

**Village of Buchanan
Mayor & Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
May 3, 2022**

PRESENT: (This meeting was held live and via Zoom)

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker
Trustees Anthony Capicotti, Steven Laker, Sean Murray, Daniel Stewart
Village Administrator Marcus Serrano
Village Attorney Stephanie Porteus
Village Engineer George Pommer
Village Clerk, Treasurer Cynthia Kempter
Deputy Village Clerk Sharon Murphy
Highway Foreman Robert Wheeler
Building Inspector Brian Cook
Assistant Building Inspector Peter Cook

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Knickerbocker called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and informed everyone of the fire regulations.

2. APPROVE MINUTES:

February 22, 2022 Workshop Meeting: A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart with all in favor.

March 1, Board Meeting: A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Capicotti with all in favor.

March 22, 2022 Workshop Meeting: A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Capicotti with all in favor.

April 5, 2022 Organization Meeting: A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart with all in favor.

April 6, 2022 Budget Hearing: A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Laker with all in favor.

3. **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (agenda items only):** NONE

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Consider a Motion to Open the Public Hearing on Local Law #5-2022 Amending Chapter 181 Entitled Taxation to the Code of the Village of Buchanan.

A motion to open the public hearing was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart, with all in favor.

Mayor Knickerbocker explained that in the PILOT with Holtec we have to add the wording ‘formerly generating facilities,’ because previously it said nuclear power electric generating facility and since it is no longer generating, this wording needs to be added.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Capicotti, with all in favor.

- b. 2022-11 Resolution to Adopt Local Law #5-2022 Amending Chapter 181 Entitled Taxation to the Code of the Village of Buchanan.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Capicotti, with all in favor.

WHEREAS, a resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Buchanan for a public hearing to be held by said Village Board at the Municipal Building, 236 Tate Avenue, Buchanan, to hear all interested parties on a proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 181 entitled “Taxation” to the Code of the Village of Buchanan; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was duly advertised in the official local newspaper; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Village Board on May 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 236 Tate Avenue, Buchanan, New York, and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Buchanan, after due deliberation, finds it in the best interest of the Village of Buchanan to adopt said Local Law;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Buchanan hereby adopts said Local Law No. 5-2022 amending Chapter 181 entitled “Taxation” to the Code of the Village of Buchanan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Clerk be and hereby is directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and in the Local Law Book of the Village of Buchanan, and to give due notice of the

adoption of said local law to the Secretary of State of the State of New York.

c. Discussion on AMS Acquisitions presentation.

Mayor Knickerbocker requested that AMS Acquisitions come to the May workshop for further discussion.

d. Consider a Motion to Call for a Public Hearing on Local Law #6-2022 Amending Chapter 155 Entitled “Sewers” to the Code of the Village of Buchanan on June 7.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Laker, with all in favor.

e. Consider a Motion to Extend the Current PILOT agreement for One Year at the Same Annual Payment as Stated in the MOU as indicated in Sub Paragraph 14 in MOU.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart, with Trustee Capicotti and Trustee Lake in favor and Trustee Murray abstained.

f. 2022-12 Resolution Authorizing an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Cortlandt regarding Shared Use of Equipment and Bidding by Town Purchasing Director.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Capicotti, with all in favor. Trustee Murray questioned if we are able to have the Town of Cortlandt bid our paving. Village Administrator Serrano answered yes. Village Engineer Pommer stated that the Town has a piggy back clause, and we look at it to see if there is a cost savings. Last year it was more beneficial to use our own numbers.

WHEREAS, the Village of Buchanan and the Town of Cortlandt have been cooperating with respect to certain inter-municipal services; and

WHEREAS, the Village and the Town annually enter into two (2) Inter-Municipal Agreements, one which allows for the Village to utilize any bids for supplies put out and accepted by the Town, as well as an agreement that allows the Village and the Town to share each other's' vehicles and equipment; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of both the Village Board and Town Board to continue this inter-municipal cooperation resulting in a cost savings to both the Village and the Town;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized to execute Inter-Municipal Agreements with the Town of Cortlandt providing for and authorizing the Town's Purchasing Director to

include the Village in advertisements of all bids by him so that the Village may utilize them, and to allow the Village and the Town to share each other's vehicles and equipment.

- g. Consider a Motion for the Treasurer to make all Required Budget Transfers, Adjustments and Amendments to Close the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year as Required for the Annual Audit.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart, with all in favor.

- h. Consider a Motion for Unpaid Water Charges to be Added to the Tax Bill.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart, with all in favor.

- i. Consider a Motion Regarding Payment to Mary Mailler at a rate of \$20/hour for 50 hours.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Laker, with all in favor.

- j. Consider a Motion to Hire Deborah Farnell as a Specialized Consultant to Assist in the Court as a Rate of \$20/hour for 30 hours.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart, with all in favor.

- k. Consider a Motion Authorizing the Employment of Seasonal Help at a Rate of \$15.00/hour.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Capicotti, with all in favor. Trustee Murray asked if there was a cap on the number of people we hire. Village Administrator Serrano stated that it goes by the budget.

- l. Consider a Motion Authorizing the Engineer to Prepare Specifications and to Advertise for Bids for Sludge Removal.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart, with all in favor.

- m. Consider a Motion Authorizing the Use of the Pavilion and Serving of Alcohol on June 4, 2022.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Trustee Capicotti, seconded by Trustee Murray with Trustee Laker and Trustee Stewart in favor, with Mayor Knickerbocker abstained.

- n. Consider a Motion Appointing Colleen Lonergan to the Recreation Advisory Committee.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart, with all in favor.

- o. Consider a Motion to Approve the Posting of MS4 Annual Storm Water Report.

Village Engineer Pommer stated that this is an annual DEC requirement. The outfalls have to be monitored and made sure they are in good condition. If not, they must report to the DEC and Village Administrator. This report is available at Village Hall, the library and on the Village website.

A motion to approve this as presented was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Laker, with all in favor.

- p. Discussion on Lents Cove Ballfield Fence.

Highway Foreman Wheeler asked if the fence could be taken down since the ballfield is no longer being used. They will take down the fence along the first base line and left field and behind where the backstop used to be. The Board agreed to remove the fence.

5. INFORMATION FROM OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS:

- a. Justice Reports – February and March 2022

Received and filed.

- b. Police Report – February and March 2022

Received and filed.

- c. Highway Report – February and March 2022

Received and filed.

- d. Wastewater Treatment Plant – February and March 2022

Received and filed.

- e. Building Department – February and March 2022

Received and filed.

- f. Planning Board – February 17, 2022 and March 17, 2022

Received and filed.

- g. Buchanan Engine Company – February and March 2022

Received and filed.

- h. Prosecutors Report – March 2022

Received and filed.

- i. Attorney’s Report

Village Attorney Porteus has an item for executive session.

- j. Administrator’s Report

Village Administrator asked Village Engineer Pommer to update the Board on the current projects. Village Engineer Pommer stated that they are two-three weeks into the Rt. 9A sidewalk project and are close to being completed. They are waiting for some drainage structures to come in. The contractor has completed 80% of the steel repairs at the pavilion. The lights for the pavilion should be coming in next week. In regards to the kayak dock, Village Engineer Pommer advised that the DEC and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers have come back with comments. They are both interested in the practicality of this project since the kayak dock can only be used during high tide. As the tide goes down, the dock will end up sitting on the existing boat ramp. They both would like more information and feedback to determine if the Village really wants to move forward on this. The cost of the materials for the kayak dock is approximately \$14,000 and possibly \$10,000 for installation. Con Edison will be coming back to pave half the road for the trench that is in front of Valerie Court.

- k. Trustee’s Report

Trustee Murray mentioned that he has had complaints about the Journal News Express paper that is thrown in front of the house. Village Administrator Serrano will contact Gannet to see if delivery can be stopped. The Memorial

Day parade will be held in Montrose on May 31 at 11:00am. Lineup will be on Montrose Point Road to the high school. The Town of Cortlandt's ceremony will be at the Morabito Center on May 27 at 1:30pm. Trustee Murray asked if salary ranges could be added to the jobs listed on our website. Trustee Murray requested feedback on the revisions he made on the accessory apartments. Accessory apartments will be discussed on the May 24 workshop meeting.

Trustee Laker stated that he appreciated Village Administrator Serrano setting up all the meetings during the past month in order to get up to speed with Village business. He attended both Remembrance Days at the Buchanan and Montrose Fire Departments. The Montrose Fire Department Remembrance Day was in honor of Trustee Stewart's father, Robert Stewart, who was also very instrumental here in the Village.

Trustee Stewart thanked Village Administrator Serrano for the orientation and guidance and he looks forward to serving on the Board. Trustee Stewart also attended the Remembrance Day Ceremonies and stated that Buchanan dedicated that new engine to past chiefs, Andy Code and Joe Chapyak.

Trustee Capicotti indicated that at the last meeting we had a developer come in with a presentation. Trustee Capicotti wants all the developers to know that the Village are open for business and moving into the future, we would like to hear more from developers and have feedback from the community. We do not have many parcels available and it is important to make the right decisions.

1. Mayor's Report

Mayor Knickerbocker asked Village Engineer Pommer if he could look into what else needs to be done at the pavilion so if there is any grant money available we could use it there. Mayor Knickerbocker stated that it looks like the inside of the structure needs to be painted. Village Engineer Pommer said that if you look at the areas where the steel has been done it looks sharp, but when you look up it needs a new coat of paint. The pavilion and highway garage were last painted in 2006. Mayor Knickerbocker asked that in regard to the Journal News Express paper if we could have some papers here at Village Hall for people who would like to pick them up. Mayor Knickerbocker asked about the furnace at Village Hall. Village Administrator Serrano replied that we have two engineers and are streamlining a proposal in order to get a tap from Con Edison and then move forward from there.

6. **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Ms. Stewart (via online chat) stated that she would be very excited to have a beautiful new development to add to our community.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 8:01PM a Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss contractual negotiations and personnel was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart with all in favor.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:32PM a Motion to exit executive session was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Capicotti with all in favor. At 9:32PM a Motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Mayor Knickerbocker, seconded by Trustee Stewart with all in favor. No funds were expended.