

**Village Board Meeting  
Monday, January 7, 2008**

A regular Village Board meeting was held on the above date at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

ALSO PRESENT: Virginia Menschner, Village Clerk  
Terry Rice, Village Attorney

ABSENT: None

The Mayor said we would have a moment of silence for a gentleman who passed away this month. He was an asset to his community, a veteran, a member of the Rotary Club and other organizations. He touched the heart of those who knew him and he will be sorely missed by us here at Village Hall. That gentleman is Tom France.

**Set Dates for February Meetings:**

The workshop will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. and the regular Board meeting will be held on Monday, February 11, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

The Mayor said that there was nobody here from the Fire Department. He said they really didn't have much of a report. He said that basically they wanted to advertise for a patrol vehicle. A motion to advertise for a patrol vehicle with the bids to be returned January 31, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Haggerty. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT:**

**A) Report**

Code Enforcement Officer John Loniewski said that the Board had his annual report in front of them, which includes an outline of all of the violations that they wrote for the year - 791 in total. The things that jump out at you are property maintenance - 97 out of the 791, vehicles - 79, and most importantly occupancy limitations, 189, which are any tickets that were written that had anything to do with overcrowding. It is also a year in which they made major gains in some of the really bad spots that we have in the Village finally. In some cases it took four years. 49 E. Maple we have a new owner for. They are in the process of going through the planning phases and sometime later this spring we should have a nice office building there. Tall Oaks - you know the battle we had

with Tall Oaks over the summer. We have a new buyer for Tall Oaks. He is going to renovate and put condominiums in. It is another really bad spot in the Village that we have cleaned up through the efforts of 2007. The old brew pub, which he probably wrote more violations for in 04, 05, and 06 than anyplace else. He said that we have a new restaurant opening up in there and that should be done late February, maybe by March 1. A family restaurant. It replaces a real eyesore. Washington Avenue and 202 - for quite a long time we had the garbage trucks parked, sometimes with the garbage in them, for weeks and that is all cleaned up and we have a nice two-family house there. And 8 Wayne Avenue, which we have had legal battles over what type of occupancy they were allowed for 3+ years, that has a new owner who is willing to put what the Village believes is legal there. So it was a really good year - not only number-wise but in the progress we made in cleaning up the Village.

Trustee LaCorte asked if it was possible to get some sort of breakdown. Because obviously it is important in terms of writing violations, but he guesses the big thing is that we are making headway here in terms of controlling the problem and gaining some ground on it. So is there a way to determine, for example, if someone is being written numerous times, so we know that even though you've written more tickets, is it only repeat offenders and that people are getting the message as opposed to is the problem growing, are we containing the problem, and that the people who aren't getting the message are just being forced to come back into court and you are just keeping on top of them, which is what we want to do. If people get the message and fix the problem, then you are doing your job. And then those who don't, hey, they are going to keep having to come into court. Mr. Loniewski said that by the February meeting, he can make a list of who, the address that we wrote the violations for and how many times they have been in. Is that what you are looking for? Trustee LaCorte said yes, are we winning the battle. Obviously, you write more. Is there more overcrowding and then that is not necessarily a good thing or is it an issue that they are getting the message, people are getting in line, and those who aren't are the ones who are getting more violations and that is why there are more violations. Kind of like a baseball analogy - A-Rod hits 50 something homeruns, but if you are hitting homeruns when you are down by five runs and it is a solo homerun, it is not the same as and striking out when the bases are loaded. Mr. Loniewski said he has an idea of what he wants and he will go over it with him before the next meeting and he will read it at the next meeting. Trustee Abato asked if we are utilizing the community service as a tool in these violations. Mr. Loniewski said we offer that in lieu of a fine and not too many of them want it. Trustee Abato said she thought that was supposed to be in addition to. Mr. Loniewski said it can be. That is something that the judge does. We can ask for that - we can suggest that as part of an agreement in court. But the judge has to order that. And if it is an addendum, then the defendant has to agree to that. And we are still working on that. Trustee Abato said then it is still not really being used as much then. Mr. Loniewski said no, it

isn't.

**CULTURE & RECREATION:**

**A) Report**

Gail Curtin said she thought that the Clerk probably gave them an updated recreation update. There was just one addition to it from the workshop. So since the last Village Board meeting, we had the annual holiday lighting and we would like to publicly thank Rich Ackerson for coming on board this year. As you know, Andy Vovou has resigned from the Recreation Board and Rich filled his shoes on December 6. We appreciated that.

We had the first session of LEAD on December 7. The Pearl Harbor Commemoration on December 9, and again we would like to thank Deputy Mayor Dagan LaCorte for working so closely with them on that day and they are very happy that Dagan had the opportunity to meet and spend time with Tom France. And as the Mayor mentioned earlier in the meeting, they in recreation will miss him tremendously. She said they attended the R.P. Connor PTA meeting on December 12 to talk about programs at the Community Center and the Community Center staff hosted a New Year's Eve party for the after school students, so she would like to thank Elaine and Andrea for giving the kids that opportunity. They had a great time.

Upcoming events: this Friday night we have movie night. AARP has begun their tax service training. That will be done at LPL. The training began this past Saturday and will continue each Saturday. And then the actual preparations begin on Tuesday, February 12, at LPL from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. right through April 15. Thursday, January 24 is senior movie afternoon. Friday, January 25 and Friday, February 1, LEAD will be meeting at the Community Center. And as the Board knows, she attended a meeting Friday afternoon with representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and they and the Recreation Department can now confirm that there will be a Recreation and Chamber of Commerce Valentine's Day Dinner Dance on February 9. With the Board's permission, once they approve this tonight, flyers will be distributed and the media will be contacted.

On Wednesday, February 13, the Rockland County Clerk's office passport service will be made available again here at Village Hall. Your sheet shows that it would be 5-7:30 p.m. We received a call from that office today and they are asking to make it a little later so we can confirm that with the Board after we reach them tomorrow. Just a slight change. They are looking for 6-8:00 p.m. And she does want to again mention that that was very well received by the community when it was done a couple of months ago. They expected to have about 10 people and they had 70. So apparently this is a good site for that and that is why they are coming back. So if anybody wants to get their passport done locally, February 13<sup>th</sup> is the date for that.

Mrs. Curtin said they would like to begin working on the annual egg hunt and that will be held, with the Board's permission, on Saturday, March 15. And the final thing is that April 12 they are hoping to reschedule the trip that was canceled to New York City to see Hairspray.

She said she is asking for authorization for herself and Lou Ciaccio to attend the Hudson Valley Leisure Services Association Vendor's Showcase. There is no charge for her. It is included in her membership. And the cost for Lou would be \$20. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor John Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Mrs. Curtin said the final item which was discussed by herself and Mayor Keegan after the workshop is that they would like the Board's permission to set the date for the 2008 Suffern Day so that they can move ahead with those plans. And they are looking at Saturday, September 27, with a raindate of Sunday, September 28. A motion approving the dates was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**7:45 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2008:**

The Mayor said we will now open up the floor for a public hearing on the Community Development Resolution No. 1, 2008. Mr. Bob Apple said that the Community Development board met and they were talking about finding things - work that had to be done in the area. And they came up with an agreement on the West Ward. The area in question is West Park Place to West Maltbie Avenue. Considering the price, they decided that they would only do one side, and that is the west side of Ramapo Avenue. He said he has taken pictures, which he has delivered to the Board. The pictures show the broken curbs, the broken sidewalks, uprooted slabs. Some of the blacktop is in very bad shape going into the driveways. After discussing all this - incidently, one of the pictures he took was a general picture looking down the street and looking in the opposite direction. He said you can see that the area is not pristine. It needs a little clean-up. And after that discussion with Mr. Fred Rella and Mr. Carl Rossi, the Department of Public Works Director, they submitted an estimate to the Board which is substantial, is real, and the dollars were cut in half. The dollars amount to \$135,000 and he believes that, again, Mr. Rossi and Mr. Rella worked pretty hard on this stuff and that is his report.

The Mayor asked if anybody would like to come up and speak on this.

Mr. Timothy Zeller of 29 West Maltbie Avenue said that he has been living there since the summer of 2001. He said he would like to start off with the construction project regarding tearing up of their curbs on that street. His understanding was that there was a contract sent issued with a smaller company that is also doing larger construction projects on the other streets. He said that there was several failure attempts and non-notices given to the people that live on that street of notification of work being done. On several instances, he believes we have a noise ordinance that starts at 7:00. He said if it starts at 7:00 there is no reason for construction vehicles coming down the street at 6:30 or 6:45 in the morning. He said he is up at that time and people who live in his home leave at that time and other people who work on that street leave at that time. There was absolutely no notification of them coming and tearing up their curbs. The other half of their street, down the other side, was notified. He said they had an architect come out to their home. They had a person who came, and he is not exactly sure who came, and spoke to his family regarding this issue. These people have come and tore up the curb, tore up their driveway, and part of their driveway had to be re-extended and put in as a sidewalk, and now they are being told that the large curbs that were being placed, which look nice and are evenly, are now going to be, the whole street is going to be torn up and repaved. His understanding and common sense would come in is that you would first take care of the street and then place the curbs in. People have had yards torn up with hay thrown on them and it is winter. He said he is no expert in construction but if you want cement to freeze properly then you wouldn't restructure a curb in the middle of December when it is below the freezing mark. Now if they are either (a) putting prestone in it to make it freeze better or they are doing something else to eliminate the problem, then it is understandable. But throwing blankets on the curbs to warm up right. Do you know what is going to happen. Come down the road in months or a couple of years. You are going to have to hire somebody else to come through and repave it and rebuild it up. The issue also was there is no problem with people moving the cars and having notice. But there was no notice. There was absolutely nothing given. He said they had to have someone come to their house and to walk side to side. He said he is not the only one. The Mayor said he wanted to ask him a question. The Mayor said they were working on his house on his street for about a week before his complaint came in. Didn't you know this was going on? Mr. Zeller said the street down from them - he said he wasn't sure of the exact intersection - he said he lives on W. Maltbie. The Mayor said he knows where he lives. Mr. Zeller said whatever the street is further from there. He said that street was being worked on. He said he was told by people who live on that street that they were notified of it. He said that everyone else further on that four-way stop had no notification of it. He said they absolutely had no idea. He said he has a gentleman who lives across the street from him who is 92 years old who had no access to exit his house in case there was an emergency because there was no metal plates being put in front of it. It not only makes the town look bad that there was no notification. It also makes the people who work for the company.

They are a small company who is starting out who got lucky to have a contract with the town who is putting in nice roads, nice sidewalks for the whole town. But if they have no notification, you are going to have homeowners come out and say you are tearing up my curb, you are tearing up the yard, and you are going to start the street next and we have no notification. When people try to live early in the morning they can't pull out because there are holes in the front of their street. Yes, they had to have people come in with metal plates so people could remove their cars properly. He said he even had a gentleman who worked for the company knock on the door at 6:45 and rudely tell him to move his car. It is just the aspect of it that makes the company who is doing the work look bad because they thought the paperwork went out to you people and he never received it. The Mayor said he wanted to ask our Superintendent sitting over there if notices went out because he told me that notices did go out. Now, if you didn't get it, you are the only one that has complained so far. The Mayor said he doesn't know but he would think that somebody else on the street would have said something if they didn't get notices. Mr. Zeller said he would bring signatures for anyone on his block who did not receive notification. He said he has no problem with personally bringing that. No one had any acknowledgment of that at all. Trustee Abato said just the four on the corner. Everyone else did. Mr. Zeller said no, everyone on his side of the street. His whole street. People who live next to him. Trustee Abato said she was sorry. Who actually got the notification. Mr. Zeller said the other street. If you are on W. Maltbie and you go down the street and there is a four-way stop, those people. Trustee Abato said on the other side. Mr. Zeller said yes, down the street, both sides received that notification. The beginning of that street received no notification whatsoever. None.

The Mayor asked Mr. Rossi if he agreed with that. He asked him to fill them in on this. Mr. Rossi said he met with Mr. Zeller and his son right after he got the complaint from them. And he is correct. Part of W. Maltbie didn't get notification. At the time, Mr. Rossi apologized to both Mr. Zeller and his son saying that we were supposed to notify him and we notified Ridge Avenue when we did the paving and it was supposed to go out with all those letters. But it didn't go out. But the upper end of W. Maltbie did get notified. The lower end didn't. Mr. Rossi said that he apologized to him and that we would work with him and do whatever we can to rectify the situation. The Mayor said he spoke to him about this very incident. Now, did you or did you not go to Mr. Zeller's house with the builder - the guy doing the roads. Mr. Rossi said correct, himself. The Mayor said and talk to somebody's wife or mother or someone. Mr. Rossi said it was himself, Sean Hoffman from Riddick Associates and Dan Abern from WJL Associates all met Mr. Zeller out there to address his concerns. The Mayor said then where is the mis-communication. Mr. Rossi said he believes the mis-communication was that they were complaining that we didn't notify them and he apologized for it. It was an oversight on our part. Trustee Abato asked if it was just that one street. Mr. Rossi said it was just that one street. Trustee Abato said it was an oversight. Mr. Rossi

said yes. The Mayor asked Mr. Rossi to stand over on the side since he might have something else to bring him up.

Mr. Zeller asked if there was going to be a repaving on that street. The Mayor said yes. Mr. Zeller asked when we were planning on doing that. When is that being planned. The Mayor said as soon as the blacktopping plants open. Probably March. Trustee Abato said we will make sure that notices go out. Mr. Zeller asked how long legally does a notice have to be sent to the people. Attorney Rice said it is not a legal requirement. Trustee Abato said it is not a legal requirement. It is just something we do. Mr. Zeller said a courtesy. Trustee Abato said yes, and we will make sure they go out. She said that we apologize. It is one street that didn't get them and unfortunately it was yours. But we will make sure that before that happens that all the notices go out. Mr. Zeller said that he is not exactly sure of the property. But what about the yard that was torn up that there was hay thrown on. He said is that on your property or is that on his property that has to be done. Trustee Abato asked if that was his property that it happened to. Mr. Zeller said that is his father's yard. He said that you have several people who try to make the town look nice and hard-working for the yard. When it comes torn up. Trustee Abato asked Mr. Rossi if that will be restored to its original condition. The Mayor said that Mr. Zeller was probably not aware. The Village wasn't going to touch anybody's driveways. Driveways, a lot of them, were in disrepair. He said he was approached by the road person and our Superintendent and he said, look, to get the Village to look nice, can we add the driveway aprons in on the street. So we agreed to do that at an extra cost of \$27,000. He said we could have left them the way they were. Just did the street. So most people, he thinks, are appreciative of that and again anything that goes on during construction, people like to be notified. He said we realize that. We do apologize that they weren't notified. The Mayor said we had an agreement with the person in charge of doing the roads that he would notify people at least a day before he was going to do anything where you wouldn't be able to get out of your driveway. When the project is finished, we think it is going to be a nice thing and he thinks that they will really like the street and the Mayor thinks that the fact that we did these parts from the sidewalk to the street in cement is also a plus for the residents. Mr. Zeller said he respects that. His other question is if the Mayor personally feels that sidewalks should have been - he said he knows it is time consuming, and contracts and understanding and coming to an agreement of deadlines. But, Mayor, you are doing sidewalks in November and December. The Mayor said they put the floor in the firehouse in February. They just added antifreeze to the concrete. Mr. Zeller said that what he is saying is that it was poured and there were blankets put on them. The Mayor said he thought they weren't blankets - they were tarps. Mr. Zeller said that if the town has to repave that, that is more money that we have to lay out because they did it in a cold month. He said he understands that we want to progress and get it done. But if we can do it in a reasonable amount of time where it can work out properly, we wouldn't have to worry about a relapse. Trustee Abato

said that was a conversation that we actually had in a meeting. She said she remembers because that was her same concern in the winter months trying to do that. The Mayor said there has to be a warranty, number one, and our engineer who is overseeing the project, he is in the hot seat on this as well if something goes wrong. The Mayor asked Mr. Rossi to come up and let us know of any warranty. Mr. Rossi said there is a performance bond that the contractor has to put up once the job is completed. It is usually for a year. He said he has to check the contract. But it is a year maintenance bond on it. Attorney Rice asked if Dennis' office was supervising all the construction on this. Mr. Rossi said himself, Dennis, Danny Haglund, and Bobby Conklin all go out there during the day to make sure that the work is done correctly. The other thing is that you are allowed to do cold weather concrete pours. Now, what we did out there was that we put thermal blankets over it so it keeps the heat because what happens when concrete cures is that it releases its energy in the form of hot air. So what it does is that you put a thermal blanket over the concrete curb to keep the heat in so that it doesn't freeze or break. So we do do concrete pours in the cold weather.

Robert Zeller Sr. of 29 W. Maltbie Avenue said that he still wants to address the same topic. He said that Mr. Rossi is not correct. He said that Mr. Rossi didn't meet with him. Mr. Zeller said that he did meet with our engineer. He said there wasn't any notice given to anybody. He said his son is even incorrect. From the beginning of W. Maltbie Avenue to the end. The original phone call, Mr. Mayor, was from Mr. Zeller to the Mayor's office. The response was your office to Mr. Rossi and your engineer, which he met at 4:30 in the afternoon. There was not one notice given concerning anything about ripping up sidewalks to nobody. Mr. Rossi informed Mr. Zeller per telephone call when he called him back on that day that it was the obligation of the company to put a flyer either in the mailbox or on the door. Mr. Zeller said he then informed Mr. Rossi that if he was to receive one from the company, then he wanted to see it from him. Mr. Rossi informed Mr. Zeller that it was also not the responsibility of the company that was doing the work. It should have been the responsibility of the Village. Mr. Rossi finally came back with your architect and said guess what. We screwed up. The Mayor said okay, so they failed to notify you. What's the damage here. Mr. Zeller said here's the damage. The Mayor said what's the damage. Mr. Zeller said he has been working in construction for 25 years. Twenty five years. You are putting cement down and you are making an improvement. Yes. The cement did not contain a liquid for winter use. If you add such a material such as prestone into cement to cure in the winter time, yes, you can lay cement. Because it will cure. You're pointing out that they can lay a floor in the firehouse. Yes, because there is heat inside the firehouse. But there ain't nothing outside. Them blankets are not going to cure. We went to the cement mixer. And you can ask Mr. Rossi. There is no mixture in that cement. Years down the road you are going to come back and you are going to rip them up. You're going to absolutely rip them up. The Mayor said we are not the ones that are going to rip them up. Mr. Zeller said and now you are

going to turn around and now you are saying to the residents of W. Maltbie, and especially W. Maltbie, that we want to take your road down six inches. Mr. Rossi knows this. It is going down six inches. You stand up where this gentleman just spoke on the community part and you look down that road at the sidewalks and at the drains from where they raise the curb level up to where it is now. They did not raise the drains. So there is not proper drainage there. They didn't even rip up the curb line by the drains. The Mayor said they are not going to raise the drains until they are ready to do the road. Mr. Zeller said sure they are. Or are you going to rip them up when you are taking six inches of roadway away. You are not ripping. That is part of the curb line. The drain is in the curb line. The Mayor said that Mr. Zeller had a valid point. He said that what we need to do now is that we need to sit down with the road project manager and Carl Rossi and find out what they did to prevent freezing, why they are going down six inches. The Mayor said we hire these people because they are experts. We are not the experts. Mr. Zeller said absolutely. Mr. Zeller said here is the other issue that was brought to your attention by a resident to you. The other issue that was brought up to your attention was on the top side of W. Maltbie, up by the railroad tracks, there has been numerous, from years and years past, gas leaks and water leaks. So now if we are going to pave W. Maltbie, and we are now going to take six inches of roadway away, some of the piping up on the top of W. Maltbie and on the beginning of W. Maltbie has not been looked at since 1929. So now we are going to rip up a road and hope and pray that when you take six inches of roadway away that we don't have to dig it up in six months. There are piping considerations for gas that should be taken into consideration. The Mayor said we bring the utility companies in before we do road projects. Mr. Zeller said and the piping up there has been notified to the Village on the top side of W. Maltbie that it needed to be changed. That that piping is dating back to 1929.

Trustee LaCorte said that he is not an engineer and Mr. Zeller obviously has more expertise in this. Trustee LaCorte said that what we can do, like the Mayor said, is apologize for not giving you notice. He said that he was in the pre-construction meeting and from his perspective he said to please make sure that people get notice from the Village so it was our responsibility. It is not like the Board went in here and we said oh, don't give people notice. That was one of the number one concerns. Another concern that was addressed if any work wasn't finished and if people's property had to be left influx, that we would make sure that the proper equipment would be put there, whether metal plates to make sure that people would be able to get into and out of their property. With respect to what you are saying, we can go on forever. What Mr. Zeller is saying seems valid to him. Mr. Zeller said that he was without his driveway. Trustee LaCorte said he understands. Mr. Zeller said to wait and let him finish. He said he was without his driveway and his driveway is approximately a good 100 feet for five days. Trustee LaCorte said that was not supposed to be the case. Mr. Zeller said five days. Trustee LaCorte said that when they went into the meeting, and Trustee LaCorte was in

the meeting, we said that no one, for more than ½ a day, because if work was left over a weekend or overnight, because he is just thinking like Mr. Zeller. It's a good thing. The streets are getting done. The curbs are getting done. It is a positive thing. You don't want to take a positive and turn it into a negative. And the way that is going to occur, in his perspective, is if two things happen. One, you don't give notice. So you wake up one day and say what's going on here. And the second part is if you are unable to gain access to your property. So those were the two things that we put on it. We dealt with a reputable company that has just finished up extensive work in Clarkstown. We went through the bidding process and we obviously wanted to get as much done as possible. And he believes the best thing to do is to have Mr. Zeller, and to set it up and he is sure the Mayor said he will do that, with the people in charge so that you can deal with your concerns. And again, if you were unable to gain access to your property for five days, Trustee LaCorte apologizes. And he is sure the rest of the Board apologizes because that was their concern. He thinks we did our due diligence and this is an ongoing process and we will make sure it gets rectified. Mr. Zeller said he thinks the Board needs to rectify something else. The Mayor just made a comment, and the road does need paving. We are overdue. We are overdue since the term before Mayor Keegan of paving that road. We are overdue. But we do need to address a gas situation on that road. He said go back and look at the records. It is 1929. The Mayor said he will have our Superintendent get in contact with O&R and find out if, in fact, what you are saying 1929 is the story here, and if so find out from them if these pipes need to be replaced now. Because you are absolutely right. He would rather replace them now than dig them up after you put a new road in. Mr. Zeller said here is another address of his concern. He said he sat here tonight and listened to this gentleman on the committee and he has been on the west side six years. He said he still doesn't know, by reading when this Board took legislation, that we had volunteers to work with you. He said he is here six years. He has a neighbor that has been here 50 years. He is 93 years old. He has one neighbor that is 92 years old. And to this date he fails to know who our representatives on the west side are. Or to speak with them. And to give them input from other residents. So he wants to leave them with this thought. He said he did bring this to the attention of one of your Board members and the response was from one of your Board members and his suggestion to your Board member was that if we don't know who they are, it would be nice if you would take the time to at least put out on the west side who our volunteer representatives are so that we could speak with them or we could contact them or we could meet as a group. Well, guess what, evidently in the City of New York, they raise pigeons in coups and they put little messages that they want to put on these pigeons and they fly them from one spot to another and hopefully get the message. He said he just wants to let them know. He said the person he addressed from your Board he is still waiting in the mail, along with the other residents, of who our representatives on the west side are. And if these representatives cannot meet with the residents of the west side and let their views be expressed to

them so that they can be expressed to you, then these people don't belong holding a seat. Get rid of them.

Trustee Abato said that probably quite some time ago letters did go out to every resident in the Village letting you know who the liaisons were for your area. It was probably when they were first re-elected. She said that maybe we need to put something on the web site or to get something else out. But just so you know the West Ward, the person that leads those people in the West Ward, is actually the Mayor. Mr. Zeller said that is who that was addressed to. The Mayor said and you can't say that he hasn't talked to you on several occasions. Mr. Zeller said that he spoke to him once. And he can tell him that he spoke with him in the summer and he did inform him and he did ask him and the Mayor informed him, and Mr. Zeller said that we did not know on the west side who our representatives were. And the Mayor said he would be kind enough to send out the residents of the west side a flyer. Mr. Zeller said we have not received that flyer. The Mayor said they were sent out. Trustee Abato said that maybe we could add something into the Village Update. The Mayor said that we will put something into the Village Update. The Mayor said that most of the people, as you know, he is one of them. And the Mayor has spoken to many, many residents in the West Ward. Your neighbors. And the Mayor spoke to him. And the Mayor spoke to Mr. Zeller on several occasions. He said he spoke to him when the Code Enforcer gave him a fine for a tarp. And he spoke to him another time when you said there was a sex offender up the block. The Mayor said he took care of that. The Mayor said if you have a problem, the Mayor goes down his street all the time, and the one time when Mr. Zeller waved to him, the Mayor had his wife and they were going to dinner. It was seven o'clock at night and he couldn't stop and talk to him. But as the Mayor told him, he is in Village Hall every day if you have a problem. Mr. Zeller said he is a working man every day. The Mayor said excuse me? Mr. Zeller said that he is a working man like the Mayor every day. The Mayor said okay, then we can set up a time after hours that we can meet. Trustee Abato said that he could leave a message with Virginia. The Mayor said he could meet him here or anywhere at seven at night. Mr. Zeller said that all he is saying is that whoever you are meeting with, whomever those representatives are that you are meeting with, that volunteered their services, they are not meeting or having any discussion with anybody over in the West Ward. Nothing. Zero. So we don't know what is happening in the East Ward and the East Ward doesn't know what is happening over in the West Ward. That is poor communication. They need to go. The Mayor said okay, we will send another notice out and let him know who. Trustee Abato said we can put it in our newsletter. The Mayor said we will put it in the newsletter. Trustee Haggerty said this is a hearing on community development. The Mayor said this is a public hearing on community development and we should have really held this off until our regular public session. But what we will do is that we will send that notice out.

Mr. Zeller said okay. But he would like to finish with one more issue. On December 18, his house was burglarized. The Mayor said if

you want to come back when we have the open session, but right now it is a public hearing on community development. The Mayor asked if anybody else wanted to speak on community development.

Jack Rosenberg of 13 Somerset Drive said that the Community Development Block Grant Program began in 1974. He said he has been living with it for the 34 years. He said he used to attend all the meetings of the Community Development Block Grant committee of this Village when he was a Trustee. He said he is familiar with a lot of things that have gone on over the years. And he knows for a fact that in a ten year period of time this Village received one million dollars through the Community Development Block Grant program. He said we wouldn't have the George Parness Community Center if it hadn't been for the fact that \$470,000 was given through that program which enabled the Village to buy it and renovate it completely and totally from top to bottom. And of course a tremendous amount of money that went into the downtown improvement program - downtown revitalization program - was under CDBG, Community Development Block Grant program. Large sums of money went into the sidewalks in the downtown area. But beginning a few years ago, a series of mishaps happened. The Board, of which he was not a member, decided to go into other areas other than the downtown revitalization. For instance, they wanted to put an elevator into the community center to lift people from the ground floor up into the loft above the kitchen and then extend the loft all the way out taking away half of a basketball court. One of the two courts would then be lost to the youth of the community. For some reason or another, Mr. Haggerty and Mr. Meehan opposed it and even though it was said that we didn't get any money that year because normally when two out of five members of a Board disagree, they give you nothing. That is the practice of a Community Development Committee from the County. But the thing is - the Mayor asked Mr. Rosenberg what he wanted to say about what is going on now. We realize that it is a great program. Mr. Rosenberg said that the people who came here tonight from the West Ward were talking about something which he believes had nothing to do with community development. You were going to do some sidewalks or streets in the West Ward with Village money, correct? It wasn't federal funds was it. Trustee LaCorte said what this gentleman was talking about. Mr. Rosenberg said the work that was being complained of. Trustee LaCorte said no, you are right. The Mayor said we borrowed the money for that. Mr. Rosenberg said it is not federal funds. The Mayor and Trustee Abato said no. Mr. Rosenberg said because last year you did Suffern Place. That came through community development, he assumes. So, basically, their complaints were not germane to what is on the agenda. Mr. Rosenberg said that your committee, and you'll forgive him because he doesn't hear too well and at that distance, he couldn't ascertain everything that Mr. Apple said. What is the recommendation for 2008 to this Board from the committee. The Mayor said the recommendation is to repair the sidewalks and curbs along one side of Ramapo Avenue running in a two block area. Running from West Park to West Maltbie. Mr. Rosenberg said okay. Many years ago when Bill Gonzalez was the chair that came up for recommendation but it didn't get the votes because at that time there was

concentration on the downtown revitalization. So this is not new. And of course it is long overdue. Ramapo Avenue certainly should be fixed up. It has been a neglected area as far as he is concerned. So he doesn't oppose it at all. However, when you have a limited sum of money - now, how much is the amount of money that is being recommended to you to be asked for from the County consortium. The Mayor said what is the amount by us. Trustee LaCorte said he didn't think - Mr. Rosenberg said they didn't put down an amount. Trustee LaCorte said are we putting down an amount or was the committee. Trustee Abato said the committee did make a recommendation. The Mayor said that Mr. Apple is making his recommendation for this. Trustee Rosenberg asked if the consortium did. They don't. Mr. Rosenberg said they didn't come up with a recommendation for \$50,000, \$75,000, \$100,000, \$125,000? Isn't that part of the report. The Mayor said that we are going to ask for at least ½ of the project fee which would be \$135,000.

Trustee LaCorte asked Mr. Apple what we are asking for. Trustee LaCorte said we are asking for \$100,000. Mr. Rosenberg asked if they were aware that President Bush a few years ago decided, obviously because of finances, to eliminate this program totally and completely from the budget. Trustee LaCorte said yes, and then it was restored. Mr. Rosenberg said then congress, God Bless their hearts, they put it back with a 40% cut in funding. And that is why instead of getting the normal \$100,000, which we used to get every year for a decade - a \$100,000 was what we got every year. Trustee LaCorte said yes plus there are more villages and more organizations. Mr. Rosenberg said that basically instead of getting \$100,000 you'll get say \$65,000 because there are less funds coming from Washington. The Mayor said we hope we get as much as we can. Mr. Rosenberg said he has been trying very hard to convince Eliot Engle and Charlie Rangle - Charlie Rangle threatened to quit the congress if the Democrats didn't take over the congress in 2006 because he was in line to become chair of the most powerful committee in the House of Representatives - the Ways and Means Committee where all the money is. Mr. Rosenberg said he has tried to get him to push for CDBG. He tried to push Eliot Engle for CDBG and National Endowment for the Arts. And he answered him on National Endowment for the Arts which is something he likes and he tries on. But he never mentioned a word about Community Development Block Grant. In other words, you get control of a congress and that is your opportunity to run the programs. That is why you have the majority. When you have the majority, you can make the recommendations for what you want rather than during the previous ten years when somebody else had the majority and they weren't interested. The Mayor said he appreciated Mr. Rosenberg telling us something that we don't control. Mr. Rosenberg said he is asking the Board to go to Eliot Engle, to go to Chuck Schumer, go to Hillary Clinton and go to Charlie Rangle and say how about putting back all of the money that used to be there just the same amount of money. Not an increase, because obviously budgets have quadrupled in 30 years. The Mayor said he doesn't mean to interrupt him but he'll tell him what we'll do. He seems to know that he wants to ask for. Mr. Rosenberg said if that is important to them. The Mayor

said to Mr. Rosenberg to write the letter, if you would. Mr. Rosenberg said no, no. He has already done it and he is keeping doing it. But you gentlemen as elected officials have a lot more weight than he does. The Mayor said we will sign it. There is no problem. Mr. Rosenberg said if you go ahead and ask for the money that you intend to ask for for the West Ward, he will point out to them that since 2004, twice we got zip because of errors that were made by the Boards. The Mayor said that we are being very careful this time not to make those errors. Mr. Rosenberg said all right, fine. But you are not doing anything for downtown. He said he can tell them something that they are not aware of. None of them are aware of. A member of the committee, a very important member of the committee, told him that this year you were going to ask for \$125,000, which was an estimate, that Dennis Rocks, the Superintendent of Public Works, gave to the Board in 2003. Now obviously when you ask for \$125,000 in 2003, in 2008 you will have to ask for \$175,000 just because of inflation over five years. And with the money coming smaller, it is going to be much more difficult. But he was told you were going to apply to finish Phase I of the Community Development Block Grant program, which was developed at a cost - Mr. Rosenberg said what did we pay Bristol? - \$40,000 and then another \$40,000. He asked Trustee Haggerty if he remembered. Trustee Haggerty said \$80,000. Mr. Rosenberg said we spent \$80,000 which did not come from the federal funds. He said that it came out of the Village's pocket through bonds - or should have come out of bonds. There is still an argument whether or not it ever was bonded. Trustee Haggerty said that money did not come out of the Village budget. Mr. Rosenberg said all right. The Mayor told Mr. Rosenberg he was going on ten minutes. Mr. Rosenberg said that the money for Saratoga Associates did not come from the federal funds. That is for certain. And we have lost a hell of a lot of money over the years. But if you gentlemen and lady don't want to finish what was started in 2003. Remember, we haven't finished Phase I. The Mayor said to Mr. Rosenberg that he complained about Suffern Place. We finished it. They are working on it. Mr. Rosenberg said he begs his pardon. The block front of Orange Avenue from Lafayette to Chestnut is in the very same plans that were in the original documents for Lafayette Avenue, Chestnut and Suffern Place. You have not finished Phase I. The Mayor said you have to give us a chance to answer. Mr. Rosenberg said he is giving them a chance. This is their third year in office.

Trustee LaCorte said that first off, the Block Grant - we have to put in for one project. Because as he knows, if you put in for more than one application, you are not going to get money. Trustee LaCorte said you spoke for 12 minutes and if you ask a number of questions, let someone address those questions. Mr. Rosenberg said he wasn't finished. He said he wanted to make a recommendation. Trustee LaCorte said to let someone address those questions so you can understand. Mr. Rosenberg said go ahead. Trustee LaCorte said there is a limited thing - you can only put in one application. This is what was recommended by the committee. It is an area that you said was in disrepair. This is where we are going. We also, in terms of Lafayette from Orange Avenue from Lafayette to Chestnut,

as you know, we were in plans in terms of having redevelopment along that area which we still are. The original developer dropped out but we were in the process of negotiating a development agreement with them that the Board would have likely had included in there - in their building to pave it. So why would we forego the use of federal monies that can be used elsewhere if a private developer is going to pay to do that. And in terms also, in terms of saying, you make these blanket statements that we have done nothing for the downtown. Last year's money, in which we got awarded \$60,000, was used for crosswalks. Mr. Rosenberg said it hasn't been done. Trustee LaCorte said you don't get awarded the money until June. The Mayor said we have to go out for bidding. You just can't spend the money. Mr. Rosenberg said he begs their pardon. In the old days, the approval of this application was given in April and you were told you could spend the money in September. The Mayor said the old days are over. Mr. Rosenberg said you could do a lot of work between April and September and then have the job finished in September, October and November before the winter weather. The Mayor said that we gave it to our engineers. Mr. Rosenberg said you could have anticipated last year doing that work last year. The Mayor said that Mr. Rosenberg is not going to let anybody else talk. The Mayor said we gave it to our engineers. Mr. Rosenberg said that also, why would a member of the committee - he asked Trustee LaCorte if he was a member of the committee. Or is Mr. Apple and Vincent? The Mayor said to Mr. Rosenberg that we love him talking but he is not the only one in this room. How about giving somebody else the opportunity to answer once in a while.

Trustee Meehan said to Mr. Rosenberg that he was absolutely incorrect when he says that money can be spent in September. The federal fiscal year has never started any earlier than October 1. And he knows that. And to come up here and to give a long, long history - and we are friends - but there is a question before the hearing and the hearing participants should have addressed that question and perhaps the Mayor should not have entertained the gentleman from the West Ward. But there is a proposal on the table and if you don't like it, tell us that. But don't give us a long history. We know the history. Mr. Rosenberg said the time table has been altered and it has been moved up by three months. You always had the public hearing for this program in April or March. You didn't have it in what month are we in now - January. The Mayor said the crosswalks are going to be done in the spring. Mr. Rosenberg said the federal program has been moved up by three months. The Mayor said it is always done in January. Mr. Rosenberg said he begs his pardon. It never was done in January for 9 years. The Mayor said here is a lady that has been with us for 50 years. And he doesn't think he wants to call her a liar. Trustee Abato said that the Village Clerk is telling us that it is always done in January. Mr. Rosenberg said no, it is not correct. The awards were given in April. Mr. Rosenberg said that the point is if you make the money for the West Ward you will not be using the money for downtown. We agree on that. The Mayor told Mr. Rosenberg that he had 30 seconds more and then we will turn his mic off. The Mayor said he was sorry, but we are not going to listen to any more of

this. He told Mr. Rosenberg if he wanted to come down to his office and meet with them and address it. We are holding up all these people. Mr. Rosenberg said he is not welcome in his office. The Mayor said we have another public hearing. Mr. Rosenberg said he is not welcome in the Mayor's office. The Mayor said that we don't want to hear a history lesson. Mr. Rosenberg said that he is not welcome in the Mayor's office. The Mayor said that if Mr. Rosenberg had a beef about what we are doing, fine. Mr. Rosenberg said that the Mayor used to have people walking into his office. You changed the rules on that, too. We are putting in crosswalks. They will be done in the spring. If you don't like the crosswalks, then stay up on Somerset or wherever you are and leave us alone. We are doing the right thing for this Village and most of the residents appreciate it. You are the only one coming down here every meeting and complaining about everything we do. Mr. Rosenberg said Thank God for me. Thank God for me. The Mayor said Thank God for him? He said that half of the people left the room because they are tired of listening to your nonsense. Mr. Rosenberg said he stopped them from buying a piece of property at a cost of \$1 million that has now a terrific ratable. The Mayor said Mr. Rosenberg was done. He told him to have a nice evening. Mr. Rosenberg said the Mayor was acting like a fascist. The Mayor told him to have a nice evening. The Mayor asked if anybody else wanted to speak on community development. The Mayor said if not, that was 16 ½ minutes that Mr. Rosenberg was up there so don't say that we don't give him an ample opportunity to talk. Since nobody else spoke, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee LaCorte. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Trustee Abato made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Community Development Committee. Trustee LaCorte said the recommendation of the Community Development Committee is that the Village submit to the program for the curbs and sidewalk along Ramapo Avenue from West Park Place to West Maltbie on the west side of the block at a total cost of \$135,000, of which the Village will contribute \$35,000, thus we are seeking \$100,000 in funding. Trustee Abato said that let the record show that her motion should reflect Deputy Mayor LaCorte's comments, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2008

RESOLVED, that the Village Board accept the recommendations of the Community Development Committee that the Village Clerk seek CDBG funding for Curbs and Sidewalks on Ramapo Avenue, west side from West Park Place to West Maltbie Avenue, in the amount of \$100,000 with the Village contributing an additional \$35,000.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Trustee Meehan said that just one point that was made Thursday night and should be made again this evening and that is when we are making this motion, this is a commitment to do this project. If we don't get \$100,000, we are still going to do the project. We will do it with less of a contribution from Community Development and we will also be looking for contributions from some other organizations which we have been talking about, too.

**7:50 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING - REGARDING PERMIT PARKING IN THE "O" LOT (120 ORANGE AVENUE):**

The Mayor said we have another public hearing regarding permit parking in the "O" lot, 120 Orange Avenue. Attorney Rice said that essentially all this does is to add a provision in the Village code where there are regulations for the lots. Somebody said they couldn't hear Attorney Rice. He said that as he was saying, the local law provides that the property located at 120 Orange Avenue will be designated as the "O" parking lot and the other regulations that apply to the other parking lots under the jurisdiction of the Parking Authority would then obviously apply to this piece of property as well.

Jack Rosenberg of 13 Somerset Drive said he couldn't quite hear. He said the public hearing is to do what with 120 Orange Avenue. How many spaces, when is it going to be done, is it using the bond money or the note money. What is being done here.

Attorney Rice said this has nothing to do with any of the items that he mentioned. As he said before, it adds to the list of lots that are covered by the provision in the Village Code regarding permit parking for this particular piece of property. All the other items that you are talking about have nothing to do and are not dealt with in this local law. Mr. Rosenberg said you are going to have lots? He heard him mention lots. Did he hear him say lots? Attorney Rice said no. Trustee Abato said to add to the already existing lots. Mr. Rosenberg said how could you do that. You don't own it. Trustee Abato said it is just recognized as a permit lot. We do own it. Mr. Rosenberg said you own the physical dimensions of 120. 55 feet at the width. Are you enlarging the 55 feet.

The Mayor said that all we are doing is voting to make it parking lot "O" to allow people to park in it. Mr. Rosenberg said parking lot what? Trustee Abato and the Mayor said parking lot "O". Mr. Rosenberg said it is going to be called parking lot "O"? The Mayor said yes. Mr. Rosenberg said that is all you are doing? The Mayor said yes. Trustee Abato said that is it.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Haggerty. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

**LOCAL LAW NO. 1, 2008**

**A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 254  
OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN  
REGARDING PERMIT PARKING IN  
THE "O" LOT (120 ORANGE AVENUE)**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**Section 1.** Section 254-29 of the Code of the Village of Suffern is amended by adding thereto the following:

Lot "O" - 120 Orange Avenue

**Section 2.** This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

A motion to adopt Local Law #1, 2008 to designate 120 Orange Avenue as Lot "O" was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

**A) Authorization for Mayor to Sign Agreement for Use of the Town of Ramapo Firing Range:**

Chief Clarke Osborn said that this is for authorization for the Mayor to sign the agreement for the use of the Town of Ramapo firing range. He said as the Board knows, we have our own police firing range down in the ballfield area. This would be an agreement to sign with Ramapo so our members from the Suffern Police Department who are assigned to the County SWAT Team - the REACT Team - will be able to train at that facility with the team. A motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the agreement was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Chief Osborn said the next item which isn't under his line is to vote on his contract for the next year. The Mayor said we are going to do that under the Village Clerk's portion. Chief Osborn said for the Lieutenant also? The Mayor said yes. Chief Osborn said that he spoke to Tom Zordan today. The Chief said that we received a \$7000 grant, which they didn't expect to get and they were happy they got, and it is for car seat safety and the stipulation is that we be able to purchase a trailer, an actual trailer. He said he didn't

know if the Board ever saw the one in Mahwah that is sitting right in front of the station. It is a big trailer that can be pulled with a truck. And we got the grant and what we are going to use it for is car seat installations. And we can also use it for commercial vehicle checks, DWI checks, Suffern Day, any special event in the Village where we need police presence - a command presence - we are going to use it for. So Tom had asked me to ask the Board to amend the budget. The trailer is \$5,850. The Chief said we are getting every cent of it reimbursed. But Tom said the Board had to amend the budget just to pay out the initial money before we get it back. Attorney Rice said we need to know what line it is going to. Trustee Abato said we will approve this when we get the line from the Treasurer.

Chief Osborn said that he had some information for the Board. The motorcycle will be on the road tomorrow. It is going to be a warm day. It is going to be used for traffic enforcement all day. Chief Osborn spoke to Sgt. Gloede today and he is all ready to go tomorrow morning so you will see the motorcycle out tomorrow.

The Chief said he had some yearly numbers for the Board. Last year in 2007 we had 364 arrests, and they issued 2,583 vehicle and traffic summonses. Just to give the Board an assessment, he did an assessment of the last four years of vehicle and traffic summonses in Suffern. In 2004/2005, we issued a total of 4,309 summonses - traffic summonses. In 2006/2007, we issued 5,329. So we are up over 1,000 summonses for the last two years. So the officers are out there definitely doing their job. He said that this Thursday night, at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart School, they will be having a Rapid Deployment Drill. He said that several of the Board members attended the one they had at Connor School last year. What this is used for is that they have these drills basically to handle a critical incident in the school. He said they have simunition guns, which is what they call them, which are actual weapons that fire blanks. And they go into a school, a hostage in a school safety situation or a school shooting situation and have the officers move in formation to take out the shooter. So they will be training. They have been working with Sacred Heart School officials and church officials. He said the Board are all invited to stop by at 7:00 p.m. at the school. He said they should be there about 3 or 4 hours inside the school. He said obviously the school is empty at that time.

Chief Osborn said that we are also looking to start an auxiliary police force here in Suffern. He said he spoke to the Board the other night and he thinks they are in favor of it. He thinks an auxiliary would be excellent for Suffern. What they are looking to do is that these auxiliary officers would help them direct traffic and work special events with them. So he will report back to the Board next month as he looks into this.

Accreditation is going well. Our first group of accreditation policies will be issued next week. Our first six. So we are right on target where we should be. Sgt. Bonkoski is working on that and

the Chief will keep the Board informed.

The Chief said that our federal immigration program which basically is a program where we are looking to deport illegal criminals, not illegal immigrants, illegal criminals is going very well. We have been back and forth sending letters with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and himself to the attorney representing us in this issue. And Sheriff Kralik seems like he is on board and he has agreed to it as well. We will be the first one's in New York State, the first department in the State, the first Village in the State, to enact such a program if we get accepted by the federal immigration program. He said he wanted to thank Gail. The toy drive went very well. He said they actually helped over 110 needy families throughout the Ramapo Central area. He said he wanted to thank Gail and Elaine for the use and he wants to thank all the Board members who helped out and came over. The Chief said that is all he has and he will be here for the duration if they have any questions.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

**A) Payment to William Stothoff Company, Inc. for Redevelopment of Well No. 2 - Final Payment - \$22,140.12:**

Carl Rossi said that he only had one item on the agenda for the Board's vote and that is payment to William Stothoff Company, Inc. for redevelopment of well no. 2. This is a final payment in the amount of \$22,140.12. A motion approving the payment was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Timothy J. Zeller of 29 W. Maltbie Avenue said that he has been living there since the summer of 2001. He said he wanted to start at the beginning. He said he grew up as a child and as a teenager and he lived in Spring Valley near Second Avenue and he moved to this community when he graduated high school and finished his first year of college. He said that growing up in that area, he was well aware of diversity and understanding that people need jobs to have a good income. Upon learning this, he has also learned that there are immigrants who come into this country to try to find good working jobs that maybe any normal American won't do. Issues have also arisen when he lived in Spring Valley that there were several legal or non-legal immigrants who would stand on 59 to try to get jobs. Have contractors come in through the local, different parts of the County to have them work for minimum wage or under the books. He said he has noticed since he has lived here, in the past

two years, that on Orange Avenue there are several, whether it be a legal or not legal immigrants, standing on that corner soliciting themselves everyday. He said he leaves his home to go to his place of business at around 6:45 a.m. He said when he stops at a traffic light, there are people who come up and knock on his car. He said that he has all faith in the police department of doing their job and he knows that they do their job very well and he knows the Chief very well and he knows they do a good job. The issue is that this is the same almost as the solicitation of prostitution. You have people standing there on the corners in the morning coming up trying to get jobs. You are a couple of blocks from the State of New Jersey. You have other contractors who drive in from that state and also pick up these workers. The first point is that you are taking work away from hard working people in the town, in the county and in the state. You are taking away opportunities. Something has to be done. He said he will give an instance. A couple of weeks ago his home was an attempted robbery. And his girlfriend's car was burglarized. He said he caught the person and he called the police and the issue was taken care of. The main issue is that this overflows. You have corporate business people who come into town to go on the train to go into the city or to go up north. Now, if this is an increase of crime and disturbance, then he suggests personally that either (a) we bring someone in who can write more tickets for people who are driving into this. Park the police on the corner. He said he is not asking them to babysit there. He is just asking them just so we can move. He said he is sure that there are many people who drive down that street every morning to drive into town that see this. It is not right. It is not fair and it creates more crime and more problems within the town. The Mayor said that first of all, he lives in that area and this is the first that he heard of Mr. Zeller's break-in or any attempt in his neighborhood. So the Mayor said he is a little baffled with that. However, any type of crime that an illegal immigrant has committed in this Village in the last two years has been addressed and the perpetrators have been apprehended. He said he has to say this to him. So our police force is there and they are doing 100%. Mr. Zeller said absolutely. He completely agrees. The Mayor said that as far as people standing on Orange Avenue, we deal with that situation to the letter of the law. We have stopped people picking them up. If they harass people getting on the trains, we pick them up. Whatever. People stand downtown. They live above town. They are standing in front of their house. Are a lot of residents upset with that? Yes. What we have done is that we want to go after the people that are causing the problems. As the Chief said a while ago, we are applying for 287g of the ICE program to have four of our police officers trained as ICE officers so that they will be able to use federal data bases to deport criminals and possibly apprehend vehicles and auction them. That is another option. We will be the only ones in the State of New York to be in the ICE program if we are approved, and he believes we will be because we had to meet with the Sheriff, we had to meet with the County Legislature and we had to get their approval and we are still waiting for certain approvals to come through. But if we do we can apprehend the bad guys, the felons, the criminals. These are

the ones that we have the authority to take off the street.

Mr. Zeller said he wanted to ask a question. He asked if anybody on the Board was familiar with a program called "Labor Ready." Mr. Zeller said that a brief outline of what "Labor Ready" is is that there is like a meeting place and the workers go to that and they set them up with jobs so they have somewhere to go. They don't have to be standing out on the corner, they don't have to be having more traffic. Trustee Abato said that she is very familiar with that program and unfortunately the program does not work in a lot of areas and the reason being is because most of, if not all, of these men and women that are looking for work, if they were legal, they would obviously be applying for a job. So when you start dealing with an agency or someplace to send them, they get very nervous because they think they are being set-up. Mr. Zeller said okay, then why can't we set up an independent area for them to stand. Trustee Abato said they just don't go. That is the problem. Trustee Abato said we tried to set up English as a second language so that we can communicate with them and they don't go because they are too afraid that they are being set up and they are going to be taken away. So unfortunately, although the concept, she thinks, is fabulous because like you are saying you are getting them off the street, they have a place to go to, whatever, it just doesn't work because there are too many people who are pointing the finger at them and saying that they shouldn't be here and they want them out of their community so they get afraid. Trustee Abato said the second comment that she wants to make to him and she thinks is most disturbing to her more than anything is that you had somebody knocking on your window. Trustee Abato asked the Chief if we have ever had a complaint of them knocking on windows. Chief said no. Mr. Zeller said that he hasn't personally made any formal complaints, but yes, there are. Trustee Abato said on many occasions? Mr. Zeller said he has seen people go up to people who have 4 x 4 cars and walk near their car thinking they are picking them up for work when they are just waiting at the stop sign. Trustee Abato said that she has had people complain that they are on the street but she has never had them complain that anybody has approached them. Mr. Zeller said absolutely. He said he sees it himself at least once a week when he leaves. He said he leaves his home at approximately 6:30. On several occasions, yes, there is an officer parked at the intersection. Trustee Abato said that she was going to say that we are very aware. Mr. Zeller said yes, there are police, no doubt. But what he is saying is that we can set up a designated area where it is an option for them to go. This way we don't have people standing on the corner. He said he fears for business people who are coming, driving into our town just to take the bus so they can go to the city. Trustee Abato said right. The problem is that you can't make them go and the other problem is that standing on the road is not against the law. So like the Mayor said, we really can't, we're following the law, the Chief is aware and we are doing everything. The Mayor said we are addressing all our options. Trustee Abato said right, exactly. Mr. Zeller said that if we set up an independent area, like a youth center, if we open up the youth center say from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00, then we are

giving them. This way if there is, say, crime or problems with this issue then we can say as a town that hey, we opened ourselves up for the community. Trustee Abato said we can't bring them into a youth center. Mr. Zeller said that if we had an independent area. Trustee Abato said think about that. You couldn't bring them into a youth center.

The Mayor said that what he will do is that he will set up a meeting with Mr. Zeller and his father. He said he will meet them at 6:00 or 7:00 at night if you like. He said he knows he works. Mr. Zeller said he doesn't have a problem. The Mayor said we will sit down and he will tell them what we are doing, how we are addressing it and some of the options we are looking at and some of the avenues that we are going in with this. Mr. Zeller said that is fine. He has all confidence in the Board and in the police department. He just thinks that if we can possibly set up more avenues and open this to the people who are not just illegal but legal. The Mayor said that he lives a half a block from Mr. Zeller and he is concerned about his car and his belongings as well. Mr. Zeller said he would be honest with him. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, his mother heard someone at our back door. She then saw someone in my girlfriend's car. She thought it was me or my brother. The Mayor said that we had a guy over on the corner of Jersey Avenue and Ramapo and the federal marshalls came in and took him down, handcuffed him and dragged him away. And there was a lady on the bus stop at the other corner who was kind of shocked by it all. Mr. Zeller said that it is just also the issue that the people that pick up, these people that do work that maybe some people don't want to do which is understandable because they are trying to make money. It is also money which is under the table which a lot of people go out and spend on alcohol or drugs, which causes people not knowing where these situations are, which spirals down into other things. It is unfortunate that we have people from another state come into our town and our county which adds onto the problem. The Mayor said that we are not going to make illegal immigrants comfortable. We can ask the police chief if their bicycle is chained to a tree, we cut the lock off and we apprehend the bicycle. Mr. Zeller said that anything - maybe you can work with the Mahwah police department to prevent these contractors from coming into our town to prevent this kind of work. The Mayor said that we have had destruction and we dealt with it. And we are going to address anybody that shouldn't be in a place they shouldn't be like your backyard. And if you do see something like that, the quicker you call the police, the better. Because they are very quick in responding. They will be right over there. Mr. Zeller said absolutely. The Chief said we are addressing these concerns.

Adam DeStefano of 19 Prairie Avenue said he had two things to ask the Board. One with the computer security. He said he just wanted to know if there has been any update on that recently. The Mayor said that we have upgraded our computers and we have added security and we are also in the process of checking on a couple different computer companies to upgrade our computer system and at the same time to ensure that security in our system is the best out there.

Mr. DeStefano said the second thing is a topic that he brought up last month which was about asking the Board to look into speed humps for the Lonergan area. He said the reason is that he strongly feels this is needed because you can pass any law you want. Passing the law only states something. The message is only delivered when it is enforced. He said that he saw literally two hours ago a car which was in a complete accident. He said he doesn't know if the person who caused the accident was under the influence of any drug or if they just made a little error turning from Washington Avenue onto Boulevard head-on. Minor accident but he thinks that everyone here could agree that, thank God, that it wasn't a kid or an adult or someone walking trying to cross the street at that time and getting hit. If this happens on a road where there is absolutely no blind spot, then it brings a question as to what could happen in an area like Lonergan where there are blind spots and with nothing there to enforce the speed limit law, what is to prevent people from exceeding it and some child who might be playing at the park getting hit and killed. The Mayor said you are absolutely right. He said the problem is, number one, that we can't put speed bumps in every cul-de-sac, like the Knolls, Ramapo Cirque, Bon Aire, Stonegate. He said they do have a problem down at Lonergan Drive and he agrees with him. And we passed a law at one of our previous meetings to lower the speed limit going through there. The Mayor said he still thinks that 25 is too fast but that is as low as we can get it legally. Now as far as speed bumps, again, although speed bumps themselves may not be illegal to put down, they do present a liability problem whereas if a person goes over them and damages their car, they are going to come after the people that put the speed bumps down. So you will see them in places like behind Applebee's and some private areas up behind Somerset Drive where they are kind of private driveway areas, but on the local streets we have been advised against it not only by our police chief but by our Village attorney and others because of the liability factor which he thinks is the big issue here. Mr. DeStefano said that he just wanted to know that if they were doing the speed limit would their car be damaged. The Mayor said again, he agrees with him there, no, probably not. But as you know some of the new vehicles, the really costly vehicles, are very low as it is and some of them, no matter how fast they go over them, there is a chance that they could bottom out and to pay for a muffler on a brand new Porsche 911 Turbo Carrera, you are talking a lot of money. The Mayor asked the Chief if he wanted to add anything to that. The Chief said that we contacted Triple A and one street that may benefit from a speed bump would be Lonergan. He said that we are looking at all our options. The Mayor said the snow plows would be another issue as well. Mr. DeStefano said that he heard about the speed humps that you can remove so in the event of snow they would be very efficient and you wouldn't damage any plows and it might help save money from someone getting into an accident down there by just turning a blind spot too quick. The Chief said that we are checking to make sure that we wouldn't be liable.

Mr. DeStefano said that one thing he thinks we should look at is that there are 2 or 3 installed, permanent ones, instead of

removable ones and they are by the Middle School and there are two or three places on the side road on a public street to ensure that people didn't go speeding through there. Mr. DeStefano said it is by the Middle School. The Mayor said E. Mayer Driver. (The Chief could not be heard at this point). The Mayor said that he has seen these speed bumps down at Red Bank, NJ where they are ten feet long or twelve feet long where you are not really damaging your vehicle but you know you are on them. Trustee Abato said she doesn't like them. They are scary. The Mayor said he doesn't know how the snow plows handle them. The Chief said speed bumps are a better option. Trustee Abato said because you are talking about not long strips of road. You are talking about shorter, more curvier so speed bumps would probably make more sense anyway. The Mayor said at the same time the Chief has beefed up patrol in the Squires Gate area. He said he had a few complaints from one person over on Spicer and another one on Lonergan. We put in new stop signs. We put in new white lines at the stop signs. And some of the residents are saying enforce the law. And I told them that you have to realize that a lot of these people are your relatives in here doing this. And they said we don't care. The Mayor said so Chief is out there, the police are out there, and we are going to get a few of them and hopefully we get the ones that are repeat offenders.

**VILLAGE CLERK:**

**A) Approval of Minutes of Organizational Meeting - December 3, 2007:**

Village Clerk Virginia Menschner said the first item is approval of the minutes of the Organizational meeting of December 3, 2007. A motion approving the minutes was made by Trustee LaCorte, seconded by Trustee Haggerty. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**B) Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting - December 3, 2007:**

A motion approving the minutes was made by Trustee LaCorte, seconded by Trustee Haggerty. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**C) Request for Village of Hillburn to Purchase Surplus Fire Chief's Vehicle:**

Virginia Menschner said we have a request from Hillburn to purchase our surplus Fire Chief's car. That is a 2000. She said our mechanic, Mr. Hunt, recommended that when we were going to advertise for a surplus that we would ask for a minimum price of \$1000. A motion to sell the surplus Fire Chief's vehicle to Hillburn in the amount of \$1000 was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Haggerty. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**D) Letter - Suffern Chamber of Commerce - Request Dates for 2008 Street Fair:**

The Village Clerk said this is a request from the Suffern Chamber of Commerce requesting their dates for the Street Fair for 2008.

And the Street Fairs will be June 8, 2008, September 14, 2008, and October 12, 2008. Trustee Abato asked if those dates have been checked out with the other events so that we don't have any conflicts. The Mayor asked Mrs. Curtin if they were checked out. A motion approving the dates was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**E) Special Permit Request - Brook Estates - Build Three Homes on Brook Street:**

Attorney Rice said that as we talked about it, the narrative that they provided today he thinks is not sufficient and he thinks the appropriate action would be, if you want to move it along, to refer it to the Village Planning Board, the County Department of Planning, the County Drainage Agency but only after the applicant provides the following and that would be a narrative that not only describes as they somewhat have in the narrative that they provided today what they propose to do but also the matter in which they claim they comply with the standards of the special permit of which they are applying for. It is very difficult to have any idea as to how their application relates to the flood plain special permit standards without a narrative and description of it. Secondly, they should provide a survey or plot plan showing what they propose to do. They have provided that. And thirdly, they have separate environmental assessment forms for each of the three lots. There should be an environmental assessment form for the three cumulatively so that they are not trying to minimize whatever impacts there might be looking at it as a whole. Trustee Abato said she had a question. She asked if we should not have all that stuff before we refer it to the Planning Board. Attorney Rice said that what he is saying is that you can make a motion to not refer it out until all that material is received. The Village Clerk said they have been working with the Drainage Agency. Trustee Abato said that doesn't help us because we don't have a narrative. Attorney Rice said that in looking at this application, we really can't tell what they were doing. It is described somewhat in the narrative they provided today but again the reason there is a special permit requirement here is because it is in a floodplain overlay district and there is no ability to tell from what they have supplied as to how they comply or if they comply with the standards for the special permit under those circumstances. So Attorney Rice said he thinks that the material that he provided or suggest that they provide are necessary in order for the Planning Board and this Board to determine whether or not a special permit should be granted.

Trustee Meehan said could we make it contingent upon your approval. Attorney Rice said that he would say that the material that he suggested yes. But he would advise the Village Clerk when they provide this when to send it out. Trustee Meehan said that he would make a motion that we refer the permit once the requirements that Mr. Rice suggested are met.

Trustee Haggerty said that we should get more information. It is

taking away a lot of drainage for houses and he personally doesn't think we should approve it and he thinks we ought to make sure that the County is involved in it before it gets to the stages where they are going to start their construction. The Mayor said that he thinks that at this time we should hold off until we have more information. Trustee Abato said that Trustee Meehan just withdrew his motion.

**F) Resolution No. 2, 2008 - Authorize the Village of Suffern to Enter into an Agreement with the County of Rockland for the Purpose of Undertaking a Community Development Program:**

The Village Clerk said this resolution is authorizing the Village of Suffern to enter into an agreement with the County of Rockland for the purpose of undertaking a Community Development program.

RESOLUTION NO. 2, 2008

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF UNDERTAKING A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development of the United States is authorized, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, to make grants to states and other units of general local government to help finance Community Development Program; and

WHEREAS, Section 99-h of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York grants to any municipal corporation the power, either individually or jointly with one or more municipal corporations, to apply for, accept and expend funds made available by the federal government, either directly or through the State, pursuant to the provisions of any Federal law which is not inconsistent with the statutes or constitution of this State, in order to administer, conduct or participate with the Federal government in programs relating to the general welfare of the inhabitants of such municipal corporation; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, and any "Eligible Activities" thereunder are not inconsistent with the statutes or Constitution of the State; and

WHEREAS, a number of municipalities have requested Rockland's participation, and the County of Rockland has determined that it is desirable and in the public interest that it make application for Community Development Block Grant funds and HOME funds as an Urban County; and

WHEREAS, participation by the County of Rockland as an Urban County in the Community Development Program requires that the Village of Suffern and the County of Rockland cooperate in

undertaking, or assisting in undertaking, essential community development and housing activities, specifically those activities authorized by statutes enacted pursuant to Article 18 of the New York State Constitution.

WHEREAS, this Board deems it to be in the public interest for the Village of Suffern to enter into a Cooperation Agreement with the County of Rockland for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT Mayor John Keegan be and hereby is authorized to execute a Cooperation Agreement between the Village of Suffern and the County of Rockland for the purposes of undertaking a Community Development Program pursuant to the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended.

A motion approving Resolution No. 2, 2008 was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Haggerty.

The Village Clerk said this next item is the Police Chief and Lieutenant Nugent's contracts. Trustee Abato asked if we had to do them separately. Attorney Rice said yes, he would do them separately. He said we discussed what the terms are going to be on the Chief's contract and obviously that hasn't been put into contract form but it is subject to language that would be acceptable to the Village Attorney. A motion approving the Chief's contract was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Haggerty.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Village Clerk said the next one is the Lieutenant. A motion approving the contract subject to the language subject to the Village Attorney's approval as was discussed in the workshop was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee LaCorte.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Village Clerk said we have a damage claim from a Mr. Leo Mickaluck and it is for damage from a flower pot that fell on his car and the estimate comes to \$1094.08. As was discussed at the workshop, the Village of Suffern would pay half and the Chamber of Commerce will pay the other half. The Mayor said that we should pay

it and get the money from the Chamber of Commerce. Trustee Haggerty asked if he hit the pole and then it fell or did it just drop while he was parked there. Virginia said it fell while he was parked there. Trustee Haggerty said he didn't hit the pole. The Village Clerk said no. A motion to pay the entire bill and collect the half of the promised amount from the Chamber of Commerce was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee LaCorte.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT:**

Treasurer Tom Zordan said that as the police chief mentioned, he wants to request that we amend the budget in the amount of \$7,000. The two accounts that will be amended by equal amounts will be account 3089.0003 (other state aid) and account 4200.0003 (equipment - other) and he would like to have those amended both in the amount of \$7,000. Trustee Abato said she thought the amount of \$5800. Mr. Zordan said he is going to receive a grant of \$7,000 and at this time he is going to use \$5800 so we want to be able to spend that other \$1200 if need be. If it doesn't get spent, then that's okay. But you have to amend the budget in equal amounts. Trustee Abato said we can take the full amount although we are only using \$5800 of it. Mr. Zordan said we are only using \$5800 today but we might use - Trustee Abato said that it would still allow us to do that and spend it later. A motion authorizing the budget amendment was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee LaCorte.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Zordan said we have filed our annual report with the State of New York. Our interest earnings for the seven months ended December 31 was \$107,000. This is in line with last year. Based on his projections, we should exceed our budget of \$146,000. Trustee Meehan asked if he said by \$146,000. Mr. Zordan said no, it will exceed our budget of \$146,000. We paid \$651,967 to New York State for the pensions for the police and all other municipal employees and the Board voted on that last month. We received payment from Rockland County for our share of the mortgage tax receipts in the amount of \$140,537. This is down approximately \$15,000 from the previous payment and this is something that is beyond our control as everyone realizes because a lot less mortgages are being written

now, unfortunately. Mr. Zordan said that he will keep on top of that and hopefully it won't keep dropping.

Mr. Zordan said the rate charged by the Empire Plan, our medical insurance, increased effective January 1, 2008 but this increase was budgeted for so that should have no impact. Mr. Zordan said that he requesting that the Board authorize Barbara Cottiers and himself to attend the annual GFOA seminar in Albany, New York from April 2 to April 4, 2008. The cost to attend the seminar is \$140 each for the registration and \$264 each for two nights stay. In addition there will be a reimbursement for mileage and tolls. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Patricia Abato

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Of the \$1,354,000 in water and sewer billings from November, we have collected \$1,076,700 from December 31, 2007. This is in line with last year's collections. Mr. Zordan said that last month he had given the Board some brochures of Munitrax in regards to online bill payments. He was wondering if they had the time to look that over and would they be interested in having the company give a demonstration at our next workshop. The Mayor said that we are going to hold off on that right at the moment and we will make an arrangement sometime in the near future to have them come in and do a demo.

Mr. Zordan said we sent out \$520,485 of solid waste invoices on December 31. And the residents have started paying and he appreciates that. He said the budget worksheets will be distributed to all department heads on Wednesday, January 9. This will begin the budget process.

**MAYOR:**

The Mayor said that all he has is an announcement about our ice rink or Nice Rink as it is called. It is a portable ice rink that is about 75 feet long by 30 feet or 50 feet wide. It was set up over in Horton Field on the diamond. This year it is going to be set up at the big field down at the athletic fields. He said it should be set up tomorrow. It is going to be a nice day - 70 degrees to set up an ice rink, and hopefully it will freeze and we will get some ice skating in.

A motion to go into executive session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss personnel was made by Trustee LaCorte, seconded by Trustee Abato. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

In executive session, a motion was made to institute disciplinary charges against Carl Rossi pursuant to Section 75 of the Civil Service Law in accordance with the draft charges presented to the Board. The motion was made by Trustee Haggerty, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor John B. Keegan  
Trustee Andrew Haggerty, Trustee John Meehan

ABSTAIN: Trustee Patricia Abato, Trustee Dagan LaCorte

ABSENT: None

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee LaCorte. Upon vote, the motion was carried.