

Village Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 4, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Robert Morris
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

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

ABSENT: None

The Mayor thanked everybody for coming. She said unfortunately Monday night's snowstorm prevented us from having the Board meeting so here we are tonight.

SET DATES FOR MARCH MEETINGS:

The Mayor said the workshop will be set for Wednesday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m. and the Board meeting will be on Monday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Mike Stark said he only had one item on the agenda this evening. It is a new member for Suffern Hook & Ladder - Michael Barish who is 16 years old. A motion approving the new member was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Markunas. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

7:30 P.M. - CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING - 3 HOUR PARKING ON LAFAYETTE AVENUE:

Attorney Terry Rice said this is a proposal that the Chief proposed to the Board because there was some concern and some issues as to whether or not the two hour parking was sufficient and in the interim he understands there has been some opposition to it and the Board has that before them to complete the public hearing and to make a decision on it. The Mayor asked if anybody would like to speak with regards to the public hearing on three hour parking on Lafayette Avenue.

Chief Clarke Osborn said this came at the request of the Chamber of Commerce which he addressed to the Board several months ago. Since then he has spoken to several different parties involved from the Chamber. He said he doesn't think they know what they want to do so at this time he thinks it would be better if we hold off on it.

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

Trustee Byrne said he thinks at the last meeting to continue the public hearing he thinks he might have been part of the reason for that. He mentioned that he wanted to perhaps speak to some Chamber members and kind of get a feel for their opinion, which he has done since the last meeting. He said he doesn't think there is a lot of support for this at this time at least. So he would move to not approve the amendment that would allow three hour parking. The motion was seconded by Trustee Markunas.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Mayor said the motion is carried to not approve the three hour parking on Lafayette Avenue.

CULTURE AND RECREATION:

Mrs. Cathy Mills said upcoming we have Arty Time, an art class, for Seniors which will be at the community center tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. This Friday, February 6, they have the DARE Dance at 7 to 9 at the community center. They have a Girl Scout Troop tour of Village Hall on Friday, February 6 at 3:30. They have a Recreation board meeting on Thursday, February 12, in the community room. The Suffern Fire Department will be holding a Blood Drive on Wednesday, February 11 at the community center from 4 pm to 8 pm. There will be a Bingo fundraiser at the community center on February 22 from 12 to 4 pm. Mrs. Mills said she would like to confirm the dates given at the last Board meeting so Recreation can start to plan 2015 events. The Mayor said there were no conflicts with the dates. The Mayor asked if anybody had any exceptions with any dates. They are fine. Mrs. Mills said the last item she would like to mention tonight is that we have a resident, Stephanie Adwar, who would like to donate a piano to be used in the auditorium and she would like permission to discard the old piano. The Mayor said we can't just discard the old piano. We can't discard it. We have to declare it surplus and we will walk you through that process with regards to that. The Mayor said she needs a motion to accept the donation of the piano from Stephanie Adwar. A motion to accept the piano was made by Trustee Markunas, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried. The Mayor said thank you very much to Stephanie Adwar. A motion to declare our old piano surplus was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Mills said the next item she has on the agenda is the proposed fee schedule for 2015. She said to please feel free to comment on these fees. She said this was gone over as a need for bringing revenue into the Village for meetings that we currently have on Village sites. There are a few that are mentioned. We have Village Hall community room which is upstairs. We've got the Leo Lydon building and in that building there are two rooms. We have the auditorium which is here. We have the community center which is across the street. And then we have the pool. So she would like to discuss those items. The Mayor said that she would like to suggest that at the next workshop that the Trustees - because she doesn't think anybody is prepared to vote on the fees yet. Trustee Byrne said he thinks we should talk about it a little bit more. The Mayor said at a workshop, right? Trustee Byrne said it is certainly better than the first one - not better, don't get him wrong - and he likes the breakdown Mrs. Mills provided. But he would have a couple of questions as to why we are charging for Leo Lydon a little more than the community center. The Mayor asked if the Board had any objections to actually holding this over to be able to have a discussion at a workshop and then at the next Board meeting we can kind of see what our plan is going to be. Trustee Byrne said that is fine. The Mayor asked if anyone had any objection. There was no objection. Mrs. Mills said just as a note. For the community center it is \$50 per hour and Leo Lydon would be for the day of the request.

The Mayor said okay. We have two more minutes to our next public hearing. Since the attorney has nothing, we will go to the police department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Clarke Osborn said he had several informational items - nothing to vote on. In January they had 34 arrests and they issued 173 vehicle traffic stops in the Village. He said we have two new DARE officers that will be starting in the schools - Officer Craig Yustein and Officer Dan Kiernan. Chief Osborn said he just gave to Virginia a copy of our Village Emergency Operation plan. He said all he did was to change a few names. Chief Osborn said we will be having a DARE dance on Friday. He said he would like to amend the taxi law. He said they also have a prescription drug box downstairs. It is an old mailbox. And they would take all old prescription drugs to the Sheriff's department. He said the last thing that he had was that when we have emergencies - snow emergencies - in the Village - or informational items there is a program called Nixle. And if anybody wants to sign up it is free. Just go to your phone and dial 888777 and you put our zip code in and whenever information goes out it sends out an emergency alert. He said we have over 1000 residents on it at this point.

7:45 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING - AMENDING ZONING LAW AND ZONING MAP TO

REZONE PROPERTIES ALONG EAST SIDE OF ORANGE AVENUE AND NORTH SIDE OF CHESTNUT STREET:

The Mayor said it is now 7:45 p.m. and we have a public hearing. She will ask Rob Magrino to step in for Attorney Rice.

Attorney Magrino said this is a reapplication to amend the zone for Orange Avenue. The applicant has submitted basically an identical application that was before the Board last year. So the applicant will be coming up and just describing the project again. There are a couple of issues that have to be addressed by the applicant but we will leave that to them and we will talk and then open it up to the public and see what people have to say.

David Smith said he is a planning consultant to Orange Avenue Associates, the applicant. Joshua Goldstein, who is one of the members of Orange Avenue Associates is here tonight along with Ira Emmanuel, who is their project attorney. Mr. Smith said he knows the other day was Groundhog's Day and if you have ever seen the movie he feels like he is back here again to present an application you have heard several times before. The applicant is applying for a zone change for approximately a 1.4 acre assemblage of properties at the corner of Chestnut Street and Orange Avenue. The zone change would allow for the redevelopment of the property for what is called a Transit Development District to take advantage of the proximity of the site to the Suffern train station which is approximately 500 feet from the project site. The zoning would allow for multi-unit, multi-family, development. As you recall the development was submitted back in 2013. It was circulated to the planning board, to Rockland County Planning, and number of other interested and involved agencies and/or a number of comments with respect to the size and scope and density of the project. And at the time it was for 111 units and it was at a six story height. Since then the project has been modified to be 92 residential units with 51 being two bedroom units with one of those being a superintendent's unit. It would also provide 120 parking spaces on the site.

Mr. Smith said the plan, the conceptual site plan, is based on some prior planning conducted on behalf of the Village. There was an urban renewal plan that evaluated this particular site and he thinks it is important to note that during the course of this process the applicant found out that there was a property that had contamination issues in it and they have since applied to New York State under the Brownfield program for clean up of that property. So the redevelopment of these properties has a number of specific benefits with respect to clean up, providing for an on-site population that is a proximate distance, walking distance, to downtown and obviously each of those households has disposable income which they will, some portion, of which they will spend within the greater Suffern community. He said part of the transit-

oriented nature of the project - it is important that several components of the zoning include development where existing infrastructure is in place to support such development. Again the applicant went through a number of iterations with the architect to come up with a very distinguishable building program and it is important to also note that in the event that the Village eventually adopts the zoning they are still going to have to go to the planning board for specific site plan approval to work out specific details. And last in the creation of an enhancement of walking in the neighborhood and certainly he thinks that is an important component which is within a very short distance of your shopping district. This project represents a significant investment for Mr. Goldstein. There are a number of major hurdles to get the project out of the ground including property assemblage and environmental conditions that he has referenced. He said that in the edition that Mr. Magrino had referenced earlier it contains all the specific pieces of the environmental review that was requested by your planning staff from F.J. Clarke including an evaluation of how the proposed program could be applied and actually built on site. He said they included some conceptual level planning that evaluated the shadow impact when the buildings were slightly taller than they are now and there was a traffic impact study that was prepared and reviewed by the Village's consultant as well. With that that supplies the background of the proposed action with respect to the zone and he would be happy to answer any questions.

Ira Emmanuel said that he is the attorney for the applicant and they just wanted to bring up one other matter. David did a nice job of explaining what the zoning is about but we are of course aware that there is a PILOT agreement that is out there that is under discussion and which we know the Village Board is very concerned about and wants to make sure that that PILOT agreement is all proper. He said they have had some discussions, which the Board is aware, but there are some details that still have not yet been worked out and they want to make sure that they are comfortable with the details and they want to make sure that we are comfortable for the details. So while they are here for the public hearing, the public hearing had been scheduled, they would not be adverse to a continuation of the public hearing at the conclusion of the hearing for another time during which time they can get the details worked out. They want to make sure that we are absolutely comfortable with every aspect of this proposal before a vote is taken. So they just wanted to get out there in front so we are aware of that so that if we feel that we need additional time they certainly have no objection to it.

The Mayor asked if anybody would like to speak with regards to the zone change.

Michael Curley of 80 Orange Avenue said he has spoken many times on this issue. He said he thinks it is good for the Village. As we

look back to April 17 of last year, when we had our budget vote, we actually included the money from this building of \$280,000 into our budget. So we anticipated that for this year, right? So not only that but we anticipated the building fees for this budget into this year. Besides it being a good project for the Village he thinks it is just as important that we count on these things to keep us afloat. Right now, like many municipalities, it is tough times out there. And he thinks that money - the quicker we can get that done with of course following all the rules and all the laws - the quicker we can keep up with our payroll and actually pay the overtime to our employees that they deserve. It is a lot of money right now. It is a good project and as we all know - he is hearing - he didn't even read the *Ramapo Times* article but there was an article and they were talking about our situation and he has never, for the years that he has been coming to this meeting, he has never seen so many DPW workers here and it is because they have concern that they may not get paid in their overtime. He said you have the ability to say hey listen let's capture that money. Let's advance this Village. And he suggests heavily that we consider it and we consider it quickly. We have been voted as one of the best police department's in the whole country recently. We are like five out of 626. We have a fire department that he feels, and he is a retired firefighter from New York City, that is second to none. We have to have serious people with serious decisions right now. And it is a good project so don't hide from it. Let's be decisive. Let's care. We have to work to get our books back in better shape. But it's okay. It can be done. We have that project. For years he has been saying let's sell water. Let's sell it. And he will only say water again because not only will we be getting more services of the 280,000 for the sale of the building - that is the building right next to it. Not only will we be getting building fees in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. We will also be getting extra water fees. We will be getting extra services that help support the taxes that we are paying and it is shared a little more. So he is strongly behind this project. The only thing he would say is that he looked in Mr. Goldstein's car on the way in and his checkbook is in the back seat and he would try to get the checkbook before he leaves.

Jim Giannettino of 2 Memorial Drive said he just really has two questions. He said he mentioned 121 onsite spaces. Is that correct? Nothing about offsite any more? Mr. Giannettino said okay. He just thought maybe something was worked out. And his other question or suggestion is make sure all the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed. He said he doesn't think there is a rush to do it tonight when you see what it involves. Whatever you guys decide.

Patsy Wooters of Mansfield Place said she bought her house in 1982. She said she is fourth-generation in this area. Her family shopped in Suffern since 1898. She said she is strongly in favor of the Orange Avenue project. She said she never thought that she is on

the same side as Ira Emmanuel but lo and behold. She has done conservation advocacy since 2000 and that is because she wants to save the mountains and all the marbled salamanders in there. But this is where development should take place. And the problem that she sees that happened in the recent past is that people do not understand that engaging in payment in lieu of taxes agreements is routine business. It is not routine for you and me. You don't give me a payment in lieu of taxes agreement. But it is for business. And she thinks that politically we need to educate people - the voters need to understand that this is tax positive and it will help the Village and she thinks it is very, very important for the future of the Village going forward. She said she is on the downtown revitalization committee and people are very frustrated - if this doesn't happen, they are leaving. That is not her view. She remembers, many, many decades of Suffern - it comes and goes. It waxes and wanes. This is her home and she loves it here. And she does - she is a retired public servant and she wants to thank the DPW for all their service to the Village and she does believe that they should be paid for their overtime.

The Mayor asked if anyone else would like to speak. The Mayor asked if the Board members would like to speak. The Mayor said the applicant has indicated that a continuation may be warranted here because there are some more details that need to be worked out with regards to the PILOT program in addition to some of the property legalities that they are having. So she guesses she would need either a motion to vote or a motion to continue the public hearing.

Trustee Markunas asked if he could say something before we move ahead. The Mayor said sure. Trustee Markunas said should there be, since this project and the zone change application and PILOT agreement have been in place for a lengthy time now - is there some time constraint that we can put on this or are we just going to adjourn it or table it to next month. The Mayor said no, we have to do it to a date specific. Trustee Markunas said date specific. The Mayor said correct. Trustee Markunas said okay. The Mayor said she doesn't know what the Board's pleasure is. If they would like to continue it or if they want to close it and vote or - she would need a motion to one effect or the other.

Attorney Magrino asked if he could weigh in maybe he could be helpful. He said as Mr. Emmanuel said the PILOT - there is an issue with respect to the PILOT and some other issues that arose really just this past week that they were trying to get passed and it just wasn't ready for tonight because he thinks all of those things need to be in place before the Board goes ahead and votes on the zone change. He said he thinks in principle generally speaking there will be something for the Board to vote on next time. He said he is speaking with their - they have a special attorney with respect to the PILOT. And we are also consulting with somebody with respect to the PILOT so he thinks that by the next time this is on at the next

Board meeting there will be a PILOT ready to go and a negative declaration if necessary and everything will be in order. Because he thinks the PILOT details still need to be smoothed out a little bit it is just not ready to roll tonight. The Mayor said it is just language issues, correct? Mr. Magrino said correct. The Mayor asked Mr. Goldstein if there was any specific timeframe that he could offer to the Board that you think would be necessary for you to have all of these things in place. Mr. Goldstein said at the latest a month from now or anytime before. He said he doesn't know when the next scheduled Village Board meeting is but again he would agree with Mr. Markunas that he does not want this to drag out for another thirty days - more than thirty days, let's put it that way. The Mayor said so March 2 would be agreeable? Mr. Goldstein said yes, that would be agreeable, yes. The Mayor said so a date specific if that is the Board's pleasure would be March 2. A motion for the continuation of the public hearing to March 2 at 7:45 p.m. was made by Trustee Markunas, seconded by Trustee Morris. Upon vote, the motion was carried, with Trustee Byrne abstaining.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

The Mayor said before Mr. Sawicki begins she just wanted to commend him and his department of public works for the tremendous job they did during the past two snowstorms. She said she knows there was a lot of long hours and his guys went above and beyond to ensure the safety of this Village and she, as the Mayor, said she was proud to have each and every one of them working here and they did such a phenomenal job. She received many, many wonderful e-mails and phone calls from residents just commending just how wonderful they did - Squires Gate was very happy and she knows that was an extra effort that they put in there. It is a difficult situation down there and again they went above and beyond and she just wanted to take the opportunity while she had them all here to thank them very, very much for all that they did. Mr. Sawicki thanked her.

Trustee Markunas said he also agrees with the Mayor and that he experienced the snow plow operation directly with Joe. He was out on the road with him and he also applauds for their hard work, their continued hard work. He thanked them.

A) Application for Payment:

Mr. Sawicki said he was requesting authorization for application for payment #7 in the amount of \$152,076 to Northeast Remsco Construction for the general construction portion of the WWTP digester upgrade project. The Mayor said as always Mr. Sawicki knows she asks did he pass this through Mr. Genito. Mr. Sawicki said yes, he has had discussions with Michael and this was something that we also discussed at the workshop. A motion to authorize the payment was made by Trustee Byrne. Trustee Morris said he was confused. If we have no money how are we going to pay.

Mr. Sawicki said this is part of the sewer fund which is a capital - there is a bond which we have in place. He said he could have Michael speak on it more in detail. Mr. Genito said the money for the WWTP was raised by bonds and the only thing you can spend that money on is the improvements for the WWTP. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

B) Application for Payment:

Mr. Sawicki requested payment authorization for application for payment #3 in the amount of \$19,071.18 to HVS, LLC for the electrical portion of the WWTP digester upgrade project. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

C) Authorization for Training:

Mr. Sawicki said he had a training item here which we discussed during the workshop. Unfortunately the Board meeting was canceled and this is to get formal authorization for Mr. Don Tuscano, the WWTP Chief Operator, to attend a NY Water Environment Association training. The training is offered in New York City February 2 through the 4th, which is today. This training satisfies the NYS DEC requirements with the cost of \$325. Trustee Byrne asked if he attended. Mr. Sawicki said yes. Trustee Morris asked how did he attend it if we didn't approve the expenditure. Mr. Sawicki said we discussed it at the workshop and he believes - actually what happened was the meeting was canceled again - the Mayor said on Monday - so we anticipated dealing with it on Monday but now we are here on Thursday. Trustee Morris asked if this was the only training class. Mr. Sawicki said Mr. Tuscano is the chief operator. He needs to get 80 hours - Trustee Morris said what he asked if that was the only class that was available. Mr. Sawicki said that is one of the classes that is available. He needs to get 80 hours before June 2016. Trustee Markunas asked how many hours does he

currently have. Mr. Sawicki said this training will provide 9 hours and that is all he has currently. Trustee Morris said 80 hours by June and he only - he actually has no hours then. This class will give him 9 hours. Mr. Sawicki said right - 9 - that is right. Trustee Morris said it is highly unlikely that he will make the required 80 hours. Mr. Sawicki said he is going to make the 80 hours because if he doesn't he is going to lose his license - the Mayor said 2016. Mr. Sawicki said he will make the 80 hours. The Mayor said it is 2016. June 2016. Mr. Sawicki said right. Trustee Morris said what he is saying is that we had two years to do this so there was no critical necessity to do it now given our financial position. Mr. Sawicki said the problem that we had at the WWTP - we just finished executing two major capital projects and that is one of the reasons why he has no hours because he has been very - directly involved with these capital projects. Trustee Morris said he understands all of that. Obviously you are having a problem understanding that we have no money. Mr. Sawicki said he doesn't have a problem with that at all. Trustee Morris said well you went ahead and sent him. Mr. Sawicki said one thing that he thinks he mentioned to him and Trustee Markunas is a plan - you have to put a plan together. And a plan is not just not to spend. We need to keep the Village going. So we need to provide services and we need to continue to do certain things to keep things running. Trustee Morris said you are absolutely right. But this wasn't one of those plans that had to be done at this time without the Board's approval and this is not the first time that you have gone ahead and done something on your own and not followed the guidelines that the Mayor put down. The Mayor said this is a discussion for another time Trustee Morris. Let's get back to the issue at hand. The Mayor asked if she had a motion to approve Mr. Tuscano going to the course that he needs for his continuing operator's license and the further requirements of the DEC. Trustee Byrne said the only thing that he would suggest that being that had we had our Board meeting on Monday, it would have been his first day of attendance so he is not sure how much before that you knew about it. Could we have approved it a month before would have been a better practice. Mr. Sawicki said you are absolutely right. He said he did communicate to everyone that needs to take the training for their operator's or other licenses that he really needs to have this in advance. Sometimes it is just difficult to do that because a lot of times these training opportunities aren't made known until the last minute and as a result they come to him with very short notice. Trustee Byrne said with that comment he would make the motion to approve the payment understanding that he has already attended so someone has to pay for it. He said he assumes that we don't want him to pay for it personally and a better practice in the future is that we have at least a month's notice when practical. But he will make the motion. The Mayor said that she just also wants to mention that in the workshop Charles did bring this up and there was no discussion at that time that the Board would have any problem knowing that the evening of the first day of his class - at that

time somebody might have said hey you know what the Board meeting is not until at night and if he is going to start in the morning we shouldn't be doing this. But nothing of that was raised. Trustee Byrne said unfortunately he was sick that night or he would have said it. The Mayor said yes. She said you weren't there and she just wanted to let him know that absolutely no one on the Board expressed any concern that they wouldn't be approving this. Trustee Markunas said there was a concern in regards to the number of hours, the required hours, and the number of hours that the member has - currently has - which was not fulfilled which Trustee Markunas requested. Once again bad practice and he agrees that he doesn't believe that the member of the department should pay. The Mayor said yes, she doesn't either and she thinks that at the workshop was the time to be able to express that you were not in favor. That you should have not allowed Mr. Sawicki to put it on the agenda because you weren't happy with the fact that he would need to go to school in the morning and in fact our Board meeting would be at night. So going forward we will make sure that that happens. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: Trustee Robert Morris

ABSENT: None

D) Accept Resignation:

Mr. Sawicki said he had one last item. He is requesting the Mayor to accept the resignation of Street Department laborer Elkin Escobar effective January 30, 2015. The Mayor said he regretfully accepts and wishes Mr. Escobar the best of luck in his future endeavors. A motion to confirm was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Scott Brown, Village of Suffern CSEA president said for information purposes here to the Village Board if the Village Board would like to address the CSEA members, membership or member on a labor management issue they should go through him. He said he has a Village e-mail address and he is willing to give anyone his phone number that if they request it they can call him. He said that that being said at the last meeting he got up here and he thanked the Board members for their honest and open informational meeting they had with them at the Village garage. After the last couple of days here it has come to light that the Board members have not been completely honest with the Village employees here. He said he could go into specifics and he would rather not but if it comes up he is

willing to answer the questions. He said the thing being labor management issues are built on honesty. If you can't have a conversation that goes back and forth without I don't know, I forget and flat out just not telling the truth this is not a way to operate this Village of Suffern. He thanked the Board.

John Mallon, PBA president, said he is here to address the Board for the non-payment of overtime work and he is going to explain it. He said yesterday afternoon he was informed by the Mayor that they would not be getting paid overtime for the pay period. She explained that there was a Board meeting and that Trustees Markunas, Hagen and Morris had voted down a bond resolution. As a result the Village could only afford to pay regular payroll, not overtime. Mr. Mallon said after speaking with the Mayor he called Ed Markunas and asked him what happened. He told him that he had no idea that they were not getting overtime. That was news to him. He explained that he was unable to get the number - a number - of the amount of money that they had from the Mayor or Mr. Genito as to the cash on hand. He needed this to vote on how much we needed. Trustee Morris told him that even if the bond were approved the money wouldn't be available for this pay period. That sounded like a reasonable explanation. Mr. Mallon said he went down to the DPW to talk to them to calm them down saying that there was a reasonable explanation for this. At the DPW he was informed that the Village could have taken money from the water fund but needed the bond resolution to do so. Ed Markunas called Joe Hunt while Mr. Mallon was there and told Joe the water fund was never discussed except for the Mayor yelling it out when she was leaving the Board meeting. Since this time he has gotten a hold of the Board meeting minutes and it showed that Trustee Markunas misled him - that he in fact knew that there was no overtime being paid out. And purposely didn't let him know about the ability to borrow from the water fund. So this looks as though with full knowledge he voted not to pay the overtime rightfully earned. This is a clear violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the PBA will be filing an action against the Village seeking compensation and penalties. He said he knows that Trustee Markunas is new to this but intentionally misleading the union is a poor practice and you need to go a long way before you get our trust again.

Mr. Mallon said there is another issue he has. He said you have an outstanding matter with the sick time buyout. It was due on 1/31. He said he talked to Trustee Markunas yesterday and he said he had no knowledge of this.

Mr. Mallon said there is a third thing also. There is a lieutenant that had a buyout who was in their union for twenty five years. He retired based on this buyout. He has a family with a wife and three kids and he hasn't been paid a penny from the buyout - not a penny. So Mr. Mallon said he thinks they should address that. He asked if there were any questions and if anybody disagreed with him.

Billy Riccaldo, Southern Region president for CSEA said he surely has plenty of time in Suffern. He said he was taken aback when he got a phone call about the issue in not paying the overtime. And he was also briefed on the bonds and the reason why the Trustees said they didn't get enough information. In listening to his colleague over here he said he sees that we have a long way to go to get some trust with both groups to move forward. And there is no way you should be playing politics with the livelihood of the employees or the residents of Suffern. And he thinks they are starting off with a bad tone. He said he really would like to see this Board move forward. He doesn't want to go backwards to the time we had with a Mayor who we were fighting with constantly over rules and regulations. And especially with this water plant. He said he can remember back then when no money was spent by the Mayors to keep this plant going. And the money wasn't spent in the Village to make it look appropriately because they either wanted to keep a surplus and not even pay their employees for overtime. He said he remembers them changing shifts. He said he is going to tell them. If we have to battle we are going to battle but he doesn't think that is the way we want to go and he sure doesn't want to go that way. But you know what. We are not going through this again and we are going to do whatever we can to stop it and we will file whatever we have to file to move forward on this. He thanked them.

Jim Giannettino of 2 Memorial Drive said he totally agrees that anybody who works, whether it is regular time or overtime, that they should be paid. He said he doesn't think anybody in this room has a problem with that. Now let's lay out a few facts. He said at last Thursday's workshop meeting there was a reference to we need to float a bond. No specifics were brought out at that meeting by the Mayor. Why and if and when did you know you couldn't pay these employees. The Mayor said she believes Mr. Genito was at the workshop and did explain all of the bonds and what they were for and why. Mr. Giannettino said he thinks she is wrong but we won't argue that. He said he asked her when she knew there wasn't sufficient money to pay the employees. The Mayor said Mr. Genito let the entire Board know by e-mail. She said she didn't know the exact date - she didn't have the e-mail in front of her - that in fact the cash flow was very serious and in fact there was a risk of payroll not being made. The Mayor said she did not have an exact date and she didn't want to guess. Mr. Giannettino said okay, he didn't want her to guess. He said he could not understand and he has been in her seat how she as the Chief Operating officer and the Chief Financial officer did not know that we were getting into these dire straights and to say that these new Board members who were in office 66 days should have known, should have voted. Mr. Giannettino said she has to funnel them the information. You have been on this Board for 9 years and 66 days. If you don't know how it works we have a serious problem.

He said moving on. Mr. Giannettino said after the meeting on

Thursday - the Mayor said something - Mr. Giannettino said no you can answer me when I'm done now. The Mayor said excuse me - this is my meeting. Mr. Giannettino said oh, okay. No, it is the people's meeting. The Mayor said no, this is my meeting and this is my meeting with the people - Mr. Giannettino said okay, go right ahead - and what she wanted to say to him was that each and every Board member on this Board Mr. Genito has had extensive conversations, has given extensive information. It is not news to anyone of them. They ran their campaigns on fiscally stressed. So this is no surprise to anyone and Mr. Genito has done an outstanding job to keep the Board apprised of where we needed to go forward to restore the financial health of this Village. Mr. Giannettino said he agrees that Mike does an outstanding job. The Mayor said so please go on. Mr. Giannettino said he will go on. He said you knew the straights of this Village last Thursday at the workshop - if you didn't know it before which he finds hard to believe. You should have called the emergency meeting the following day, supplied them the bank balances, the bond issues, the bond documents and had a vote with everybody who would know the intelligent information. The bond would have passed, the people would have gotten paid. Not on Tuesday and hoped you get the money by pay day on Friday. He said that is really all he has to say.

The Mayor said as she stated Mr. Genito has been in contact with the Board. Again has done an outstanding job in doing his due diligence to make sure that we travel in a good direction and there is no one on this Board that he left out. Everyone was very much aware of the financial conditions of the Village. Mr. Giannettino said what does any of that have to do with the fact that you knew or should have known there was not enough money to pay all these people. You should have called your emergency meeting the following day. You would have got a vote if you had the information on finances and the bond issue and the vote would have been taken. The vote would have passed. And nobody would have had to come out here tonight. They would have gotten their checks. So don't blame Board members. You are in charge. The Mayor said she is not blaming anybody. What she is telling him is that under the advice of Mr. Genito who indicated that at the Board meeting he would like to bring these bond resolutions after he was done and was convinced that he had gotten good information from bond counsel and our financial advisors. Again, at the workshop he did explain all of it and again there was absolutely no questions from the Board at that time or any feelings that they needed more information because Mr. Genito was right there to be able to give it to them. She thanked him.

Michael Curley of 84 Orange Avenue said the whole basis - he said one of the last elections we had in this Village was probably one of the dirtiest ones he has ever seen. The whole basis of the people who ran was the financially stressed Village that we have. So this was not a hidden thing. This was not that we need a long-

term plan to adjust things, to sell Orange Avenue, to sell water. To do many different things. As a matter of fact at the last Board meeting, which he missed, Matt Byrne gave a speech where he talked about the stress of the Village. This was not some hidden secret. You can go look at the minutes, okay? And he is sure he knew. People have known. People have been told. We all knew it. All you had to do was read *The Journal News*, read the state report. So this was not a secret. So there was a meeting whenever you guys had it. And now all of a sudden no one knows anything? Well he understands why Mr. Morris may not know. He was in Florida for two or three weeks. He was away. So it's okay, alright. So you just went - you just cost this Village thousands of dollars because you chose not to take that vote. As a matter of fact two people were not at that workshop the other day. Right. Tell the people where you were. Have the courage to tell the truth. Two people on that Board weren't at that meeting. So it is kind of tough because they are there to take their paychecks when you have the responsibility to be at the workshop and the meeting for the people and even do other things too. He said he just watched you - in some form berate a man over 325 and maybe technically he was wrong for not getting a vote first. But you didn't go see him last week. That's right. You were in Florida while these guys were shoveling shit and shoveling snow at 2 and 3 in the morning. You were in a nice warm sun. And God Bless you. You have a right to go away. He said he hopes he doesn't go away anymore this winter. He hopes he stays here with us in the cold weather. So if there is a problem you can talk to your constituents, okay? That is pretty important to him. Mr. Curley said so everybody knows about what he said about the stressed Village so the \$325,000. He said he is telling them what that PBA delegate just said to you and this other gentleman just said to you - you just cost this Village thousands. And he will show them after the litigation happens. So he would think let's get on our horse. If you have to have a meeting on Saturday, have it this Saturday, okay? If you were to have taken that vote Tuesday it would have gone out to bond counsel, you would have had your money quick and you would have had the payroll done. It would have been in. Go look at history and see how long it takes. Everyone ought to get paid. This is not imagination. Everyone knows that we have situations. But it is long-term situations. So we have - let's make believe this Village has 3 million dollars in debt between water, sewer and expenses, okay? The value of this Village is 40 million - we have a water and sewer department worth tens of millions of dollars. That is what is there right now. So if we have to spend \$325 and because he did it late, and technically you are wrong sir, but in the spirit of what is done he was right to protect this Village. So while you are there in the sun enjoying it you make that vote again and if you make a mistake just do it. Spend the \$325 and protect the water of this Village.

Beth Barone of Mansfield Place said she and her husband moved to this Village about 9 years ago with a view that it was an up and

coming Village - very beautiful and on its way to progress. Since then consistently she has seen a Board that doesn't work together, continued in-fighting, continued politics played over and over. She said she doesn't see development. She sees businesses downtown using signs from businesses that were ten years ago. She sees the Village continuing to go down. So what is important is that the Board has to work together. We need to understand as Village residents that you have a plan to pay the workers that did the work for us to get us out of the snow the other day. We have additional snow coming. So can somebody answer that question tonight? Do we have a plan to pay the people? She said is there no plan?

Trustee Morris said the Mayor is the Chief Fiscal officer for this Village and it is her decision. The Mayor said it is not her decision. It is the Board's decision. Trustee Morris said it certainly is. He can't sign the check. Nobody on this Board can sign the check. The Mayor said but she can't sign a check until you approve it. The Mayor said to answer Mrs. Barone's question. Yes, there is a plan in place and Mr. Genito has worked - it has taken him over the last eight or nine months to sort out the finances of the Village. He has done a thorough investigation as best as he can in his position to address where the shortcomings are and has gone out to bond counsel and financial advisors to begin the process of restoring the financial health of the Village. The first step in that plan which he has explained both by e-mail and at workshops and at meetings with various different department heads that the first step in doing that is to do some short term borrowing. And what that would entail is two bonds and a RAN that was the three things that were supposed to be voted on at the emergency Board meeting on Tuesday. Mr. Genito had asked that it be voted on Monday night. Unfortunately, the meeting had to be canceled due to the storm. He contacted her immediately and said Mayor we need to have an emergency Board meeting first thing Tuesday morning, which she did. Part of the plan also which has been explained to the Board is after the short term borrowing we had a problem where the Treasurer did not complete our 2013 audit. When Mr. Genito came in he found that the Treasurer dropped the ball on the audit as well as the auditors so he had to pick up where he left off. He had to reconcile bank records for many years. It was a very large undertaking. So it took some time. So Mr. Genito began by recognizing that in the short term we had a cash flow problem and that is an immediate concern that we needed to address immediately. And that is where the borrowing came from for the emergency meeting. Going forward from there what the Village - Mike has laid out - as part of the plan is to do long term borrowing. And it is called a long term deficit bond. And it is actually something that is very well received by the state comptroller's office. It is something that is much like the county has done where you put a plan into place over an amount of years - let's say ten years - and what you take is that short term borrowing including - which would also include the deficit that we have, that we are not actually

bonding right now, and what you do is that you couple that all together. So when you do the long term borrowing it will pay off that short term borrowing and now you will be in a long term borrowing for ten years which allows you now to put a good sound budget in place going forward. And the great part of the plan is when you are in this deficit bond process over the next ten years you have to send in reports to the state comptroller's office. So they know what is going on. It is not as though it is just kind of flying off by its own but there is kind of some sort of oversight of our plan going out ten years. So it is not just a Treasurer who may or may not have done his job. But it is a Treasurer who is going to do his job and the state comptroller is going to make sure that he or she does. So it is a good plan. Where right now we don't have our budget numbers together. We have just given out our worksheets to the department heads. She said she has asked Mr. Genito to please sit with the department heads because she feels as though there is room for some improvement with the way the budget process goes and the department heads conception of how to budget properly. Mr. Genito has already implemented many changes which have really helped. She said she has had the department heads come to her and say this makes more sense. I can budget better. So we are in a positive - we are going in a very positive direction. The other thing is that she has been in talks with - very serious talks - about the possibility of selling our water. She said she is looking at our assets. Things that we can do to bring in more revenue. So there is a lot of things that are in the works and she is working very closely with Mr. Genito to ensure that going forward we do have a good financial and sound plan.

Mrs. Barone said it is good to see the long term vision. The Mayor said correct. Mrs. Barone said hopefully everybody will work together to resolve that. The Mayor said yes, absolutely. Mrs. Barone said we have a short term problem that has to be resolved to get everybody through the winter and get the DPW paid. The Mayor said that is correct. Mrs. Barone said she is hopeful that you have an alternative that you will present this evening. Trustee Byrne said he thinks she will hear that when she gets to number 8 on the agenda which is about the borrowing.

Billy Riccaldo said he would like to say that the Mayor laid that out very diligently and very right. A lot of counties and towns are doing that with the long term. One of the things he is sure this Village doesn't want is a financial control board and he is sure that some of the attorneys know what that is and can explain it. But if he remembers right - and somebody was just talking to him again - he believes there was supposed to be a plan in place by the former Treasurer and he doesn't remember his name and he knows that he was hired by the previous Mayor here. He said there are a lot of things that went wrong. There are a lot of things that we have to straighten out. And he thinks if you look positive we can do it together and make this right instead of a wrong. The Mayor said she

agrees and thanked him.

Michael Sanford of 10 Interstate Street said he just had a couple of questions for the Board members. He said Trustee Markunas and Trustee Morris - he said he hasn't heard them tell us that no one wanted to vote for this bond. He said he reads things. He reads things. Everybody has time to tip off *The Journal News* and tell them what is going on in the Village but as a taxpayer he wants to know what's the reason. If there is one he would like to know and he thinks that everybody here would like to know what was the reason for a no vote. He said also his other comment to Mr. Morris was that it is great to beat up Mr. Sawicki over \$325 but this is where we get into these problems. Don't do it now - we don't have money. So then when he comes back next year and he has to take an employee out of work for two weeks to do the 80 hours and he gives you a \$3000 bill we are still going to pay it. So it doesn't seem to make sense to him to keep telling him don't do it now. We don't have money. Because now this is what we are going to end up with next year again. So that's it. That is his other comment and he just urges the Board maybe to try to work together because all he sees is it has been 66 days and it is quick to point the finger at the Mayor and say it is her problem with the budget but okay then what are we doing to fix it. Instead of playing politics and going to the paper and grinding everything to a halt. Can we get a Board that works together and tries to correct the problem and move forward. He thanked them.

VILLAGE CLERK:

The Village Clerk had nothing to report.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

The Mayor said before we actually take a vote, she would actually like to just give you something that was in the paper today which was incorrect and she would like to make sure that we go on record in saying that *The Journal News* reported Mr. Markunas as stating that all four of the Trustees voted not to vote on the bond resolution. She said that is not the case. Mr. Byrne was not in favor of not voting on the bond. So it was just Mr. Markunas, Mr. Morris and Mr. Hagen who voted together not to go forward and vote for the bond. So she just wanted to make sure that we are clear on where the Board stands.

Treasurer Michael Genito said we have two resolutions that were prepared by our bond counsel. One is to authorize the issuance of a budget note. One is to authorize the issuance of a Revenue Deficiency Note and the third one is to authorize the issuance of a Sewer Revenue Anticipation Note. He said he would explain what all three notes are.

Mr. Genito said a budget note is a note where it has been determined that when looking at the budget certain expenditures were not anticipated at the time that the budget was adopted and as such we look to bring in some money to cover that deficiency. The second one, a revenue deficiency note, is on the other side of the budget where certain revenues were indicated in the budget and those revenues have not been received and it is unlikely that they may be received by the end of the fiscal year, which is May 31, 2015. And the third note, the sewer revenue anticipation note - we have done that before. These are notes where we have billed residents for sewer and those revenues are coming in but we need the cash sooner than the revenue will actually arrive.

The Mayor said okay. We will do one at a time.

A) Resolution to Authorize Issuance of Budget Notes:

The Mayor said the first is a resolution to authorize the issuance of a budget note in the amount of \$600,000. Trustee Morris said he had a question. The Mayor said we have to have a motion and a second and then we can have discussion. A motion to authorize the issuance of a budget note in the amount of \$600,000 was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Markunas.

Trustee Morris said to Mr. Genito that all these bonds that he is asking for we discussed the other day. And you gave some honest opinions as to why they are necessary. Trustee Morris said this isn't a problem that originated two weeks ago. It is a problem that originated years ago. And if he is not mistaken, we talked about it. We have a cash flow problem because all of our short term debt keeps piling up and it's eating up the cash and that is putting us in a hole where we don't have the cash to meet payrolls. Trustee Morris said these bonds, and he asked him this question at the meeting, and he said aren't we doing the same thing that we have done for years that has led us, whether the Village wants to hear it or not, we are on the verge of bankruptcy. But he asked him if this is what led us up to this issue. And your answer was yes. Poor management, poor practices, poor spending, no accountability, etc., etc., etc. And that is how we came to agreeing with these bonds. And he believes he asked Mr. Genito the question aren't we just contributing more if we keep doing the same thing and your answer at that time was we have no option. During that discussion, Trustee Morris said he asked Mr. Genito how much money - just so he sets the stage right - he got an e-mail from him on February 2 in which you sent us all an e-mail advising us that there is a serious problem. It was more serious than when we had previously discussed this a few weeks earlier. There was no mention in that e-mail of the payroll - he said he is sorry. He said we have gotten to the point where there may not be enough cash to meet payroll this week. This was on Monday when Village Hall was closed and you told us that you couldn't make that definite answer because the hall was

closed and you couldn't get the answers. The next day, at the meeting, we asked you do you have - the question came up that we were going to be short. And the question came up how much are we going to be short. And you told us we probably can't pay the overtime. And at that time Mr. Morris asked him - wait a minute - mind you we still hadn't gotten any dollar figures as to what was in there and what wasn't. This was at 9 o'clock in the morning and we didn't get a cash value until 2:30 in the afternoon or so. Long after the meeting. He said he asked him - he said we have \$646,000 in the water fund, he thinks it is. If we are short \$40,000 or \$50,000 - can't we take it from there? And your answer to him was if it is in the minutes of the meeting. That is not a good idea. That is what got us in trouble in the first place. Trustee Morris said he is not an accountant so he trusts his judgment and it makes sense to him completely. It's exactly what got us into the problem. And we discussed then going to the longer term financing. But as of the meeting on the 3rd, at 9 o'clock in the morning, the treasurer, the Mayor - nobody can tell us how much money was had in this Village. How much we were going to be short on payrolls. And when the subject was brought up of moving money from one fund to another to cover the overtime shortfall that was met with disapproval. Mr. Genito said to let him address a few things to begin with. First of all the money or the resolutions that are before you are for notes - not bonds. Notes are short-term debt that is only issued for a period of a year as opposed to a bond which is typically five, ten, fifteen, twenty years or more. So he just wants to clarify that for everybody here. The second thing is you mentioned the meeting that took place and that you didn't have the information. He said he believes that our deputy treasurer was present with a cash balance sheet at that time. Mr. Genito said she was not present? Trustee Morris said she was present but she didn't have a cash balance at that time. Trustee Markunas said she didn't have an accurate cash balance. Trustee Morris said she had to go back and look at the books. Mr. Genito said to let him explain what he said at that meeting as well. At that meeting he said that the cash balance in the bank changes on a daily basis because we are not quite sure what clears or what comes in so we have daily cash balance sheets which our deputy treasurer does take on into account on a regular basis. Monday he received a - and everything was closed - but the deputy treasurer must have come in because she sent him by e-mail the cash balance sheet for that day which he distributed to the Board and that showed that we had something like \$450,000 in the general fund. And we also mentioned that there was \$175,000 that was due for health insurance that would be coming out of that money. So short of any unknown revenues that might come in - when he says unknown it could be something from the state which sometimes they will send mortgage tax or sales tax or something without telling us in advance and they just wire it in. So he wanted to be as accurate as possible. There was a cash balance sheet that was accurate as of he believes the 30th but may not have been as accurate as we had wanted it to be on the 2nd to see if

anything else was there. So the question as to whether we could take the money out of the water fund - he said yes we could but it is not a good practice to do that. He said he didn't say we wouldn't do it to avoid paying overtime. The one thing that we mentioned about these notes and the importance of them is to give that short term borrowing that we need to get us through as much as possible and as far into May 31, which he also mentioned to the Board we may not even be able to get there with this. That we are going to have to take other dramatic drastic actions to help control our costs until that time and hope that we can somehow get revenues in that can help us survive to May 31. He said he also mentioned that beyond that date the Village would have at least another tax levy out in June that would bring cash into the Village and as you know the entire Board was aware that the plan is to go through short-term borrowing in the form of a bridge loan, if you will, to get us to the point where we can go to the long term deficit bonding that the Mayor previously mentioned. And we have been working for many weeks with our bond counsel, financial advisors and auditors on the proper way to do that so that we maximize what we can do and once we stabilize the Village finances to the point that we don't have to worry about an emergency shortage of cash we can then move on and we will be moving on to better management in terms of financial decisions and budgets and things like that. Mr. Genito said that one thing that he will say to the entire Board here is that he has been keeping the Board apprised of the results of what is going on in the Village. And he thinks both Trustee Markunas and Trustee Morris you met with him in mid-December and we went over the finances of the Village. At that time he presented to the both of them and he presented to the other Board members as well copies of the auditors management or comment letters that came out from the 2011 and 2012 audits which he understood that the Board had not seen prior to him asking them about them. Mr. Genito said he was able to get them from the auditors of the Village who said they had sent them to the Village but somehow they never got to the Board. So that he shared with the Board to explain beyond himself an objective viewpoint that was done a couple of years prior to him even coming in here that talked about the issues before the Village back then.

Mr. Genito said the other thing that he did mention to the Village - to the Board - over this period of time that he has been here is that he does believe that the problems seriously started to begin in 2010. In that year that was the first year that the Village borrowed revenue anticipation notes for water and sewer. What are those revenue anticipation notes. It means even though you budgeted to have money this year to work with the cash isn't coming in and your spending is beyond your cash coming in. So you have to borrow ahead to next year's revenues or the revenues that will come in in the next period. That is not a good practice and if you have to do it you hope to put in the budget for the next year a way to pay that off so you can then get back on your feet. So yes, it is

cumulative deficits that have been rolling for years and he also explained to the Board that over the course of those years that the money that was there, that was slowly being driven away from the water fund, the general fund was making up for it and as of 2012 the water and sewer fund owed the general fund 1.2 million dollars and being that they were borrowing money ahead there was no way they were going to be able to pay that back to the general fund. So imagine that you are starting off each year in a deeper, and deeper hole. And he wasn't here for the conversations between the treasurer, the former treasurer and the Board or anyone else for that matter. So he doesn't know what took place in discussions or whether it was mentioned. One thing that was mentioned was a plan that was submitted to the state comptroller's office which nobody in Village Hall had a copy of. And he asked the state comptroller's office for that plan. And the comment from the state comptroller representative to him was it wasn't something that we accepted because it really is not comprehensive at all. And they did send it to him and essentially it is a spreadsheet showing over a period of time by raising some fees the Village would hope to get back their money. But the state comptroller did not find it to be a comprehensive or workable plan. The plan that we will develop over time is going to be a plan that is much more comprehensive and better structured. What we have to do, and by the way he is going to start by saying this - he was born and raised in the Village of Suffern. His mother was born and raised in the Village of Suffern and his grandparents came here and lived here and he has to say that his sister still lives here in Suffern, he owns a house in Suffern as well. He happens to rent it out to two really great tenant families and he said he keeps it in good shape. He said he loves Suffern. He always has. It is his second home even though he only lives a couple of miles away. And he has a lot of interest in Suffern so what he says comes from the heart. Suffern, as one of the other people came up and spoke, is a beautiful Village and always has been and he believes it always will be. He said he will start with that. Suffern has been through these wanes and waxes - that's true. He said he started his career in government in the Village of Suffern as a part-time treasurer in 1984. Back then the general fund was in a deficit. The water fund had problems and the sewer fund had problems. And the Mayor at that time, Joseph Savarese, called him up and said would you give us a hand. And he started as a part-time treasurer and between him and the next Mayor, which was Leonard Scarr, and the next Mayor was George Parness - between those Mayors the Village came back on its feet financially. He said he has to say that he doesn't think it was ever as bad as it is today in terms of the finances. The services, the departments and the people are great. And the residents are great. And the Village great. It will continue to be greater and grow better. But we have to take this Village at this point and buckle down and do what we have to do. The whole point of bringing forth the budget notes and the revenue deficiency notes was simply to make sure that our workers do get paid. And that we are not

going to have that problem again next week as well as our vendors that give us the proper goods and services that deserve to be paid for what they have delivered. So this plan, and he did mention it to the Board, is a plan to get us past this hump that we need to get to - get us a little breathing room, buy some more breathing room until May and then go for the long-term deficit financing.

Mr. Genito said to let him explain what that is so that everybody here understands it. Long-term deficit financing is not unlike what Rockland County did. We are in this rolling deficit that came forward and he is going to tell them that we are at least 2 ½ million dollars in the hole. It may be greater than that. One of the reasons why it is so difficult to come up with the right number at this time is that when he was asked to come in at the end of July he found that the audit for 2013, which was May 31 of 2013 was not yet completed at the end of July of 2014. In fact the auditors were probably half way through it - the auditors at that time. So you are coming in when you really should be starting an audit for 2014 having to pick up 2013 and work on what's in 2014 and as we discovered several things weren't done throughout the year which are critical to making sure all the information you have is accurate and complete. Things like bank reconciliations that should have been done that weren't done from June of 2013. So all of these things combined with what he found to be a series of very difficult to understand accounting entries, not that there was anything illegal that he saw, but just as what he would say not the practice of keeping a set of books. And the Board deserved, whatever Board was on at that time, deserved to have monthly reports, cash reports and other reports - bank reconciliations should have been done on a monthly basis and everything should have been reconciled monthly so that you knew where you were at any given point in time. So when we had the meeting the other day and he made it clear to the Board that because of the bank reconciliations that we were still catching up on we were depending upon cash balance sheets which is showing what cash is in the banks and using our best judgment to what is outstanding that might clear quickly to understand how much money we had and at that point in time we understand that we had maybe about \$275,000 total in the general fund to meet our payroll which runs about \$225,000 on a regular basis. So that is how tough and difficult it is. And the idea of doing that short term borrowing again was just to get us that breathing room. Now we are going to get there. It is going to require everybody to work hard at it. It is going to require everybody to have an understanding. He said he knows that the departments are doing a decent job of controlling costs. What we have to do is get even tighter than that. We have to look at things that do not have to get done no matter what and save our money for the things that absolutely have to get done. We have to protect the public out there. We have to make sure the streets are clear. We have to make sure that if there is a fire that our fire department can respond to it adequately with the right coverage and the right tools. All of that has to be

done. What we have to avoid is anything that we don't absolutely need to do. So that is where we are in terms of things happening and why this was brought before the Board and trust him - he did not do this on his own. He had a lot of consultation with our Village attorney, Terry Rice, with our bond counsel, with our financial advisors, and our auditors to try to lay the ground work on where to go and how to get there. And he has thirty years of experience in government and he feels he is pretty well qualified to handle what he does but he is always out there for a helping hand from someone like our bond counsel who are experts in municipal finance law. Mr. Genito said he is not an expert in that area. He said he knows a lot about it. But they are the ones that are going to tell us the best way to do things legally. And then of course we have our auditors who have a vast or large regional firm that have a vast set of years of experience and knowledge and we use them and their experience with other communities to give us the best advice. So again we will get there. But the first step in this process is these budget notes, the revenue deficiency notes and that revenue anticipation note. And one of the things that will happen - yes, we will borrow this money. It has got to be paid off next year. A part of that plan as was discussed with the Board is that these funds would be paid off with that long term deficit financing that we are going to get. So it is like taking a short term loan so you can buy a house and then getting a mortgage to cover that short term loan and have enough years to pay it off.

Trustee Byrne asked Mr. Genito if he had a sense how much the water fund owes the general fund at this point. Mr. Genito said at this point he would say that it is probably close to a million dollars. And yes, we can take some of that money from the water fund to pay it. We don't have an objection to doing that. What we want to try to avoid is taking too much out of the water fund or sewer fund, which still have their own expenses to carry forth through the end of the year, the end of the year being May 31 for us. Trustee Byrne said does moving money over for that purpose - for example, this week's payroll and overtime. Does that require separate Board approval. Mr. Genito said no, that would not. Trustee Byrne said okay. Thank you.

Trustee Morris asked how would that money be moved over. Mr. Genito said the reason why the water fund owes the general fund money is because the general fund paid for some of the bills of the water fund. Trustee Morris said he understands that. Mr. Genito said and then the water fund owes it to the general fund. Trustee Morris said if you wanted to move the money - if you wanted to move \$100,000 from the water fund to the general fund - what is the process for that. Mr. Genito said the process is that he simply tells the deputy treasurer to move the money and she does it. Trustee Morris said so this whole issue - he said he guesses what he is bringing up is we could have avoided this whole issue of not paying the people and risking these labor law violations had we

simply taken \$50,000 from the water fund and moved it over. Mr. Genito said well if you are talking about running the general fund down to zero yes. But you don't want to be there either. Trustee Byrne said \$50,000 or more. Mr. Genito said let's put it this way. As he just said - the general fund at \$450,000 - you take away \$175,000 for the health care bill. You are left with \$250,000 or so roughly. And your payroll is going to be that much plus another 50,000 so if you add the 50,000 to it, take it away, and then you have zero in the general fund to pay anything else. Trustee Morris said he understands that. Trustee Markunas asked what does the water fund have in it - \$600,000? Mr. Genito said about \$600,000. Trustee Markunas asked what was the outstanding overtime payment for payroll to be met for the men. So they don't know how much the overtime is actually. And that is what they were alluding to - that there was a possibility to try to take the money from the water fund to pay overtime. Mr. Genito said he doesn't think the Board is getting it. What we have to understand here - with all due respect - what we have to understand here is that we are talking about running on air in the general fund. And if you weren't going to vote for these at this meeting were we going to wait until March when we have other bills coming. Every two weeks we have a payroll and we pay our vendors throughout the month. We wouldn't have the money to make the payments. Trustee Morris asked where were you going to pay the payroll from. Mr. Genito said he is sorry? Trustee Morris said this week's payroll is paid from where - general fund? Mr. Genito said it will be paid from the general fund and some of it from the water and some from the sewer. Trustee Morris said right. They would pay for their own. But the entire payroll for the general fund would have come out of the balance of the money in the general fund. Mr. Genito said that is correct. Trustee Morris said right? And we thought we had enough money to pay the payroll. The only money that really seemed to be in question was the overtime. Mr. Genito said he gets back to the same issue. If you want to run your - would you run your bank account to zero? Trustee Morris said you are not running your bank if you took - you have \$626,000 in the water fund and if you took \$50,000 from that and put it in the general fund which it is owed any way - you would now have what - \$575,000 in the water fund? And we wouldn't be facing lawsuits here. Trustee Morris said one of the answers that he heard from some of the people here was well we couldn't get paid the overtime and they couldn't move the water money from the water fund because you guys didn't pass the bond. Mr. Genito said he can't answer for somebody that said you can't move it. Trustee Morris said it came from workers which is an out and out lie or they were misinformed. One of the two. Mr. Genito said he doesn't know where that came from. Trustee Markunas said without the information, and let him just interject here. With all the information that they are hearing over the course of a few days which you provided and he commends you - you are doing a great job and they are trying their hardest to understand the finances. And it is very complex. It's not like balancing a checkbook. But when you understand that there is a

balance of \$600,000 in a water fund, and we don't even know how much overtime is due, we still don't know because he guesses they didn't calculate it, is that correct? He said he doesn't know what to say. There is \$600,000 there and the emergency - during the snowstorm and calling the meeting the next morning and springing it on the Board that we don't have the money to pay seems a little unreasonable to him without all the detail and information which he has received and requested throughout the day on Tuesday and Wednesday through our treasurer, Mr. Genito, Barbara Cottiers the deputy treasurer and whoever else helped us out throughout the Village. The Mayor asked Trustee Markunas a question. She said so you were not aware that the cash flow was bad enough that there was a possibility that we were not going to make payroll. Trustee Markunas said no, he was not clear, clearly aware of that circumstance because he was not provided hard fast fact figures. The Mayor asked him if he was at the workshop. Trustee Markunas said yes. The Mayor said Mr. Genito stated at the workshop that in fact these budget notes were necessary in order to ensure that we could make payroll. The Mayor said were you at that workshop? Trustee Markunas said it was maybe or might squeak, sneak through. The Mayor said we possibly could squeak through leaving our general fund at zero. Trustee Markunas said and then during the regular meeting, the emergency meeting that he believes was not posted to the public - the Mayor said it was an emergency meeting, Mr. Markunas - Trustee Markunas asked was it posted on the website? He said that is a whole other subject. The Mayor said let's get back to the vote. We are voting - Trustee Markunas said there is no more discussion? Trustee Morris asked where is the Trustees portion. The Mayor said there is no Trustee portion. She said to Mr. Markunas - Trustee Morris said he thinks you should look at the agenda. It says that. The Mayor said Mr. Genito - she said no its not. We are in the finance part. Trustee Morris said he had another question for the treasurer. He said during the meeting we had with you yesterday we asked you if we pass the bonds today, the notes today, would we have the money by Friday. And your answer was no, not really. It has to go out to the banks. Mr. Genito said his response to that - he said let me answer your question and let me clarify one other thing. Mr. Genito said to Mr. Markunas that you mentioned that you first heard about this stuff on the emergency meeting on Tuesday. Mr. Genito said he has been letting the Board know about the severe financial crisis we have been in and since our meeting back in December he sat with him and Trustee Morris specifically and spoke about how severe our financial situation was and he had even mentioned that he was kind of surprised and shocked when he came in here in the end of July and it was only September and the deputy treasurer mentioned to him that we were running short of cash, which he found hard to understand being that we collect 9 million dollars of taxes in June. So he thinks the Board was well aware that we were in pretty severe financial straits and it was just a matter of time before we came to the end of that rope. Mr. Genito said now. To talk about what we did say at the meeting and

when we would have the money - what he did say to them was that if you vote for it today we may not get it by Friday. He said our first act would be to poll the banks to see if they were willing to bid on borrowing money from us - or letting us borrow money from them, he is sorry. And as he also mentioned to the Board the last time we went out to do that the banks refused to bid on our money. They wouldn't lend us money. Our local banks. We had to go through our financial advisor and as a matter of fact in speaking with the financial advisor about budget notes and deficiency notes the financial advisor said you probably shouldn't waste your time with the banks because it is highly unlikely they are going to vote on this and you are probably going to have to go through a negotiated sale which is not a bad thing but is something that makes it happen quicker than putting it out to bid - competitive bid which you may have to wait a couple of weeks for. So Mr. Genito said he didn't know how quickly it would come in but the sooner that we voted on this the sooner the process would begin. And as he mentioned, yes, he was advised by the deputy treasurer we could probably squeak by the payroll but we were going to need that money rather soon. So yes, maybe you could have made it through Friday through the payroll but then you are going to have a zero cash balance in your general fund and you are going to have to pay other people. You are going to want this money in as soon as possible. And that is why we were - and it wasn't called an emergency meeting because we needed the money right away. It was on for the regular meeting. The regular meeting had to be canceled because of the weather and because of that when he found out it was canceled he did call the Mayor and said one thing we have to do is get these budget notes voted on because if we don't get that done too much time is going to roll by before we get the money in. And the Mayor did call the emergency meeting. That is why it was an emergency meeting as opposed to waiting another month for a regular meeting. Trustee Morris said it would have been one day. Mr. Genito said he was sorry? Trustee Morris said it would have been one day waiting. The Mayor said no, it wouldn't have. Mr. Genito said that wasn't what he was informed. The Mayor said Tuesday is the day that you would be able to let the public know when the meeting was rescheduled for and we are at Wednesday. So it would have been two more days. And quite frankly Mr. Morris - Trustee Morris said Monday we were closed and we had the meeting on Tuesday and we are here tonight. The Mayor said no, no, no. We would have waited until tonight. But quite frankly as she indicated to him in the e-mails when you immediately asked her to please have it Tuesday or Wednesday because you were leaving for back to Florida on Thursday the Mayor said she moved around her commitments to accommodate him for tonight. So quite frankly in her mind the meeting was going to be on Thursday. Trustee Markunas said he believes that move though was requested - he said he thinks he initiated the request - the Mayor said on behalf of Mr. Byrne, Mr. Hagen, yourself and Mr. Morris. Trustee Markunas said and what was his main concern? He said his main concern that day was not the resolution because he was not

fully made aware that these note resolutions were going to be voted on. Through his e-mail communication it was - the Mayor said okay. You know what. We are going off subject. So we are back to the resolution to authorize the issuance of the budget notes. If nobody has any further questions she would like to get to a motion to pass - to accept and authorize the issuance of the budget notes.

Trustee Byrne said you have a motion and a second already. The Mayor said she needs a roll call vote.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Mayor said the second is the resolution to authorize the issuance of revenue deficiency notes. A motion was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Markunas.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Mayor said the next one is a resolution to authorize sewer revenue anticipation notes. A motion to authorize was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Trustee Byrne asked Mr. Genito that as we approach payroll for this week can you just advise the Board if money is being transferred from water to cover just how much that was. It doesn't have to be known now. But at what point you do know if they could just be advised. That is all. The Mayor said if you could just keep us updated on the movement of how you are going - of how the bids are going or whether we are going to financial consultants or how we are going forward. Mr. Genito said he certainly will. Trustee Byrne said we are really talking about this week's payroll. The rest of

course we want to know also. Mr. Genito said yes, right. He said they will certainly keep them advised of this week's payroll and as far as everything goes.

Mr. Genito said Mr. Markunas just recommended a committee. The Mayor said a finance committee? Trustee Markunas said some type of committee or liaison between the treasurer's department and the Board. The Mayor said no, she doesn't think that is appropriate. She thinks the whole entire Board should be, as Mike has continued to do, send the Board all the information at all times. She said she thinks this is - we are in a crisis right now and she thinks the Board needs to know as a whole what is going on as he has continued his practice since he has taken over as treasurer. That is her feeling. Mr. Genito thanked them.

Mr. Scott Brown asked from the audience about the overtime. The Mayor asked him if he could just give them a day to digest this. Like give them to tomorrow to get back into the office. Can you give them a day to get back in the office tomorrow so they can start moving. Mr. Brown said if the overtime is not paid this week they have no choice but to go to litigation against the Village. He said we do not have a choice on this matter. Mr. Genito said the treasurer's office will make sure they have their full pay including overtime. He said that is full pay - that is regular pay and overtime, yes.

The Mayor said we are almost done here. She said the Trustees don't have anything. She said she does have something. She asked if Mike Stark was still here.

The Mayor said she asked the Trustees if they had anything at the workshop and they said no. Trustee Morris said we don't have to put it on the agenda. The Mayor said yes, anything new you have to put it on. Trustee Markunas asked if we were going to have new business? The Mayor said new business? No. New business is discussed at the workshop and then put on the agenda. Trustee Markunas said this is new business after the workshop that they developed - that he developed. The Mayor said right, so you bring it to the next workshop and then that is when we discuss that. Trustee Markunas asked Attorney Rice if he could have an opinion on that please. Attorney Rice said that has been the practice. He said you can always by motion add something to the agenda. The practice has been that was worked out under prior Mayor's was that if a Trustee has something to bring up they bring it up at the workshop meeting and then it goes on the regular agenda. The Mayor said it gives the Board time to - Trustee Markunas said there is a situation - Trustee Morris said that is prior practice. But looking at the CCom manual that is not what that says. The Mayor said to let her explain. It gives the benefit to all of the Trustees to be able to hear and to work on whatever the new business is that the particular Board member is bringing to the Board. To bring it to a

Board meeting without discussion of the Board at a workshop, which is what workshops are for, is counter-productive. Because you can sit here now and go back and forth on something that the other Board members don't have any information on. So in the fairness to all the Board members we bring it to the workshop and work on it at the workshop and then come to the Board meeting and not have a pushing and shoving match and arguing that I didn't know and I didn't have information and you didn't give me time. We come to the Board meeting educated and intelligent. Trustee Markunas that okay. That is an acceptable reason. But he asked Attorney Rice if he could elaborate on the resolution or the issue that is at hand here. The Mayor said what resolution? Trustee Markunas said not the resolution, excuse him, just the new business item to be presented.

Attorney Rice said as he said he said what the prior practice had been. He said an agenda can always be amended by motion. Trustee Markunas asked if we could make a motion now to amend the agenda. Attorney Rice said you can. The Mayor said sure, absolutely Mr. Markunas. Again not working together as a Board. Go right ahead. Adding on to the - you know exactly what you have portrayed to be. So please by all means go ahead and make a motion.

Trustee Markunas said he makes a motion to amend the agenda for this evening's meeting. The Mayor said okay. Trustee Morris said he seconded it. Attorney Rice said whoa, whoa, wait, wait. You have got to say in the motion what you are adding. The Mayor said what you are adding. Attorney Rice said that is the point of it. Trustee Markunas said okay. He said he is making a motion to amend the agenda to add that the Village Board retain special counsel to provide legal services to the Village and to counsel the Board.

Whereas, the Board has reviewed the credentials and background of several attorneys and/or law firms with municipal experience; and

Whereas, the Board is in receipt of the proposal from Amy Miele Esq. February 3, 2015 to provide the above services to the Village; and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees has reviewed such proposal and recommends its acceptance based upon qualifications and experience of Ms. Miele.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Village Board of the Village of Suffern that it is hereby authorized to retain the services of Amy Miele Esq., 103 Van Houten Fields, West Nyack, New York to serve as special counsel at the rate of \$200 an hour.

Be it further resolved that Ms. Miele shall provide services on an as needed basis but in no event shall such fees exceed \$4000 a month or 20 hours without further authorization from the Board.

The Mayor said okay, she has a motion. She asked if she had a second. The motion was seconded by Trustee Morris.

AYES: Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas

NOES: Trustee Matthew Byrne, who said he understands the motion. He said he just thinks that given the nature of what we have been through this evening and in the interest of moving along smoothly that perhaps a workshop would be a good idea. But that is the only reason that he would vote no.
Mayor Patricia Abato, who said she votes no and the motion is carried. And we have another bill on our hands, folks.

Trustee Morris said he would like to make a motion to amend the minutes - the agenda - and the purpose of the amendment is - there was a lot of noise in the audience - the Mayor said excuse her, excuse her. She said that one of the Trustees is speaking. Trustee Morris said he is making a motion to adjust the agenda to include - he said they would like to curtail the sale - the purchase, rather, of the VFW building that was previously agreed upon but has not been completed. He said we are making a motion to discontinue any attempts to purchase the property and notify the Village Attorney to cease any actions concerning this.

Attorney Rice said he believes there is a signed contract. You know if you do that you may be open, since nobody has discussed this with him - he is doing this by the seat of his pants - you may be open to a breach of contract action or a specific performance action to compel the Village to complete it. Trustee Morris asked well when did we have a closing date for the property. Attorney Rice said we don't have a closing date because it was subject to the VFW obtaining approval from the Attorney General's office as is required for any not-for-profit. He said it is his understanding from their attorney that they recently received that. Trustee Morris said so you do have a signed contract. Attorney Rice said he believes so. Trustee Morris said okay, fine.

The Mayor asked if we were done with any additions to the agenda. Any other additions? Trustee Markunas said no, he had another addition. He asked if he had to amend it, the amend again, or no. The Mayor said to Trustee Markunas that you know what - at this point you don't work with her - just bring it on. Trustee Markunas said okay. The Mayor said she means - you know.

Trustee Markunas said this resolution is a resolution of the Village of Suffern requesting a comprehensive review of the New York State Financial Restructuring Board for local governments.

Whereas, pursuant to New York State Local Finance Law 1600, New York State Accredited Financial Board in any county, city, except New York City, town or village deemed fiscally eligible - a fiscally eligible municipality by the FRB may request by resolution of its governing Board, with the concurrence of its Chief Executive a comprehensive review from the FRB; and

Whereas, the Village has been deemed a fiscally eligible municipality within the meaning of New York State Local Finance Law 160.05.

Whereas, the FRB decides to undertake a comprehensive review of the Village, the FRB may request any information necessary to understand the Village's finances and operations and based on this information the FRB would make recommendations to the Village on improving its fiscal stability, management and the delivery of public services.

The Mayor asked what is the cost on this? Trustee Markunas said if he can finish reading. The Mayor said oh, she was sorry.

Whereas, the FRB can identify cost saving measures, recommend consolidation and function or agencies and make available to municipalities grants, the necessary loans and implement reform; and

Whereas, the FRB could offer grants and or loans through the local government performance and efficiency program for undertaking certain recommendations and that the Village agrees to undertake the FRB's recommendations it would be contractually bound to fulfill those terms in order to receive such aid.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Village Board of the Village of Suffern hereby resolves to submit an application requesting a comprehensive review by the Financial Restructuring Board subject to the concurrence of the Mayor of the Village as set forth below.

Be it further resolved that any commitment to apply for grants and/or loans and to undertake the FRB recommendations would require further Village Board authorization for any such grants, loans or recommendations at a future date; and

Be it resolved that the Mayor is directed to provide a written response to the Board of Trustees within ten days of the date of this resolution either concurring with the request for a Comprehensive Review by the FRB or stating that she does not concur with the request for a Comprehensive Review by the FRB. If the Mayor fails to respond within ten days of this resolution the Mayor shall be deemed not to concur with the proposed request for the Comprehensive Review.

Be it further resolved if the Mayor concurs with the request for all Comprehensive Review by the FRB the Mayor is authorized to execute and all documents and instruments necessary to fulfill the Village's request for and its obligations of the Financial Restructuring Board's Comprehensive Review; and

Be it further resolved the Village Treasurer shall be designated as the primary municipal contact and any request for a Comprehensive Review by such FRB and shall arrange for the submission of all materials necessary to fulfill such request.

Be it further resolved this resolution shall take effective immediately.

Dated: February 4, 2015

The Mayor said you know, she just wanted to tell him before that you again go over her head and pass something that she doesn't think he has looked into to the ramifications of. You have not passed this through our attorney so you may be setting us up, again, for another legal battle. So she in fact is not in favor of anyone bringing to this Board anything that does not pass through our attorney and she would certainly not be in any way, shape or form ready to take any action on such until our attorney has looked at it and has made sure that legally we are acting appropriately. Trustee Morris said well there is a ten day window. Attorney Rice said well, if he could - the Mayor said how could you now bring it to the attorney - it is a legal documentation. Attorney Rice said he can't render any interpretation whatsoever as far as the ramifications of this hearing this for the first time tonight. Trustee Markunas said he just brought this to the Board's attention. He is bringing it to the public's attention that there are other means out there for financially restructuring and getting help from the State of New York. And he believes that the finances are in such - and we are eligible due to the fact that we are still the most fiscally stressed village in the State of New York and we automatically qualify. We do have ten days to explore it. He said to Attorney Rice if you wish to, along with the Mayor - it is another avenue for us to stabilize our finances in the Village. Somebody from the audience asked how much does it cost. Trustee Markunas said it is a free program. It is offered through the State. They offer you grants and loans. They offer you advice. The Mayor asked Trustee Markunas if he was making a motion. Trustee Markunas said yes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Morris.

AYES: Trustee Robert Morris, Trustee Frank Hagen
Trustee Edward Markunas, Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: Mayor Patricia Abato

ABSENT: None

The Mayor asked if there was anything else. Any other surprises? Trustee Morris asked the Mayor why she finds it necessary to pass sarcastic remarks. The Mayor said why? Because - Trustee Morris said nobody passed sarcastic remarks to you - the Mayor asked if there were any other surprises. The Mayor said since there was nothing else, she would like to go onto her portion.

MAYOR:

A) Appointments:

The Mayor said the first thing on her agenda is the appointments.

Five year term member Charles Barone - Trustee Byrne asked member of what. The Mayor said Zoning Board of Appeals. Trustee Byrne asked Attorney Rice that since all the people that have been suggested by the Mayor remain as holdovers is it required there be a vote at every Board meeting? Attorney Rice said it is not required to be. Trustee Byrne said okay. The Mayor said but she would like them to have permanent positions as they are working for the Village at a very small salary and give a lot of their time. So she thinks the decent thing to do is appoint them as they continue to work for this Village. She asked if there was a motion. A confirmation - a motion to confirm. There was no motion. It is a holdover.

Chairman - one year term - Henry Sussman. There was no motion. It is a holdover.

Alternate - two year term - David Hamilton. There was no motion. It is a holdover.

Planning Board member - five year term - Paul Stanbridge. There was no motion. It is a holdover.

Chairman - one year term - Paul Gdanski. There was no motion. It is a holdover.

The Mayor said she would like to appoint her Deputy Mayor. She said she would like to appoint Matthew Byrne for Deputy Mayor of the Village of Suffern. Trustee Byrne said to the Mayor that she had approached him before tonight rather than he not hear this for the first time, quite frankly. The Mayor said it is not a good feeling, huh, Matt? Trustee Byrne said no it is not. The Mayor said it is not. Trustee Byrne said it is not. And he just thinks that it would be better if he had heard before but he would just defer it to the next meeting. The Mayor said sure.

The Mayor said the next thing she would like to do. She received a letter from Governor Andrew Cuomo. Trustee Byrne said he didn't mean to interrupt. But in the event that he opted to accept the

designation it would be without the additional stipend - whatever it might be. An extra - the Mayor said 500. Trustee Byrne said \$500 - he said he would decline it if in fact he chooses to accept. The Mayor said every penny helps. Thank you.

The Mayor said she received a letter from our Governor Andrew Cuomo.

Dear Mayor Abato,

I want to thank you for your assistance during the November storm in western New York. Together we continued the great tradition of New Yorker's coming together in times of need and he will remain grateful for your partnership. Your contribution was invaluable to our efforts to respond to one of the worst snowstorms to hit in the region in years. And I can't thank you enough for your generosity. You are a tremendous asset to New York State and we are fortunate to have your commitment, leadership and positive example.

Warmest regards. Best wishes.

Andrew Cuomo

The Mayor said this does not belong to her. This belongs to the Suffern Fire Department. The Mayor said to the Fire Chief that she was going to let the Board see it and then she is going to give it to him to do with as you see fit. She said she wishes she could break it in half but she can't. But she wants the fire department to have that commendation. And she thanks them again from the bottom of her heart. Chief Stark thanked her.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m. was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Morris. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

