

**Village of Buchanan**  
**Mayor & Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**October 1, 2019**

**PRESENT:**

Acting Mayor Richard A. Funchion  
Trustees Duane Jackson, Cesare Pasquale and Nicolas Zachary  
Village Attorney Stephanie V. Porteus  
Village Board Secretary Susan F. Matthews  
Police Chief Eric Johansen  
Village Clerk Cynthia Kempter

**ABSENT:**

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Acting Mayor Funchion called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and informed every one of the fire regulations.

Acting Mayor Funchion announced that Mayor Knickerbocker is not present because she is in a Nuclear Decommissioning and Used Fuel Strategy meeting in North Carolina to gain more knowledge for the Village as we continue going down this road. He commented that it is a new situation in many parts of the country because there are a lot of nuclear power plants closings. She will come back with what we hope is a lot of good information.

**2. POLICE CHIEF JOHANSEN:**

Police Chief Johansen reported that unfortunately he could not be present at Buchanan Day but our Police Department had a car seat inspection and check point set up there. Not many people took advantage of that. The service is available by appointment to the Village residents. It is very worthwhile and he hopes people take advantage of it. He commented that people think that putting a car seat in is simple but it takes 5 days of training to be certified as a car seat installation technician. That is how involved it is.

Chief Johansen announced that this Saturday from 9 AM to 11:30 AM the Buchanan Police Department will have “Coffee With the Cop” in the Village Hall parking lot. It will be an impromptu set up. They will have a tent and table. There will be refreshments, donuts or pastries. You can meet some of our police officers who will be there. People can discuss concerns or issues or just say hello.

**3. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: (agenda items only)**

None.

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. 19-40 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF A VILLAGE FACILITY:**

Acting Mayor Funchion read the resolution (*copy attached*).

A MOTION to adopt this resolution as presented was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

**b. 19-41 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SEASONAL HELP:**

Acting Mayor Funchion read the resolution (*copy attached*).

Trustee Zachary asked if \$12.00 per hour was the State minimum wage. Cindy Kempter advised that it is.

A MOTION to adopt this resolution as presented was made by Trustee Zachary, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

**c. 19-42 RESOLUTION APPOINTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE CITIZEN'S ADVISORY GROUP FOR THE LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PLAN (LWRP)**

Acting Mayor Funchion read the resolution (*copy attached*).

Trustee Zachary advised that this is grant money that the Village and Town of Cortlandt got jointly to study the waterfront revitalization plan. It is not just the waterfront. They have not had their first meeting. He is meeting this week with the Town Planner who is leading this effort. They will try to determine how many members will continue to be involved and what the area of study is. More details will follow.

A MOTION to adopt this resolution as presented was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

**5. INFORMATION FROM OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS:**

- a. Justice Court Report – August 2019  
Received and filed
- b. Police Reports – August 2019  
Received and filed
- c. Zoning Board Minutes - October 10, 2018 and November 14, 2018  
Received and filed

- d. Attorney's Report:  
Village Attorney Porteus had nothing to report at this time.
- e. Trustees' Reports

Trustee Jackson wanted to comment on a letter that most of the public are not aware of. Village resident Diane Tangen expressed concerns about the highway work planned by the NYS DOT to go into effect along Albany Post Road. Trustee Zachary has been in touch with them. Trustee Jackson noted that Ms. Tangen's letter expressed that we pay high taxes here so we should have the best roads and have them done in a timely manner. He thanked her for her diligence and for making sure that we keep them up front. Trustee Zachary advised that they should begin work on the road in the next week or two. They will begin with curbs cuts and ADA ramps. When that is done they will begin the milling. The project manager for the DOT expects it to be completed by the end of November.

Trustee Jackson reminded residents to curb their dogs. Residents should remember that what goes in the catch basins flows into the lake. We want to keep it clean. He also reminded residents to watch out for kids on their bikes.

Trustee Zachary attended the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. It is held every year at the Buchanan/Croton/Town of Cortlandt 9/11 Memorial. It is on the river at Croton Point on a beautiful site a half mile walk from the parking lot. It is a great ceremony. It is keeping alive the memory of 9/11. He commented that it seems to him to be a short memory for things these days. It was good to see people out there and doing this every year.

Trustee Zachary attended an Indian Point Task Force meeting last week. Mayor Knickerbocker is on the committee. He listened in. The most important thing he took out of it is that with Entergy planning to sell the plant to Holtec, a decommissioning company, a very big issue for our Village is if they buy it the decommissioning time is about 10 years. If they do not buy it, it is 60 years. The Village has a keen interest in the sale to Holtec so that we will not be sitting here with nuclear structures for 60 years. There will be an NRC meeting on October 2 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Morabito Community Center in the Town of Cortlandt to talk about the plant closing and to answer questions. It is open to the public.

Trustee Zachary noted that our Workshop meetings are not televised. Anybody who wants to can attend. For the next Workshop he would like to revisit the Route 9A parking situation. We had discussed the Village taking that over to clean up the excessive parking from Bleakley Avenue to Tate Avenue. He would also like to continue the discussions on the zoning proposals. The Beautification Committee wants to come to the next Workshop. They would like to have an Earth Day Celebration in the Village next Spring and want to discuss what it would take to get it started.

Trustee Zachary thanked Mayor Knickerbocker who is down in North Carolina for this nuclear energy forum and thanked her for doing her homework. She is doing a lot of work to go the extra mile in doing everything she can.

Trustee Pasquale reported that it was a beautiful day on Saturday for Buchanan Day. It was nice to see the number of people who came out to support our community. The committee did a beautiful job.

Trustee Pasquale announced that we will have a Halloween Parade which will be announced in the Newsletter. He reminded be careful with the children out. People come out at this time of year and he said to be mindful of those situations.

Trustee Pasquale thanked Cindy and Sharon in the Village office and Village Attorney Porteus for all the work they do in the absence of a Village Administrator. He thanked the Highway Department employees for the work they do without a full staff.

Trustee Pasquale read selected entries from the Police Report. On August 21 at 8:18 AM, Officer Palmietto made a vehicle stop for failing to stop for a Stop sign. The person had a suspended license and was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and given a summons. On August 22 at 5:27 PM, Office Budde responded to a reported domestic dispute. Upon investigation it was determined that no crime had been committed. He was able to mediate the situation. On August 29, Officer Tiernan responded to a call about a missing child. He investigated and eventually located the child who was in good health. Trustee Pasquale noted that there was another traffic stop involving a driver with a suspended license and another domestic dispute resulting in the arrest of an individual for assault. He commented that car stops and domestic disturbances are two of the hardest and most dangerous calls that our police officers can do. Our police officers are one person cars. He thanked them for all they do and for keeping us updated. We all appreciate what they do for us.

Trustee Funchion was on the committee for Buchanan Day. He thanked Naomi and Beth and the committee members. He commented that Colleen Lonergan runs the whole show. She does so much work. Everything turned out nicely this year. At Buchanan Day, State Senator Harckham announced that we are receiving a \$125,000 grant to fix and repair the pavilion. Trustee Funchion commented that it was nice to be there to accept that.

Trustee Funchion added his thanks to Trustee Pasquale's for all the work our Highway Department has been doing without currently having a full staff.

Trustee Funchion reminded that we will have our annual Halloween Parade. Information is in the Newsletter. He reminded everyone to be careful for our children's safety, especially at this time of year.

**6. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

None.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Village Attorney Porteus asked for a Motion to go into Executive Session. The Police Chief has a police officer candidate that he would like the Board to meet in Executive Session.

At 7:53 PM a MOTION to enter into Executive Session to meet a police officer candidate was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:00 PM a MOTION to return from Executive Session and adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.