

**Village Board Meeting
Monday, May 12, 2014 - 7:30 P.M.**

A regular Village Board meeting was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

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

ABSENT: None

SET DATES FOR JUNE MEETINGS:

The Mayor said the workshop will be Wednesday, May 28 at 7:00 p.m. and the Board meeting will be Monday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Mayor said the Fire Department is first on the agenda and the Fire Chief is not here due to another meeting that he needed to attend but he has no report for us.

CULTURE AND RECREATION:

Mrs. Cathy Mills said they have a couple of upcoming things in the Village of Suffern. They were supposed to have this past weekend the river cleanup but they have had to reschedule that. They do not have a date for that as yet. So the date is to be determined. This week, hopefully, the residents would have received as of Friday their calendars - the summer calendar, with the addition of Fall events. They just went out last week. She said they have a recreation board meeting this Thursday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the community room. Pool pass registration will begin next Monday, May 19 and then on the calendar there are all subsequent dates for pool pass registration. The pool will be opening on May 24. It is the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. It will be opening up Saturday, May 24, and then the 25th and 26th and opening up weekends until June 28 where it opens for the summer for seven days. And then the Memorial Day Parade they have on schedule for Monday, May 26, and it will be starting off at the Lot A parking lot and line up is at 10:45 and the parade will be 11:15. And then what she would like to discuss tonight is Clifford Theater. She said we currently have a \$50 registration fee for anybody joining Clifford Theater. She said she would like to propose to raise the registration fee to \$75 this year. Trustee Meehan said in the workshop we discussed the possibility of if there were two children in the same family they would get a discount. Trustee Meehan said he proposes the \$75 fee but if there is more than one child in the family then it would be \$50 each. The motion was seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon

vote, the motion was carried.

Mrs. Mills said that she just wanted to add. She said they mentioned at the workshop but she wanted to mention the lifeguards that we will be accepting into the Village of Suffern this summer. We have Justin Coloris, Dan DeStefano, Eamon Goldman, Sean Haggerty, Molly Cauders, Tom Mahoney, Billy O'Connor, Alex Oliveto, Billy Osborn, Emma Patwell, Tim Patwell, John Redgate, Michael Redgate, Kelly Sheehan and Kayla Simpson. She said those are our lifeguards for 2014. The Mayor said she would like to appoint those lifeguards. A motion to confirm was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

MAYOR:

The Mayor said she is going to go a little out of order. She is going to skip over to her portion of the agenda. Item E - the dedication of the parking lots. She said we have Scott Shedler here from the Parking Authority this evening and he has, what she thinks, is some wonderful news about dedicating some of our parking lots.

Mr. Shedler thanked the Mayor and thanked the Board of Trustees for allowing him to speak. He said they have two items. First what they would like to do is continue the dedication of the parking lots. What they started a few years back is they started a program in the Village of Suffern dedicating certain parking locations for certain, what they call, heroes within the Village. The first parking lot was the T lot which is down by the ballfields and that a few years back was dedicated for an individual, Sean Flynn, and it was named the F lot. What they wanted to do was continue the naming and the dedication of the parking lots. The A parking lot would be the Richard Bosco, Robert Kirkpatrick and John Ginley lot. The B lot, which is across the street from the Post Office would be for a dedicated individual who helped out the Village for years, Vincent Tamburro, and the lots outside Village Hall would be the Charlie Anaya and Andrew Fredericks lots. So they would like to continue with that dedication. In the next few months they are going to, like they did in the last dedication, seek donations from businesses and community members to support the efforts. He said they had a tremendous dedication from Rino Contracting in the last dedication who did all the site work for free. So they are looking to partner up with some other business entities in the community as well as volunteer groups - to get the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts and different groups to get together to get this project going. They think it fosters, it brings the whole Village together and it really recognizes people that have contributed to Suffern and they feel are heroes in our community. So they are asking the Village Board for support, not monetary support, but support in them going forward with the continued dedication. Trustee Byrne asked if there was a timeframe that they are looking at. Mr. Shedler said they had a meeting prior to this. Their board approved it and what they would do is move forward with the planning. They

would meet with DPW and public safety with the Chief and just go over the location of the individual spots and then they would move forward pretty fast-track. Once they start they want to get it finished and move forward. He said they are probably talking three months. Hopefully by the Fall. Another exciting thing, and then he will go because he has to go to another meeting, is that their Parking Authority tonight unanimously passed a resolution in support of the Home Rule legislation that will hopefully be sent to the State to work forward with the consolidation efforts that the Village is looking to do with the Parking Authority. They think it is an outstanding idea. In today's environment we need to save money wherever we can and we need to pitch in together. He said he has been a volunteer for years and probably will volunteer when the Village is running it but they are looking forward to saving our residents money. And that is really the key. So he thanks the Board. A motion to dedicate the parking lots was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried. The Mayor thanked Mr. Shedler.

7:40 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING - MS4 ANNUAL REPORT:

Mr. Charles Sawicki said the MS4 is the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System and it is regulated by the NYS DEC. The MS4 Stormwater program has six elements called minimum control measures that will result in a reduction of pollutants discharged into the water bodies. Those six elements are (1) public education and outreach, (2) public involvement and participation, (3) illicit discharge detection and elimination, (4) construction site stormwater runoff control, (5) post-construction stormwater management, (6) stormwater management for municipal operations. The Village of Suffern is a member of the Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County. The Stormwater Consortium has partnered with Cornell Cooperation Extension for education and outreach requirements such as radio program discussing various PCA topics and education classes.

Jim Giannettino of 2 Memorial Drive said that he knows that we are converting all of our storm drains with the new smaller openings so that the debris doesn't flow into the river. His question is - he doesn't see anything being done with the outflow that goes directly into the river. It is just an opening in some of them. He said he can walk it. That's how big they are. So there is nothing collecting any of the debris or, if God forbid, needles or anything in there. There is nothing there at these outflows to collect any of that which would do more damage than some leaves and papers going into the inflow. So that is a responsibility we have with MS4. You just can't worry about how it gets in. We have to worry about if it gets in are we capturing it. And he would like to know what we are doing with that.

Mr. Sawicki said that with regards to the outflows some of them, as Jim has mentioned, are large. They are something that we have talked about for a while. There are some real challenges in trying to solve that problem. In terms of capturing anything that might

flow through there it does present some problems in terms of restricting flow down the road and so on and so forth. And in terms of any type of needles or anything like that. That is such a small item that would be very difficult to try to capture. But anyway we have discussed it and he thinks what we might be able to do since we have the New York Rising project coming up we can look throughout the Village as to how we can best address that. The Mayor thanked him.

Mr. Giannettino asked if we could put grates to capture the large debris. Mr. Sawicki said that was something we talked about and we are going to continue to look at and see if that will solve the issue for us. Mr. Sawicki said he will look into it.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

A motion to authorize the Mayor to sign and accept the MS4 Annual Report was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY:

A) Home Rule Request:

Village Attorney Terry Rice said apropos, the Parking Authority, as you know, and as Scott eluded to, for some time we have been looking at essentially eliminating the Parking Authority as a separate municipal corporation in order to consolidate services and to save money. In order to do that the process that we followed was first the Board passed a resolution asking the State Legislature to prepare the appropriate legislation. That has been done. Attorney Rice said he had provided copies some time ago to the Board. The legislation essentially transfers the functions to the Village and assuming it is passed and signed by the Governor as of December 31. So the next step in the process would be for the Village to pass the two Home Rule requests that he has provided to them. One is addressed to the State Senate and one to the State Assembly. And you do need a two-thirds vote on this. A motion to pass the two Home Rule requests was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Osborn said he had a few things. Some retirements and some

officers hiring to propose. He said he is assuming you have to vote individually - one name at a time for the retirements. The Mayor said you can do them all together. The hires we have to do separately. The retirements we can do all together.

A) Retirement of Three Officers - Det. Sgt. Raymond Sheehan, Sgt. Jon DiRoma, Sgt Edgardo Alvarez:

Chief Osborn said in the retirements they are going to propose all three of them as of May 22. It will be Det. Sgt. Raymond Sheehan, who has been with our department since 1983, Sgt. Jon DiRoma who has served in our department since 1986, and Sgt. Edgardo Alvarez, who has been with us since 1997 and formerly with the New York State Police. All three of them will be retiring May 22, 2014. The Mayor said she just wanted to say that in combined services it is over 100 years of service. And all such great attributes to the Police Department. And she wishes them the best of luck as they go out. They certainly will be missed. But she knows that Sgt. DiRoma's smile has not left his face since he signed his paperwork. Chief Osborn said exactly. The Mayor said that has been a welcome change and good to see. The Chief said he would like to bring them in maybe in June to give them plaques. A motion to accept the retirements was made by Trustee Hagen, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

B) Appointment of Police Officers - William Simurra, Michael Careswell, Ryan Ortiz, Andrew Yorke:

Chief Osborn said for the hirings he has four officers to propose. The first one, and there is no particular order, and these are all off the civil service list in Rockland County. We have a Village resident list which we hire off. The first one will be Village resident William Simurra. He is currently in the Rockland County Police Academy pre-employment program. He is putting himself through the academy so he will come out trained. He is a United State Air Force reservist and a Rockland County paramedic. He brings a host of qualities to our department and he is a long-time Village resident. Trustee Byrne asked if it was determined at what salary they will be getting. Has that been determined? The Chief said it is. He said he apologizes but he doesn't have the starting salary in front of him. He said he can go downstairs and get it if we need it. The Mayor said it is per the contract. Trustee Byrne said does anybody know what it is though? Chief Osborn said he has it downstairs. Trustee Byrne said you can tell me later. The Mayor said she thinks it is 50,700 something but she doesn't want to be quoted. It is 50,700 and something. The Village Attorney said this will be subject to a probationary period. The Chief said correct. Subject to probation and also they have two more steps. They have gone through several phases. Just a psychological and a medical which is all basically handled by Rockland County Department of Personnel. So they have to pass the next two phases and a satisfactory background check by us which we are going through right now which seems pretty well. Trustee Meehan asked about a starting date. The Mayor said June 1, correct Chief? The Chief said

he doesn't want to give a date yet and he will tell them why because it will be Personnel who will determine when they get the tests and once they get the tests. He said we can set a date now but he doesn't know if they will be complete with the last two phases. Personnel could not give him a date. The Attorney said why not say not before but subject to - Chief Osborn said not before June 1 definitely. It will be after June 1. He can guarantee that. A motion to accept William Simurra was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Osborn said the second candidate will be Village resident Mike Careswell. Mike is currently an Amtrak police officer - certified. He is a United States Army veteran. He served 16 months in Iraq. A very good addition as well with Mike. He is very highly touted by Amtrak. A motion to accept was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Osborn said the third one will be Ryan Ortiz. Ryan Ortiz is a lifelong Village resident currently in the Rockland County Police Academy pre-employment program. All four of these candidates scored in the top of our civil service list. He is a United States Marine Corp reservist and he is currently a dispatcher with the Suffern Police Department, with our department downstairs. A motion to accept was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Osborn said and last, but certainly not least, will be Andrew Yorke. A long-time Village resident and currently employed by the New York City police department. A graduate of West Virginia University and a former dispatcher with the Suffern Police

Department. He is already certified with the NYPD. A motion to accept was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Chief thanked the Mayor and Board for their support. He said he will keep them informed when he gets some more definitive dates from Personnel.

Mrs. Cathy Mills said she forgot to add something when she was up before. She asked if she could add it now. She said she wanted to ask for permission to hire the directors and the musical director for the Clifford Theater which will be beginning next month. A motion to hire was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Trustee Byrne asked if we knew who they are. Trustee Meehan said we should say who they are. Mrs. Mills said Chris Abato will be the director this year, as he has in the past. We have Jillian Munoz will be the assistant director and we have Kimberly Duncan as the music director this year. And we have auditions for Clifford Theater starting August 20, 21, 22. Trustee Byrne asked if they will be at the same salary as last year. Mrs. Mills said it will be at a little increase. She said she has the numbers. She didn't know if they wanted her to give them the numbers. It is a 3% increase which has been the case. The Mayor said auditions are May. You said August. The show dates are August 1 and August 2. Mrs. Mills said the show dates are August 1 and August 2. Auditions are May 20, 21, 22. The Mayor said you put them all together. Mrs. Mills said she put them all together? Sorry. The motion was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

ABSTAIN: The Mayor abstained since these are her children.
Trustee Meehan said only two of them are your children. The Mayor said she votes yes on Kimberly Duncan.

ABSENT: None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Rich Karrp of 88 Lonergan Drive said he hasn't been able to come here for the past three or four months. He has been away. The Mayor said we have missed you. Mr. Karrp said he bets. The Mayor said we did. Mr. Karrp said he will make up for it now. He said he would like to know the status as to what is going on with our river. He said we came close the other night. So can you tell him what is

going on. He said he has heard that the Village has received some money and there is other money in the works coming from the State, he thinks, or FEMA or county or what. He said he is not really sure anymore.

The Mayor said we have been approved for monies. We have not received any money yet. We are beginning the process now - an eight month process for the three million dollars which we were awarded through NY Rising. She said that we actually had two dates of a clean-up planned, which due to conditions of the river and the weather, we had to postpone. We are going to be doing that again in June. Putting those dates back together again so that we can get some of the river cleaned out - the beds and so on and so forth. She said she should probably add that we have had a wonderful response from the community as far as volunteers and as far as our business owners getting involved, which is wonderful to see our community coming together with concern about Lonergan Drive and the flooding there. But to date we have not received any cash in hand yet unfortunately. So we continue to do what we can do here ourselves. And then once in eight months we should be receiving the projects that have been decided upon by the committee and they will be brought to the Village Board for approval. So the actual projects that are going to be considered are going to come from the committee. It does not come from the Village Board. The only thing the Village Board has is at the end of the day the yay or the nay on the projects. So we are really very excited about this money and she feels that the people who have come forward, and a couple of them are in the room tonight, to volunteer for this committee have a lot of knowledge of the river, have lived through the rages of the river and have taken a great loss. So she believes that we have a good representation of people who are knowledgeable. Mr. Karrp said he is glad - it is about time and he hates to say it like this - but it is about time after all these years that the Village is showing something. The Mayor said absolutely. Mr. Karrp said what about the quarry? How does the Village stand with the quarry. From what he understands that has been checked out by the Concerned Citizens of Suffern who basically got together on their own because nobody seems to give a damn - excuse his language. The Mayor said she did give a darn about the quarry and she was very involved in trying to substantiate that - something done at the quarry could actually help the flooding down in Squires Gate. And although it is minimal help to the river she believes at this point we need to take whatever we can get. She said as you know, she thinks, that the Town of Ramapo is waiting for word on a five million dollar grant for a siphoning system at the quarry. Mr. Karrp said that is what he is talking about. The Mayor said right. To date we have not heard anything back yet. She said she believes, and she is told, that at the end of May we should be getting some kind of decision on that. So she is keeping her fingers crossed and as soon as she knows she will certainly let everybody else know.

Mr. Karrp said one more last thing. He said he has been complaining for many years as far as the river clean-up. The first time it was good. They took 20 or 25 truckloads of stuff out. Where he lives

the bank across the other side is loaded. The Mayor said yes. Mr. Karrp said it is loaded. There is blacktop on there, there is concrete, there is 6 by 6's. There is so much garbage up there. The Mayor said well she has good news for him. While he was gone she was busy at the river and she identified all of that and that will be part of the clean-up. Mr. Karrp said he thought that was the homeowners responsibility. The Mayor said well we are going to get it all cleaned up because it is not getting taken care of and then we are sending letters out to all the homeowners on that side letting them know that it is their responsibility and in the future they will receive violations if they do not comply. Mr. Karrp said the reason he said it like that, sort of sarcastic, is because over the many years he has asked for something to be done and he was told it is your problem. You have to clean up yours. The Mayor said we are all going in together and we will get it cleaned up and we are going to start from clean and all the residents on that side are going to get letters letting them know what their responsibilities are and that it is illegal for them to dump anything down that embankment. Mr. Karrp said good.

Mr. Karrp said one other thing. Nothing to do with that. The playground. Not the playground that they are going to build eventually. But the park, the Donna Hallett Park. The sidewalk over there. It's broken. There is concrete sticking up. Somebody, some small kid, is going to come over there and trip and break their neck and there is a wonderful lawsuit against the Village. The Mayor said yes - now that the warmer weather has come in - Mr. Karrp said this has been over the years now. The Mayor said she has been on it and she has spoken to Mr. Hunt and now that the warmer weather has come in he has identified all of the sidewalks in the Village which have lifted and are a safety issue. He has now identified all of them and will be addressing them one sidewalk at a time.

Mr. Karrp said one more thing for the Chief. The stop sign over there. Not the one - Orange Avenue is bad too. But the one on Temple and Lonergan. They are going through that thing like crazy - especially in the evening when it is dark. So it is a good money making thing for the Village and all that. But it may stop some kid from maybe getting hurt.

Marna Oliver said she is a representative from American Legion Post 859 here in Suffern. She said the auxiliary will be asking for donations for the poppies and we hope to see you in the Village and we hope to see you on Memorial Day for the parade and to also give a donation for the poppies for the Veterans. Thank you. The Mayor thanked her.

Joseph Cestone of 25 Temple Lane said this is in regards to the park that they are building next to his house. The Mayor said Temple Park? Mr. Cestone said that group of trees has to come down. He said he is warning the Village now. Some kid is going to get killed. Just three weeks ago two missed his car. It fell right across the whole lot. The Mayor said okay. Mr. Cestone said you

better do something before you put a park in there. They all have to come down and like the gentlemen says if you are going to bring children there you can't bring them on a broken sidewalk. So he is putting us on notice. The Mayor said thank you. She said in the future if you see something like that could you call us right away instead of waiting for the Board meeting so we can get somebody out there right away. The Mayor said to call Virginia and Virginia will get it to the appropriate department. You can call in the morning.

Jeff Genser of 32 First Street said he just had a few things he would like to bring to the Board's attention. And the first one is a question to the Chief. Is riding a bicycle on the sidewalks in the Village of Suffern legal? The Chief said you are supposed to ride in the road. Mr. Genser said is it a bicycle offense or a criminal offense like it is in New York City. Because in New York City if you ride a bicycle on the street it is a criminal offense. He said he is serious. He said he gives bike safety classes in Manhattan. He said he almost got run over three times as he was walking on the sidewalk on Ramapo Avenue. Third time. Three strikes. He was almost out. But he is alive. He said he would like to just say thank you to the Mayor to put speed bumps on the agenda for Ramapo Avenue. He said he sees that as a last thing. He doesn't know if he is going to be around for it but he would like to thank them for considering them. He has been asking about them for many years.

Mr. Genser said he is going to bring up a couple of things that have been bothering him. He said we have been apparently given a new Village Justice. Justice Allan Simon from the Town of Ramapo. And he feels that, and you know him, he speaks his mind. He feels that it is a blight on the Village to have him as our Village Justice based on his past history. Well maybe you are going to think it is the pot calling the kettle black but he is not an elected official and he doesn't think he ever will be. He is a Justice who has been behaving atrociously in many of his past positions at the Town of Ramapo. It is all well-known by, he is sure, most of them on the Board. He said he doesn't have to tell them about it. And he objects to it and he is asking that we use some kind of a mechanism to get him removed and replaced. He doesn't belong as any type in any government capacity as a Justice here in the Village. That is his opinion as a resident. And then he would also like to bring in the same vein Mr. Nathan Oberman's position on the Zoning Board. He is also part of the Town of Ramapo government and has been for many years. And the allegations against him are some of the most serious allegations that can ever be brought against an employee of a town. He is potentially allegedly involved in the co-mingling of monies - of Ramapo Town money and the Ramapo Local Development Corps money which is totally illegal. He was involved with co-mingling that money when the ballpark in Pomona was built and by having him serve on our Zoning Board he thinks it is besmirching the reputation of the Village of Suffern. And he wanted to bring this out. And he hasn't heard anybody talk about it but he thinks it is some serious thing you need to consider and he hopes you will consider them and he would ask that

both of them be removed from any type of Village position. The Mayor asked if he wanted her to talk about those or did he want to go on. Mr. Genser said he just wanted to say that he was glad that he noticed afterwards that you are going to talk about the review of the Pilot agreement, which he didn't notice until a few minutes ago and he is curious to know how that went and he will be patient to listen. And of course he doesn't want the Pilot.

The Mayor said first she will talk about Judge Simon. She thinks as most of you know Judge Simon was appointed to us. It was not our choice. Had we brought in our own Judge we would not only have to pay Judge Ackerson's salary, because he is still our Village justice. He just cannot be on the bench. So we would not only have to pay Judge Ackerson's salary but we would also have to pay the salary of the Judge that we chose to bring in. And it would also take a number of months for us to be able to establish that Judge here. There is a process that has to go through. So Judge Ackerson's term is up in December. From what she understands he is not seeking re-election. She said she does check with the court to make sure that everything is running smoothly. So far so good. She has had no complaints. So that being said we are trying to ride it out until the election comes up and at that point we will have our own newly elected by the people Village Justice.

On his second point with Mr. Oberman. Mr. Oberman has been on that board previous to him being a part of the Town of Ramapo. Right now they are allegations. Certainly if these allegations became something that is a proven fact - a conviction - then of course the Village Board would take action immediately. The Mayor said an allegation is that you are innocent until - she said she thinks on an indictment we may sit and talk about the possibility - and she is just saying possibilities. Innocent until proven guilty. Correct. So she thinks it is something that we will have to visit if something does come down but at this point of time innocent until proven guilty. So she doesn't believe that we will be taking any action at this time. But if it is warranted we certainly will.

Carolyn Suffern of Knoxville, Tennessee. She said she lives in Kroger Lake, New York during the summer. She said before she begins her remarks she is going to reference two paintings. They are family paintings that are very important she thinks to her family but also to the Village. She said this one many have seen. It is John Suffern's home. And the other one is the home of Judge Edward Suffern. It was located where Avon is now. It is called the six mile painting because he said when he sat on his front porch all land he saw was his, extending six miles from Bergen County, New Jersey. He owned the Ramapo Pass, he owned up to the Ramapo Pass. He did grant right of way to the Erie Railroad allowing construction of the railroad. And in thanks that it remained the Suffern station, leading to the current name of the Village. This is Washington Avenue. She said she was trying to figure out when this was painted because she knew some various dates. Craig Long said that is Christ Church without the steeple on it so it was built in 1860. Mahwah River is here. She said anyhow she is going

to reference these and she just wanted to show them and anybody is welcome to look at them. She said she is a seventh generation descendant of John Suffern and maybe that her Ramapo Lenape friends say probably that is what is going on with her. Anyhow, an article recently was published in the newspaper of her upstate hometown reporting the village of Northville that was founded in 1780 has been added to the state's and national register of historic places. She said she wishes she had been reading the same news about the Village of Suffern which is as historical place as any in the United States. Inclusion in this national registry makes available the federal tax credit program that supports so well rehab of existing buildings like those in Suffern. Her home now is in Knoxville, Tennessee where their downtown has gone from being all but a ghost town to now being a thriving hub where many live and visit. Once drab apartments have been transformed and now are showcases. Refurbished buildings at their best. Their downtown restaurants are filled. Their shops are interesting and busy. This turnaround in Knoxville began because their mayor instituted the tax codes that support rehab rather than demolition of existing buildings. Becoming an historic district could help Suffern have it all. Existing buildings rehabbed to create exciting additional residential spaces that would be much in demand especially with the new Tappan Zee Bridge bus rapid transit. New construction perhaps in the area of Cross Street and upper Washington Avenue as well as increased visitation by tourists. Governor Cuomo is quoted in the article saying "preserving these historic sites helps promote tourism, one of New York's fastest growing industries especially upstate." In 2011 she was advised by a senior market analyst of tourism by the U.S. Department of Commerce that in 2010 33% of all international tourists visited New York City where they spent 42 billion dollars. She said she thinks Suffern can attract some of these international visitors and their money.

She said the crossroads of Suffern began as trials of indigenous native Americans whose descendants now have a spectacular museum which if sighted in Suffern could do much to attract high level tourism. Traffic for tourism here could be managed as it is in Cooperstown where visitors are encouraged to park in a system of outlying parking lots with trolley like rides to important sites. The crossroads of Suffern were all important during the Revolutionary War. In 1955 historian Sax Velour penciled in his book "Romantic Suffern" wrote of the strategic importance of the Ramapo Pass, writing "the Ramapo Pass has entirely lost site of all the published histories of the U.S. in part of the fact that it is very important and to cause it to become secret all military operations were carefully concealed. Historians harp on Bunker Hill and make history center about it. As soon as the rebellion was found to no longer be local, as soon as 13 colonies instead of one were seen to be in revolt the scene shifted to New York and the Ramapo Pass was the prize to be fought for." Heritage tourism built around Suffern's role in the war of independence and the Ramapo Pass would attract many. At war's end John Suffern bought the block house that guarded the pass. In later years his son Judge Edward donated the door to Washington's headquarters in Newburgh. This

door still exists and Suffern can have it back to help showcase its important revolutionary war history, if it wants it. On August 25, 1781 French General Rochambeau and his 5000 soldiers made encampment in Suffern as they were on their way to Yorktown, Virginia, where they defeated the British, essentially ending America's war of independence. The National Park Service now honors this route with the Washington-Rochambeau revolutionary route national historic trail and will install wayside panels in Suffern later this year.

Ms. Suffern said they have left this banner with her to share with us thinking perhaps the Village would like to hang the banners on Village streets. She said she will be leaving this one with Craig Long. She said she has been able to purchase two bills submitted to John Suffern on August 26, 1781, the day after Rochambeau, for services rendered to French troops. They say "John Van Houten served two days with a two horse team to transport the baggage of the French army and allowed one day to return home." Adolphus Lawmaker found "pasture for 98 head of cattle belonging to the first division of the French army one night." Adolphus lived on Orange Avenue. He is Craig Long's ancestor. His son Christian and wife, John Suffern's daughter Maria, lived on Orange Avenue as well. She said we have a picture of their tavern. She said she also has an original document of the 1806 boundary survey of the disputed New York/New Jersey line which includes mention of Christian A. Wanamaker and Mrs. Perhaps these documents as well as the photo of their tavern could be included in the book created for visitors to use on a self guided tour of the Village. She said she would help write it if asked. Suffern has a unique history to attract French visitors. The W3R is a collaboration of France and America and 5000 French soldiers made encampment in Suffern. A guest book to sign could include the offer to descendants of these French soldiers who visit this place that is in such close proximity to New York City to learn more about where their ancestors once made encampment. Suffern has important signs to France's most important Admiral, Pierre Andre Desorfen, which could help attract French tourists who would recognize the name if he were mentioned in Suffern. Admiral Desorfen is a cousin of her French family whose ancestor fled France in the 17th century. This admiral is the only French admiral who has been honored by having a ship named after him since 1791 to this day. His name is on the victory monument in Yorktown for the role he played in helping the American cause. She had documentation. He is the artist of the painting of John Suffern's home and Judge Edward's home which shows the six miles of land he owned leading to the Ramapo Pass. He was fleeing France as the last messengers of the Bourbon Dynasty were finding refuge with his cousins in America. She said her friend who is the French RA counsel in Virginia has urged Suffern to invite the French ambassador to the Village. He said he would be interested in knowing of Suffern's French connections. She said on her trip north from Knoxville last week she stopped in Wilmington, Delaware to pick up a pair of portraits being donated to the Village. The 93 year old owner told her in 1951 when she bought them she was told they were Suffern's and they were from New York.

She said she is certain and she can tell us why later. These are the wedding portraits of Judge Edward Suffern, son of John, and his bride Jane Cassidy. She said she has original documents associated with him including two of his letters. In one letter he offers advice to his son Andrew as Andrew was considering running for political office. Edward cautioned his son to consider the demands of his time and also family finances and also advises that you can't always trust those around you, meaning NCB who Craig Long advises was N.C. Blauvelt, perhaps the ancestor of the late Mr. Blauvelt who lived on Chestnut Street. It was Judge Andrew who granted right of way. These portraits are now entrusted to Dan McInerney and Craig Long who await Mayor Abato's input about where they should be hung. Ms. Suffern said she would gladly share her documents if there is interest to bring Judge Edward's "life event." Thinking or at least hoping that this Village will have her name for generations to come she wishes that Orange Avenue would be spared from oversized development projects so the aesthetic charm of the Village and its important history might be retained. She said she wishes the old hotel would be restored to offer lodging within the Village in walking distance of public transportation and she wishes an historic district could be created and she wishes efforts would be made to develop tourism in the Village. She has shared the images of John Suffern's tavern in the 1781 bill to the National Parks Service and has offered the image of Judge Edward's home to your Chamber of Commerce for their new brochure. She offers any and all of her Suffern family artifacts and documents to help support economic development in the Village of Suffern. She said she feels as if we are all in this together and she thanks the Board for her time.

The Mayor thanked her and said the next time she comes and she wants to give such a wonderful presentation to please let her know so that we can put her on the agenda.

Jim Giannettino of 2 Memorial Drive said he notices that you have Memorial Drive on this again. He said we aren't going to vote on that again, are we? The Mayor said vote on what. Mr. Giannettino for the speed bumps and the lower speed limit. The Mayor said you are stealing her thunder. She said we are not going to use speed bumps. The removable ones. We are actually going to put the humps. Mr. Giannettino said we voted on that in September. The Mayor said not the humps though. We have to do the humps. Mr. Giannettino said yes we did. Page 28 and 29 in the minutes. The Mayor said okay. We are going to do them again. Because we are putting them in and they are going in this time. Mr. Giannettino said he actually thought you forgot about them. The Mayor said no, they are going in and we are putting them in. Because the pool is going to open up and Little League is down there playing. The Mayor said we are doing it all.

Mr. Giannettino said he would like to take this couple of minutes to commend Cathy Mills on her outstanding performance over the one year that she has been here. She has instituted a lot of new programs and the seniors really appreciate it - the zumba, senior

art classes, the dog training at Lydon, meet and greet for the Chamber and working on the playgrounds. So he knows everyone was kind of fearful when Gail left but he thinks we found a gem and he would like to commend her. He thanked Cathy. The Mayor thanked him.

Isabel Haggerty of 4 Parkside Drive said she came here tonight because she had heard that the Village of Suffern and the Village of Airmont were considering with Airmont joining the police department - the Suffern police department. She said she sees that there is a resolution on this that is going to be done tonight. She said it is amending the Rockland County Police Act. She said she doesn't know if she is ahead of the game or if she should just wait and tell you what her opinion of this is or should she let them know now. The Mayor said go ahead. The Mayor said she will be speaking about it later on in the agenda. Mrs. Haggerty said you are going to be talking about it? The Mayor said she is going to be talking about it. Mrs. Haggerty said she wouldn't get a chance to talk then. The Mayor said that is why she is saying go ahead. Mrs. Haggerty said we are a small two square mile Village and Airmont is probably twice as large as we are. A few years ago, back there, they tried to have us snow blow and clear their village streets and also they requested that we build a structure so that they could store their snow blowers from a private concern in our Village. Thank God those requests were never granted. Now they want our police department because they don't like dealing with the Town of Ramapo. She said she is sure that is the reason. She said that we in the Village, at least, she said she doesn't know how many police we have - 24 policemen and women to cover our Village right now. How many more will we need to cover the much larger village of Airmont and how many more police cars will be needed. Granted they will give us money to cover these expenses but do we really know how much that will cost. Once they get a couple of cars how long will it be before they will want more. Why don't they create their own department. She said she is sure it is because it would be very costly. After our police department then what will they want - our water and DPW? They wanted their own village. Let them maintain their own services. She thanked the Board. The Mayor said she will talk about it later and answer her questions.

Jon Paul Molfetta of 600 Mohawk Court said that he is talking about the Pilot program and he knows that there are a lot of people who are against the program here and a lot of them spoke and made a lot of sense today about some of the other concerns that they have. He said that he is doing real estate in this county for nine years. His grandparents had a business here for 20 years. His mother had a business here for 25 years. And he is very interested in seeing Suffern progress and at the same time seeing Suffern maintain the Village charm that it has and that he has fallen in love with, which is the reason why he lives here. However, he is also seeing an exodus in real estate in this county. More specifically in this township and in the Suffern, Montebello and Airmont area. He said we are seeing a lot of people move out because of tax burdens and the inability to maintain home ownership. For a lot of you that bought into this Village many, many years ago you probably are not

carrying mortgages any more and so the affordability doesn't hit you as hard in the pocket. But for a young family, for he and his wife and their 18 month old baby, they often watch where they spend their money and watch where they buy their real estate and he thinks what you are seeing here with this proposal for the Pilot program is an invitation to get people here as opposed to leaving here. We are trying to invite people to support our downtown. You are trying to invite them with tourism and he thinks that is a great angle. He said he doesn't think that is something that should be abandoned but specifically to this project that is on the back end of an approval for the Pilot program it is an opportunity to jumpstart what is lacking so hard in this Village. He said he grew up in Newburgh, New York. A beautiful town on the water. A beautiful city with a tremendous amount of history. Since he was five years old we have been talking about redeveloping Newburgh and how it has hope and it is going to happen. It is not going to happen if things stay the way they are. We hope for preservation and hope for remodeling could maybe be done one building at a time. Here in Suffern we have a façade program which gives us a tremendous amount of money for grants to redo our brick and mortar buildings and yet we have had multiple building owners that are only asked to contribute 5% to the remodel and they can't afford, for whatever reason, to contribute. And so this preservation project to help restore our downtown now becomes a remodeling of wooden signs that are misproportionate to where they should be and it's a failure. And he thinks what happens is that we keep trying to make decisions without consulting real professionals and the Village Board has done a great job at challenging these developers that have come in and forcing them to relook at their Pilot program and making this program more profitable to Suffern and it is finally getting to a place where it makes sense financially because a month ago, eight weeks ago, it made absolutely no sense and now it's finally starting to make sense and he just thinks that abandoning the program for the sake of preserving some historical sense - he doesn't think that that is going to detract from the beauty of the Village of Suffern. There is no beauty on Orange Avenue. It's an eyesore. It's the one thing that he hears from both commercial and residential people that when he brings them into our downtown it's shanty and it frustrates him. He lives here. He loves this place. But he doesn't want to perpetuate what is already here. He doesn't want to continue to support just that area. He is not saying that that area should extend - a project like that should extend to all of downtown Suffern. He said we have a lot of beautiful buildings that range from Orange all the way up to Washington and some other buildings from Chestnut to Wayne. But we don't have that on Orange Avenue. And that hotel, if you have been in it, is the saddest form of living in downtown Suffern with communal bathrooms and poor electric and now that he has learned listening to all these forums contamination under the site. And it is not a site that is going to be developed and it certainly is not a site that can be afforded to be preserved by any grant money that we might get for historical preservation. So he knows that he is the minority here but as a young person who is looking to plant his seeds here and continue to live here he would just hope that

everyone considers for just this little section of downtown Suffern. That we give it a little bit of a jolt in the arm and invite some people - invite them to live in a beautiful new building where they can walk a block and enjoy an old downtown with a lot of history. Because he thinks it is the best of both worlds if we can get it to approve.

Jeff Genser said he will take another moment, thank you. Jeff Genser of 32 First Street said that he would just like to say a couple of things about the comments. The issues - the points that this gentleman just brought up - Mr. Molfetta - the issues that you blame for the reasons why people are fleeing Montebello, etc. have nothing to do with the Village of Suffern whatsoever. The Mayor asked Mr. Genser to address the Board, not Mr. Molfetta. Mr. Genser said he is sorry. The Mayor said if you have something to say to us that's okay. Mr. Genser said what he brought up has nothing to do with the Village of Suffern whatsoever. It has to do with the national economy. The fact that our politicians that we voted in are working for corporations and banks. They don't give a hoot about the public anymore. And they have made it so that we, as middle class people, can't afford to own houses anymore - not just in Suffern but all over the United States of America. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure that out. The middle class in the U.S. since 2007 income has gone up .3%. In Canada it went up 19.5%. So there is a concerted effort to screw the U.S. middle class. To use some of the examples that the gentleman just brought up as a reason why we should accept the Pilot, which is a negative dollar wise situation for the Village. We are going to lose money with the Pilot. Not get anymore money. And we are going to have people - we don't know who those people are that are going to move in there. We would like to get a certain type of people there but there is no guarantee. And he thinks it is important to realize that the problems that we have here were just a microcosm of the country. No one is to blame in the Village for what is going on here. We need to fight it out in Washington and to put a building over there that doesn't belong there in the current design and then he is asking for a Pilot in lieu of taxes - ridiculous. Thank you. No more than four stories. Commercial ground floor. Underground parking. Not enough parking right now for that thing. It is a disaster in the making. Please continue to vote no for it. The Mayor thanked him.

Marcello Russodivito said he came here for something else but - he said he doesn't know if you live in town when you say the bicycle they hit him in the space. Mr. Russodivito said he has been here 28 years and he tries to keep up with the pace of the town. But if you come to the back of his building there is no - it is terrible. And he is right on the back of the hotel. When do you think you are going to find somebody else to fix this up. Another 25 years from now? So you can be an advocate of everything that you say. A person can be an advocate of anything that you want but if somebody has another idea or something completely damaging the area then if you don't come with something instead of what we have right now you only make the area terrible. Really nobody wants to come. You come from Orange Avenue you have nothing there. You are riding on

Lafayette Avenue, like Molfetta was saying, there is no money. Nobody wants to put a penny into the buildings. How long can we go through that. He said he came here a couple of months ago when everybody was complaining about the building. He said he guesses they fixed some stuff. Most of the complaining was about the traffic. The traffic on Orange Avenue on a Friday night. He said he said to himself if that is the most of the complaining do you think that these people on a Friday night at 5 o'clock they are going to take their car to go shopping? That is crazy. If these are the problems like sewage and a lot of stuff. Then he understands. But the hotel right now has a lot of rooms already there. Nobody is taking care of anything. So he doesn't understand really. And also another thing. For the Board, right? If he makes a phone call to any person on the Board does he really need a phone call back? This is for Mr. Hagen. Mr. Frank Hagen. He said he made a phone call actually two times and he asked him to give him a call back. If you are part of the Board he thinks you should make phone calls - answer back or stop by to the residents and say what is your concern. That's all.

The Mayor thanked him. Mr. Genser said the parking issue would be exacerbated - the Mayor said to Mr. Genser excuse her - and a big problem if we had that building. You wouldn't have anybody to park to go to his restaurant. The Mayor said to Mr. Genser in the future to be respectful. We gave you time to speak. We did not interrupt him. She really would wish that he would be respectful of the Board and herself when she asks him. Mr. Genser apologized.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

A) Training:

Mr. Charles Sawicki said he was requesting authorization to attend the Stormwater Engineering for MS4's course offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension located in Middletown, New York on May 21, 2014. The cost for the course is \$230. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Byrne.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

B) Purchase Order Modification:

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to modify the WWTP heating and ventilating purchase order to Blend Air Mechanical. This modification will construct a platform, raising the make-up air unit 46 inches above grade to avoid potential flood damage at an additional cost of \$1400. The revised purchase order amount is \$32,300. Trustee Byrne asked if that amount was provided for

already with existing funds. The extra. Mr. Sawicki said this would be charged against the capital account. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen asked if this was in his projected budget. Mr. Sawicki said yes. Actually the projection amount, if he remembers correctly was \$45,000 for this particular item. So we are below that.
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee Matthew Byrne
Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

C) Proposal Approval:

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to approve the low bid proposal for the replacement of fencing damaged as a result of securing the site of Hurricane Irene damaged Lonergan Drive homes. This proposal is from Anchor Fence and is in the amount of \$3,995. The cost of this work will be charged to the FEMA buy-out account. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

D) Personnel:

Mr. Sawicki requested approval to create one (1) Maintenance Helper position for the Street Department. The Village Clerk said we have already sent this over to the county and we have permission to create another position. Mr. Sawicki said the reason is that we have one employee in the Street Department that we are shifting his responsibility and shifting his title - changing his title. The Mayor said correct. Mr. Sawicki said this would be the position that he would move into. The Mayor said we should say at the same salary. Mr. Sawicki said the same salary. Trustee Byrne said no additional budget monies for this? The Mayor and Mr. Sawicki said no. Mr. Sawicki said right now he is asking to create. The Mayor said we are not hiring anybody. It is just moving somebody into the position. And it is the same salary. Mr. Sawicki said he will actually come back next month most likely to actually make that move. The approval was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Mr. Sawicki requested the Mayor to appoint Mr. Albert Chamberlain to the Maintenance Helper position at the Street Department at a pay rate of \$24.53 per hour. The Mayor asked Mr. Sawicki to also explain that Al is moving from the - Mr. Sawicki said Al was at the Water Department and we are moving him to the Street Department in a different position. The Mayor said we are just moving personnel. Mr. Sawicki said we are shifting Al from the Water Department to the Street Department and moving Eric from the Street Department to the Water Department. Trustee Byrne said no net budget effect? Mr. Sawicki said actually it would be less money overall. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

Noes: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Sawicki requested the Mayor to appoint Mr. Eric Andresen to the Assistant Maintenance Mechanic position at the Water Department at a pay rate of \$27.32 per hour. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meehan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

Noes: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Sawicki said the next item he is going to withdraw. The gentleman called and asked to be withdrawn from consideration from the position. We will have to look at other candidates.

Mr. Sawicki requested approval to carry over five (5) days of his vacation from fiscal 2014 to fiscal 2015. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

Noes: None

ABSENT: None

VILLAGE CLERK:

A) Concession Stand - Proposals:

Village Clerk Virginia Menschner said the first thing on the agenda is the two bids that we received for the concession stand up at the pool. One was \$750 from Moussad Hovkat for \$750 and the other bid is from B-Balls Meatballs for \$700. Attorney Rice said this is for the concession bids and we don't have to give it to the highest bidder. We can take into account whatever considerations. The Mayor said she just wanted to mention that B-Balls ran our concession last year and Cathy has told us that she was quite happy with them. They did a great job with no problems. The other bid is looking to bring in grills and do a lot of different things that we are probably not equipped for at this time. So she would like the Board to keep that in consideration when we are voting tonight. A motion to accept the bid from B-Balls Meatballs was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

Noes: None

ABSENT: None

B) Special Permit - B-Balls Meatballs - 3 Tables and 6 Chairs:

Ms. Menschner said we have three requests for tables and chairs. One is from B-Balls Meatballs. They want 3 tables and 6 chairs. The Village Clerk said this has all been approved by the code enforcer. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

C) Special Permit - Crumbs Bakery - 3 Tables and 6 Chairs:

The Village Clerk said the second one is from Crumbs and their request is for 3 tables and 8 chairs. The Mayor said that is what they had last year. Trustee Byrne asked if it is 6 chairs or 8 chairs. The Village Clerk said 8 chairs he has. The Mayor said you have 6 on the agenda. So it is 8. Trustee Byrne asked what is the time frame? Is there a window where it has to end? The Mayor said yes, we have that in the code. The end of November. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

D) Special Permit - Shamrock Hotel - 10 Tables, Chairs, Umbrellas:

The Village Clerk said then we have the Shamrock Hotel. They requested 10 tables, chairs and umbrellas to go with them. Trustee Byrne asked if we knew how many chairs or does it matter. The Village Clerk said he evidently needs 4 chairs at each table. He has an empty lot alongside the building. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

E) Request - Memorial Day Parade:

Ms. Menschner said we have a request for a Memorial Day parade. It has always been with the American Legion up on the hill requesting permission to hold it and he wants to start at 10:45 down at the Avon parking lot and continue up to our monument here on Washington Avenue. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried. The Mayor said 10:45 is line up. The Village Clerk said they said that the ceremony will conclude around noon and all will be invited to join them at the American Legion Post on Pavilion Road for refreshments.

F) Fred Rella - Grant Writer:

The Village Clerk the next thing is for the grant writer - Fred Rella. His agreement comes up July 1. A motion approving the renewal of his contract was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

Noes: None

ABSENT: None

G) Valet Parking - DaNina:

The Village Clerk said we have valet parking for DaNina's down on Lafayette Avenue. This was given to the code enforcers and they both agreed with it. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Attorney Rice said this is contingent upon insurance. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

H) Special Permit - Marcello's - Live Music:

Ms. Menschner said next we have the live music for Marcello's which was tabled two months ago. The Mayor said to Marcello that you had brought to us a special permit for live music and the Board had some concerns regarding a permit that you already held for your valet parking. We have received numerous complaints that the valet service is not adhering to the regulations of the permit and they are using Lafayette Avenue for parking instead of using the B lot as is in the permit. The Mayor herself, and Deputy Mayor Corrigan did go down as a courtesy to him because he is a much-valued restaurant owner in our Village to observe the valet parking down there. The Mayor said she personally observed his valet parking person not only park the car on Lafayette Avenue but backed the car up, was parked a few spots away from the restaurant, and backed it up so that the person that had come out could get into his car and leave. Deputy Mayor Corrigan has seen similar incidents as well as

many residents. There has been several complaints regarding parking on the street. The Mayor said she spoke with the police chief who has also told her on numerous occasions they have come down to bring it to Marcello's attention but it seems to be getting worse instead of better. So the Board wanted to speak with him and hear from him with regards to this valet permit and then of course if we are going to issue another permit we want to make sure that we have our first permit in order before we go on to the following permit. So she invites him to the microphone to speak.

Trustee Byrne said he just makes the observation that it looks like the same company is handling both valet enterprises which is interesting. You would think that they would be in sync.

Marcello Russodivito said we have been doing this for 17 years. So he only can say one thing. If there is one parking space - he said we park about 32 cars on average. On a Saturday night about 40 cars. In front of the restaurants there is only maybe three spots left. So if the car - if the valet guy comes in or a customer comes in and takes the parking and there is no more parking after two cars in front of the restaurant. There is no more parking. So the guy has to go to the municipal parking lot. But if there is only three cars or four cars that they are parking on Lafayette and then he parks another 35 cars into the lot. Isn't that a gain for the town either way? If he takes the valet parking away completely we will have another issue about parking anyway because the first five cars that are coming in they will occupy all of Lafayette.

The Mayor said it is her understanding that if you are doing valet service that those spots in the front are only for your patrons that come in and do not use your valet service. Is that correct? Marcello said no. The way the valet parking arrives - they park in the front - they go for the Chinese restaurant and he pays also for that, just to let them know, because you would not do any takeout. They pull in and they go and pick up. He doesn't pay a penny. So Marcello has provided that. And before he was providing that for the bar across the street or for anybody who wants the valet if they want to go to zumba or wherever they want to go. If they cannot find parking on the streets he allows them to valet anybody that they want. The Mayor said she thinks he is not understanding her question. Marcello said no, no, he understands her question very well. Because you are right. If his valet guy takes the car and he goes into the municipal parking lot - the time he is coming back. If he finds one car he parks one car over here and he gets another car and he goes maybe into the second spot and he comes to the third car - he has to go to the valet. Because the guy that arrives in front of the restaurant the first parking spot he finds he takes it. He is not stupid. He is not going to give the car to the valet if there is a spot in front of the restaurant. Marcello said he understands the rules. He understands. But it would not make sense because he still takes away 30 cars from the streets.

The Mayor said let me turn this around on you just for a minute. This is your restaurant. Your valet person goes and gets that car

and puts it on the street and goes back for another one because the people are not there or whatever the case is. The Mayor said she pulls up - she doesn't want to valet her car. She wants to park her car. Marcello said so go park the car. The Mayor said there is no parking spots because your valet people have now taken those up. I go right by and go up to another restaurant some place out of the Village. Marcello said he doesn't understand that. The Mayor said the point is that your valet service is just that. They should not be taking any spots on Lafayette Avenue. The purpose of having a valet service is to be able to have patrons who want to come into the Village and park their own cars. That there are spots there. Not for the - Marcello said we are only taking two spots. Parking space because basically - Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said but one of the spots the valet man parks his own car in every single day. Marcello said we can tell him not to park over there. He said he can't understand - he can tell him that. But that is only one car. Right? The Mayor said but that is still one space. Marcello said in the winter time he is using it because he is very cold and then he comes out and he parks the car. He said he understands. There is not a perfect situation on this. There is no perfect situation. If you want to deny the valet deny the valet. He can't go in and control everybody. He can't. He said he pays \$2,000 a month. The Mayor said we don't want to deny anything. Marcello said he knows but what can he do. The Mayor said we want you to work out the fact that there are certain things that are being done by the valet service that we can't have happening. Marcello said why can't we do something that we decided so long ago that nobody has wanted to do it. Why don't we create one spot with three valet guys. DaNina, me and the Chinese restaurant. We create one spot for valet guys. Then you are eliminating the problem. He cannot be the only one paying for this. The Mayor said why don't you work with them and do that. Marcello said but you create the spot in the middle. It doesn't have to be in front of his restaurant. The Mayor said once we know that you are all in agreement we can then identify a spot and it can be one valet space. Marcello said okay. Then let's get to DaNina. Let's get DaNina to get involved because he is the only one that is paying. Let's get the Chinese next door to him to contribute. And let's do it. He said he was willing to do this a long time ago. His price will go down. The Mayor said thank you. Reach out to them. Let us know. And we will be happy to work with the three of you. Marcello said why don't you have somebody with the Village to say let's do this. The Mayor said because we can't offer a service to them that is somebody else's business. We cannot get involved. Marcello said what is the best place to put it. Because that is a problem. The Mayor said that is something that we would look into once we know that you guys have all agreed and that you are ready to do this. Then we would have the police chief and the code enforcer and our DPW supervisor go out there and identify the best place for it that works for everyone. Marcello said okay. So we have to connect with the Chinese restaurant, with DaNina and with him. We have three restaurants. So we find a place somewhere in between. We have to get the Chinese guy to come up with some money. The Mayor said that now that you have four valet guys you can't put four cars there to sit in to keep warm. Do you agree?

Marcello said no, no. The idea is that one guy is not able to park the car constantly all the time. The Mayor said she agrees. You need another guy. Marcello said another guy then he will just move into a parking lot then he is cheaper. It is cheaper than being in town. The Mayor said do that and get back to us. Let us - if the Board is in agreement let's give Marcello two months on his valet parking permit to work this out and we can revisit it then. Does that sound fair? Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said and the valet man will not park his car in one of those spots. The Mayor said all cars must be parked in the B lot - agreed? Marcello said he is not going to commit it. He said he would prefer to find a second option. Somebody from the town to help them to identify where they want to put the valet and deny the valet to DaNina and deny the valet to - the Mayor said she wants to give him two months to get it all together. If it gets together before that, that's great. But she doesn't want him to have no valet parking. So she wants to extend his permit for two months so that you are able to talk to DaNina and you would be able to talk to the Chinese restaurant. We are able to identify a location and all is good. Do you get that point? She said she is not saying to him that we are renewing his permit and that's it. You have to keep your own permit. What she is saying to him - Marcello said what if DaNina says no and the Chinese restaurant says no. Then what does he do. The Mayor said then we are going to revisit it. But you have two months. Marcello said okay. But the Chinese restaurant doesn't want to spend a penny. He asked him for \$20 towards it and he didn't want to spend the \$20. So either we include him - the Mayor said then you do it with DaNina. Marcello said DaNina says he has the five - where do you think DaNina puts the cars. Explain to him. Where do you think DaNina puts the cars. He has only eight spots. Where do you think he puts them. The Mayor said well he better be putting them in the B lot. Marcello said come on. Let's be realistic. He has a parking space, he has six spots in his parking lot so he has to park the cars on the street as well, like everybody else. But the problem is not about the parking. The problem is the person that comes in town if he doesn't find the parking for himself, if he doesn't find the parking himself, he has some help. If an older person, a handicapped person, if he doesn't find the parking on the streets he has the choice to stop in front of DaNina, to stop in front of Marcello, get the person, get out, and then if he doesn't want to park his own car because he can't find anything then the valet guy takes it. So if the valet guy is able to find the parking maybe three parking further - the Mayor said no. That is against the regulations of the valet parking permit. Marcello said okay. Then can we change it to do something that is a little bit - the Mayor said we cannot change it. The purpose of valet parking is to free up spots in the downtown. Marcello says it does. He parks 40 cars. He only finds three on the streets. The Mayor said you can't have the best of both world's. It is either valet parking or it is no valet parking. You can't have all the spots on the street plus valet parking in the B lot. It is one or another. We created valet parking so that - Marcello said okay. Then we have to make a choice. But can you appoint somebody to help him with this. He can't do it himself. The Mayor said we cannot broker that deal for

him. Marcello said but when - another thing. That is even better for the town. Why don't we create a parking space in the middle of Lafayette. Somewhere. Where anybody can go and valet. Anybody. Zumba or whatever is up there. Ole, Ole. We put it in the middle and it is not paid by him. It has to be paid by somebody. The Mayor said that is something that we can't engage in. We cannot get involved in a business that is going to get involved with him in making money. We cannot do that. We cannot advertise for them. We cannot broker it. Marcello said okay. Then allocate it to find a parking space in the middle and then we will figure it out with the valet guy and create a valet for everybody. The Mayor said no, she has to have commitments from those people before she can locate anything. Marcello said okay. He will. He will try.

Trustee Meehan said we can regulate the valet parking company. We have certain rules they have to follow.

Trustee Meegan-Corrigan made a motion to allow Marcello to have valet parking for two months and said the valet parking gentleman cannot park his car in one of the two spots anymore. And they can park only in the B lot. And a letter is to be sent to DaNina. The motion was seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

The Mayor said to Marcello that if need be extended because you don't have it all together yet we can do that or if turns out that it doesn't work out and you will come back and we will work your valet parking permit. The Mayor said after you get together with them and you figure who it is that will be using the valet parking we can talk about that. We can set up a meeting.

A motion to allow Marcello to have live music with the usual stipulations was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Byrne. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

A) Water/Sewer Billings:

Treasurer Tom Zordan said water and sewer billings were mailed out on April 30. The total billings were \$1,513,230 and he would like to thank all the people that are paying promptly. He appreciates that.

B) Approval of Lease Financing for New Telephone System:

Treasurer Zordan said he was requesting approval of the lease financing for the new telephone system in the amount of \$21,203. This is with First Niagara Bank. He said we are replacing the phone system that we have because it is a little antiquated and it is so old that to buy a replacement if a phone breaks we have to search e-bay and pray that someone has one for sale. Because they just don't make them anymore. They don't have them in stock in the back room anymore. So we have to upgrade it. And what we are doing to

pay for this is again, we have an old phone system that is what they call copper lines. Plain old telephone - it is called Pots. What happens is you have your phone bill. Each line you have you pay for - like \$9 a month. What happens is we are going to get a little modern and get what they call T1 service. And because of that we can put 23 lines into one line - one cable so to speak. And we only pay for that one instead of paying for 23 individual ones. We pay for one. And this is going to save us, he thinks, a little over \$600 a month and that will more than cover the monthly payment for the new phone system. So one of the things he had to do was see what kind of financing is the most feasible and basically we have three types of financing. We can either get a long-term bond, get what we call a BAN - Bond Anticipation Note - which is generally for a five-year period or we can lease it from a leasing company. The Mayor said not lease. Installment purchase contract. Mr. Zordan said installment purchase contract. So those are our three options. And based on the \$21,000 figure getting a long-term bond for ten years would not be feasible because the cost associated with getting a bond for getting the bond counsel, getting the auditors involved and getting a financial professional involved that puts the bond out for bidding would probably cost more than what we are going to borrow. So that would not be a prudent thing to do. Getting a BAN, on the other hand, a five-year note - he doesn't think a bank would be willing to issue a BAN for \$21,000. But here again you would have to pay bond counsel which for a BAN now is roughly \$900 and you are going to do it for five years so that is \$4500 for bond counsel and then you are subject to interest rate fluctuation each year when you renew it. So that would not be a wise thing to do in his opinion. So this installment purchase seems to be our best option. Least costly in the long run. And like he said it would coincide with our monthly savings on our phone bill so that area that you are paying for the phone system and then it is offset by the actual cost of phone usage. So that being said he has given the Board a little synopsis and he would ask at this time for the Board to authorize him to go ahead and make this installment purchase. A motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the installment purchase agreement for \$21,000 with First Niagara Bank was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan, who said
this is just another incident of Mr. Zordan saving us
money.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

TRUSTEES:

Trustee John Meehan said this is a motion to accept the proposal of View Finders Marketing Research Company which is located in Pearl River, New York and the proposal is for \$2500 and it is to be

funded by a grant from the Suffern Community Foundation. The Mayor asked Trustee Meehan if we had agreement from the Community Foundation. Trustee Meehan said they are going to be meeting tomorrow night and he has spoken to the members. The Mayor said then we are going to have to authorize it subject to their approval. Trustee Meehan said yes. That would be fine with him. Trustee Meehan made a motion to authorize it subject to the approval of the Community Foundation, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Trustee Byrne said if we could have a discussion. He said some of the concerns that he raised at the workshop. He said we have created a downtown committee at the direction of Trustee Meehan and there are twenty some odd people who have an awful lot of talent in areas in trying to revitalize our downtown and this proposal is to conduct a study - market research to determine why people aren't coming downtown. He said he thinks there is a lot of talent in that room, frankly, and while he certainly applauds the desire to revitalize. He said he has lived in Suffern for 47 years and downtown revitalization has been the topic for each of those 47 years - for the last 40 that he remembers - and as a Board member who has a business downtown and owns a building downtown he has a vested interest in all of that and he just questions the need to spend more money to study something when we have a large group of people sitting in a room with a lot of talent and a lot of expertise. And he would just like to exhaust those minds first and get their - he said he doesn't think this is a rocket-science kind of question frankly and he just thinks spending - and he knows it is not a lot of money - and he knows the Foundation, which he is a member, and he hasn't been asked whether he supports it yet or not and he may be in the minority - but he just thinks that we can spend money on something else and he thinks we should exhaust the talent that we have from all the volunteers who have offered to serve on that committee.

Trustee Meehan said to let him respond. He said he has been to the meeting and we do have a lot of talented people. None of those people on our committee have experience, specific experience, in market research however. We have a lot of people in marketing and in sales and in a lot of other areas but not specifically in market research. Market research is a science and that is why a lot of - most fortune - well 99% of fortune 500 companies use market research to promote their products and what we are going to be doing here is that we are going to be conducting three different focus groups and at the end of conducting these focus groups and the members in the focus groups are very carefully and scientifically selected by professionals in market research and at the end of that they will come up with a questionnaire and that questionnaire will be distributed Village-wide and to areas outside our Village as well and we are going to come up hopefully with the answers to the questions. The Village of Suffern has spent over a million dollars mostly in grant money - having new streets and sidewalks and lamps and really trying to make the downtown better. And he knows that the Chamber of Commerce in the Village has spent a lot of money in marketing endeavors. But we have not been successful and he is hoping that this scientific approach, the same

approach that is taken by fortune 500 companies and by political candidates, successful political candidates, will help us out and give us a direction for the marketing of this Village.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee John Meehan

NOES: Trustee Matthew Byrne

ABSENT: None

Attorney Rice said subject to funding by the Community Foundation.

Trustee Hagen said that since Marcello asked him a question - he said Marcello is not here - but just to answer Marcello and the many threatening e-mails and phone calls. He is surprised that his house wasn't burned down. He said why would he call somebody back that wants to attack him. So he chose the high road not to call people back. He said he is talking about the Pilot program. So if he didn't respond he thinks he did the right thing. If people feel that he has to respond to them, his address is in the book. Write him a letter. And he will write back. Or come to a Board meeting where you ask him a question where we discuss the Pilot.

MAYOR:

A) Officer Lou Venturini:

The Mayor said we don't often get commendation letters and she found this one to be really wonderful and she wanted to share it. When we had a fire over on Stewart Circle over at Berkeley Square we had two officers over there - Sgt. Dave Tarantino and Officer Lou Venturini. And she received a letter from the Mayor of Sloatsburg commending their actions over there and commending their dedication using their training to save so many lives over there by knocking on doors and their quick and swift response in getting people out of the buildings. So she just wanted to bring that to everyone and to thank Sgt. Tarantino and Officer Lou Venturini for their service to this Village and to thank our Chief for having such wonderful officers out there keeping us safe everyday.

B) Resolution - Request Senate and Assembly Amending Rockland County Police Act:

The Mayor said the next thing she is going to talk about is that tonight we have a resolution to request the Senate and Assembly to amend the Rockland County Police Act. What we are trying to accomplish, quite frankly, is we have been approached by the village of Airmont and the village of Hillburn to contract police services with the Village of Suffern. The problem was that there is, under the Police Act, legislation that does not allow villages to contract with villages for police services. So this resolution that we are entering into tonight would ask the Senate and Assembly

to revisit that legislation and allow villages to contract with villages for police services. And when we were first approached with the village of Airmont, of course, it was something that we really truly wanted to investigate. It is not something that we sought. It is not something that we went out after but we were approached. And when we sat down and we figured out what the expense would be to the Village, what the savings would be to the Village in our own budget, what the expense would be to Airmont and what the savings would be to the Airmont taxpayers it was a no brainer. It just totally made sense. The portion of our budget for police services is very, very large. We would be able to reduce that to our Suffern taxpayers while not taking away any services to our own Village and in addition to that all of the officers that would be hired would create jobs. We would not be looking to anyone in the town of Ramapo, if the town of Ramapo felt that they needed to downsize their police department, we would absorb those police officers. We are not looking for anyone to lose their jobs. We are just looking for an opportunity to save our taxpayers a significant amount of money as well as working with other communities so they also can be saving a lot of money. This will in no way, shape or form affect the police coverage that we have right now. Our services will remain the same. And quite frankly we may even be adding services because there is going to be more police officers out on the street and Airmont borders our village and they are so close that in emergency situations we would have actually more police officers responding then we do now. And it has always been - when she took this job as Mayor - keeping taxes down is something that she truly believes and in this day and age we need to look into. So she felt it was her duty to look into this. And it truly would save our taxpayers a significant amount of money. Shared services is becoming a very big thing and it does work and it does save us money. So these are things that we are looking into. And like she said. Tonight is just asking for the legislation to be revisited and to allow villages to contract with villages for police services. Tonight we have also been approached by the village of Hillburn Mayor and Board who also are interested in working with the Suffern Police Department. Again, not any services in this Village will be in the least bit affected and again it will significantly impact a reduction in taxes for our taxpayers here in the Village of Suffern. So yes, she is going to have Terry explain the procedural contents of the resolution.

Attorney Rice said again we talked about the Parking Authority and tonight we passed the last step for the Village in that scenario which was the Home Rule request. As he mentioned earlier the first step was to ask the Assembly and State Senate to have their bill drafters draft the appropriate legislation. So that was already done with respect to Airmont. This is one that would be done with respect to Hillburn. So if it is approved by both Hillburn and Suffern then we will send it to the various houses in the State Legislature. The bill drafters will draft a bill. If it is in the form that we find acceptable then we will again be called upon with respect to that legislation to pass the Home Rule request. If that is passed then the legislation, the bar that presently exists, will

be eliminated and then we can negotiate whatever contracts and agreements that benefit both municipalities. So this is just the very preliminary stage to get the ball rolling so that at least legally it can happen if both municipalities agree.

Trustee Meehan said it is his understanding if the current Rockland County Police Law which prohibits this is repealed that is all that would need to be. Attorney Rice said that is what this is asking for. This is asking to have it amended - to have the Rockland County Police Act amended so that that particular prohibition would be removed. Trustee Meehan said okay. Trustee Meehan said that was the whole Rockland County Police Act. Trustee Byrne asked if there had to be a separate resolution for each municipality or if there is an amendment to the act is it going to be a general - Attorney Rice said an amendment to the act is going to be all encompassing. It will affect all villages in Rockland County. Who knows what is going to happen with Airmont or Hillburn have the choice whether or not to go forward. That is why we are doing it for the communities who are anticipating - Trustee Byrne said so for arguments sake - if another municipality approached us after there was a successful amendment to the Police Act we would not have to the State once more. Attorney Rice said we wouldn't have to. Once the legislation is changed it is changed. Trustee Byrne said and tonight, as we said, it is not a commitment to the details or an agreement with any municipality. Mayor Abato said so far from it. Trustee Byrne said it is simply a kind of agreement to start the discussion and to work out with the State whether or not it even happens. Attorney Rice said it is just the beginning of trying to get the Rockland County Police Act. Trustee Byrne said he thinks obviously, and he doesn't want to speak for anyone else on the Board, but the Mayor has already said it. He said he would like to see any savings as substantial as we think it may be be earmarked for tax stabilization, tax reduction would be even better. And that it be - he said we are not even there yet, he realizes that - but certainly he would be supportive of something that saved the taxpayers and actually reduced taxes which would be a wonderful thing. Provided the details can be worked out.

VILLAGE OF SUFFERN

RESOLUTION NO. 8 OF 2014

WHEREAS, the Village of Suffern maintains its own police department and has done so since 1896; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the Village of Suffern do not pay real property taxes to the Town of Ramapo for police services; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hillburn does not maintain its own police department and presently receives such services from the Town of Ramapo; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hillburn is interested in contracting with the Village of Suffern for the provision of police services and to discontinue paying real property taxes to the Town of Ramapo for such services; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hillburn abuts the Village of Suffern; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Suffern is interested in entering into a joint municipal agreement, depending on the terms and conditions thereof, with the Village of Hillburn to provide such police services to the Village of Hillburn; and

WHEREAS, such an agreement would be mutually beneficial to the residents of the Village of Suffern and the Village of Hillburn; and

WHEREAS, as is presently exists, § 1A of the Rockland County Police Act provides that:

The compensation of such policemen shall be a town charge, except that the town board may enter into an agreement with any village within it which maintains a police department of four (4) or more policemen on an annual full-time basis and determine what part of the cost of the police department shall be assessed against the property in the village and what part shall be assessed to the property in the town outside the village.

WHEREAS, the foregoing provision prevents the Villages of Suffern and Hillburn from entering into such a joint municipal agreement; and

WHEREAS, in order to effectuate such a joint municipal agreement § 1A of the Rockland County Police Act is required to be amended, as set forth below, to provide that the residents of any such municipality would not be subject to real property taxation from the town for police services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern desires to initiate the process for the enactment of legislation amending to Rockland County Police Act in order to effectuate such an agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern hereby requests that the offices of Senator Carlucci and Assemblywoman Jaffee cause to be prepared the appropriate legislation to amend § 1A of the Rockland County Police Act to provide as follows:

No assessment on property in a village within the town can be made for the maintenance or

operation of a town police department if the village maintains a police department of four (4) or more policemen on an annual full-time basis. A village is also deemed to maintain a police department of four (4) or more policemen on an annual basis if it contracts with another municipality that maintains a police department of four (4) or more policemen on an annual full-time basis for the provision of police services.

A motion to proceed was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Hagen.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee Matthew Byrne, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

C) Review of Pilot Agreement:

The Mayor said that Mr. Meehan and Mr. Hagen had some serious concerns with the Pilot Agreement for the Orange Avenue project. Mr. Meehan had suggested that an attorney be engaged to review the Pilot Program and to give an opinion on how it would impact the Village. Orange Avenue Developers have agreed to pay up to \$5000 to have this done. This attorney is from Uniondale, New York. He has no attachments to either Mr. Goldstein or the project or the Village of Suffern and he has returned to us, which we just received today, his opinion on the Orange Avenue Associates Pilot Program. The Mayor said she would also like to mention that he has also e-mailed her to let her know that he was able to reduce the Pilot to 35 years - not 40 years - and he would like for us to review this report from Mr. Curry and revisit it and bring it up for a vote again. So she has made copies of the opinion of Mr. Curry if anyone would like to come up and get one. They are more than welcome to. She said she urges them to please read through it. It is actually a favorable recommendation and you will get a sense of why Mr. Curry believes it is beneficial to the Village. So she urges everyone to please take one and read it.

The Mayor said that she thinks at this time we will be setting a special meeting to have a vote again on the Pilot Program after we have been able to review the recommendations of the attorney and in lieu of the fact that the Pilot has now been reduced to 35 years the applicant has asked for this to be revoted on.

The Mayor asked what is the Board's pleasure on setting a date for a special meeting. The Mayor said incidentally it was on the agenda for tonight. We probably could have voted on this tonight but she truly felt as though that she wanted to be able to have an

opportunity to review Mr. Curry's recommendations as well as the Board to have time to also digest the information. She did not feel it was an appropriate time to take a vote tonight. That is why we are not voting on it tonight. But are going to set a special meeting to vote on the Pilot. Which will not be a public hearing by the way because we have already had the public hearing on it. This is just bringing it up for another vote.

Trustee Meehan said he would be available on Thursday at noon. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said if need be she could come in on her lunch hour. Trustee Byrne said he wouldn't be voting but he may still attend and he will refer it to everyone else's schedule obviously. A motion to set the special meeting for Thursday at 12 noon was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Trustee Meehan said also could we televise this. The Mayor said sure, as long as we have somebody available. It won't be very long. It will be at noon on May 15. Jim Giannettino asked if there were any other changes other than the year. The Mayor said nothing - just the 35 years. Mr. Giannettino said he had a question on the benches. The Mayor said they are ordered. They are ordered and we are just waiting for them to come in. And they are going to be installed. Trustee Byrne asked if we decided where they are going. The Mayor said yes, we have decided. Trustee Meehan said Avon Park and John Suffern Park.

D) Vacant Buildings Law - Set Public Hearing:

The Mayor said in thinking about working on the Downtown Committee and walking the Village everyday and looking at all the vacant stores that have been vacant for quite some time it occurred to her that a lot of them are in disarray and kind of cause a blight look to the Village. So she spoke to Attorney Rice and we have put together a vacant building law and she will let Attorney Rice explain to them some of the things that we have incorporated into it. We are hoping that these will be a little incentive to our downtown building owners to try to get these buildings cleaned up, maintained and hopefully filled.

Attorney Rice said he e-mailed a first draft to the Board members today so if you have any comments he would like to have them. He kind of constructed what he thought the Board might be interested in doing with respect to the issue. Basically if a building is going to be vacant, it has to be maintained, first of all. It has to keep up its appearances to the extent possible so that it doesn't look like it is a vacant building but it is just part of the community. And by the way it doesn't apply just to the stores, although that is the main impetus behind the law. It also requires registration and obtainment so that there is the ability to recover our costs for policing it and various other maintenance standards. It is not instead of our maintenance law - the provisions in the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention Building Code - but in addition to them and as we have said in the law in case there is

any conflict between the two the most stringent will apply. So he would appreciate it if they would take a look at it and if you have any suggestions or criticisms, whatever, he would be happy to make the changes and hopefully he will get that sooner rather than later so that we can hold a public hearing at the June 2 Village Board meeting and get it enacted. The Mayor said and we also will put this on the website as soon as Terry has tweaked it and heard from the Board members. It will be available on the website for review. A motion to set a public hearing for June 2 at 7:40 p.m. was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

E) VFW Building:

The Mayor said it was with a very heavy heart that she had a visit from Mr. Culotta and Mr. Clifford with regards to the VFW building on Ramapo Avenue. As years have gone by and we have lost so many of our wonderful servicemen and they have gone on in years it has become more increasingly difficult for them to keep and maintain the VFW building which is to her she has never known Ramapo Avenue without that building. So it was sad for her to come to know that they are going to be looking to sell the VFW building. The Mayor said it would be a great hindrance on them because by also selling the building they would have to leave the building and try to find other smaller quarters to continue on the great work that they do with scholarships in the community. So she had the opportunity to sit and speak with these fine gentlemen and it looks like we are in agreement for the Village of Suffern to purchase the VFW building and we will be working with their attorney's to finalize the agreement with them. We would like to keep our VFW members in the building. We don't want them to leave. So they will remain on and pay their expenses there. We will also be taking over the parking spots, the commuter parking spots that are there. We will be getting the fees from that as well per month. There are about 38 spots. And the building, she is sure that most of you have been in it at some occasion, and you know that it is a great recreational building which we can use for our own events as well as renting out to different individuals who are looking for a hall to have an event in. She is also looking to maintain the history of the VFW in this building. To keep the wonderful memorabilia that they have on the walls. To keep the history in tact in the building as well as our VFW members. So she is hoping by next month's meeting she will have more details for them. She asked Mr. Culotta or Mr. Clifford if they wanted to come up and say a few words.

Charles Culotta thanked the Mayor very much. He said is the commander of the VFW post here in Suffern. He said he does not live in Suffern. He lives in Airmont and he kind of hopes the deal with the Airmont police - the Village police so your policemen won't be knocking at his door. No, he thinks that is fine. He thinks that is a wonderful collaboration of police departments. It is. But what he came here to do is to thank her for her creative and leadership abilities in our reaching a conclusion of what we can do with our building. We dreaded the thought of possibly it being demolished

for whatever other reasons and they didn't want to see that and you very well summarized the reasons why that building should remain the way it is in an honor and tribute to our veterans and on behalf of all the members they deeply thank her for housing them at the building - that they can remain and do and pursue the work that they have been doing over all these years. He said their post here in Suffern is getting on to 80 years old so they have been in business a long time and they are looking very much forward to the ability to keep going on and to perpetuate the memories of those who have served in the past - served in the present - and remain there now. He said he would like to say that we would love to see more members come in but on the other hand he doesn't love to see any more wars. He thanked the Mayor very much and they look forward to our kind consideration.

F) Speed Bumps - Ramapo, Oakdale Manor, Memorial Drive:

The Mayor said we have tried removable speed bumps throughout the Village and they just seem to end up in the river or to be pulled up or to be destroyed. So she was trying to find ways to be able to slow down traffic, especially on Ramapo Avenue as well as Oakdale Manor and Memorial Drive and she has been doing her research and it seems like the speed humps now are the thing of the future and they work quite well. Because if you hit that at a high rate of speed, trust her, you will never do that again. You will remember that it is there. And we really need to be more conscientious of keeping our streets safe. We have a lot of children, we have a lot of senior citizens here, and we really need to be more diligent in keeping our roads safe and in his wisdom Chief Osborn started our safe roads program a few years back and has really kept on looking at the different roads in the Village and making sure that they are safe. So we have identified that these are three streets that truly need some help with speed reduction for safety concerns in addition to a stop sign up in Bon Aire that she is going to let Chief come up and explain to them what it is all about.

Chief Osborn said that one of the things we do is we identify problem areas due to residents complaints, complaints of motorists and officer observations and one of the areas that we have a lot of concern with is Bon Aire Circle as you come up the hill if you are traveling south at the intersection of Milford Lane. Coming north on Bon Aire Circle there is a stop sign. Up on the top of Milford there is a stop sign. There is a two-way stop sign but there is three ways at the intersection. One of the concerns that they have, and he just spoke to Charles, and we are going to work together with John Lange and get a traffic engineer. We have had requests. He actually spoke to a group of residents on Bon Aire West. Parents of children at Montebello Elementary and he met with them and they were concerned about that intersection not having a stop sign. The concern is coming up the hill. You have to have a certain line of sight to the stop sign. He said he knows there are other things we can do like put a sign "stop sign ahead" or similar things. He said he wants to get a traffic engineer in there, John Lange, just to give us an idea if it is practical to put one in. That is

definitely a concern. He said it was actually brought up at one of the Bon Aire Condo meetings he attended. Three different condo presidents brought it up so we are going to continue this. We hopefully will get John Lange this week to give us an assessment to what he thinks. The Mayor said that is a good idea. She was out there looking at it today and she is sure there are things we can do to make the line of sight better on that but right now as it stands she would have concerns about that as well. So she thinks it makes sense to have John look at it. Chief Osborn said he appreciates that. Next month he will come back and if it does look like it can be worked out we will have the public hearing. So he appreciates that. The Mayor said okay then we will wait for your recommendation and John's recommendation on the stop sign. But then she would need a motion for the speed humps on Ramapo, Oakdale and Memorial. A motion was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.