

**Village of Buchanan
Mayor & Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
November 10, 2020**

PRESENT: (This meeting was done via zoom and zoom audio)

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker
Trustees Richard A. Funchion, Duane Jackson, Cesare Pasquale and Nicolas Zachary
Village Administrator Marcus Serrano
Village Attorney Stephanie Porteus
Village Clerk Cynthia Kempter

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Knickerbocker called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. The ability to do zoom meetings has been extended until December 5. She led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVE MINUTES:

October 6, 2020 Board Meeting: A Motion to approve these minutes as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor..

October 27, 2020 Workshop Meeting: Trustee Zachary requested a change on page 2 under 226 Travis Avenue to replace ‘in order to allow Mr. Calabro his variance’ with ‘to reform to a revised code that works broadly’. A Motion to approve these minutes as adjusted was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

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

None.

Village Administrator Serrano mentioned that we are using a webinar function where people can join the meeting as an attendee and ask their questions rather than calling in.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Appointment of officials

The following appointment of officials to be made by Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker, except where otherwise indicated, subject to the approval by a majority of the Board of Trustees, pursuant to Section 4-400, 4-402, 7-712 and 7-718 of Village Law and Section 523 of the Real Property Tax Law. All appointments are for a one-year term

except where noted otherwise.

1. Annual Appointments:

The following appointment of officials made by Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker except where otherwise indicated, subject pursuant to Sections 4-400, 4-402, 7-712 and 7-718 of Village Law. All appointments are for a one-year term except where noted otherwise.

- a) Planning Board:
 - Tracey Armisto – 2025 Tracey Armisto
 - Jennifer Bakker – 2023 Jennifer Bakker
 - Chairman - 2021 Sean Murray
- b) Zoning Board of Appeals:
 - Harmen Bakker – 2025 Harmen Bakker
 - Chairman – 2021 Gary Bell
- c) Village Clerk/Treasurer Cynthia Kempter
- d) Village Deputy Clerk Sharon Murphy
- e) Village Attorney Stephanie Porteus
- f) Associate Village Justice Daniel O’Neill
- g) Court Clerk - P/T Christine Torres
- h) Recreation Supervisor - P/T Nancy Bayer
- i) Representative for the Senior Citizen’s Advisory Council Mike Lepore
- j) Liaison to Saint Patrick’s Day Parade Richard A. Funchion
- l) Representative to the Historic Hudson River Towns Richard A. Funchion

VOTE: Motion By: Trustee Zachary

Seconded By: Trustee Pasquale

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker Yes

Trustee Richard A. Funchion Yes

Trustee Duane Jackson Yes
Trustee Cesare Pasquale Yes
Trustee Nicolas Zachary Yes

VOTE: 5 in favor 0 opposed.

DATED: November 10, 2020

2. The following members of the Board of Trustees are hereby appointed to the following committees for the ensuing "Official Year 2020-2021":

- a) Administrative Entire Board
- b) Assessment Entire Board
- c) Auditing Entire Board
- d) Business Development Entire Board
- e) Education Duane Jackson
- f) Infrastructure Theresa Knickerbocker
- g) Legislative Entire Board
- h) Parks - Recreation Nicolas Zachary
- i) Public Safety Cesare Pasquale
- j) Veterans Duane Jackson
- k) Indian Point Decommissioning Task Force Richard Funchion

VOTE: Mayor's Committee Appointments - NO VOTE NECESSARY

- b. Consider a Motion to open Public Hearing amending § 163-7.2 of the Village Code entitled "Imposition of Dumpster Fees".

The only change being made to the "Imposition of Dumpster Fees" Local Law #3 is to replace commercial establishment with property owner, so it becomes clear that the cost for the dumpster is charged to the owner of the property and not the tenants.

A Motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

- c. Consider a Motion to adopt Local Law #5 amending § 163-7.2 entitled "Imposition of Dumpster Fees" to the Code of the Village of Buchanan. "

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

- d. Consider a Motion to accept the resignation of Anthony Conti as of October 12, 2020 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the separation agreement as of October 19, 2020.

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

- e. Consider a Motion to Appoint Peter Cook as temporary part-time building inspector at \$45/hour.

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

- f. Consider a Motion Amending the Master Fee Schedule for the Village of Buchanan to adjust the special use permit and renewal fee. The Master Fee Schedule shall be amended pursuant to the schedule below:

<u>Square Feet</u>	<u>Initial Fee</u>	<u>Renewal Fee</u>
Up to 4,000	\$375	\$250
From 4,000 to 10,000	\$1,000	\$350
Over 10,000	\$3,000	\$1,500

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

- g. Consider a Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a renewal agreement with Hahn Engineering.

Mayor Knickerbocker stated that Hahn Engineering has been our engineer in the Village for many years. They have extensive knowledge of our infrastructure and sewer treatment plant. The maximum annual payment is \$55,000 unless there is an additional project. Village Administrator Serrano stated that George Pommer is a substantial asset to have working with us. Trustee Zachary referred to page 2 of the contract under reimbursable expenses. He suggests that we remove the third item which is toll telephone calls because any call in the United States is included at no extra charge on your bill. Trustee Zachary also mentioned page 5 where it lists the hourly rates. He questioned at what level were we being billed at when George Pommer works for the Village. George Pommer is Vice President at \$185.00/hr.

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

A copy of this contract can be found in the Village contract file.

- h. Consider a Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Village of Buchanan Fire Department to provide Fire protection services to the Village of Buchanan subject to final review and approval by the Village Attorney.

Village Attorney Porteus stated that we have a very comprehensive agreement with the Buchanan Engine Company which protects both the Buchanan Engine Company and the Village and most importantly the residents. Village Attorney Porteus feels that she speaks for everyone in saying that the Village appreciates and is thankful for the Buchanan Engine Company for responding to calls for help, for protecting the health and safety of the residents. She also wants to thank Tim Hannigan who is council for the Buchanan Engine Company. He worked very hard and they worked very well together to get this done. Trustee Zachary added that he would like to thank Village Attorney Porteus for all the work she has put into this. Mayor Knickerbocker mentioned that we are thankful to have our own fire department and they are a huge part of our community.

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with Trustee Jackson abstaining.

A copy of this contract can be found in the Village contract file.

- i. Consider a Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with A.S. BELL Engineering, PC for professional services regarding the Village of Buchanan pool mechanical operations.

Village Administrator Serrano stated that we have some issues with the pool. The \$30,000 would be the total amount, but the hope is that we spend about \$5,000 and after phase 2 get a better cost estimate, scope of the project and timeline. Then the Board can decide to move forward or not.

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

A copy of this contract can be found in the Village contract file.

- j. Consider a Motion to adopt Inter-Municipal Agreement with Westchester County for Mutual Aid and Rapid Response Plan for Police Department within Westchester County (2020-2025)

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

A copy of this contract can be found in the Village contract file.

- k. Consider a Motion to add to the agenda: accepting the sale of surplus equipment onto the agenda as letter k.

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Zachary, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

Mayor Knickerbocker stated that a few months ago we voted on putting surplus equipment out to bid. The bids are as follows: Lesco Walk Behind Mower \$155; 2003 Chevrolet Utility Truck \$2,550; 1988 Mack Garbage Truck \$8,600; 2001 Crown Victoria \$410; 1991 Chevrolet Utility Truck \$320 for a total of \$12,035.

A Motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

5. INFORMATION FROM OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS:

- a. Justice Court Reports – September 2020

Received and Filed.

- b. Police Report – September 2020

Received and Filed.

- c. Planning Board Minutes – December 19, 2019

Received and Filed.

- d. Zoning Board Minutes – September 9, 2020

Received and Filed.

- e. Highway Report – September 2020

Received and Filed.

- f. Wastewater Treatment Plant – September 2020

Received and Filed.

- g. Attorney's Report

Village Attorney Porteus stated that there are several applicants in front of the zoning board and one applicant in front of the planning board. Other things that relate to personnel will be discussed in executive session.

- h. Administrator's Report

Village Administrator Serrano mentioned that we are still waiting on the DASNY grant for the pavilion. In addition, we are also waiting on the sidewalk grant for Route 9A which is still pending with the DOT. The pavilion grant has been in process for over a year since DASNY is always asking for more information. We have been giving them everything they need. With Anthony Conti's resignation, we now have 2 part time building inspectors available. They are doing inspections and catching up on items. Trustee Jackson asked about the fire code enforcement. The building inspectors will be doing fire inspections and grease trap inspections. Trustee Jackson also asked about the unpaid taxes. Village Administrator Serrano responded that we need to discuss foreclosure proceedings again.

i. Mayor's Report

Mayor Knickerbocker stated that tomorrow is Veteran's Day. She posted the following on the Village Facebook page. On Veterans Day we honor those men and women who have served our country. We thank them for their service and sacrifice. In the Village of Buchanan we do our part to support our Veteran's in need by collecting food and donating to the VA food pantry. Thank a Veteran not only today, but every day of the year. A big thank you to all our Veteran's. Home of the free, because of the brave.

Mayor Knickerbocker mentioned that last week there was an Indian Point decommissioning meeting. Entergy gave an update and overview of what has been going on since the closure of IP 2 this year. IP3 is scheduled to cease operations in April 2021. By the end of the year, the NRC has said that there will be a discussion on whether they will approve the license transfer from Entergy to Holtec. We will post when the next meeting will be held.

Mayor Knickerbocker stated that we are seeing an increase with the virus in the Village and the County. Please social distance and wear your mask. Mayor Knickerbocker thanked Nancy Bayer for a wonderful Halloween parade. There will be a Thanksgiving contest for submitting a letter about what you are thankful for. The winners will receive a gift card for a turkey. Tentatively, we will still do the Christmas tree lighting. There will be a holiday lighting decoration contest. The winners will receive gift cards.

j. Trustee's Report

Trustee Pasquale reiterated what a wonderful job Nancy Bayer did with the Halloween parade. With tomorrow being Veteran's Day, thank you to all our Veteran's for everything they have done. Also a happy and safe Thanksgiving to everyone.

Trustee Funchion also thanked the Veterans and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Trustee Funchion thanked Mayor Knickerbocker for all the work she is doing for the Village.

Trustee Jackson reminded us all to curb your dogs and be mindful of what goes in our sewer system. There is a great program that is orchestrated out of the Montrose VA and the Metropolitan PGA where Veterans are taught the game of golf. A lot of the local country clubs participate in letting Veterans play a round of golf for free. Trustee Jackson also said Happy Thanksgiving and we should indeed count our blessings. In the Veteran's community they always say, Freedom is not free and it is never free. There are those who are in faraway places that have given us the freedom we have today. Mayor Knickerbocker thanked Trustee Jackson for his service.

Trustee Zachary mentioned a pet peeve of his. The local gas stations seem to charge more for gas than other stations in the area. Trustee Zachary gave an update on the LWRP – Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan. The advisory committee had a meeting a few weeks ago. The main thing discussed was a survey which is posted on the Town and Village websites. You will be able to give your opinion on what you would like see for future developments and improvements along the waterfront and inland areas around it. So far most people do not want industrial development, they want to see recreation, open space and mixed use. Trustee Zachary also updated on the overlay zone. This will be on the next agenda. Trustee Zachary mentioned regarding Veterans Day that we rely on people serving during times of war and times of peace and we give them our thanks.

6. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Mayor Knickerbocker said there were items in the chat box. The first was in response to Trustee Zachary's mention of high gas prices. He said that Nick should re-think pushing business away from our community, maybe talk to them on rates. If they close, it helps no one here in Buchanan. Another comment in the chat box was: I love the overlay zone idea, I'm sure refinement is needed, but love the idea.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:52PM a Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:25PM a Motion to exit executive session and adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

