last meeting. That tonight's meeting we're going to delineate a specific plan going forward in conjunction with working with the Building Department and I think you indicated, Rob, that you had not had the opportunity to go inside yet. Has that happened, yet?

**Building Inspector Wallner inaudible from audience* -NO*

Anthony Maluso: Can we meet there tomorrow?

Manager Revella: Any issues from the meeting that we can share with the board, Rob?

Attorney Donovan: If I can ask, Rob, can you come up to the podium and speak into the microphone so not only the board can hear you, but everyone watching at home can hear you, and the Clerk can hear you when she's transcribing the minutes.

Building Inspector Wallner: I'm obviously not a trained engineer, and I'm not disputing what the gentleman says. However, the building is in very, very poor condition. Site plan review is going to be required whether the building is demolished today or renovated tomorrow. It makes no difference. Site plan review and Planning Board, because the building has been vacant for so long, it's still going to be required. That's not a valid excuse.

Trustee Pearson: If he shores it up, will it maintain itself and we give him x amount of time to do that? It shored up and in the spring, we have to have an answer of what's going to really happen to whether he's tearing it down or fixing it up and what the plan will be?

Building Inspector Wallner: I don't think I'm qualified to answer that question. I don't believe I can make an educated decision on shoring up. Mr. Concolino did indicate that someone told them they weren't willing to put a shovel in the dirt because of the condition of the adjacent buildings.

Trustee Pearson: We haven't looked at that or we're not concerned with that?

Building Inspector Wallner: It's really not the concern of my department if a licensed engineer makes a determination that it's okay to shore it up.

Trustee Pearson: You mean the other building, but don't you have to do inspections in that other building as well?

Building Inspector Wallner: Yes.

Trustee Taylor: Do we have a clear plan going forward here? Because I'm not hearing that.

Building Inspector Wallner: I haven't heard that either.

Trustee Taylor: That's what we expected from the last meeting, that there would be a clear delineated plan going forward relevant to that property. Unless, I'm not hearing something or I'm oblivious here, I haven't heard that yet.

Mayor Ramos: Let's hear it from him, a clear concrete plan.

Anthony Maluso: Mr. Concolino submitted to the Village Manager, not knowing that he had to give the plans to the Building Department, thinking they were already on file with the Building Department. So, if we were to have a plan today, it would be to stabilize the building as we set out in 2020.

Building Inspector Wallner: Just so you know, that's not sufficient to satisfy the order that's been on here to remedy, just stabilizing the building isn't sufficient. There's also issues with framing, roofing, other things that have to be done to satisfy the remedy. That's all. But you you're telling the board and it's who's going to make the decision. You're shoring the building. Don't talk about the other stuff. You got to talk to them about that.

Anthony Maluso: It would be better if we had a set of plans on the table and we were all looking at it, but that's not where we are tonight. I propose to meet the Building Inspector tomorrow at his convenience. We'll go over the plans, I'll print them up a set and we'll come back in two weeks and tell you where we are, what the path forward might be and we'll ask for input.

Trustee Pearson: Are you a licensed civil engineer?

Anthony Maluso: Civil, structural, yeah. Does the town have an engineer?

Manager Revella: Yes, John Queenan from Lanc & Tully. He's our Rep. Anybody there can handle it, but he's our rep.

Anthony Maluso: Can I call him or do you have to call him to have him come out?

Manager Revella: That guy (points to Rob)

Mayor Ramos: Tomorrow you're going to make an arrangement to meet with the Building Inspector, make a phone call to Mr. Queenan, see if he's available. I don't know if it's everybody else's druthers, but you have two weeks or we're getting into the funny season. Snow is going to come. You have a flat roof. Not too much of a pitch. What's everybody's feeling?

Trustee Taylor: Mr. Mayor, I was going down to what you laid out there in the last meeting that you expected and the board expected a systematic plan to be presented here tonight. And I don't think we've that.

Andrew Concolino: I'm still waiting for certain stuff that needs to be done before I can give you more clear deadlines. Like the power is not even pulled from the building, they have to check the gas meters. The fastest one was the Water Department and they came and turned it off. It's not like I'm dragging my feet. I've been doing something every single day. You're getting emails, he's getting emails. I'm being proactive, I'm complying. I even retain counsel. He's not able to make it tonight because he had a surgery. If I need to bring my lawyer next time, I will. I'm trying my best here.

Attorney Donovan: Sir, I don't want to speak out of turn. I'm the board's attorney. Here's the deal, you need to move. If you can, just let me finish here for a second. August 22nd, we got a letter from Mr. Stickles, Order the Remedy. We're two months later and you're saying we'll meet the Building Inspector tomorrow. We'll come back in a couple weeks and we'll figure it out then. Understand the process here, the board can direct that the building be demolished. I don't think that anybody here wants to do that. But I don't want to come back, the next meeting is 3 weeks, don't want to come back in 3 weeks, hear the same thing. You gotta take care of business.

Andrew Concolino: Understood.

Manager Revella: November 12th is our next meeting.

Trustee Taylor: I have one more question, John, we also discussed at the last meeting and it was rendered as an unsafe building. One of the questions that was proposed here was, what are we going to do in the interim until this process gets underway to ensure that there's not an issue that's going to affect the residents of this village, whether it be something from the roof, whatever and my question is, have you done anything since we had that discussion two weeks ago to address that unsafe issue that the Building Department is telling us that we have?

Anthony Maluso: Building is in poor condition. It's a lot like a brand new building that's going up that doesn't have, pull the sheathing on, pull the flooring on the 2nd floor, it's not as though it can't be stabilized, it's just we need to renew the permit and then move forward. We'll be at the Building Department to renew the permit that we had.

Manager Revella: Just so you know, you're not going to be renewing a permit. You'll be filling out for a new permit. You can't renew a permit more than a year old.

Anthony Maluso: Same thing.

Manager Revella: And that's if the board allows you to. They could decide tonight against all of it, but that's their discretion.

Anthony Maluso: Let me to understand the process, we're going to have John Queenan come out and look at it. If you condemn the building before the engineer looked at it. Is anyone on the board an engineer?

Trustee Garrison: If it's a safety issue with the community, then absolutely. We've done it before. This has been an ongoing issue with the Building Department. You've had multiple notices, the building is unsafe. You just admitted that the building was unsafe. My concern and the concern of this board is the community and the residents in the community. If a kid gets in there and gets hurt

because it's not safe and it's not boarded up or it's not in any way shape or form to mitigate anybody getting into the building, that is a that is a concern. With all respect, I'm not an engineer. I've done engineering. I was gonna heavy equipment operator in the military. I understand how it works, but the reality is yes, I would 100% condemn a building if I felt it was unsafe to the community, regardless of my engineering background.

Anthony Maluso: We're going to meet tomorrow.

Trustee Garrison: I have no idea. That depends on the rest of the board and how we decide to move forward. That is not my decision to make. That's a board decision. We're talking months of letters. And you were here last meeting.

Anthony Maluso: August 22nd, this just came about.

Attorney Donovan: I think it was going on prior to that. That's part of the issue. The Building Department at the time moved this forward to a higher level with the order the remedy and the request for a hearing where the board can order certain work done or order the building demolished. Now, obviously you're here tonight because the board would like you to do the work to make the building safe and better for the neighborhood, however, the board doesn't want to hear in November. It's too cold to work. We can't do it till next spring. There needs to be evidence of forward motion. I feel like to echo Trustee Taylor, we're where we were two weeks ago.

Trustee Taylor: We are. I understand. You weren't here at the last meeting, but the safety of the building and its potential impact that it could have on residents from the safety standpoint. That's our prerequisite here. The residents of this village. I understand you got some complications that you gotta deal with and there's a process. I get all of that. But I don't want to hear in November when we come back, that here we are again.

Anthony Maluso: I'd like to come back in November and say we've renewed the permit and we're stabilizing the building.

Trustee Pearson: Can I ask the Building Inspector a question? What does it take to renew? What has to happen in this situation?

Building Inspector Wallner: There's no renewing a permit. In a case like this, because a permit is expired, as long as it is, it requires an entirely new planning and permit application. Which I will then review for completeness.

Trustee Pearson: So, we may not have that even before 3 weeks up.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Given the severity of this. Surely we have the ability to expedite it if they come in and get this. I assume some things would take priority and precedent. The application of this permit hopefully would be reprioritized.

Building Inspector Wallner: I think when we left here on October 1st, the goal was what are we going to do to either make the building safe or demolish the building? We were supposed to have a plan. When I met with Mr. Concolino on site, he told me that an architect or an engineer is just not available at the call of the drop of the dime.

Trustee Pearson: Should we direct to have, not necessarily meet tomorrow, but when Mr. Queenan can meet with you as soon as possible. Why go twice? I would just say if Queenan is going to, if

that's what the board's going to do, make it happen quickly. If John can do that and we're paying John to go, is that what we're doing or do we pay them? Who pays for John to go?

Anthony Maluso: It's usually in escrow.

Manager Revella: That's correct.

Andrew Concolino: I think we're also checking out 74 as well. The brick buildings wall.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Appreciate you wanting to be neighborly on that. But I would just make sure that they comply to your timelines.

Andrew Concolino: I understand that, but that wall is unsafe. It is bellied out in the middle. Like we said, I don't know anyone understands what that means, but like it is bowed out and not safe.

Attorney Donovan: If the board wants to continue this to the next meeting, you have a hearing that's open at the conclusion of which you can direct certain measures be taken or the building demolished. If you want to give additional time, it will be a motion to adjourn the hearing up until the next meeting, which is November 12th.

Andrew Concolino: I'm still waiting for the abatement to come too, so if you made a motion to demo it, that all has to get checked out. I'm in the process of getting that all done like I said and they can't come out till the end of the month.

Trustee Taylor: Rob is, is the building unsafe for the residents and the welfare of this village as it sits right now?

Building Inspector Wallner: There's no way to determine structural integrity of the building. It could collapse and it may not. The gentleman just said it's been like that for a long time.

inaudible I don't really have an answer.

Trustee Taylor: Somebody's got to answer that because we're saying this building is unsafe and I believe in the correspondence from the Building Department. It's unsafe for the residents of this village.

Building Inspector Wallner: In my opinion, the building has a lot of structural concerns.

Trustee Taylor: That makes me nervous. I don't know about my fellow Trustees.

Trustee Pearson: I don't know. It's been like that for years. I understand where you're coming from, but I'm willing to do three more weeks and get it done. That's where I'm at. Three more weeks is all you have, and there's a plan. There's an engineer. Go with an engineer with the Building Inspector. Get your plans together. What you're going to do, whether you're going to demolish or not and get it done, because after that, we're finished. I'm finished anyway. I'm done. We've been through too many things and they just drag on.

Trustee Kyle made a motion to keep hearing open for 76-80 West Main St – Unsafe Building until November 12, 2024 with conditions as discussed. Seconded by Trustee Garrison.

Trustee Garrison: I'm in favor of this and I'll say that off the start of giving you a little bit more time here, but I'm going to be real honest if you come back here in November and we're in the same spot, I'm not going to help you out. I'm being honest. My priority has always been the people of this town and if something happens and somebody gets hurt, I can't have that. I just want to let you

know like you need a plan, the engineers to go, you need the Building Inspector in there. You got to figure it out.

Trustee Pearson: I'm not expecting it to say we're going to have a plan, we're going to work on it in the spring. It's going to get worked on ASAP, like quickly, that you're however you're getting funding, whatever you're going to be doing is going to be taken care of like, as soon as we make a decision after the next meeting.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Can I just clarify that when we say get worked on, I just want to make sure that we're all in agreement that the work needed is just simply to make it safe and remove it from the unsafe building condition. It is not, is not to have the project done.

Trustee Pearson: Correct. Shore it up, make sure it's safe for winter till he decides what's going to happen.

Trustee Garrison: Absolutely.

Trustee Pearson: Keep it neat and clean and if it's going to stay that way for a while, it needs to be pretty. Needs to go with all the codes of what we have here.

Trustee Taylor: I'll add my caveat. The next time I want to see nut and bolts, I want to see a plan. I don't want to have discussions like we're having now. I expect you to get out there, find out what needs to be done, harness up to the Building Department and three weeks from now, I want to see a plan. Because I don't see one tonight.

Mayor Ramos: Are you insured? Is the structure insured?

Andrew Concolino: Not at the moment. I will have it insured.

Mayor Ramos: It's going to be one of our requirements.

Andrew Concolino: I will call someone tomorrow.

Mayor Ramos: You said you still have power to that building.

Andrew Concolino: Powers off and they're pulling the lines. They said whenever I sent you the e-mail, I think it was the 3rd or the 4th. I have a confirmation number sent to you. Gas was turned off by someone else. I sent 2 confirmation numbers to you.

Mayor Ramos: We want a confirmation on when the power is off.

Manager Revella: Power is off. Gas is off. Water is off. We have confirmation on that but the power lines, I'm not sure.

Andrew Concolino: The line's not off yet. That's what I'm waiting for. The line to actually get pulled.

Attorney Donovan: I'll just speak to that briefly. You'd like to have insurance, but we're not in the position to compel somebody to have insurance. Just like if you own your own home, you pay off your mortgage, your bank doesn't require you to have insurance.

All ayes. Motion carried.

60 Main St – Unsafe Building

Sandro Tortora: The update is that out of the three offers that we had, we chose one with the attorney and we signed preliminaries. Under 30 days, we're supposed to close. Already accepting the down payment this past week. I tried to make my schedule work, I know it's last minute, but you know I also have some during the days I'm not available to meet some of the times, so I did want to have the Building Inspector look at it. It's a minor issue. The building sound and it's boarded up. There is no electrical, no gas. Unless someone physically breaks in to get in and possibly get hurt. I don't know if you guys wanted to have the new ownership. I'm willing to help to do whatever I can.

Mayor Ramos: Did you disclose to them that they are in the same boat?

Sandro Tortora: Yes. They came out, look at it, they put the offer in based on what they see, they're trying to get engineering involved to get some plan. They'll probably come and see the Building Inspector for some permitting.

Trustee Pearson: But it's not final. You don't have anything final.

Sandro Tortora: We didn't close yet. But the contract is undergoing according to my lawyer. Actually, the lawyer was supposed to call into the town to let someone know.

Manager Revella: Not me, I haven't heard. Who's the attorney?

Sandro Tortora: Ozman. I don't know the timings. I know that has to be under 30 days per the way we signed.

Manager Revella: What's important is the last time you heard the board had some stipulations for you to address. I'm not sure if they were addressed, Rob, if you can confirm, part of it was the backyard. Was it cleaned up?

inaudible

Attorney Donovan: The order of remedy indicated that the rear yard area is overgrown and need of cutting and clean up. I think the board directed that that be done before tonight and as I recall from the last meeting.

Manager Revella: Correct.

Sandro Tortora: I passed by, I didn't see that it was that long. It was flattened because of the weather.

Manager Revella: It got so long and heavy it fell over.

Sandro Tortora: I sent someone out three weeks ago, to cut it and I don't know, with this weather if it got that big, that fast, but I could go tomorrow. I can send someone up tomorrow morning to check again.

Trustee Pearson: It should be maintained all the time, so I don't understand why all of a sudden we bring it up and you have to maintain it and then and I'll bring it up but again, we have to maintain it. So that's the problem, like everybody's yard has to be maintained here, not just yours. You're not being singled out at all. It's everybody's property. And we have to keep coming to you and saying,

why is it still this way? I don't understand that. It's just blows my mind that you can't take care of your own property.

Sandro Tortora: I apologize. I'll send someone tomorrow to take care of the grass.

Mayor Ramos: Who are you going to contract for that?

Sandro Tortora: No one in particular. I was trying to do it myself, but the last few times I sent someone in.

Manager Revella: What time exactly? Because if it's not done, the village is going to go cut it and bill you for it.

Sandro Tortora: Before noon would it be okay?

Manager Revella: That's up to this board. It was supposed to be done before today.

Trustee Kyle: It was actually supposed to be done before September 21st.

Mayor Ramos: What's a good time frame where this should be executed, before noon. And by 1, we're going to do it.

Trustee Pearson: I say first thing in the morning. If it's not done when they get there, they'll do it. That's all.

Mayor Ramos: Make sure that you contact the Building Inspector on its completion. But that's still just the one thing. I know you've contracted into the sale of the house, but your new owners fully aware of what's going on, correct?

Sandro Tortora: I am. I'll make sure it's going to get done before that time.

Trustee Pearson: I'm not comfortable if they're sending somebody out to mow that lawn tomorrow. Then just if he doesn't get there first then we're mowing it. That's all there is to it. For me. That's how I feel about it. Had plenty of time and we go on and on and on. The Building Department's talked about it. It's a mess back there. It was picked up once. It's getting bad again. So, it's like all over and over and over and over and over again.

Sandro Tortora: Can I ask the board or whoever put the notice? What's the mess referred to? Is it just the grass?

Trustee Kyle: It's the building, the brush, the grass, the weeds.

Attorney Donovan: The order of the remedy indicates the rear yard is overgrown in need of cutting and cleanup. This was from August 22nd.

Sandro Tortora: Cutting and clean up just the grass.

Attorney Donovan: I think most people know when you go to look at a piece of property, you can tell if it's overgrown and they need to clean up. It's kind of common sense involved. Listen, it's up to the board. You were given plenty of notice.

Trustee Garrison: I think my question more so is how is this going to impact what we do now with the new ownership potentially coming in?

Attorney Donovan: The new order takes subject to what the order of remedy. You buy a house with any code violation, you buy house with code violation.

Trustee Garrison: If we move forward to demolish this home or this residence or this property. This new owner that's potentially contracted in, they don't....

Manager Revella: Sorry.

Trustee Garrison: You disclosed all of this to them? I'm not an attorney, so I don't know if I can that question. But this board can vote to demolish building today. We're talking, this is August 22nd, this went out. You were ordered to comply by September 21st. It's October 15th. The grass is the same. The conditions of the building are the same. There's nothing done to the roof. There's nothing done to the outside of it to fix it up. It's there and it's in the middle of town. Everybody drives by it every day. Your residence address here is in Walden. You drive by it every day. It's there. We all see it. Doesn't look good. We're talking months and this order of remedy went out after other things have gone out. So, it's not new. The same thing I just said to the other gentleman here. This wasn't sprung on you immediately. You've gotten notices. The address is on file. The notices were sent to the address. You knew it needed to be done. You knew there was stuff that had to be fixed. Nothing was done. It's still sitting there. Now you're saying you're contracted to sell. What does that mean? What if this doesn't go through? It's just gonna sit there the way it is. You've had months to do it and you've done nothing.

Sandro Tortora: That was the point, I was trying to sell it.

Trustee Garrison: I understand that but you're talking about ownership was maintained. You have it. You've done nothing to fix it. You've let it go to where it is. You're trying to sell it, you're now in contract to sell it. Hopefully, because I work with real estate attorneys and real estate agents all the time. Closing dates are never guaranteed. So, what happens if you don't sell it? Is it going to keep sitting there like that? Are you going to invest the money into it to fix it? Why now and not before?

Sandro Tortora: Because the new owners, I don't know what they want to do.

Trustee Garrison: You just went into contract though, right? It's been sitting there like this for how long? And you've done nothing to it. Please tell me why I should think that if the sale doesn't go through and you maintain ownership, that you're going to fix it? That that's my question. If the sale doesn't go through, are you going to invest the money necessary to fix this to make it right? But you've done nothing yet. Do you see where I'm going with this? I'm not trying to get on you. You've owned it for years. It sat like this for years. What makes me think that if you don't sell it, you're going to fix it and you're not just gonna leave it? Because I'm going to have to make a decision on if I think if the building should stay or go.

Sandro Tortora: I have to fix it. I will commit.

Trustee Pearson: This has been for years, though, that building's been like that for years. It just it hasn't happened in six months. This has been years that buildings been sitting there.

Sandro Tortora: It's a big investment. It will have to go in sections. I'll have to secure it, the damage portion, which is minimal, it's about 10%. We're not talking about the entire structure.

Trustee Garrison: We're talking about the entire structure because it's unsafe, so this isn't like you have a leaky roof and you have to repair a roof. Talking a large portion of the roof is bad. The roof is rotting and leaking. The rear interior first floor has framing issues. The rear of the building does not have any siding on it. It's in deteriorated condition. The rear story roof is rotting. There is the overgrown yard that hasn't been cut or cleaned. You've not repaired anything on it. This is an entire building that is structurally unsound on Main Street.

Sandro Tortora: I understand there might have been misconception, but I can guarantee you personally that this main structure, it's sound and solid. We're talking about the rear first floor, which was an addition like the previous owners. I did have issues which I discovered last year that the next building, it's dumping all the gutters onto my roof so there is double the water going back. I went out of my expenses to fix the gutter from the main roof. The three story roof, because that water was piling down to the first story and that's why because it was standing water at that point. It aggravated it. It was holding the snow load with no issue. I would never let something that was unsafe the way the board thinks, to be unchecked. If I did what I did is because you know the building on the inside is solid and it doesn't pose any threat. It doesn't look good on the outside. I agree to that. I could have put some siding on it, but for financial reason and because I was having the real estate doing the work for me, which I explained the last time that it didn't work. I had to do it by owner and I did find some buyers at the end, I tried for three years to use the system with the real estate agency. I didn't get anything. I hope this is going to go through. I understand what you say. I believe they did drop a down payment on it. I am pretty confident there is going to close, but if it doesn't, I will have to go back there and refurbish that first floor. Probably ask for a partial permit for that addition. Just to do the repair.

Trustee Pearson: I have a problem in the last two weeks, you cannot find 1/2 an hour of your time to meet with the Building Inspector and go into that building. That's where I have a problem. Yes, you're not an engineer. He's not an engineer. We were also instructing the engineer to go with him as well to go into that building. I cannot believe in two weeks you couldn't find 1/2 an hour, an hour to do that. That disturbs me. Nobody's an engineer, that's why we'd have the engineer do it. And you're telling me the building is structurally sound, which we don't even really know if it is or not structurally sound and you can't really say that it is. You're not an engineer. That's disturbing. I don't understand. He could have met you even maybe later in the day or first thing in the morning. And I think he's very accommodating most of the time to get there. So that's where I have an issue, whether you sell it or not, there still needs to be work done on it. And I just have a question for our attorney, when I asked him about the apartments in that building, did you get any information on that?

Attorney Donovan: I do. It's interesting that a use variance was generated, so it's not a pre-existing non-conforming use, there was a use variance for that. I'd like to have a conversation in the attorney-client relative to that issue because there's a distinction in the law whether property got a use variance versus the pre-existing non-conforming use.

Trustee Taylor: Last meeting, once again, Rob, correct me if I'm wrong in your opinion this building was unsafe. Let me add more to that. It was unsafe and you went on to say, that was difficult for you to answer because you haven't been able to get on the inside yet.

Inaudible from audience

Trustee Pearson: What is in the back part of that building? Is it just an entryway in the back part that connects to other part of the building?

Sandro Tortora: I guess it was part of the store back in the days because it was added on multiple times the way the building code was back in the days. I can't answer.

Manager Revella: There was one add-on already that was taken down behind that. There was another add-on that's gone that was there. This is the next add on up, which obviously was sequential. I'm just not sure when.

Trustee Taylor: The last question I have again referring back to the last meeting, we indicated that if we wanted to push this out for two weeks and I believe Mr. Donovan indicated that if you're going to push it out the Building Inspector and the engineer should be involved prior to this meeting, has that happened yet? Here we are again two weeks later. Nothing done. When is enough enough?

Attorney Donovan: You have a hearing that's open. The board can make a determination. You could close the hearing and take action, if that action is leaning towards demolition, I would advise you, I think you're going to want a determination from PE, a structural engineer whether the building is sound or not sound. We have the Building Inspectors obviously a professional and this is part of his job, but I think he wanted an opinion from a structural engineer. You could if the board wanted, you could continue the hearing and the interim direct the village clean up the property tomorrow. Assess the cost to the property owner. If you want to give them time, you can give them time. I don't know. I'm advised that he's owned the property for 18 years, so I don't know that you want give extra time. Or just want to have the village go clean it up tomorrow, assess the property the cost to the property owner and direct the Village Engineer to prepare a report. So, you have a report at the next meeting. You can take action, whether that action is to serve work on the property or demolished. And it's irrelevant who owns the building.

Trustee Pearson: Where do we get the structural engineer from?

Attorney Donovan: It would be your engineer, Lanc and Tully. They would either do it themselves or they if they thought somebody else needed to do it, they would get someone else. Bill the property.

Trustee Taylor: I'd like to see a PE report because it's going to be a tough decision if we're going to push this thing out in two weeks. I'd like to know, is the building safe? Are the residents of this village safe walking by it? I want to see an engineer give us a report and let us know where we stand.

Manager Revella: I just want to make sure that the board was clear on what the owner said. They're not doing anything because it's for sale unless the sale doesn't go through. There's not going to be any work between now and then, except the evaluation. Is that what the board is asking for?

Trustee Garrison: That's seems to me what it's going to be.

Trustee Taylor: Yes. I don't want something to happen.

Trustee Pearson: What John is saying is you can still make him do work on it, even though the buildings for sale. What you want to have done on it? Do you want them to tear down that back section? Do you want them to put a new roof on? What do you want to do between now and two weeks? Or you just want to let it go? I think that's what you were talking about.

Trustee Taylor: Do whatever is necessary to make sure that the integrity and the safety of the residents is upheld.

Sandro Tortora: Can I be involved with the engineering assessment? Get an engineering firm to get in.

Trustee Pearson: We don't want your engineering firm. We want our own. Thank you.

Mayor Ramos: Dave you said it so eloquently.

Attorney Donovan: If that's okay with the board. I was just making a suggestion that the village go tomorrow, mow the grass, do whatever cleanup, assess the cost back to the property owner. Direct that the village engineering consultant prepare the structural analysis and then you'll have it back at the next meeting to take action. For that action is to perform X, Y and Z repairs, charge it back to the property or demolish the building, but you'll be prepared to act at that meeting with that report. That's just my suggestion.

Trustee Pearson: Rob, what do you feel the attention should be between now and two weeks? Is there something immediate in the back of that building besides the grass and the yard, the roof, the wood? What are your thoughts on that?

inaudible from audience

Deputy Mayor Batson: I don't know if it's best practice or whatever, but if we were to move forward with the demo, it just sounds ridiculous, but is it always advisable to us to have an engineer determine that rather than Building Department? The Building Department says that it's unsafe but that is you've mentioned numerous times, you are not an engineer. So, while saying it is an unsafe is certainly far more than an opinion it is not a technical representation of the building.

Attorney Donovan: You're going to want someone that's professionally licensed to make that determination.

Trustee Pearson made a motion to direct the village to clean the brush and assess property owner cost, have structural engineer conduct report with cooperation of Building Department to be ready for November 12th meeting. Seconded by Trustee Garrison. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion – Municipal Parking

Deputy Mayor Batson: Cheryl, I think your recommendations are good. Great. There's just one I don't agree with, that's a personal preference. That's fine. But in order to move these from your recommendations to actionable, I don't know if your group outlined specifics on them, but it's wonderful to talk about limited parking passes, but is the expectation that we developed the specifics on that or you develop the specifics on that and then we simply agree and vote on them.

Trustee Pearson: It's us.

Deputy Mayor Batson: It's us. We need to develop these, so this is a strategy we need to develop the tactics to support it.

inaudible from audience

Cheryl Baker: My thought process would be similar to what you do with your handicap placards. You have your paperwork, your documentation to fill in, the board would decide how many parking passes you want to a lot to a business. Now some businesses won't need to utilize them because it's really not an issue for them. You have other ones that have significant parking issues, School of Music is one of them. They have 8 to 10 teachers at a time and the way their lessons are scheduled

they can't go out every 30 minutes or so and losing class for a business that's heavily dependent on it. I would say have an allotment, a standard 2 per business with an option of a waiver for a business if they require more for that and then a nominal fee \$25 or whatever a placard cost that's not in the village. Whoever you decide to get your placards from the cost based off of that.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Is the idea for these limited parking passes to be available for street parking or only for municipal lots?

Cheryl Baker: I would say municipal lots. Street parking really should be used for customers, unless a business owner happens to have a disability and needs a spot in front of them. But that's why they have handicapped placards. Apart from that now, this should be utilized for the municipal lots.

Deputy Mayor Batson: The only thing that it's not a deal breaker from a worry perspective, but it's probably not simply as easy as just simply getting some parking passes and paying the cost of a placard. What happens if somebody loses 15 placards, but just billing them \$25 and then all of a sudden 15 placards show up and now we have an excess. There's a small program there that that has to be managed administratively that again, not a deal breaker at all. I just want to make sure that whomever we tasked with this, the Clerk or somebody is aware that there's also a bit of an administrative process.

Cheryl Baker: That I agree, and there's also self-accountability on businesses. When you run a business, if you're losing 15 placards, you probably have a problem. To lose one or two. Okay. But I would say, if they start losing an excessive amount or start abusing it, then they risk the chance of losing the use of those placards. I think that's a reasonable caveat to have if you have. I don't foresee that. I probably see one or two getting lost or damaged, but I can't foresee astronomical or high volumes and numbers of placards disappearing.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Fair. I just worry about things like turnover and employee quits takes their placard with them, never seen again. Over the course of the next 20 years. You want a program that has longevity, it could certainly add up. I just wanted to acknowledge there is a bit of an administrative piece. Somebody has to make an Excel spreadsheet. We have to determine how many, who owns these placards and all that. There's that as well. Timed parking on Oak St. You basically just suggest that should mirror other lots. Then municipal signage. I absolutely agree that our signage isn't as visible as it should be, but for me to say it should go here instead of there. I don't own a business on those streets. So, while I appreciate that that's our discretion, I would appreciate a little input from the Business Council as to where they think those signs should best be placed, because if we need to order additional signs and it obviously comes with the cost again, which is fine, but I'm just looking to leverage their expertise rather than our opinion on that.

Cheryl Baker: Understandable and that's fair. I appreciate that. Certainly at the lots themselves, the signs that are there are very tiny. I know the standard, I believe in New York is 12 by 18, I think is the typical size of them. Obviously, the complaint even from residents just they're too tiny, they don't notice them. I would set one a place that I suggested where you could put a pretty large sign to indicate municipal is right outside the VFW where you have the signs of the businesses. There's an old Thruway market there that you could easily remove out and put municipal lot, could put Oak St, Orchard St. The one on Maple St has long since faded and is virtually not visible, so that certainly there. I would probably put a couple at the different entrances to the village. Municipal Lots, Oak St, Maple and Orchard St.

Trustee Pearson: I don't know, I'm not going to be well liked. How many people are we talking about, Cheryl? How many employees are we talking about that need spaces? Roughly.

Cheryl Baker: For the School of Music at a time when they have their classes you're looking 8 to 10 employees on average. For most of the businesses you're looking between 2 and 4. Most of them are owner/operator so it's not as heavy a burden for them, but for other ones that do have a significant amount of staffing, it's more of an issue.

Trustee Pearson: John, what is the time of the Orchard St lot to?

Manager Revella: 6am to 11pm. Did you know how many total you're talking about? How many total you need permits you're asking for?

Trustee Pearson: There's at least 14 right here.

Manager Revella: That's for just two businesses.

Trustee Pearson: Right. That's what I'm saying. This is where I have a problem and I don't mean to be negative about it at all, because I believe businesses need to be here. This may solve all the problems. We have an Oak St parking lot, was put in as no timed parking so people could park there. Employees could park there, walk up to the Main St and come to their business. They can park there all day if they needed to park there. There are 54 or 52 parking spaces there.

Cheryl Baker: Yes, but lots of them are taken over by the Oak St Apartments. They even tell their new tenants, park in the municipal parking lot. You have cars that sit there for months that do not move.

Trustee Pearson: That's our problem. That's a problem that the village has to address. That's not a parking issue. We can solve both. You wouldn't even need a parking pass if you used the Oak St parking lot.

Cheryl Baker: If you don't put timed.

Trustee Pearson: I wouldn't put timed. We did that for a reason so that you'd have timed parking by all the major businesses up here that was going to be a parking space for overflow, teachers could park down there, employees could park down there. It's not very far to walk up the street. But most of the people who live in the apartments don't want to park down there because it's so far away and businesses probably won't want to park down there because it's so far away. But people will go to the mall and walk for hours, but they won't walk up the street to go to the business. I have a different take on it. I think that if we leave it untimed on Oak St, businesses can park there. If they need a pass to park there, then that's another thing. But I don't even think we need the passes. I think we just need to keep the park open because I go by there during the day and there's not many cars there in the morning when I go. That's just my take on it. I agree that timed parking should stay on the Main St, because I think that's important. I think the Police Department's doing a decent job with that. But I think that if businesses want to park somewhere they can park in the Oak St parking lot and that's just my take. Then the only person who's probably going to say that and I'm probably going to get in a lot of trouble for it. But that's the reason that the Oak St parking lot was built and maintained and blacktopped and all that other stuff as well to for people who were working here.

Trustee Kyle: What about doing an 8 hour time limit? Because I'm thinking about the fact that it has no time limit is the reason that we have issues with cars parking there for extended periods of time, like a month. Could it be like if we have employees doing shifts, maybe like 8 – 12 hours? Or is that too hard to enforce?

Trustee Pearson: Do we know how many cars are parking there for months? Have we looked at that?

Trustee Kyle: I don't know, currently. I do know that when I would walk by and I would see the same car in the same spot like for extended periods of time. Currently, I couldn't tell you how many cars have been there over 24 to 48 hours.

Cheryl Baker: I live right there, I see them because I'm through the lot all the time. You're looking at least a dozen cars.

Trustee Pearson: That don't move at all.

Cheryl Baker: Correct.

Trustee Pearson: Maybe we can do something with that in a law instead of doing something with making that more productive instead of putting in, I don't know what, we have to get creative on this. I'm just thinking that the reason why that Oak St. lot was non timed and plus they come into those parks at snow time as well. That's where they get to park, all the employees. We have people up on Walnut St that use those lots when it snows as well because they can't park on the street.

Manager Revella: The timed issue is off during the snow emergencies anyway, so we're okay with that.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Can you just remind me of where those were implemented and you said successful, so we can mirror that program? You can email it later. I just wanted it for a follow up.

Trustee Garrison: I like a lot of these ideas. I think the passes for the business owners in theory sounds awesome, but I just think realistically it may be very difficult. It's going to be over 100 parking passes just based on employees and businesses alone. I don't know if the village parking could sustain, having all of those parking passes and still have parking for the customers to be able to park and use the businesses. That's my take on that. I am completely against timed parking for Oak St, just as, Trustee Pearson said. It was designed to not have timed parking there for a reason. I like the idea of the increased signage, but we'd have to look into cost and effectiveness and it working. The next topic you brought up, I'm not going to touch on. Everybody knows how I feel about it. I like the feedback about the metered parking. I was very for metered parking, but diving into it a little more and I'm kind of swaying how I feel about it. So, that's my take on that. Like I said, the parking passes for the owners and employees, in theory, it sounds amazing. I just think realistically in my opinion, it's probably not going to work. But that's just my opinion, not the opinion of the board.

Trustee Pearson: I know at one time, Cheryl, also some of the businesses would approach the banks because they have a lot of parking spaces in the banks and be able to negotiate something with them to be able to park their cars there or for overflow if they couldn't get to a parking lot so that they would be able to park there all day without having to worry about moving their car. That at one time was something that businesses did as well to utilize some of the bigger businesses that might have more parking to them as well to ask them if they could park or do for a fee or whatever. If they're going to pay for a parking pass, then they might pay to park in a parking lot that's just around the corner from them.

Cheryl Baker: That was something I had suggested to certain businesses that were located to ones that do have a parking lot for them to reach out to ask if they could utilize. I haven't had this week's meeting yet, so I don't know what the feedback is on that.

Trustee Pearson: Those are just some suggestions I had that were successful before. I don't know if they would be successful now.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Is there anything we need to do to make this actionable? As of right now, it's great discussion, but do we have a next step? Do we stew on this for another two weeks and come back and make motions? I don't feel comfortable making a motion on anything tonight. I think we need to do a little bit more homework before we agree that this is very worthy of future.

Manager Revella: I think getting an idea of how to get those cars moving in Oak St is going to be big. That's priority. Wasting 12 spots there is not conducive to anything.

Trustee Pearson: Maybe it's the apartment buildings that need the passes. Maybe that's something we need.

Manager Revella: Just got to figure out a way to get those cars rotating somehow.

Mayor Ramos: Thank you. We're going to continue that discussion November 12th.

Introductory Local Law 11 of 2024 – Scofield St Parking Space

Trustee Garrison made a motion for public hearing for Local Law 11 of 2024 – Scofield St Parking Space for November 12, 2024 at 6:30pm or soon thereafter. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Batson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 3-24-25 – Exempt Properties

Trustee Pearson made a motion to adopt Resolution 3-24-25 – Exempt Properties. Seconded by Trustee Garrison. All ayes. Motion carried.

48 Riverview St Drainage – Set Hearing

Trustee Kyle made a motion to set hearing for 48 Riverview St – Drainage for November 12, 2024 at 6:30pm or soon thereafter. Seconded by Trustee Garrison. All ayes. Motion carried.

36 Orange Ave – Set Hearing

Trustee Pearson made a motion to set hearing for 36 Orange Ave – Retaining Wall for November 12, 2024 at 6:30pm or soon thereafter. Seconded by Trustee Taylor. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mary Ellen Matise: I just thought I'd use this little podium for a public service announcement. There's going to be two more tours at Walden Elementary School. First one is going to be on October 23rd, 6:30. Everything's at 6:30. The second tour is going to be November 4th. On October 30th, there's going to be a special Board of Education meeting at Valley Central High School at 6:30 and let me put my glasses on and this is the thing we've been waiting for feasibility and equity reports will be presented at the Board of Education special meeting and the Walden Committee, which is the non-public committee, that's been meeting, will make recommendations to the Board of Education. That's October 30th. That's going to be at the high school. And then Thursday, November 14th, at 6:30 at the high school, they're having a Town Hall meeting. I guess the Town Hall meeting means they're anticipating big crowds for the meetings at the high school and I would assume in a Town Hall meeting people would get a chance to talk. I mentioned at the last Village Board meeting that we were collecting signatures on a petition to keep the school in the village, so that's still available if people want to sign it. But more important than that for the viewing public at home on this live stream, is that you show up and talk at these meetings. No matter what your opinion is, whether you want it to stay or you think the kids should have a new building or no

matter what you think, you should exercise your right as a citizen of this village, of this town and of this school district. Come out and talk because we're paying for it, it's taxpayers money, and no matter what, municipalities or school districts or fire districts or ambulance districts think well, the money still comes out of private pockets of the people who live here and people need to speak up.

Allison Raposa: I see Mr. Garrison wasn't here last week. Hi, I'm Allison. I just wanted to revisit couple of the points from last week. First, just making sure that the address of the home in violation is correct. Miss Thompson discussed the fact that this has been discussed for at least seven years, nine of which I've lived on that road, I wasn't aware prior to the last, I would say two winters that have been so horrific. There were two other gentlemen here this evening that were effectively eviscerated by the board and spoken very strongly too. I was kind of happy to see that because I feel like this is an exercise in insanity at this point. We've been talking, they've been violated off the top of his head, he said maybe 6-8 times. No repercussions. As I stated last meeting, I was noted I had a futon and a frame outside for clean up day. I was too early and I remedied it within 24 hours. I'm asking what are we doing with 48? My last e-mail to Revella, I believe, was in June when I was on vacation in Kansas City and spoke of the summer season, let's dig. Let's work. The snow is going to fly. So, are we going to deal with three inches of ice curb to curb again this year? Or is this actually something that we are going to address before there's an accident at the end of my road? I did ask John how many violations have been issued to the homeowner? They have not come yet. The children squeegee the sidewalk daily. Take a ride up as Mrs. Host had stated. Come on up. There's a squeegee sitting on the sidewalk and the two foster children squeegee the water and then in the winter they take an ice pick when they return from Walden Elementary or 1 is now in middle and they use an ice pick and then a shovel. Chunks of ice are all over the road, which is also an additional violation, correct? You can't just toss icebergs into the street. Another side issue. Again, we've discussed this ad nauseam. Water follows gravity. I'm not an engineer. I'm not a doctor. I'm not an environmentalist. I'm tired.

Again, summer's over, but the garbage is all over the side of the house. The crows and animals dragging it away. I watch the crows come off the roof and it's not a dwelling issue. The house is safe. There's two fosters and two other children in the home for a total of 4. It's disgusting. The trash cans didn't go out to the road this week. Potentially you have 4 pickups. If they're nice to you, they're kind to me, but like I did, 2 yesterday and 2 today because I'm trying to clean out.

They didn't even go out to the road. To say that I'm exhausted is an understatement, and I also just wanted to revisit the fact that I'm here tonight on behalf of the New York State Corrections Officer who was violated last winter because of the issues associated with 48. I know we became familiar with each other. We probably didn't get off on the right foot, but if water follows gravity and she has 3 inches of ice on her sidewalk. Why is she cited for close to 500 bucks? And she couldn't be here tonight because she's home with her son because her and our lives are insane with the jail. But the violation was pulled, but that is what really lit my fire, that an innocent bystander neighbor on this road who's paying taxes out of the nose is cited for them. And yet we've been discussing them for seven years and we've done...what? So, I think that's really all that I wanted to say other than the house on Walnut right behind Walden Elementary School, which is a drug free school zone the last time I checked, is a known crack house. And there's a blonde prostitute that I've gotten on camera. So, if we could ask the Police Department to focus their attention other than just the crossing guards and the children getting on and off the buses, it's a known crack house and the prostitutes are wandering up and down to that park where they're doing their work.

Manager Revella: I just want to clarify, last time you were here, you said that you messaged me in April and I didn't respond to you, but we had corresponded in June, July as well, just to make sure that's clear.

Allison Raposa: I may not have checked it, but I remember I was on vacation because I was out in Missouri and I was like oh my God, it's the best time to dig. What are we doing? Because guess

what? It's gonna snow in a couple of weeks. And then the Amazon guy is going to take out the back end of my car or Martha or a child. To be honest, I'm tired of talking about it.

Payment of Audited Bills

Trustee Garrison made a motion to approve payment of audited bills. Seconded by Trustee Kyle. All ayes. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous Comments from the Board of Trustees

Trustee Pearson: Any news on that car by the Firehouse? I drove by there one day and I saw what Dave was talking about. Have we done anything with that?

Manager Revella: I got a great picture of it. I sent it to the Police Station to make sure that they're remedying that problem.

Mayor Ramos: He hasn't been there for at least two weeks. He's parked down below.

Trustee Pearson: Can you contact the state about the hole in the road by Stewarts? There's a huge pothole.

Manager Revella: They circled it.

Trustee Pearson: The circled one is up further. There's two holes. There's one right just by between Stewarts and where the old Dunkin' Donuts was and then there's another one up further. It's terrible.

Manager Revella: Agreed.

Trustee Pearson: Police reform. Whatever happened to that? We had police reform with the whole committee and did that just die away? Or what's the Chief doing about that? Anything?

Manager Revella: We haven't had any interest in the meeting that I'm aware of.

Trustee Pearson: Did you go to the Associates and Towns meeting with the budget?

Manager Revella: No, I didn't. Trustee Kyle did and the Mayor.

Trustee Pearson: How'd that go?

Mayor Ramos: Very well. Keeping our taxes down, sales tax, don't be too forthcoming and getting large sales tax, it's going to be lower.

Trustee Pearson: The taxes will be lower.

Mayor Ramos: Yep. But he maintained the 2.1, which is under his cap that he wanted.

Manager Revella: The sales tax was pretty good, steady.

Mayor Ramos: Well, never count on it. Overall, it was good.

Trustee Pearson: Are we doing anything for that parking space or we don't need to because it's on a corner where that car was and moved?

Manager Revella: It's in the law, but we talked about painting it yellow regardless.

Trustee Pearson: I'm just concerned and I did speak to you about it, about all the Town Police cars in this village giving out tickets. I get it's our revenue, but why do they need to be here? If their car breaks down in our village, do we have to pay for that car?

Manager Revella: No.

Trustee Pearson: I don't know.

Manager Revella: It doesn't matter where the car breaks down. You're responsible.

Trustee Pearson: I don't know. There's a lot of activity going on around here. There's something big going on. What's going on? What do you know?

Manager Revella: We'll talk about in exec.

Trustee Pearson: Whatever happened to that survey that they were going to go part time and they just got a big raise so what's that all about?

Manager Revella: They got grant funds for the survey to get done. Did you see a copy of it? Patterns of Progress will give you a copy.

Trustee Pearson: Can you make me a copy?

Manager Revella: I just got to get an extra one, sure.

Trustee Taylor: What's with the three Porta Potties sitting next to the Building Department?

Manager Revella: The company was asked to remove them twice. I don't know what the issue is. We're not paying. Community Council put them there for Harvest Fest.

Trustee Taylor: Are we gonna see about getting them moved?

Manager Revella: We did. I don't know why they haven't come. They said they were coming two different times now.

Mayor Ramos: Probably can't get to them because of the cars.

Trustee Taylor: PD staffing, I see we have a new officer today. What does that do for us? I think you told me a week ago or two weeks ago that soon as we get that next guy coming in, you won't see this on the agenda again.

Manager Revella: We have two openings right now, full time. I can talk to you about that in exec.

Trustee Taylor: Our Code Enforcement, how we doing with the gentleman that's filling in?

Manager Revella: Keith, he's doing well. He's learned the ropes. He's out on his own at least half the time.

Trustee Taylor: We're still pursuing to get him full time? Is that our action going forward or what?

Manager Revella: When the county allows us to. There's still technically an active list, even though we can't get him off the list, because we've already solicited them. So, we still have to wait for a new test to come out.

Deputy Mayor Batson: Did receive an e-mail this week that asked me to give a little bit of praise to Marisa and to a dispatcher, George Brown, that a particular person went through a challenging situation. Just wanted to acknowledge those folks professionalism, that they helped them out so kudos to them.

Executive Session – Discuss Employment History of Particular Person and Attorney Client related Orange County Transit as well as 60 Main St

Trustee Pearson made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss employment history of a particular person and enter attorney client session related to Orange County Transit and 60 Main St. Seconded by Trustee Taylor. All ayes. Motion carried.

Reconvene

Deputy Mayor Batson made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Mayor Ramos. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Regular Meeting
October 15, 2024
Motions & Resolutions**

Approval of October 1, 2024 Minutes

Trustee Pearson made a motion to approve October 1, 2024 Minutes. Seconded by Trustee Taylor. 4 ayes. 1 abstention (Trustee Garrison). Motion carried.

76-80 West Main St – Unsafe Building

Trustee Kyle made a motion to keep hearing open for 76-80 West Main St – Unsafe Building until November 12, 2024 with conditions as discussed. Seconded by Trustee Garrison. All ayes. Motion carried.

60 Main St – Unsafe Building

Trustee Pearson made a motion to direct the village to clean the brush and assess property owner cost, have structural engineer conduct report with cooperation of Building Department to be ready for November 12th meeting. Seconded by Trustee Garrison. All ayes. Motion carried.

Introductory Local Law 11 of 2024 – Scofield St Parking Space

Trustee Garrison made a motion for public hearing for Local Law 11 of 2024 – Scofield St Parking Space for November 12, 2024 at 6:30pm or soon thereafter. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Batson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 3-24-25 – Exempt Properties

Trustee Pearson made a motion to adopt Resolution 3-24-25 – Exempt Properties. Seconded by Trustee Garrison. All ayes. Motion carried.

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