

**Village Board Meeting
Monday, April 7, 2014 - 7:00 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

The Mayor said first on the agenda is the public hearing for the water rates.

Attorney Terry Rice said as part of the budget process every year the Board has to take a look at the water and sewer rates. There is no change in the authorized sewer rates so there is no public hearing on that. The water rate, the local law proposes an increase from \$2.92 to \$3.03 for that portion over 10 units and less than 71 units. The first 10 units remain a minimum of \$35 and the portion over 70 units is increased from \$3.34 to \$3.47.

Since nobody spoke at the public hearing, a motion to close the public hearing was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

VILLAGE OF SUFFERN

LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2014

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING
CHAPTER 261 OF THE CODE OF THE
VILLAGE OF SUFFERN REGARDING WATER RATES

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

Section 1. Section 261-15 of the Code of the Village of Suffern is hereby amended to provide as follows:

- A. Water Rates. Water rates will be charged as follows:
 - I. For consumers within the Village:
 - a. For the first 10 units or fraction

thereof: \$35.00 minimum charge;

- b. For that portion over 10 units and less than 71 units: \$3.03 per unit;
- c. For that portion over 70 units: \$3.47 per unit.

II For consumers outside the Village limits:

- a. For the first 10 units or fraction thereof: \$55.00
- b. For that portion over 10 units: \$4.42 per unit.

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

A motion to adopt Local Law No. 4 was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Patricia Abato
Trustee Frank Hagen, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Trustee John Meehan, who said he would like to point out that part of the increase in the water rate is designed to reduce the water rate debt.
Trustee Matthew Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Mayor said the next public hearing will be on the budget, which was presented to the Village Board last Thursday. It is open now to the public for comments.

Jim Giannettino of 2 Memorial Drive said he is not going to go through everything. He said he sat down with the Mayor this morning for about a half hour and went through his suggestions and he is hopeful that they will at least take some of them so that we can reduce tax increases in the future years. Also, he has a question - sewer rates are not being raised? The Mayor said they are not being raised. Mr. Giannettino said he thought it was 5.10. The Mayor said we should clarify. They are not being raised. It is still within the limitations of the amount - it is not over the amount where we would have to have a public hearing. Attorney Rice said if he may. The local law last year authorized an amount that was more than was charged. So the rate - the bill that people may get for the same usage may be an increase but as he said the authorized amount has not increased. Mr. Giannettino said so if he remembers correctly this is the first time we have ever done something like that. We have always had a water

hearing and a sewer hearing. Attorney Rice said you only have to have one. The authorized rate is increasing. Mr. Giannettino said in other words the rate was built in last year. Attorney Rice said the rate last year in the local law was higher than was actually utilized. Mr. Giannettino said interesting. He said okay. As he said he is not going to go through - he said he had a lot of things to go through and he hopes that somebody heard what he had to say. The Mayor thanked him and said yes she did. And it was good to meet with him this morning and she is working on all of the things that he has given as suggestions and she thanked him for the opportunity to meet with her.

Adam DeStefano of 19 Prairie Avenue asked what is the item under sales of property that we think we are going to get \$300,000 for? The Mayor said the \$280,000? Mr. DeStefano said yes, it is like roughly - the Mayor said that is our building at 120 Orange Avenue. If the Orange Avenue project does get passed and goes through the sale of the property to the developer will be \$280,000. If the Orange Avenue project does not continue then the building will immediately go up for sale for \$280,000 as well. So we built that number into the budget. Either way the building is going to be sold. Mr. DeStefano said okay, so either way we anticipate selling that by the end of the year. The Mayor said correct. Mr. DeStefano said okay. He said the other thing with the building permits. Are we anticipating Brennan's - either one of his projects - to go through? Or him to apply for the permits because that would explain the number more. The Mayor said yes, he is part of the permits that are built into that number. She asked the Treasurer if that was correct. Mr. Zordan said only a small portion. The Mayor said we didn't do the full value of what the permits would bring in. Mr. DeStefano said you did one of his projects, not both. It makes sense.

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

The Mayor asked if the Board wanted to vote on the budget tonight. What is your pleasure. Trustee Meehan said he would like to postpone it for a week or so. Trustee Byrne asked what is the latest date. Trustee Meehan said the Mayor seemed to want to review Mr. Giannettino's suggestions and what we can do - and he is available and maybe Frank and Matt - we can meet and continue. He said he doesn't know that we have to meet each evening. Can't we meet sometime? The Mayor said what we can do is she doesn't mind having a second public hearing. Treasurer Zordan said what he was going to suggest was, if you are unsure, you can always vote on the budget and have a meeting say next week and if you feel something should change you can amend the budget. The Mayor said okay, that is fine. She has no problem with that. She asked if that was acceptable to Mr. Meehan. The Mayor said we can do it one of two ways. Either have another public hearing the night that we want to

adopt the budget or we can vote on it or amend it as needed - Trustee Meehan said we haven't voted on the budget. We just voted to close the hearing. Maybe we could rescind the closure of the public hearing. And say we could continue the public hearing. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said then we would have to meet every night. Trustee Byrne said even if it is a continuation of the hearing? Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and Attorney Rice said yes. The Mayor said we closed it but we could have another public hearing and would we still have to meet every night? Attorney Rice said yes. The Mayor said okay. She guesses we will adopt it and then amend it. And we will make the amendments. Trustee Meehan said then he would like to set a meeting for that. The Mayor said we have the public informational meeting that she is going to announce in a few minutes on Thursday night so would you be prepared by Thursday night to do that? Trustee Meehan said okay. The Mayor asked if everybody was in agreement. Trustee Byrne asked what about Thursday night? Trustee Meehan said we have a meeting - the Mayor said he has something he wants for an amendment. The Mayor asked for a motion to adopt the 2014-2015 budget. Trustee Byrne said before we take a vote - he said first of all he wants to commend Tom on a very tough job, which is getting this budget together. He said he knows it is his job but nonetheless he put a lot of time and effort into it. It is not unrecognized. Trustee Byrne said the only concern that he had was the issue that was raised by one of the speakers which was the 120 Orange Avenue property. He said his only concern would be, and he understands that regardless it will be sold whether it is part of that project or whether it is a separate sale. That if it becomes a separate sale there is obviously no guarantee that it would take place this year. You just never know when you might get a purchaser ready to close and that could take some time and that could potentially put a hole in the budget that hopefully between now and the next budget cycle certainly could be resolved. That is the only concern that he has. But other than that he thinks the budget project was put together very well and again he commends Mr. Zordan on that. That is the only reservation that he has. The only concern that he has.

The Mayor said right. She said that she kind of took a lot of thought into putting it into the budget, not putting it into the budget. And Tom and she spoke at length for quite a few days. They met working on it and she does believe that we will be able to have a buyer for that. She is very confident that we will have no problem selling that property. Trustee Byrne said he certainly hopes so and that we are not in a position where we have to - the Mayor said she thinks we will be okay. She said she does believe that was the only thing, and as she said to the Board, and she has said to the residents - she is a very real numbers budgeting person. She said she doesn't believe in projected budgeting. That was the only thing she felt strongly about that which should be included in our budget that is not 100% - maybe only 99%. Trustee Byrne said he recognizes that and the other numbers for building

permits and what not. He sees that number has been tempered appropriately and he thinks we have not made the mistakes that might have been made in the past in regards to some of those inflated numbers. So he recognizes that obviously. And so again he just stated just for the record. It is not enough for him to oppose the budget. It is just a concern that he just wanted to relay. The Mayor thanked him.

A motion to adopt the budget 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

The Mayor said we will start our regular meeting. She said our regular meeting is scheduled to start at 7:30 but we have a very exciting celebration to have in the Village of Suffern this evening. We have a very special guest and his family so she would like to ask the entire Board to come with her.

The Mayor said we are giving out an award in memory of one of our former Trustees who has contributed so much to this Village. And each time we give this out we look for someone who has such a love of the Village as he did to be committed to the Village, to make a difference in the Village, and to live their life a proud Suffern resident. And we have a young man here tonight who she believes exemplifies all of those things. He is so much a part of the history of this Village. Not only in his age, his wisdom, but also with our museum here at the Village of Suffern. So it is the Mayor's distinct honor to present the Andrew C. Haggerty Outstanding Service Award to Gardner Watts.

The Mayor said as she mentioned, his wisdom and his age and she would like to read him a proclamation that we are celebrating tonight in honor of him.

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts has devoted his life in preserving the historic resources of the Suffern area and in making local history a vibrant and exciting interest; and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts has been a Village resident for more than half a century; and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts has served the community as a history teacher at Suffern High School from 1938 to 1974, making history an interesting and vibrant subject; and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts established the Historic Hikers in 1956 and actively conducted hikes in the Ramapo Mountains educating thousands of people about the historic and natural resources of the area; and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts, along with his wife of many years, Josephine, was instrumental in founding the Suffern Village Museum in 1982, which Museum bears their names; and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts has also served the residents of the Village as Village Historian from 1958 to 2007; and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts remains active in the Suffern Museum and other historic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts has previously been honored by the Rockland County Historic Society with its "Living Landmark Award;" and

WHEREAS, Gardner F. Watts will attain the age of 100 this month.

WHEREFORE, I, Patricia Abato, Mayor, proclaim that Gardner F. Watts is the recipient of the Andrew C. Haggerty Outstanding Village Employee Award and issue this Proclamation in grateful thanks and recognition of Gardner F. Watts for his outstanding years of service to the residents of the Village of Suffern and the area.

The Mayor then presented Mr. Watts with the proclamation and asked everyone to sing Happy Birthday to Mr. Watts.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

A) Request - Hose Company - Car Show - Sunday, July 20 - Rain Date July 27, 2014:

Chief Mike Stark said the first item on the agenda this evening is a request to host a fundraiser at the Suffern Volunteer Hose Company No. 1. It is going to be a car show on July 20 with a rain date of July 27. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Byrne. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

B) Kentucky Derby Fundraiser - May 3 - 3 pm to 10 pm:

Chief Stark said this next item is also another fundraiser for the Hose Company and that is Kentucky Derby Day and that is on May 3 from 3 pm to 10 pm. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried

C) Final Report - Service Award Program:

Chief Stark said the next item is for the Board to approve the 2013 Service Award Program which they have all been provided a copy of. A motion approving the Service Award Program was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, 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

D) Volunteer Hose Company - 2 New Members - Mikey Cahn and Jake Tamburro:

Chief Stark said the last item is two new members for the Volunteer Hose Company. The first one is Michael Cahn. Michael is going to be a senior member over 18 and the second member is Jake Tamburro and Jake is under 18. The Mayor said she doesn't think she could let this go by without just letting everyone know. We are excited to have both these young men in the fire department, but in particular Jake Tamburro, who is the son of Vincent Tamburro who was also a firefighter at the Volunteer Hose Company. And we lost Vinny way too young to health problems so to her it is a wonderful feeling to see his son going on to do things that Vinny really believed in - community and volunteering, and she is very, very proud to have him as part of the fire department. The Chief said he believes Jake will be wearing Vinny's helmet. The Mayor said that is a wonderful thing. A motion approving the two members was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

CULTURE AND RECREATION:

Mrs. Cathy Mills said there are a few events coming up in Recreation and the Village. On Wednesday, April 9, there will be a Downtown Committee meeting. She said at the first meeting there was approximately 26 members that were there. They have a meeting on Wednesday and it seems to be going very well. People have reached out to her and asked to be part of the meeting in addition to the ones that have come already. So that seems to be a very, very good start. She said they have a Recreation board meeting this week on Thursday, April 10, up in the community room. And on Saturday, and she is very excited about it, and there are flyers here for anybody who would like to take one, they have the Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 12. It starts at 9 am over at the gazebo. It will be outside with the egg hunt and then inside the community center the breakfast with the bunny. And

then on Sunday, April 13 and April 27, they have a class called "Living with Your Dog" and it is going to be at Leo Lydon between 10 and 12. If anyone would like to learn more about living with your dog we have a trainer that will be up there. The first session on April 13 will be without your dog. You would come as an owner and then the 27th you would come with your dog and learn a little bit more about working with your dog. So please feel free to come to that April 13 up at the Leo Lydon building. On April 16, at Village Hall here, they have a stress management class with representatives from Good Samaritan Hospital working with the Village Hall staff. On April 19 they have a coin drive with the American Legion Post and that will be outside by the gazebo at that traffic light between 10 am and 2 pm. And then a busy weekend - April 24, 25, 26, and 27 there will be the Sacred Heart Festival over at the Sacred Heart parking lot. Parking will be over by the Avon lot those days and then Arbor Day this year is Friday, April 25. They are going to be doing some ceremonies here at Village Hall. Mrs. Mills said we have "Keep Rockland Beautiful." They are very excited about that this year. You will see on Saturday, April 26 a lot of scouts, a lot of troops, a lot of community groups going around the Village and cleaning up. They have identified some locations with DPW and they will be cleaning up some areas in Suffern. So all are invited to attend that. You can go on keeprocklandbeautiful.org to sign up and then come out and help Suffern that day. And then on that day also there will be a Farmer's Market at the community center so there will be a lot of great community-minded events there for us. And then the last, but not least, on Sunday, April 27, there will be the Suffern Street Fair and Car Show.

GRANT WRITER:

Mr. Fred Rella said in 2002 we had a grant for the Suffern Memorial Pool surrounding area for a dock, a basketball court and some swingset equipment. And the cost to do that upgrade was \$90,000 and there was \$1500 which is still outstanding and owed us through the New York Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. So they put together the paperwork and they should be receiving that check for \$1500 within the next couple of weeks. Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffee has given us, through a member item grant, \$2000 for a defibrillator which will be used at the Memorial Pool. Currently the Village has just one defibrillator which is over at the community center and then during the summer months when the pool is open that defibrillator is moved from the community center to the pool and then, however, the community center doesn't have a defibrillator. So now we will have two in the appropriate locations and that is a very welcome and much needed grant.

Mr. Rella said also Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffee met with the Mayor and she was very enthusiastic and hopeful that she might be able to secure some funding for us for the wastewater treatment plant, in

particular for two projects. One was for the million dollar project which was completed in December of this past year for the dewatering system and then for the project which is going to begin in July of this year which is 1.3 million dollars which is for the digestive system. So we are very hopeful. That is a total of 2.4 million dollars so that would be very welcomed as well. The Mayor also met with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's office, in particular Sara Reingold who is the liaison within this corridor of the greater Hudson Valley area and they were very enthusiastic about helping us with the railroad crossing grant. And then in his subsequent conversations with them they were happy to hear that we had already applied for a grant opportunity for that project, which is approximately \$220,000 through our hazard mitigation grant program through New York State. And we had also applied for five other grants. So the Senator's office has agreed that they are going to fully support us in writing a letter to FEMA saying that they support the Village hazard mitigation program and the six grant opportunities that we have put forth. Mr. Rella said he also included in that letter the Town of Ramapo project for the five million dollars for the siphoning system and so that would be welcome too. So it is our six hazard mitigation projects plus the siphoning system that the U.S. Senator is going to be supporting through a letter.

Mr. Rella said lastly the Community Development Block Grant, which is for the downtown revitalization of the building facades - we are looking for a final answer on the awards at the end of this month.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

A) 2014 Emergency Operation Plan:

Chief Clarke Osborn said he just had a few things to vote on and just some informational items. Most of his items are related to long-term Village safety and emergency planning. The first item to be voted on is the 2014 Emergency Operation Plan. He said the only thing they changed were some names and some addresses - some different people and positions. Mike and Charles and he put this together several years ago and the plan is actually pretty good. They are very happy with the plan and he just needs them to vote on it to put it back in service and to make it official that we adopt it. The Mayor said they should also mention - Clarke and she had the opportunity to meet with the Mayor of Mahwah and his staff and Clarke and our fire chief are putting together a meeting to work with Mahwah for an emergency plan for the west ward until we get that approval for the grant money to have our emergency access across to the other side. Mahwah has agreed that we will work together in formulating an emergency plan should we lose access to that part of the Village. So she is very excited to have a joint venture with them and to have a plan in place so that both their services and our services are utilized for emergency situations in

the west ward. Chief Osborn thanked her and said that will work out very well because they are in the same situation when the bridges get flooded out in the north and south end of town. To get a fire truck or an ambulance over there is very difficult so if we establish and we work with them to set vehicles in place - police and fire - we will be in good shape. He said that was a good meeting. A motion to approve the emergency plan was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Chief Osborn said secondly we are going to receive \$5000 from the Rockland County District Attorney's Office for video and audio surveillance of suspects during interrogations. The D.A.'s office will be providing us with that. We are going to specially equip one of our rooms for major cases or really for any investigation that we deem necessary and the D.A.'s office, through a grant, is going to pay for that. We just have to vote to approve it. He said to the Village Clerk that it needs to be done through a resolution, just like the vehicle we received from them. So if we could vote on that it would be a great help to receive the money for it. The Village Clerk said it would be Resolution No. 6.

RESOLUTION NO. 6, 2014

RESOLVED, the Mayor is authorized to sign the agreement with the County of Rockland for reimbursement of \$5000 for the purchase of video and recording surveillance equipment.

A motion approving Resolution No. 6 was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried, with Trustee Byrne abstaining only because of his role outside the Board as counsel to the District Attorney's office on behalf of the County of Rockland.

The Chief said he had just a few things in regards to emergency planning. He said the last few days we have set up an account through a company called Nixle. He said we have been talking about this. Nixle is a free notification system that is run through a company and basically what it does it enables them to contact our residents through texts and through e-mails. Over 4,600 law enforcement agencies and municipalities throughout the U.S. use this. A very easy set up by you. You basically register through your phone. He will get the additional information and he has been on the phone with them for the last three days and it is pretty much set up. He just has to fax them his police I.D., a copy of it, to confirm that we are a legitimate law enforcement agency before they would set us up. So we should be set up within the next day or so and then we will go to the press and we will blast as much as we can to the Village to let our residents know about this system for emergency notification, which is excellent. Mahwah uses it. Captain Blank, who he deals with and is friendly with, explained the whole

situation to him and it will be a win-win for Suffern. The Mayor said to make sure that when we have all the final details that we put it on the website to sign up and what the process is. The Chief said absolutely. He will market this very strongly once he gets the official approval, hopefully tomorrow. He will give them a heads up on how we will be marketing it.

Chief Osborn said second of all. With everything about emergency planning tonight, it used to be called reverse 911. Reverse 911 is when we make notifications through the telephone to Village residents. It is now called NY Alert. It is run by the State. He said he was certified two years ago through NY Alert to do these emergency notifications to the whole Village or part of it. He said he can pick out certain streets or certain neighborhoods about an incident and blast it out. He said he is going to go for some additional training tomorrow and he spoke to the fire chief as well and hopefully we will get the fire department, somebody from there, to be certified just in the event we have a major catastrophic incident in the Village. We can blast these calls out right through here instead of making phone calls to other people that may be busy and tie them up. We will be able to do it straight from our police department. Trustee Meehan said that those phone calls obviously will cover Verizon. Will they also cover the people who have their phones through the cable company. The Chief said that will go to everybody. What happens with NY Alert is what he will do is another process - it will go to every household - but people can also sign up to get additional notifications. Once he goes tomorrow and gets everything updated he will notify them on that as well and how we can get additional information to our residents.

Chief Osborn said the last thing. He knows he e-mailed the Board members and he knows he spoke to the Mayor about this and all the parties involved. One thing that he noticed in this position is they get what is called nuisance problems. Problems with houses that have been continual. Police problems, code problems, fire inspection problems. The whole gamut. Sometimes there may be different agencies - the police department may be handling things one way, code enforcement another way, fire inspector another way. He said he has proposed, and it sounds like they are all on board with this, thanks to the Board and he spoke to the department heads involved. He said he would like to establish a nuisance abatement team and basically what that is is police department, building inspection, code enforcement, fire inspector, and public works. They have all spoken today. And what he would like to do is establish this team that if we have a nuisance problem for the quality of life to clean up a specific property for quality of life issues as well as for public safety, major code violations, like we had a fire down on Prairie Avenue - he said we went into the building and we thought we had one apartment and there was an illegal wall put up and we didn't know where they were. These are the kinds of problems that need to be attacked by all - police,

fire, code, building - everybody involved. And he would like to establish this nuisance abatement team with the mission to improve the quality of life for our residents and to resolve safety issues. And he would like to establish this and probably meet next week. He said he spoke to everybody involved today - all the Village departments and they thought it was a great idea that we, as a Village, do something like this to protect all of us. And to basically help our residents out. So he doesn't know if you need a vote. He just wanted them to know what they are looking to do. He wasn't sure. The Mayor said we don't need a vote but she just wants to let him know that this Board, in particular, has been very much against all of the safety code violations and we are really working very, very hard to identify these areas and to get them cleaned up and up to code and she thanks him very much for going the extra step to find something that will work well as we coordinate all of the efforts and she thinks that is going to be a great tool in getting this to move forward. So she just wanted to say thank you. The Chief thanked her and thanked the Board for their support.

7:50 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING - SPECIAL PERMIT USES FROM GENERAL USE REGULATIONS FOR THE PLI:

The Mayor said it is 7:50 so we are going to have our public hearing for the special permit uses from the general use regulations for the PLI zone. Attorney Rice said particularly with the announcement that Novartis would be leaving at some point in the future, it gave us the occasion to look at the uses that are allowed in that particular zoning district. And the zoning district is the Planned Light Industrial district - PLI - where as the name implies there are certain types of uses that the Village hopes to encourage in that particular district and those uses primarily were exclusively intended to be tax revenue producing uses. So when we took a look at the uses allowed in that zoning district we realized that a number of the uses, either by their nature or were unlikely to be tax paying entities. Those included schools of special instruction, public emergency facilities, both of which are uses permitted by right, and special permit uses consisting of private membership clubs as well as excavation of middle resources. That is kind of a different scenario. Mining was permitted in the PLI zoning district really as a non-conforming use because of the mine on Tilcon property. That is no longer a viable use so we are also taking that out as a permissible use. The reason it primarily came to light is the fact that Novartis, by virtue of their assessment, pays approximately 10% of the Village budget as well as a significant amount of water and sewer fees. So in order to move forward with this we had our planner, John Lange, look at the financial aspects which obviously confirms that it represents 10% of our budget as well as the fact that there are a significant number of exempt properties in the Village so that the possibility of that piece of property being utilized for permissible exempt use would cause a major financial impact on the Village. In addition he

analyzed the other zones and found that the uses that we were proposing to eliminate from the PLI district can be located in other zoning districts. That there is a substantial amount of land that could be utilized for those uses as well so by excluding them from the PLI district we are not excluding them from the Village. John also prepared an environmental assessment form that is required by the State Environmental Quality Review Act. The local law and John's report and EAF were sent to all the adjoining municipalities as required by our zoning law and by the Village law. The Notice of Hearing was advertised in the *Journal News* on March 21 and it was posted on the sign boards. It was referred to the Rockland County Department of Planning as is required and by letter dated April 7 the Rockland County Department of Planning approved the proposed amendment finding that the proposed zoning code amendment will have no adverse effect on any county-wide interests so they remanded it for local determination. It was also referred to the Village of Suffern Planning Board for their review and recommendation as is required by the zoning law and by letter dated April 7 they advised the Board of Trustees that at their meeting on March 19, 2014 they unanimously recommended approval of the proposed amendment. So that is basically the scenario of what is being proposed and the rationale for it.

Jim Giannettino of 2 Memorial Drive said that he would just like to say that he is in full agreement with the zone change. He said he thinks it is a very good move and he again asks that you look at the hospital and Salvation Army.

Jeff Genser of 32 First Street said that he thinks this is an appropriate time to mention the comment about the Novartis property. He said he doesn't see anything wrong with this particular - omitting some of these uses - mining, etc. and adding whatever. His comment is basically - he found out that there are more than one specialized real estate companies - it's a worldwide company and he will get all the information, if they would like, that specializes in the sale of pharmaceutical facilities worldwide. So he would ask the Village not to grant a demolition permit but to investigate the possibility of selling the property to another pharmaceutical concern. The Mayor said that she is actually going to give him an update and he will be very happy with it when it is time for her to give her report. She said she has a whole bit of information. Mr. Genser said he didn't know if it was appropriate. The Mayor said we will discuss that and she does have an update for him on Novartis which she thinks he will be very pleased with.

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

Attorney Rice said it is a two-step process. First of all we have

to satisfy the State Environmental Quality Review Act. John has prepared a proposed negative declaration meaning that the proposal would not have a significant impact on the environment and that no environmental impact statement needs to be prepared. The reason supporting the proposed negative declaration is that the primary reason for this change is to preserve the sites as fully taxable sites and uses. The significant loss of revenue from the departure of Novartis leaves the Village with a 10% reduction of its income. To insure maximum preservation of tax revenue the non-taxable uses have been eliminated. All the eliminated uses are permitted in other zones in Suffern, for example, land available for these uses in other zones. The following summarizes available zones and acreages for the eliminated uses. Schools of special instruction are already permitted in the CB and GB zones as uses permitted by right. CB consisting of 29.3 acres and GB 31.2 acres comprise 60.5 acres of land in Suffern. Private membership clubs are permitted in R15, R10, R7.5 and CB zones hence the impacts to removing the use from the PLI zone would be minimal. The R15 zone covers 334.1 acres, the R10 zone covers 63.2 acres, the R7.5 zone covers 145.6 acres, the GB zone covers 31.2 acres. Quarry uses have been eliminated as the quarry has been closed. There is no physical change to the amount of land only the zoning designation. It is expected that water consumption would remain essentially unchanged. It is expected that sewer generation would remain essentially unchanged. It is expected the stormwater runoff would be reduced slightly as new developments conform to the zero net runoff requirements of stormwater management regulations. Traffic and circulation will be reduced with the loss of Novartis. If a suitable new use is recruited, traffic and circulation should remain approximately the same.

A motion to adopt the negative declaration was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

VILLAGE OF SUFFERN

LOCAL LAW NO. 5 of 2014

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING SECTION 266-22 OF THE ZONING LOCAL LAW OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN DELETING CERTAIN PERMITTED USES AND SPECIAL PERMIT USES FROM THE GENERAL USE REGULATIONS FOR THE PLI

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

Section 1. Section 266-22, Schedule of Village of Suffern General Use Requirements, Part III, PLI District, Permitted Uses, of the Zoning Local Law of the Village of Suffern is hereby amended by deleting therefrom the following: "Schools of special

instruction" and "Public emergency facilities" so that Section 266-22, Schedule of Village of Suffern General Use Requirements, Part III, PLI District, Permitted Uses, provides as follows:

1. Professional and business offices.
2. Research and development laboratories.
3. Wholesaling, warehousing distribution.
4. Assembling or finishing of products.
5. Printing and lithographing.
6. Production, fabrication, processing, converting, altering assembling, packaging, testing or other handling of products.

Section 2. Section 266-22, Schedule of Village of Suffern General Use Requirements, Part III, PLI District, Special Permit Uses, of the Zoning Local Law of the Village of Suffern is hereby amended by deleting therefrom the following: "Excavation of mineral resources (see §266-33G)" and "Private membership clubs (see §266-33M)" so that Section 266-22, Schedule of Village of Suffern General Use Requirements, Part III, PLI District, Special Permit Uses, provides as follows:

1. Public utility buildings and substations; utility lines and poles serving 25 kilowatts or greater; standpipe and water towers.
2. Helipads (see §266-33H).
3. Microwave transmission and receiving antennas and dishes (see §266-33L).

Section 3. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

A motion to adopt Local Law #5 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

The Mayor said before she opens up audience participation she

wanted to make a couple of comments about the Orange Avenue project. She said as they all can see, we did not put them on the agenda for this evening. We are going to continue that public hearing. The reason being is Thursday night the developers gave a proposal for a new Pilot Agreement. So what we would like to do is on Thursday evening, at 7 o'clock, we will be having a public informational meeting where the developer will be here to explain the Pilot to them and it will give the residents a chance for comments on the new proposed Pilot. The information on the Pilot will be put onto the website first thing in the morning so you may review it and prepare your comments and concerns for Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. So we will be discussing that Pilot program here on Thursday, here at Village Hall. So before we start the audience participation if you were going to have any questions about the Pilot program she asks that they reserve it for Thursday night so that we may all discuss it together.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Jeff Genser of 32 First Street said he has been talking to numerous people in the Village regarding a number of things - Pilot is one of them, but he is not going to talk about that. He said he had a question regarding what's called "black bridge" over in the west ward which leads from New York to New Jersey. It is a bridge that has been out of use for he doesn't know how many years. It is kind of an historical bridge but has not been used for at least 40 years he would guess. He said he was at the planning board meeting in Mahwah when the planning board voted to give the green light for the crossroads mall and at that meeting the attorney representing the developer talked about that bridge. And he is pretty darn sure, 99.5% sure, that he said that bridge was going to be taken down at the developer's cost. They were going to pay for it to have it removed. People were concerned that that bridge would be used for entry and exit for the mall - another entry and exit for the mall. Maybe it would be expanded. Take that one down, build a new bridge. They said they were going to knock that bridge down. He said he had mixed emotions because he thinks the bridge is an interesting piece of engineering. But on the other side of the coin he wouldn't want to see a connection for people to be able to either drive or even walk across into that mall. So he would like to find out if the rumor is true - if they are going to keep that bridge. Did they give Suffern some money to fix that bridge? He said he would like them to just comment on the relationship between the Village of Suffern and the Town of Mahwah. He said he doesn't think that the Village should just blanket feel like they are great guys and we should trust them on any level whatsoever. The mall is a negative impact on Suffern - on so many levels. And they didn't take that into consideration at all. And it is interesting - the person who made, perhaps, the deciding vote - the Mayor of Mahwah put himself on the planning board and he gave that vote and allowed that thing to pass when all the EMT's voted no because the only reason they

could vote no and not get sued by the developer was because of safety issues. It is a disaster in the making to think that there is one entry and exit, and it is right past the gas station on 17 - we all know that spot leading into Sheraton Crossroads. The developer has an opportunity to buy the Suburban Propane property. It is for sale. They are not interested. They don't want to make a safer entry and exit. The EMT's that are on that board voted no and the Mayor voted yes. So he questions his feeling for not only his own people but anybody who lives in the Village of Suffern as well. So those are the issues that he thinks he can mention now at this general hearing. He said he would like to talk about the Pilot, which is payment in lieu of taxes, in case anybody doesn't know what that means. He said he doesn't like these acronyms. And so can you tell him what is happening with the "black bridge?"

The Mayor said yes, she wanted him to be able to make all of his comments. She said the bridge was actually part of an agreement that we had with Mahwah that they would not take the bridge down. So that is in their agreement with us - that they are not to take that bridge down. That is part of the agreement. Mr. Genser asked if that agreement with Suffern occurred after the planning board meeting when they voted to pass the mall? The Mayor said she doesn't think so but she doesn't know exactly what meeting he is talking about but they will be reminded very quickly because that was part of the agreement that they made with us that that bridge was not to come down. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said and it also wouldn't be used to go in and out of it. It is a non-used bridge and they are not to take it down because of the historical value that it has. The Mayor said correct. Mr. Genser said that is engineering history. The Mayor said historical. Mr. Genser asked if it is to be left in the same condition that it is now? The Mayor said she believes it will be left in the same condition. It is not to be used. Mr. Genser said you couldn't drive a fire truck across that even if you repaired it. It is not wide enough. The Mayor said right. It would be a closed bridge - just to keep it there. She said she would assume that at some level if we looked into it that there is some historical preservation that may be out there for some grant money or something but the agreement that we made with them and they agreed to was that the bridge was to stay there and not be used.

Mr. Genser said he was at the meeting with about 300 people and he believes it was in February - he is pretty sure that is when they had that meeting - and it was an issue that was discussed and they were assuring people that that bridge was going to be taken down at the developer's expense. The Mayor said she will look into it tomorrow.

Phyllis Casden of 192 Parkside Drive said she was concerned about the Memorial Pool, which hopefully will be opening this season. The problem last year was that we were losing water and the story was

there was a correction from the storm the previous - when the pool closed earlier not from Sandy but from the storm before that. And everyday we would come in and the water would be colder because they had to add water to it and it got to the point that the end of July into August hardly anybody was at the pool anymore because water was too cold to use. So she was wondering if anything has been done to find out what the problem is and whether it is going to be corrected. The Mayor said she believes it is being addressed and she doesn't know if the work has been completed as of yet but she knows that we are aware that there is a problem and we have identified, she believes, the problem. The Mayor asked Charles if the problem with the pool has been identified. Mr. Sawicki said not fully. He said he would like to bring another contractor in. The Mayor said to Ms. Casden that we are working on it. She thanked the Mayor. She said that somebody was supposed to come but she couldn't make it today and she will ask her question. She asked if the Mayor knew if the soup kitchen, run by the church, got their money from the Town of Ramapo. The Mayor said yes. She met with Supervisor St. Lawrence and it was just an error on the part of the auditors. They were not doing any new funding. They thought the soup kitchen was new funding - she guesses it is new auditors - and they took it out. It has been put back in. She said she believes they have already received \$800 of that money from the *Wizard of Oz* movie - the money that was raised at that event was turned over to the soup kitchen to kind of hold them over until they had corrected the mistake in the budget. Ms. Casden said so they will be getting it - the Mayor said they will be getting their full \$2000 - Ms. Casden said their full amount of money. The Mayor said yes.

Joe Varano of 30 West Maple Avenue said he has been living in the Village since March 1957. When he came over here he found some things wrong. People would say oh the building inspector and he was interested in what was going on. He said he attended every single meeting with Jimmy Rice all the way down. So he is going to go back forty years back now. One meeting somebody got up who wants to for the water - there was a guy who wanted to sell the water. And then Don Grosso he got up and said the Village is not a business and they kill that thing right away. Phillip Furgang was a trustee and then they came up with the hospital who paid no water. Everybody else in the Village that is exempt paid no water. And Phillip Furgang said we need to get some water from the people who pay no water. Mr. Varano said he doesn't know if they paid the water or not. He didn't go through. Don Grosso killed that thing. If that had gone through nobody would have paid Village taxes today. Nobody. Because the Village is not a business. And they killed it right away. And nobody said boo. And he can go forty years back and he attended every single meeting, rain or shine or cold. All the way to Parness. He said he told every Mayor what was going on and nobody listened to him. The Mayor said she is listening. Mr. Varano said he hopes so. He said Parness when he appointed that guy over there - do you know how many times I said don't appoint him. He was

no good. He was stealing. I know that guy was stealing. Oh, but Don Grosso recommended him. I see with my eyes what was going on. The same thing with the water over there. That guy has been saying sell it for years. And the Village should sell it. The Mayor said we are definitely looking into selling the water. Mr. Varano said what do I do. I have to come back and complain twice. Nothing happens. He said he knows what is going on in the Village. He can make a book. The Mayor said you should. Mr. Varano said he could have made a book. He knows what is going on.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

A) Training:

Mr. Charles Sawicki said he was requesting authorization for Mr. Derek DeZago to attend the Activated Sludge course to be held at SUNY Ulster, New Paltz, New York. This course will be offered from May 15, 2014 through June 17, 2014 at 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The cost is \$525 and will be reimbursed upon the presentation of a passing grade. This course is a prerequisite for a NYS DEC wastewater operator's license. 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 authorization for Mr. Nicholas Fabricatore to attend the Motor Control Circuits & Wiring Troubleshooting course to be held at Rutgers, New Brunswick, New Jersey. This course is being offered from May 14 through May 16, 2014 at a cost of \$490 and has been approved for 18 continuing education credits as required by NYS DEC. 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

B) Application for Payment:

Mr. Sawicki requested payment authorization for application of payment No. 3 for the demolition of residential housing projects.

This payment will be made to Par Environmental Corporation in the amount of \$18,975.00. A motion authorizing the payment was made by Trustee Hagen, 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 authorization to approve change order No. 1 for the WWTP Digester Upgrade project. This change order does not revise the contract amount. This change order is a mutual agreement to modify and re-characterize the unit and lump sum costs. As a result of those modifications the Village will realize cost savings and the contractor will expedite associated work activities. The request was approved by Trustee Hagen, 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

C) MS4 Public Hearing:

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to schedule a public hearing for the MS4 annual report. He said he would like to do that next month. Trustee Byrne asked Mr. Sawicki if he could explain what that is. Mr. Sawicki said that is the municipal separate sanitary sewer system. That is where you get the MS4. It is a program - a federally adopted program - that is regulated through the NYS DEC. And it essentially addresses stormwater. The Mayor said we are required to have a public hearing on it. Trustee Byrne asked if the report was provided by Mr. Sawicki. Mr. Sawicki said yes. He will have it on the website most likely next week. A motion approving the request to set a public hearing on May 5 at 7:40 p.m. was made by Trustee Byrne, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

D) Personnel:

Mr. Sawicki requested the Mayor to appoint Mr. Daniel Horton to the automotive mechanic 1 position. The rate of pay will be \$24.77 per hour and the effective start date would be April 8, 2014. He said this is a vacant, currently vacant, position. The Mayor said this

position comes from Joe Hunt's position as a mechanic. When he moved up to the supervisory position that left a mechanic's position open so currently we do not - it left a mechanic's position open and yes, she appoints Daniel Horton to the position. A motion to confirm was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Mr. Sawicki said he had one additional item that he would like to add to the agenda. He requested authorization to accept the lowest cost proposal for the lineshaft turbine pump replacement, a new concrete foundation to extend the well casing and discharge piping modifications for well No. 1 at the water treatment facility. This proposal is from William Stothoff Company, Inc., Flemington, New Jersey in the amount of \$34,260. The cost of this project will be charged to the well No. 1 pump modification capital project. A motion authorizing the request was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. The Mayor asked the Treasurer if he had these numbers. Mr. Sawicki said there is \$43,500 in there. The Mayor said right. She just wanted to make it clear that there is plenty of money left in there for that project.

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

VILLAGE CLERK:

A) Approval of Minutes of Regular Minutes of Previous Board:

Village Clerk Virginia Menschner said we have approval of previous Board member minutes of November 12, 2013, November 15, 2013 and November 19, 2013. A motion approving the minutes was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried, with Trustee Hagen and Trustee Byrne not voting (since they were not on the Board at that time).

B) Approval of Minutes - New Board:

Village Clerk Menschner said we have approval of the new Board's meetings - Organization Meeting, December 2, 2013, regular Board meeting December 2, 2013, special Board meeting December 11, 2013, special Board meeting January 9, 2014, regular Board meeting of January 13, 2014, regular Board meeting of February 4, 2014, special Board meeting of February 26, 2014 and regular Board meeting of March 5, 2014. A motion approving the minutes was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

C) Marcello's - Request for Live Music Permit:

The Village Clerk said we have Marcello who is requesting a live music permit. The Mayor said she understands that there is some discussion on this. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said yes. She said she actually spoke with Chief Osborn today. Many, many, many times Marcello's is not adhering to the parking that we made arrangements with him for. She has personally gone in there and asked if they adhered to the rules that we had and they kind of discarded her and the Chief said he had gone over there but he felt that he and his staff will get over there again and tell them that they must adhere to what we agreed to with the parking. So hopefully that actually happens. The Village Clerk said they haven't sent their application for valet parking. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said they haven't? The Village Clerk said no. The Mayor said to the Chief that we have a problem with Marcello's. He is not only violating the valet parking policy. She said she herself has spoken to his staff as well and they are really not adhering. But Virginia has just told her that she sent out the new application for it and he has not returned it. So therefore he cannot have valet parking until he has completed all of his applications. The Mayor said in lieu of that, until he becomes compliant with valet parking, she would like to suggest that we hold over the request for the live music permit. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said we should put it on for next month and see where we go from here. Trustee Meehan said maybe this can be resolved and we can put it on for Thursday. He said he doesn't want to hold him up for a whole month. Trustee Hagen said he would wait until next month. Trustee Byrne asked the Mayor if Thursday was an informational meeting or an actual Board meeting. The Mayor said it is actually an informational meeting. A motion to hold it over until next month was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried, with Trustee Meehan voting no.

D) All Souls Community Church:

The Village Clerk said we have one other item. She said that All Souls Community Church is requesting handicapped parking spots. They do want four and we thought we would refer it to the Planning Board. A motion to refer it was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Byrne. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

TRUSTEES:

A) Temple Lane Park:

Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said it is very exciting. She is asking the Board tonight to award the contract for the Temple Lane Toddler Park. The equipment has been picked and it is Gametime equipment. She said they went to quite a few different places and working with a couple of the residents that have children in that area they chose

the Gametime Company for \$15,800. The residential grade fence, which will be fancy in the front and then stockade along both sides and back so that it is completely enclosed by Anchor Fence. The mulch would be \$1,120 and the installation will be \$3,500. This comes way under budget. We did leave approximately \$1800 or \$2000 should anything pop up that is crazy. And if not then we will have it towards another project when we are all done with this and we are hoping to have this all completed, depending on delivery, by Memorial Day weekend - thereon or about. A motion approving the contract 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

Trustee Hagen said he wanted to address this to the Fire Department to Chief Stark. He wanted to tell him thank you for trying to sell the fire truck. He said he saw a letter of intent from a company that is willing to give them \$45,000. The Mayor said she would explain this a little further. She said what it is is that they identified a marketing company and this marketing company has offered to market the fire truck free of charge. We don't pay any fee to them. The fee would be paid to them through the buyer. They came and looked at the truck and feel we can get upwards of \$45,000 for the fire truck. Terry is looking into all of the details of the proposal to make sure that this is all legitimate and at that time, once we have all the information and we know that Terry is comfortable with the agreement with them, then at that time we can talk about it. What she had the most - what her biggest concern was - is you don't sign an agreement with them and that concerns her and they don't want you to sign it and they don't sign it. So that was a huge, huge concern for her. She said she doesn't like that so Terry is looking into it and we will talk about it further once we get through that process. Trustee Hagen said he is glad they are looking into it. Trustee Byrne asked can that money be earmarked to reduce the financing cost for the new truck. The Mayor said definitely - 100%. Trustee Byrne said he wasn't sure with the timing of it - the Mayor said definitely. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said there is no early payment penalty.

MAYOR:

The Mayor said something very exciting. The Village of Suffern has been named a "Tree City USA." She asked Mr. Sawicki to explain how we are progressing on that and what we have planned. The Mayor said she wants to thank Bruce Simon on the tree committee who has done numerous amount of hours of work shoveling, digging, planting trees

- we really appreciate all his time.

Mr. Sawicki said actually we just set up a time for this Thursday for himself, Fred Rella and Bruce Simon to meet and they want to establish and finalize our plans for Arbor Day which is this coming month. As part of the Tree City USA the Mayor has finalized an application for various residents that would like to have a tree planted in their front yard and that will be on the website shortly. We do have plans for the remainder of this year, between the spring and the fall, to plant approximately 80 trees. So we are very excited about it. He said we do have a number of people that have expressed an interest and he is sure there will be lot more as well. The Mayor thanked him.

The Mayor said she wanted to give an update on Novartis. The Deputy Mayor and she met with a collaborative of individuals. She is pleased to tell them that there are several corporate interests in the property. One of them being an Italian-based food manufacturing company who would probably raise water usage quite high. Looking to use more of the property. She is very excited about this possibility. We also have pharmaceutical companies looking into the property. It is being - the realtor for the property is Kushman and Wakefield. She said she had the opportunity to speak with someone who has been our liaison between the realty company and ourselves and he is very, very optimistic about this property. There has been a lot of interest in the property. And we, as a Village, as well as our surrounding villages that have interest in the property as well - the town - are all meeting regularly to assure that this property stays on our tax rolls and that the Village of Suffern does not lose any water or sewer revenue on the project. So she thinks we are going to have a very positive outcome for this. Novartis has been wonderful in working to preserve that for us. They have no immediate plans whatsoever to demolish anything on the property. That would be the absolute last phase - to demolish this property. And they don't believe that that will be something that they will be doing. They believe in phase I, which is getting an interest in the property, zoning the property, and looking where it will end for Novartis. We are very excited about that. All good news. She thanked Mike Deltulo of Rockland Economic Development who has been working with the State Economic Development to put market properties on their websites. They have been pushing very hard for corporate interests. So we think we are going to have good news at the end of the day.

The Mayor said she also wanted to let everyone know that we have decided that the first and second Saturdays of May we will be having the river cleanup along the Lonergan Drive portion of the river as well as upstream. We have added a new portion of the river to cleanup. We will be working together with our police, fire department and volunteers. The good news is that the weekend before we do our cleanup Mahwah will be doing their cleanup. So all of our

efforts will work wonderfully when we open up our section and get us all cleaned out their section will already be cleaned out so we will have a free flow down the river. So anyone who wishes to volunteer, please watch the website. We will be posting details up on the website and we hope that we get as many volunteers as possible. And she wants to thank Chief Osborn and Chief Stark for all of their help with getting the cleanup done. And Charles and his men. And she has to also tell them that a lot of DPW personnel volunteer their time to come down and help with the river and she thinks that says a lot about our employees caring about this Village.

The Mayor said just a quick update on the downtown revitalization task force. We are probably up to between 25 and 30 members. We have a lot of professionals on the task force - planners, architects, marketing people. It is a great collaborative. Very excited. It grows each time we meet. So we are already beginning the process of identifying what it is in the downtown area that needs addressing and then the hard task will be, obviously, bringing forward those ideas to help the downtown. The Mayor said she is excited to tell them that we have begun a little revitalization project which she is very happy about and you will be too. We are kind of sprucing up the Virginia Menschner gazebo park within the next three to five days - well actually, not even. By the Easter Egg Hunt you will see a great difference in the park and she thinks they will all be very pleased at what they have chosen to spruce it up a little bit.

Trustee Meehan said that he noticed when he walked over the other night to Military Bridge he noticed the tire marks next to the gazebo. It looks like someone went in there with a backhoe. The Mayor said they did go in there with a backhoe. They had to. Also, if you didn't notice, all of the shrubs that were around the gazebo are now gone. Most of them were diseased and dying off. They weren't uniform any more. We had gaping holes in the middle. So we actually decided to pull them out and we are going to plant flowers around the entire gazebo. So it will look really very nice. And then the concrete along the gazebo will also be painted. So it is going to look really beautiful and she likes it because those shrubs kind of covered the gazebo and there was no visual throughout the whole gazebo and that is a problem with vandalism. And she thinks this is a good way in keeping it open and being able to see through it and maybe put our benches back in there. She said we picked out some really nice colors and she thinks they will be really pleased with the outcome of it. So Joe Hunt and his staff are going to be working to have it done by the Easter Egg Hunt. So the Easter Bunny will have a pretty new little gazebo to hang out in.

The Mayor said last but not least is we have a resolution. The Mayor asked Terry to discuss it. Attorney Rice said this relates to trying to get some corrective legislation with respect to a State statute known as the Rockland County Police Act so that the Village would

be able to enter into a contract with the Village of Airmont to provide police services and so they would be assured that they would not have to pay property taxes based on the police portion of the town tax. So the resolution basically says as follows:

WHEREAS, the Village of Suffern maintains its own police department and has done so since 1986; 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 Airmont does not maintain its own police department and presently receives such services from the Town of Ramapo; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Airmont 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 Airmont 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 Airmont to provide such police services to the Village of Airmont; and

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

Attorney Rice said that what this resolution does is it asks the State Legislature to cause a bill to be prepared that would make that amendment. Once that is done the bill numbers would be provided to the Village and we will be able to pass a home rule amendment request so the State Legislature can act on the legislation. So this is the first step in the process. Trustee Byrne said just to clarify. This is not a commitment at this point, obviously, to enter into an agreement with Airmont. Attorney Rice said all it is is it is asking for an amendment to the State legislation that would enable this type of deal to go forward if both municipalities, both Board of Trustees, agreed so that they would not be subject to taxation. The problem is if you didn't have this legislation we could come to an agreement but then it wouldn't make sense to Airmont because then they may be subject to taxation in addition to the contract. Trustee Byrne said he just wanted to make sure that the people out there understood that this is only a very first step. The Mayor said yes, a very, very preliminary step. Colleen Mueller asked how long will this process take. The Mayor said we don't know. It depends on how long this takes. Attorney Rice said hopefully Airmont will be passing something in the near future so that the Assembly will write the bills and then if we are fortunate at the next Village Board meeting we might be in a position to pass a Home Rule amendment and it conceivably could be done before they go out of session. A motion passing the resolution 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

A motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Meehan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

At this point, Harris Levine spoke and said he had a three year problem. He said there is a lake at the foot of his driveway. He said the mailman couldn't get up and he has not gotten any response for the past three years. The Mayor asked Mr. Levine to give Virginia his phone number and she will call him tomorrow. Mr. Sawicki said they are looking into this to see what they can do and they will make changes.

In executive session, a motion to authorize the Mayor to bring charges against Michael Montoya and suspend him without pay for thirty days upon the service of charges if he does not resign on April 8, 2014 was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

A motion to close the executive session and adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Byrne. Upon vote, the motion was carried.