

**Village Board Meeting  
Monday, October 1, 2012**

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

PRESENT: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Patricia Abato, Trustee Charles Falciglia,  
Trustee John Meehan, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan

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

ABSENT: None

**Set Dates for November Meetings:**

The Mayor said the dates for the November meeting will be: the workshop will be on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 and since it is Halloween and since he is the only one with young children they will move it back to 7:30, which everyone is okay with that, and the Board meeting will be the following Monday, November 5, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Chief Mike Stark said that he had just one item. Recently the Fire Department was able to secure a new chief's car and they would like to, with the Board's approval and the Mayor's approval, of course, donate that old car which has probably a less than \$500 value to the Village of Sloatsburg for their fire department. The Mayor said again he said that various members of the fire department had asked him and Lt. Bonkoski had, since he has been handling the govdeals.com auctioning of our surplus equipment, the belief was the value of the car is a couple of hundred dollars and the Mayor knows that the Sloatsburg fire department is in need of one and while we do want to get as much money as we can he thinks that in this particular circumstance, when there is such a need, and we do work together with them, that at the request of the fire department he feels that such a donation would be appropriate. Trustee Abato said she would move it. Attorney Rice said we had gone through this once before when the Village was considering donating a fire truck to another municipality outside the State of New York and that becomes a problem but there is authority, particularly when it has a minimal value like that, to transfer to another New York municipality so that is okay. The motion was seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

At this time, the Mayor went up to the podium to present an award.

The Mayor said that as everybody knows, several years ago we started the Andrew C. Haggerty Outstanding Service Award, an award that we give out each season to either an employee or a volunteer, someone in the community who shows exemplary service to the Village and to present the award for Fall 2012 the Mayor asked Deputy Mayor Jo Corrigan to come up.

Deputy Mayor Corrigan thanked the Mayor for this opportunity. She said that in continuing in the Village of Suffern selection for the recipients for the Andrew C. Haggerty Outstanding Service Award, she said she was proud to present tonight's award to Joel Kanasky. She said that Joel is a New York City firefighter and a volunteer here in the Village. Last year during the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Irene, Joel took the leadership role in the Village command center. She said we all know the Village of Suffern suffered tremendous loss as a result of this hurricane. Many people stepped up to the plate and filled in with their expertise and could assist. And everyone has appreciated this effort from the Village Board all the way to the residents. But as all events, good or bad, someone has to be at the helm of executing a plan. During and after this catastrophe, Joel was the person for the Village of Suffern. For a full year, Joel gave his all. From commanding the center initially to coordinating and working with the Village department heads and elected officials. Joel's tireless effort with FEMA, on behalf of the Village, has resulted in the Village being reimbursed in excess of over \$500,000. Joel was there in August 2011 and today continues to monitor this project. For this reason, Deputy Mayor Corrigan said she was proud to present the Fall 2012 Andrew C. Haggerty Outstanding Service Award to Joel.

The Mayor thanked Joel again and on behalf of the Board he has always done and continues to do a phenomenal job for us.

**7:40 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING - A-FRAME FREESTANDING BUSINESS SIGNS:**

Attorney Rice said that a number of years ago the Board adopted a

provision in the Village code that allowed for A-frame signs in the business district subject to approval to make sure that they didn't impede people from passing on the sidewalks and they are regulated as far as what can be on it and so forth. However, it was limited to the CB district and there are a number of other stores that would like to have them and are not physically located in the CB district. So they are limited to only restaurants and retail stores - that continues - but the proposed amendment just eliminates the language that restricted the use of A-frame signs in the CB district.

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

VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, NEW YORK  
LOCAL LAW NO. 13 OF 2012

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING SECTION 235-5(B)  
OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN  
REGARDING A-FRAME FREESTANDING BUSINESS SIGNS

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

Section 1. Section 235-5(b)(3)(a) of the Code of the Village of Suffern is hereby amended to provide as follows:

No more than one A-frame freestanding business sign may be permitted for each retail or restaurant business premises upon issuance of a permit from the Building Department on a portion of the sidewalk immediately adjacent to a retail business or restaurant in accordance with these regulations. An A-frame freestanding business sign shall not exceed the dimensions of 32 inches wide and 36 inches tall, and they shall have no more than two faces. An A-frame freestanding business sign may advertise only the business lawfully practiced within the premises. All signs shall be professionally manufactured or crafted and maintained in good repair. An A-frame freestanding business sign may not be illuminated or contain any electrical component. All components of an A-frame freestanding business sign shall be non-moving and stationary, and nothing may be attached thereto. An A-frame freestanding business sign may

not be chained, attached or affixed to any object.

Section 2. This Local Law shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

A motion adopt Local Law No. 13 was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**CULTURE AND RECREATION:**

The Mayor said that first, before Mrs. Curtin begins, he would like to say thank you to your staff, everybody on the Suffern Day Committee, the Recreation Committee. Suffern Day was truly an amazing, amazing day. Everyone said that they have always been great in the past but there was just a certain feeling about this one. The weather held and he guesses it has been two years due to the hurricane last year, but it was just really a special day into the evening.

Mrs. Gail Curtin thanked the Mayor and said that since you started with this she would also like to express her appreciation to him and to the Village Board for the opportunity to be in charge of Suffern Day. It certainly has been her pleasure and to work with Dan and Clarke, Kathy, Virginia, and all the members of the committee. There are so many people who work so hard to put it together and they all thank him for the opportunity.

Mrs. Curtin said the Suffern Midget Mounties Bonfire was held on September 21; the Mayor just mentioned Suffern Day and Fireworks on Saturday, September 29. Mrs. Curtin said they still have a few tickets left, and she is almost embarrassed to admit it, because it is not such a good announcement, but if there is anybody who would like to join them going into New York City this Thursday evening, or knows of anyone who would like to, they are going in to see "Once," the Tony-Award winning musical and they still have a few tickets left. They picked up some actually on Saturday but they still have a few more. So if you know of anybody that is interested, she put a few flyers out in the lobby tonight, and just have them give her a call if you would.

Mrs. Curtin said the Mystic Makeover Fashion Show for Breast Cancer prevention is Sunday, October 7, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center; the first DARE dance of the this school season is Friday, October 12; the Halloween window painting will be next weekend, Saturday, October 13; the Lions Club Village of Suffern and Good Samaritan Hospital Blood Drive will be Tuesday, October 16. They kick off the LEAD season at the community center on October 19; Senior Citizen movie afternoon on October 25; Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 28.

Mrs. Curtin said those are all of the announcements. Under miscellaneous, you just gave the award to Joel Kanasky, and on behalf of herself and the Recreation Department, they congratulate Joel and it was their pleasure to work with him during that event. And lastly, they would like, the Recreation Committee, along with the Chamber of Commerce, would like to put together the first Village of Suffern Christmas Tree Lighting Parade. So with the Board's permission, she has already recruited someone in the audience, Mr. John Salmon - they had a nice conversation after the fireworks - Mike Stark, John Salmon and herself and some of her staff members - and she thinks, as usual, the fire department has offered to work with them on this. So as long as you give us the green light, they are going to move ahead. The Mayor said that is fine. They don't have to vote on this.

The Mayor said one thing. He asked if it was possible for the Lion's Club, and he knows that it is an annual thing for the Blood Drive but he guesses that since Mel Berkowitz was kind of the force behind it - he doesn't know if officially that we rename it the Mel Berkowitz Suffern Lion's Club Blood Drive. Mrs. Curtin said what she could do, if they would like, is to bring it to the Lion's Club. She asked if that was what he was asking her to do. The Mayor said yes, he thinks it would be appropriate, that we could do something to note that. Mrs. Curtin said it looks like someone is raising their hand for the Mayor. Lois Hagan said it has been done. Mrs. Curtin said it just didn't reach us. We just have Lion's Club. The Mayor said so we can do that on whatever literature we hand out and on the board. Mrs. Curtin said great. The Mayor thanked her.

**GRANT WRITER:**

Mr. Fred Rella said a lot of times we are able to get money for the Village and not everyone can see the benefits of that money all at the same time. But if you simply look out the door here you will see the new addition to the Justice Court and that was through a Justice Court Assistance Program grant and the hard

efforts of Charles Sawicki and his crew in putting it together and getting the right contractor and drawing it out and also Christine Andersen within the Court system. He said he thinks it came out beautiful and it is still not done. There is a little bit more.

Community Development Block Grants is the grant where we have the Facade Improvement Program and the way that program works is that we have a community advisory committee which is made up of people from the cross-section of the community and they come up with ideas and those are brought forth to the Board and we pick a program to submit for an application for monies. And the people for the advisory committee are - and they all have to live within the Village of Suffern - are Bob Apple who is a Village resident and is a retired construction manager; Jon Paul Molfetta who is a condo owner and a realtor in Suffern and Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce; Dorothy McClintock who is a lifelong resident of Suffern and a retired proprietor; Heather Ford who is a Suffern resident and homeowner and member of the Chamber of Commerce, and Charlie Rogers who is a renter and a Village resident and then both himself and Charles Sawicki who will be advisors to the committee. Mr. Rella said that he would need the blessing of the Board. The Mayor appointed the committee. A motion to confirm was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Abato. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Mr. Rella said he had just two other items. He said they had applied in March for what is called a Local Government Efficiency grant with the Department of State and that is where we are going to be potentially selling water to the Village of Hillburn but to do that you need to build a pumping station. That pumping station costs hundreds of thousands of dollars. He said we put in a grant for \$400,000 to help offset that cost. The State right now is holding up the announcements of the awards and Mr. Rella is working, with the help of the Mayor, with Senator Carlucci's office in trying to find out exactly if we can get a little information ahead of time. Senator Carlucci also wrote a letter when we sent in the original application supporting the program.

Mr. Rella said the last thing is that we are going to be applying, within the next thirty days, for the Village of Suffern to become a Tree City USA. And that will show that we are an advocate for the effective planting, maintenance and pruning of trees within the Village of Suffern. To do that though we have to establish a committee. We have to have a special Arbor Day program and we have to expend so much money of dollars per capita annually on a tree program and currently, through out efforts of hiring an arborist and doing our existing plantings and prunings,

we are right out of that threshold so really it won't cost the Village any more monies than we are currently expensing. So it is something really good and then when we actually do apply for grants a lot of the grants are awarded based upon a point system. You get extra points if you are a Tree City USA and that will help us to be selected a winner.

**VILLAGE ATTORNEY:**

**A) Authorization to Purchase Nyroos Property:**

Attorney Rice said that we have been discussing for some period of time the Village purchasing the property at 18B Rockland Terrace for the purpose of a park. There has been a lot of back and forth with the attorney for the estate of the owner. We do have a written agreement signed by the representative to purchase the property for \$5000 plus payment of expenses of \$1000 in their legal expenses and transfer tax and so forth. So if the Board wishes to proceed with this, he needs authorization to do so tonight. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said that she is very excited about the park. It is going to be a very safe environment. It is going to be a beautiful park. It is for small children and it will be completely fenced in and we are going to try to have it and the best example is the Chestnut Street park. She thinks it will be a great thing for the neighborhood.

Trustee Meehan said yesterday and this afternoon he was especially interested in this issue because he knew that there are people on Temple who are opposed to the park and he sort of can understand maybe the next door neighbor having to go not in my backyard. And he was interested to see how the rest of the neighborhood would be. And the impression that he got was that they favored it and the parents that he talked to who had young children felt it was a great idea. And he found that some other people who didn't have young children and they thought it was a good idea too. He said we lost the big park to the flood and they thought that this was a really good idea. And you can't make everybody happy all the time but it seems that this would be the greater good for that neighborhood.

The Mayor thanked Trustee Meehan and said it is also important to note that as Mr. Meehan alluded to that since we did get money back to replace the playground that was destroyed down at Donna Hallett Park the Board made a decision that we are not going to invest thousands of dollars in equipment back into an area that floods even during smaller events and that it made sense to go to this location. He said he believes originally Dan Haglund, our DPW Supervisor, brought the idea to our attention. He found a

spot. So ultimately the purchase of this property will be covered by the money in lieu of recreation and then FEMA reimbursement money to replace the playground equipment. So he thinks that is the situation there. It is no expense to the taxpayers.

Trustee Falciglia said if he could he also spoke to probably every resident of Temple Lane regarding the park and overwhelmingly they were not for it. Trustee Abato said that she thinks what we are doing is basically just moving the park to another location in the same neighborhood. She said she doesn't think we are making it any more or less. She thinks that we are just making a safe place for our children to be and she thinks that Suffern has always taken the stand to be able to give to afford, especially with our Recreation Department - afford the use of our Village a place to grow safely, play, and she thinks this is a wonderful idea. She said she understands that not everyone has small children but we have all been there one day and she is sure that we all wanted a safe environment for our children to be in so she guesses that she would say that those on Temple Lane who are not in favor of this to think back when their children were of school-age. It is going to be a daylight to dusk park. It is going to be gated. It is going to be locked. There is not going to be any loitering in the evening. You are not going to be able to get into it and she thinks it is going to be a wonderful addition to Lonergan Drive. She said she can remember when her children were little and as they grew that she would drive by Lonergan park and there would be children laughing and playing and enjoying themselves and she thinks that is an important part of Suffern. We worry about our youth and we want to give them these safe places to be. So she hopes that the residents on Temple Lane who were not in agreement with this will think about those particular things.

A motion to authorize the purchase of the property for \$5000 to purchase the property and \$1000 for legal expenses was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Abato.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Patricia Abato, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan  
Trustee John Meehan

NOES: Trustee Charles Falciglia

ABSENT: None

Attorney Rice said an additional item - obviously for the purchase we will be getting a title search, a title policy but in addition we spoke Thursday and he thinks it is advisable since

this is going to be public property and a public park that we obtain a survey of the property. We have two proposals - one from Brooker Engineering for \$1300 plus another \$400 at the corner stake and another one from Sparaco and Youngblood for \$1100 for the boundary survey and the staking of the property. So based on that he would recommend Sparaco and Youngblood for \$1100. A motion approving Sparaco and Youngblood was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Patricia Abato, Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan  
Trustee John Meehan

NOES: Trustee Charles Falciglia

ABSENT: None

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

**A) Mayor to Appoint Andrew Yorke to Full-Time Radio Dispatcher:**

Chief Clarke Osborn said he had a couple of quick things for the agenda. The first one is that he is asking the Board to appoint full-time dispatcher Andrew Yorke, a Village resident, to the position of full-time radio dispatcher pending clearance from the Rockland County Department of Personnel which we think we should have pretty soon. The Mayor said he believes the rate is \$20.80 an hour to start. Chief Osborn said that is correct. The Mayor said that as we discussed he wanted to say that there was a situation where our records clerk retired due to an illness and one of our dispatcher's moved up into that position and then created a vacancy for a full-time dispatcher. Due to the shifts in that personnel he believes that the net savings per year, obviously starting this year, to the taxpayer comes to about \$60,000 a year. Chief Osborn said yes. So due to obviously someone starting out at a low level and the dispatcher moving into the records clerk position was at a rate of \$20,000 lower. So he thinks it is about \$60,000. A motion confirming the appointment was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chief Osborn thanked the Board. He said he had just a couple of informational items. Number one is that they are in the process of conducting numerous commercial vehicle checks this time of year. Several of those are funded by the state and the purpose is to take unsafe trucks off the road and to issue violations as needed. The Chief said they have had very good luck here in Suffern with these operations in the past primarily because of the fact that we have Route 202, Route 59, Route 17 which comes down and turns into Orange Avenue. A very heavy amount of truck traffic coming into the Village and most of the violations we seem to get are overweight trucks which are very bad for the road. Very unsafe. They cannot stop on time and they damage our roads. Number two is that our Detective Bureau is in the process of doing a warrant sweep on every warrant we have. For the last week they have been doing it and they are going to continue it. Hopefully with good results. He also will be meeting he thinks with Charles and Mike - about a year ago he brought to the Board the West Ward crossing - the emergency crossing. He said he knows the Mayor and he had spoken about it originally and we notified the Board. The Chief said they are going to be meeting with them. The proposal was approved by New Jersey Transit. They have been in constant contact with them over the last year and they are going to meet with them to pick some sites out and to pick some locations at this point on October 12. So it pretty much has worked out well. And that will be an emergency access into the West Ward over the railroad tracks in times of emergency such as major floods where both bridges get flooded out which will be good for the police department, fire department, EMS personnel. Finally it looks like it is definitely going to happen. And he sees some of our Squires Gate residents here and he just wants to let them know that they took their complaints seriously in regards to the stop line at the state line and they have literally been there every day for the last two weeks and they have had great results. So he just wanted to tell them. Their complaint was definitely a legit complaint and he thanks them for the information on that. The Mayor thanked the Chief.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

The Mayor asked if anyone had a comment to please come up to the microphone and state their name and address.

Joseph Cestone of 25 Temple Lane said he is a resident right next to the park that they are going to build that he doesn't want. He said he will get a lawyer and he will sue us to stop it. You are infringing on his privacy. This is nothing but a gestapo.

Roy Tschudy of 16 Lonergan Drive thanked the Board for the

opportunity. He said that first of all with all deference to his neighbor Joe and the folks that do live on Temple he thanks the Board and the Mayor for putting in this park. He said he knows it is going to make some of his neighbors a little unhappy but the end, like Ms. Abato said, he would still rather see children playing and laughing than God forbid picking up a child for running out into the street who has been hit by a car or subjected to some kind of injury because they do not have a play area to play in. So like anything else he thinks we owe more to our children and our grandchildren than we do to ourselves. So on that note he does disagree with his neighbors although he does have empathy for them. He doesn't want them to think that their thoughts are disregarded. It is just that he personally would believe children first.

Mr. Tschudy said he would like to address the Donna Hallett park itself in that although everything has been removed and they were going to put a grass field in and he knows DPW came and worked very hard and brought dirt in and then more dirt in and they graded and seeded. However, what has been done is now a large swamp-like area with standing water and he doesn't know if it was somebody from Mr. Sawicki's office or someone else but they came and dug trenches even to try to drain it out. If that is temporary, that is fine. He understands. But he hopes that is not the final solution because the kids still can't use it. It is just a mud hole down there and that is just on moderate rain. So if there is some other way they can put a base down, whether it's sand, gravel, or whatever - whatever they have to do to absorb that rain or put something in that is going to help drain it out. The Mayor said that is a plan. We are going to do what we can. It obviously took a lot of time and we had to make sure there was grass which helped. But that will be the plan to get it to the point where it passes and the kids can play touch football and kick around the plan. That will be the plan. Mr. Tschudy said right. Because right now there is standing water. The Mayor said it is better than it was. Mr. Tschudy said the concern is mosquitos and West Nile. The Mayor said by the way we did treat it. We did put in the pellets on a couple of occasions when there was standing water. We treated it for mosquitos. We did look to drain it. But obviously it takes some time and we are on top of that. Mr. Tschudy asked if there was an approximate time that we could let them know when we think that park would be - the Mayor said the playground? Mr. Tschudy said yes, the playground. The Mayor said we have to purchase the land. Realistically it would probably be the spring. Mr. Tschudy said so the spring. The Mayor said yes. It all depends on when we get the agreement for the sale of the property and we acquire the property and then the next step would be that. So realistically based on the weather it

is possible to do it before the winter but likely it will probably be in the spring. Mr. Tschudy said lastly he wants to thank Clarke for addressing that problem with the traffic and the egress onto that area over there because it does create an accident-prone condition not only with vehicles but with maybe people having a little road rage, himself included, on that. So thank you. And again thank you very much for that. And to his neighbors on Temple - please try and look at the big picture.

Greg and Lucy Mahecha of 14 Boulevard said that before he starts he would also like to thank the Board for Suffern Day this weekend and the recreation department. He said they were able to take their two kids there and they had a great time as they did in previous years. So thank you very much for that. He said he had two things that he would like to address with the Board. And the first relates to potential violations regarding snow removal from sidewalks in front of his property which he understands was a topic of discussion at an April Board meeting earlier this year. As the Board duly noted in the April meeting, the sidewalks at issue are subject to an easement and it is not his legal responsibility to remove snow from the sidewalks. His position is supported by NYS Case Law from Rockland County all the way to the Court of Appeals that as the servient tenant of that easement, he has no obligation to maintain the easement. Maintenance responsibility is that of the dominant tenant, which is in this case his neighbor. Regardless, as is the case with snow removal, he often shovels more than he is responsible for on both sides of his house because you can't typically start and stop snow removal on a bright line. On the occasions when he has cleared the areas around the easement, his neighbor has physically shoveled snow from the street and pushed snow with their vehicle back onto the sidewalks that he has cleared specifically with the intention to provoke such a violation. He has for the Board videos and pictures of this occurring. Not this past winter because there was limited snowfall but from previous winters when this whole scenario began. And he would like to provide those to the Board for their viewing and he would be happy to meet with them separately to discuss them and explain them.

Mr. Mahecha said that as far as last year, there was only one significant snow which he understands was the topic of the conversation in the April Board meeting and he specifically remembers this case that is exactly the same. And what you will see from these videos is that exactly what the neighbor complained about in the video you can see the person shoveling snow back onto the sidewalk, shoveling a small narrow path intentionally to try to provoke the violation against him. So as we approach the snow season he is sure there will be similar

attempts to provoke such false violations against him and his family and he asks that the Village consider the source and the materials that he is able to provide them as well as the NYS law about who is responsible for clearing the easement's properties that are subject to the easements and try to avoid any frivolous claims.

Mr. Mahecha said that brings him to his second point as far as frivolous complaints are concerned. He said he recently has been issued two frivolous violations by the code enforcement, or at least in his opinion are frivolous and they have been dismissed by the Village court so he thinks that the merit is certainly questionable. The first is for lack of maintenance of vegetation on the easement that he referenced earlier. And as he stated, NY law clearly supports that he is not responsible for the maintenance of this easement. And this charge was dismissed, as he mentioned, just last week. He said his concern, however, is how the Village brought him to court over property that he is not legally responsible for particularly after code enforcement office and members of the Board were made aware about the legal issues around the easement. And they were also made aware about the efforts by this neighbor to try to provoke violations against him. Mr. Mahecha said his concern, however, is also related to the fact that the Board at this April meeting actually stated that you are unable to adjudicate who is legally responsible for clearing this easement. The Mayor said correct. Mr. Mahecha said however he was issued a violation by the code enforcement division - the Mayor asked if it was a violation or a - Mr. Mahecha said it was a violation. He had to go to court. He was arraigned last week on charges. The Mayor said you weren't arraigned. You don't get arraigned on charges for a code violation. Mr. Mahecha said he was. The Mayor said you weren't arrested, were you? Mrs. Mahecha said he stood in front of the judge - the Mayor said you can continue. He said he understands the situation and unfortunately this is a situation where there is obviously a disagreement between two neighbors. The Mayor said he has dealt on numerous issues with his neighbor, without getting into names and personalities not just with respect to his property but also with respect to a commercial business. And as he explains to people all the time. We have a very good code enforcement department and he would say that 90% of the issues that they deal with are as a result of somebody calling them and offering them information. And he has said this story before a hundred times where we had one particular neighbor who went in, complained about something their neighbor was doing and then of course the neighbor complained back and the original complainer ended up having to come in to the Village because they had an illegal hot tub and they had to spend money to make it legal. We

are not trying to pick on anyone. The Mayor said he knows you are hard-working people trying to do the right thing. It is just a very unfortunate situation. It is unclear, he guesses, with respect to the easement that we don't want to be in the business of adjudicating that but we also want to make sure that, unfortunately, any house in this Village - if someone called up and said check it out, code enforcers would go there. And none of us are perfect. And realistically, unless it is a matter of real safety or danger, pretty much we always give a warning, a verbal warning, then a written warning. And we just want people to cure it. And it is unfortunate that you have a situation where a neighbor is doing this to you. The Mayor said he has been dealing with it as he has - Mr. Mahecha said his point is well-taken. He understands. The Mayor said we can meet about this if you want. Mr. Mahecha said he would be happy to. The Mayor said he would like to talk to him about it. The Mayor asked Gail to give them his number if she didn't mind. And his e-mail. And they can set up a meeting. The Mayor said he is sure it is not fun not coming here on this night after working a hard day. Mr. Mahecha said absolutely. The Mayor said we are not trying to do anything to it. It is a very unfortunate situation. Mr. Mahecha said understood and he appreciates his comments about not getting involved in neighbor disputes and not being able to adjudicate but regardless he was issued a summons to court, had to invest time and resources to try to defend that which was ultimately dismissed by the Village court. So he thinks the circumstances by which he was issued that violation are certainly questionable. And if he could just finish his comments. The Mayor said sure.

Mr. Mahecha said additionally another concern is that over the course of three years and fifteen pages of police reports, he has been instructed by the Suffern police department, and he has adhered to those instructions, to avoid contact with that neighbor, stay off of their property for the purpose of his own safety and the safety of his family. Yet the code enforcement department issues him a violation trying to force him to go onto that property and force an unnecessary and unsafe interaction. So the broader concern here is the conflicting messages that he is hearing in the Board meeting, he is hearing from the code enforcement department, and he is hearing from the police department. So it creates the impression that the various Village offices don't communicate and aren't aware about all the issues related to himself and the neighbor. The Mayor said we are very well aware. He can tell him that he had a communication with respect specifically on a matter which arose out of code enforcement and allegations of legal wrongdoing. So the Mayor looked into it. We are aware. When someone makes a complaint, we have to look into it. The Mayor said he would like to speak to

Mr. Mahecha individually to discuss what we can do, how we can assist in fully adjudicating the responsibility of that property so that we know - and again he is not encouraging him, but believe him he knows that this individual, due to the gerd or the agita which they have created not only amongst you or other neighbors have themselves pointed out that this individual also has issues on their property and that is being looked into as well. So you know when you point the finger at somebody you do so at your own peril because they are likely to point it back. And believe him, we don't like that. We don't want to get involved in that. So he guesses that his situation is just unique in the sense that there is a piece of property that it is unclear who owns it. The Mayor said he will - and anytime you want him to come to his house and talk about it, they can do that in the next day or two. Mr. Mahecha said sure. Just on the heels of getting one violation dismissed he has been issued another violation for an alleged dead limb that is overhanging the property. The Mayor asked if it was a violation or is it a notice. Mr. Mahecha said this particular one was a notice. The one that he had to appear in court for was a violation. He had two people come and serve papers on his wife while she was holding his two year old son at the door and say thanks, you have been served. Please appear in court. The Mayor said he knows it is not - Mr. Mahecha said if he could just talk about, talk about the next - the tree limb, the alleged tree limb that he has been issued a notice of violation. It is so not evident of what the heck they are talking about that Lucy actually called the code enforcement officer himself and said can you tell me what exactly they are being issued a citation for. And his response, and he quotes, was "I don't even know what it is being issued for. Do you mind if I come to your property and inspect it so that I can issue a violation against them." Mr. Mahecha said he didn't say that part. But this tends to go with the scenario that violations are being issued site unseen based on complaints to try to get rid of somebody who is being a squeaky wheel. And mind you it has been two weeks and they still have no explanation why they received this notice from the Village. The Mayor said he assures him that it is not the case. We are not trying to take sides - it is an extremely unfortunate situation and they are being put in the middle of it and any violation - it is very possible that you can call in and speak to one code enforcer and the other one had issued it. But again he would like to talk to you about it and get all the facts. He said he is aware generally of the situation. He knows the easement went on two winters ago. And he wants to help him out. The Mayor said he thinks it is better for us to just talk about it and try to work it out because he can't give answers to those questions because he doesn't know the nature of every specific incident but he promises him that he will get back to

him tomorrow and we can work on this right away.

Mr. Mahecha said okay. He said he just wants to finish his comments because he thinks it is important to say here in this forum that he understands the position that they are being put in. He said he knows that you are being put in the middle and that probably you or the town attorney or the code enforcement office are being subject to incessant phone calls. He said he understands that. But regardless of the number of phone calls it doesn't change the merits or the facts of the case. And as a taxpayer he would expect that the Village follows up on claims based on merit and not based on the number of phone calls that they receive. He said he knows they can be annoying and he is sure they create annoying situations for the Village employees but he can tell them that it pales in comparison to the annoyance that has been created for him and his family. Not only code enforcement. But the false reports of crimes. He said you know the whole story. The Mayor said he is well aware of it. Mr. Mahecha said he fears - he can tell them that it is his opinion that the violations do not have merit and they are frivolous in response to these calls. And in his opinion this is very dangerous of the Village facilitating and legitimizing the bullying that his family has been subject to over the last couple of years. The Mayor said he understands his concern and he thinks it is not unreasonable for him to have the feeling based on it. The Mayor said he can assure him that we do not have a policy here of taking the side or responding to who makes the most complaints so that we will say let's just appease this person. It is not the case. If you were fully aware of everything that went on and the accusations against people - where you are saying that the code enforcer is against you this other person is saying that they are against them. So he would just say that he promises him that they will talk about this tomorrow. We will meet. The Mayor wants a solution. Mr. Mahecha deserves to live in this Village and he thinks that the behavior - quite frankly he is not in the business of engaging these situations but of the other party is quite inappropriate and it is just wrong. And it is not just him. It is other people. And it really is unfortunate that in a great Village we have people that have nothing better to do than to make other people's lives miserable. We have had accusations against Village employees of wrongdoing, murdering animals. Of crazy, crazy things. And it is unfortunate. And he doesn't want Mr. Mahecha to feel that he lives in a Village where the government here does not respect that you have chosen to live here and that you are hard-working taxpayers and he will do whatever he can to assist him and we will talk about this tomorrow. Mr. Mahecha said those are very thoughtful comments, your honor, and he was born and raised in this Village and that

is the reason why he moved back. Unfortunately it certainly hasn't worked out the way it was planned. So he appreciates the Mayor's sentiment and he does look forward to following up with him. The Mayor said we will talk tomorrow. Mr. Mahecha said he has the materials, the videos that he would like him to see. And he can show them to him when they meet. They are very telling. The Mayor asked him to give Gail his information and the best time to reach him tomorrow and they will get together and they will talk about this. The Mayor said he is sorry. He can only imagine how stressful this is in addition to the regular stresses. We all feel that your home is your castle and to be able to come home to that and not feel it. Mrs. Mahecha said she just wanted to say that their backyard, where her children play, is under 24 hours surveillance by this neighbor. That is all she wanted to say. She just wanted everyone to know that. The Mayor thanked her.

Ed Mahecha of 10 Stockbridge Avenue said that Greg Mahecha, who the Board just heard, is his son. Mr. Mahecha said his comments tonight will be about complaints to the Village issued by residents. He said his wife and he came to Suffern, New York, forty-two years ago and they found it a great place to raise a family, make friends, and become part of a vibrant community. So they were extremely delighted when both of their sons, including Greg and Lucy, decided to raise their families right here in Suffern. Imagine their disappointment, however, when in his opinion, Greg and his family became the object of harassment via a campaign of frivolous complaints filed against them with the Village by his neighbor. Mr. Mahecha said he understands that the Village must respond to complaints by residents but at what point does the Village's performance of public service, in this effect, become a public nuisance. There have been over 100 hours of police resources and Village funds expended. There has been no exchange of any crimes or disturbances at all except, in his humble opinion, in the fertile imagination of the neighbor. Now the person has moved on to making similar false claims to the code enforcement office. False claims which the Village has chosen to pursue. His point. How much money, time and resources are being expended by the Village to respond to all of these so-called violations and emergencies. When they moved to Suffern 42 years ago, his Village tax was \$69. Today he is paying about 30 times that and he understands that the Village has grown quite a bit and official services must be provided and he is well-satisfied with the services that they are receiving from the Village. But he doesn't like the fact that his tax monies are being wasted in the pursuit and investigation of these frivolous complaints especially in times where municipal budgets throughout the country are being stretched to the breaking point. Therefore

he suggests that the Village exercise better judgement before expending Village resources to follow up on frivolous and false claims of any kind particularly when it is done in furtherance of harassment and to indulge the entertainment of a single resident. He thanked the Board for their time. The Mayor thanked him. He said those were really eloquent comments and he promises him that we will take care of this. It has gotten to a point where this is ridiculous and he is not the only one. Thank you for saying that. The Mayor promised him we would deal with this tomorrow.

Jim Giannettino of 2 Memorial Drive said he just had a couple of questions on some items on the agenda. One being from the backup materials provided it looks like we are asking for a position for maintenance helper. The Mayor said correct. Mr. Giannettino said the qualifications were removed? The Mayor asked what do you mean the qualifications were removed? He said it was a four year high school qualification and three years of experience and that was lined out and removed was written next to it and it was signed by the DPW director. The Mayor said he can look into that specifically. He does know that it is a position that will be filled by somebody who is already employed here so it is not a new position in that there will be no additional employees. It will be filled within. The Mayor said he knows that we had a discussion about this at a previous meeting about looking to move employees up who have worked hard and recognizing that we have less workers but the workers who are working are doing so in an efficient manner. Mr. Giannettino asked if that was cause to diminish the qualifications? The Mayor said he cannot comment on that. He does not - Mr. Sawicki said he could explain it. Mr. Giannettino said don't take this out of his time, please. Mr. Sawicki said those requirements were in the original job description. We sent the job description to the County and he was informed by the County that those items had to be eliminated. So that was a request from County personnel. The Mayor said here you go. Hope that satisfies your question. Mr. Giannettino said it really doesn't, to tell you the truth, because this was a long-standing requirement and all of a sudden we do away with all requirements. The Mayor told him to call the County on that if you would like. Mr. Giannettino said maybe he will. But that is neither here or there. Maybe you should have called the County on it. But he will call the County. Mr. Giannettino said actually continuing on this item. If this employee doesn't have a high school diploma, doesn't have the experience, does he have a driver's license at least? The Mayor said yes he does. Mr. Giannettino said okay. Because that would make it totally ridiculous to move him into the position if he can't drive. The Mayor said this employee has been here a number of years and has been working and he thinks he is very qualified. Mr. Giannettino

said okay. It is your prerogative to appoint him.

Mr. Giannettino said his next question is that there was an item on there and he doesn't know if it was taken off about hiring Wickes for \$810 a day to grind stumps. The Mayor said we have a proposal from Wickes Arborists here including the maintenance of our trees in the downtown. Mr. Giannettino said including grinding stumps which we, our Village people, already do. Mr. Sawicki said we did it. Mr. Giannettino said okay. That was his question because if we can do it ourselves why are we going to hire Wickes. He thanked the Board. He also said he guesses the time clock wasn't working today. The Mayor said always a pleasure.

Rich Karpp of Squires Gate said again two questions. Status of the four homes in Squires Gate. It is 14 months now. Now he knows Ms. Corrigan has been in touch with what is going on. What is going on and how can this be hastened. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said it can't be hastened and it can't be hastened because FEMA has not made a final decision yet. Mr. Karpp asked if they were on the last thing or is there more after FEMA. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said there might be more after FEMA. FEMA makes the decision on whether they are going to be taking the homes or not. Mr. Karpp asked if there was any time limit given on this. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said no it was not. And she did check in with our contact approximately a week and a half ago and he said that the file is up in Albany and it is being reviewed and as soon as he has something he will get to us as soon as possible. Mr. Karpp said okay. The reason he asks is that he is one and a half houses away from them and looking at them like this he doesn't know which is better. Looking at them like this or looking at an empty space. He said half the people don't want to stay there anymore. Houses cannot be sold. Nobody in their right mind will buy a house and even if somebody is willing to buy a house and pay for the insurance and all the other stuff, the banks will not give a mortgage because the bank is owner with the house also. So the sooner that this gets resolved the better off everybody else would be. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan said she could not agree more.

Mr. Karpp said second. What is the status of the quarry that was mentioned many years ago. He said he is hearing a lot of conflicting reports about that. The Mayor said there is a proposal that is working through the Planning Board. The proposal is on our website. You can take a look at that. It is not before this Board yet. Mr. Karpp said the proposal for what - for the houses? The Mayor said for a proposed development that a developer submitted and is going through the process of

presenting to the Planning Board. Mr. Karpp asked if an environmental study - the Mayor said it hasn't been done yet. Mr. Karpp said so you are talking - now if you have to take an environmental study of Squires Gate and the Mahwah River because that will be taken care of - the Mayor said again we will take each step as it comes along. He said he is not going to comment. He said he doesn't think it is appropriate to comment about a project - Mr. Karpp said he hopes he is alive when that comes. He said he is getting old. The time is shortened now. He said he is more concerned. As far as the houses, that is one thing. He said he is more concerned about the pumping station that as far as he knows will be the first thing that is built before anything else. The Mayor said okay. Mr. Karpp said so you have to wait until everything else is done before all the permits, and all the studies, and everything else. The Mayor said we will go through the process as required by law. Mr. Karpp said you are talking years now. The Mayor said it could take a long time. He said he is not going to comment on that because he doesn't know. He can't gauge it. It is just projecture. Mr. Karpp asked if there was anything else being done for where they live. The Mayor said we are working the best we can in terms of trying to clean up what debris is in the river. He said he knows that the FEMA recovery helping the four homeowners - again we still have two individuals in the Village who are dedicated and available to discuss whatever needs that we can offer to help them out so we are always concerned about residents, particularly residents in Mr. Karpp's area who were affected by the flood. Mr. Karpp said that unfortunately he is up here most of the time talking about this situation. The Mayor said he understands. We can talk more about this. Mr. Karpp said no, no, no. Just one statement please. He wishes he could organize every homeowner in that development and then you would have 144 houses full of people come down here. But this is one, two, three, four people. They get pushed off. Nothing gets done. The Mayor said he understands his frustration. Mr. Karpp said it is crazy. The Mayor said he understands his frustration but again the Village is doing what it can. This is not a situation, in terms of the river, that was created by the Village. Mr. Karpp said excuse him. He begs to differ on him. The Mayor said on what - on approving this development - Mr. Karpp said yes he does. The Mayor said he understands that and he can't speak to that. He wasn't on the Board and he wasn't alive. Mr. Karpp said but the Village can. And if that is the position that the residents take, that is the position the residents take. Mr. Karpp asked what other position can they take. The Mayor said he doesn't want to get into a debate here. He said we can talk about this at another time. We can talk about this more about what we are doing to help out, continuing to help out.

Mr. Karpp said okay. One more thing. He was at that last Planning Board meeting about the building of 21 condos. The Mayor asked him to say that again. Mr. Karpp said the Planning Board meeting. The Mayor said what about it. Mr. Karpp said he was there when they gave the okay to build those condos. Now you get a lot of flooding over there too and to him it looks like the same thing that happened many years ago with the Planning Board and the Village of Suffern when Squires Gate was in the development stage and he just hopes that it works out that it doesn't hinder them. The Mayor said understood. Mr. Karpp thanked him.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

**A) Training:**

Mr. Charles Sawicki requested authorization for Mr. Scott Brown to attend the Train the Trainer class for first responders of hazardous waste in Saratoga Springs, New York, on October 2 through October 5. This course is provided by the CSEA at no cost to the Village. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to attend the Southeast New York Stormwater Conference on November 7, 2012 in Fishkill, New York at a cost of \$125. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meehan, seconded by Trustee Abato.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**B) Personnel:**

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to extend the duration for a Street Department temporary laborer, Mr. Daniel Horton, from 90 days to 120 days. A motion approving the request was made by

Trustee Falciglia, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**C) Proposal Approval:**

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to approve O'Brien and Gere's proposal for the Wastewater Treatment plant dewatering system upgrade design in the amount of \$72,500. This will be funded by the Wastewater Treatment plant capital project. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Falciglia.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**D) Application for Payment:**

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to approve application of payment #2 in the amount of \$30,352.50 to Monpat Construction Inc. for the DPW street garage roof restoration project. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Abato.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**E) Bid Approval:**

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to accept the low and only used equipment bid for a used roll-off truck from American Hose and Hydraulics of Paterson, New Jersey. The bid is in the amount

of \$45,000. This truck has been inspected and deemed acceptable by the DPW garage mechanics. This will be funded by the 2013 capital account. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to accept the low and only used equipment bid for a used rear loader garbage truck, cab and chassis only, from American Hose and Hydraulics of Paterson, New Jersey. This bid is in the amount of \$50,000. This truck has been inspected and deemed acceptable by the DPW garage mechanics. This will be funded by the 2013 capital account through fund transfer.

A motion to do the budget transfer as requested was made by Mayor LaCorte, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

#### RESOLUTION No. 9, 2012

Mayor Dagan LaCorte offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: RESOLVED, to amend the capital projects and general fund budgets as follows: add account H.8160.4200.0001.2013-009 Garbage Truck - \$50,000; add account H.8160.3573.0001.2013-009 - \$38,642; add account H.0000.3503.0001.2013.009 - \$11,358. Decrease project H.5110.4300.0001.2013.004 - \$20,000; decrease revenue H.5110.3573.0001.2013.004 - \$20,000. Decrease project H.5110.4300.0001.2013.003 - \$17,472; decrease revenue H.5110.3573.0001.2013.003 - \$17,472. Decrease project H.5010.4200.0001.2013-002 - \$1,170; decrease revenue H.5010.3573.0001.2013-002 - \$1,170. Decrease paving account A.5110.4400.0048 - \$11,358; increase transfer to capital fund A.5110.4900.0001 - \$11,358.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

A motion to approve the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meehan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte

Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**F) WWTP:**

Mr. Sawicki requested authorization to issue a purchase order to the low bidder, Longo Electric Mechanical Inc. of Wharton, New Jersey. This is a turnkey installation of two new vertical turbine pumps for the trickling filters at the Wastewater Treatment plant in the amount of \$28,872 plus estimated freight of \$2600. This cost will be charged against the Wastewater Treatment plant capital project account. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Abato.

Trustee Falciglia asked if this was the item that was in that audit report. Mr. Sawicki said on what he handed out at the workshop? No. This is purely equipment - two pumps. That was for engineering and design work.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**VILLAGE CLERK:**

**A) Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting - September 4, 2012:**

Village Clerk Virginia Menschner said she only had two things. She asked for acceptance of the minutes of the Village Board meeting of September 4, 2012. A motion approving the minutes was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

**B) Establish Position of Maintenance Helper:**

Ms. Menschner said we have permission from Civil Service to establish the position of maintenance helper. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee

Meegan-Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte said he just wanted to note for the record that this again is not the creation of a new position in that we are bringing in a new employee. It is going to be filled from within in an effort, as we discussed this last time, to recognize our employees who are doing well with less manpower and to improve morale and productivity which has been very successful in that regard.

Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**TRUSTEES:**

Trustee Meehan said that in 2008, shortly after Supervisor St. Lawrence announced that Quarry Ridge Inc. had a proposal for the quarry, one of the managing partners of the Quarry Ridge Corporation, Sheldon Goldstein, with whom Trustee Meehan said they are all familiar with, wrote a community view about the Quarry Ridge development and in the community view he stated that Quarry Ridge Inc. would provide Suffern, since the property was going off the tax rolls, he said in the community view that Quarry Ridge would provide Suffern substitute money or money in lieu of taxes during the application period. And on August 2 Trustee Meehan sent him a letter reminding Quarry Ridge Inc. of their commitment that they made in *The Journal News* community view and Trustee Meehan is happy to report that they are going to be paying us \$33,975.71. And it is always good to have another \$33,975.71. The Mayor told Trustee Meehan great job on that. Trustee Falciglia said yes, very good. When are they paying us? The Mayor said we spoke to them today and he thinks they said that their bookkeeper was out for the holiday so when they get back they will do that. But it is really good that they do that. The Mayor said we will get it. He told Trustee Meehan good job. You kept them to their promise so thank you for working on that. Trustee Falciglia said they will be paying that the entire review period - pro-rating it to the day of closing? The Mayor said he believes so. Trustee Meehan said that is right. What we did was Tom gave us the scheduling of what the taxes - because they haven't paid taxes since 2008 - the property hasn't - so Tom gave us the schedule going through the years and this is fiscal 2013 amount that they would pay.

**MAYOR:**

The Mayor said he had two items.

**A) John Wickes - Estimate - Downtown Trees:**

The Mayor said one is the Wickes estimate for downtown trees. As it was pointed out it is for \$5320. We are not doing the grinding because we did that already. This is part of the downtown tree maintenance which obviously serves the purpose of protecting our investment in downtown revitalization as part of the Saratoga Associates plan that was adopted by this Board he thinks eleven or twelve years ago. In addition we have a budget for tree maintenance which we have to spend that money and also as part of that is when we are applying for Tree City U.S.A. since we already have such a maintenance program in place. He knows that former Deputy Mayor and Trustee Bruce Simon worked on that in terms of the Arbor Day celebration which is an important component to that but by being a Tree City U.S.A., while it doesn't do anything directly, it does enable you to get a whole host of grants so it is an important designation for us to go out and get more grants and that is what our grant writer is working on so again this has been a team effort and we are moving forward on that. So he asks the Board to approve the proposal of Wickes Arborists for \$5320. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. The Mayor said this money is in the budget.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**B) Update Harassment Policy:**

The Mayor said the last item on the agenda is that the Village has maintained for a number of years a Harassment Policy that is distributed to each employee when they become employed by the Village. The Mayor had asked the Village Attorney to update that policy so that it reflects practices, laws, and policies that are more contemporary than when it was adopted, specifically to include the protection granted to same sex marital status so each Trustee was provided a copy of that so he would ask the Board to adopt, by vote, the updated policy. A motion approving the request was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meegan-

Corrigan.

AYES: Mayor Dagan LaCorte  
Trustee Charles Falciglia, Trustee Patricia Abato  
Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee John Meehan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. was made by Trustee Abato, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. Upon vote, the motion was carried.