

**Village of Buchanan
Mayor & Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
December 1, 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 7:34PM. She led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVE MINUTES:

September 22, 2020 Workshop Meeting: A Motion to approve these minutes as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

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

No comments from the floor.

Mayor Knickerbocker amended the agenda to add letter e calling for a public hearing for a local law amending section 211 of the zoning code. A Motion to add this to the agenda was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consider a Motion to call for a Public Hearing on January 5, 2021 regarding the overlay district.

Trustee Funchion stated that he is against the overlay district. There was discussion on traffic, traffic lights, and number of bedrooms allowed.

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

- b. Consider a Motion to authorize the Change Order regarding a new transfer switch for the 4th Street Pump Station at a cost of \$3,680.

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

- c. Consider a Motion accepting the resignation of Police Chief Eric Johansen as of November 19, 2020.

Mayor Knickerbocker thanked Chief Johansen for his service to the Village of Buchanan and we appreciate everything he did for us.

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

- d. Consider a Motion appointing Shane Farrell as temporary police chief as of November 20, 2020.

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

- e. Consider a Motion to call for a public hearing on January 5, 2021 for a Local Law amending section 211 of the zoning code.

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

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

- a. Justice Court Reports – October 2020

Received and Filed.

- b. Police Report – October 2020

Received and Filed.

- c. Highway Report – October 2020

Received and Filed.

- d. Wastewater Treatment Plant – October 2020

Received and Filed.

e. Building Department – July, August, September, October 2020

Received and filed.

f. Attorney's Report

Village Attorney Porteus stated that there are public hearing going on in both the planning board and the zoning board. Village Attorney Porteus mentioned that it is a pleasure working with the two new building inspectors. She had nothing else for public session.

g. Administrator's Report

Village Administrator Serrano stated that we are still working on the Route 9 sidewalk project. In regards to the pavilion grant, everything has been submitted to DASNY. That is still pending. The property owner on Bleakley Avenue that had water shooting into the street has put a drywell in and there is no longer water coming out into the street. Village Administrator Serrano has given the Village Board a report based on the change of the signage coming off of Greentown Road. The police department has issued a number of summonses and will continue to enforce that regulation. There was a surprise visit from the County at the sewage treatment plant. We passed with flying colors. Mayor Knickerbocker said that Todd Travis is doing a great job at the plant. Village Administrator Serrano said that the auditors are finalizing the report and will present to the Village Board at a future meeting.

h. Mayor's Report

Mayor Knickerbocker said that unfortunately due to COVID-19 we had to cancel the tree lighting ceremony. This has been a tradition in the Village for many years. We will be having a decorating contest with different prizes. Buchanan Home Center has donated a Christmas tree. Mayor Knickerbocker is looking forward to driving around to see the Village all lit up. Mayor Knickerbocker stated that Sandy Galef and Pete Harckham have proposed an oversight board for the decommissioning of Indian Point. Mayor Knickerbocker's opinion is that it should be a board of professionals. Her strongest objection to this is having people on this panel that have no nuclear background. In regard to the Stranded Act, there will be another petition to send to the governor showing that we are in favor of passing this. This will allow us to be able to assess the spent fuel as real property.

. Trustee's Report

Trustee Funchion strongly supports that only professionals should be on the oversight decommissioning board. We need to get rid of this waste as fast as possible and have that property returned to the people of Buchanan. Trustee Funchion wishes everyone all the best for the Holiday Season.

Trustee Zachary wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season. Trustee Zachary mentioned that he would like to discuss illegal apartments and accessory apartments at the next workshop meeting and also continue discussing rezoning the Indian Point parcel.

Trustee Pasquale wishes everyone a Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas, Season's Greetings and hope everyone has a safe and healthy holiday season.

Trustee Jackson would like to add to the workshop agenda about the signage on Route 9 to the Indian Point Plant and approach the State to make them aware about our concerns as it relates to the truck traffic coming through our streets. Trustee Jackson said we should talk to Holtec about how they are going to approach the demolition of the plant in terms of hours worked and traffic. Trustee Jackson also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Especially to our employees in all our departments. The Fire Department and Police Department do a great job of making sure they respond. Having our own police department is very important. The response time is one of the best in the county. You can't second guess the idea of having your own municipal police and fire department in place.

6. **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR AND CHAT BOX:**

Jeremy Basso asked that a form letter be made to the politicians regarding professionals on the oversight committee. Residents can input their name and address and then auto submit in support of professional oversight. This can be on the website and the email will auto generate. Jeremy Basso also agreed with Duane that our own police and fire is crucial and best in the state and country.

Mr. Pat Carteleme talked about the no left turn sign that was changed on Greentown Road. He spoke that there are many automobiles that have to go out of their way because of the no left hand turn sign. Mr. Carteleme would like to amend the 2016 resolution and go back to the weight restrictions involving heavy truck traffic. He stated that making a left is the safer turn than making a right due to the site distance. He also mentioned that there is no stop sign at the end of Greentown Road. Mayor Knickerbocker said it would be appropriate for the board to look at this again.

Mayor Knickerbocker wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy and Healthy New Year, Happy Holidays and enjoy your time with family if you can.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 8:40PM a Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:05PM a Motion to exit executive session and adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Funchion with all in favor.