

**Village of Buchanan**  
**Mayor & Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**June 2, 2014**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker

Trustees Richard A. Funchion, Nicolas Zachary, Duane M. Jackson and Cesare Pasquale

Village Administrator Kevin Hay

Village Attorney Stephanie V. Porteus

Village Board Secretary Susan F. Matthews

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Knickerbocker opened the meeting at 7:30 PM, welcomed everyone, informed them of the fire regulations and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. APPROVE MINUTES:**

February 18, 2014, Workshop Meeting: A MOTION to adopt these minutes as read was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

April 2014 Organizational Meeting: Mayor Knickerbocker amended page 8, paragraph 1, to change “center of the Village” to “down Broadway and also come into the Village Of Buchanan.” A MOTION to adopt these minutes as amended was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

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

None

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) 14-23 RESOLUTION REFERRING REQUEST FOR ZONING AMENDMENT TO PLANNING BOARD (GRIFFIN LANDSCAPING)**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that the Village Board has had many discussions at our meetings about this application. They have gone to see one of the properties that Mr. Balter has done in Peekskill. This Resolution is to now send this to the Planning Board to come back with

recommendations and comments. The Mayor has many concerns about this. One is the density. It is three times the density of any other properties in the Village. She also has some environmental concerns.

Trustee Funchion noted that this property is located in the most northwestern point in the Village, across from Lent's Cove park. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that it is on the corner of Broadway and Bleakley Avenue across from Johnny Rits. It includes the clay hole. The Board had a walk-through on Saturday and observed many things. After that, they went to one of the Mr. Balter's developments.

Trustee Zachary wanted to clarify the process which he feels is easy to misunderstand. He said that right now if this application continues, the key process is a full review by the Planning Board including environmental assessments, a site plan, fire department access and everything you can think of as part of a full Planning Board review. He said that we are not there yet. That is not what this is going to the Planning Board for. He advised that right now in order to even allow for the review by the Planning Board, we would need to make an amendment to our zoning map to okay this site for Senior multi-family housing. If we pass that zoning change, it does not mean that this gets approved or disapproved. It means that it can then go to the Planning Board for review. He noted that is where the full review happens. Right now before the Village Board amends anything in the zoning, we are asking the Planning Board for a report, to express their concerns and to bring up any questions they have. We will take their review and questions into account when we have a Public Hearing to amend the zoning. Trustee Zachary wanted to explain the process. The initial steps open the door for a full review. They do not grant anything. We are still raising questions. He commented that there are positive points and things to still be concerned about. We are not bypassing anything. Right now, we are at the zoning change point to open the door for the application.

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that Mr. Balter will be at our next Workshop on the third Tuesday of June. There will be a lot more discussion.

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

**b) 14-24 RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE WEST POINT PARTNERS LLC, CONSTRUCTION OF A PROPOSED HIGH VOLTAGE CONVERTER STATION AND CABLES**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker noted that we have spoken before about West Point Partners and the Spectra line. On Tuesday, June 10 at 7 PM, we are going to have a meeting at Village Hall. Everyone is invited. The Town of Cortlandt task force will be explaining both proposed projects. Town Supervisor Linda Puglisi will be here. We will have a presentation and take questions.

Trustee Funchion advised that he has gone to several meetings about this, especially West Point Partners. He commented that this will affect our property values without a shadow of a doubt. He feels that they will be leveled to almost nothing. No one is going to want to buy a house in an area with a constant buzzing noise. He urged everyone to come to this meeting and become more informed. He believes everyone will walk away horrified at what is being proposed. He finds it beyond belief that they are doing this here. He commented that they would not do this to any other community and believes they picked this one because of its socio-economic status within the rest of the towns up and down the Hudson River, including New York City. He remarked that they would not think of bringing this ashore at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street in New York City where they have vacant sanitation piers, so why are they doing it here in Verplanck and affecting all of us. He commented if anybody thinks they live far enough away in the Village that they will not hear it, to think about the sound of trains on the other side of the river that you hear every night. The river amplifies sound. He believes this buzzing sound will be amplified in the middle of Buchanan and that we would hear it all the time. He urged everyone to come to the Village Hall on June 10 at 7:00 PM. He urged everyone to tell your neighbors and to get this out and around. He commented that the only way we can defeat this is through publicity, to get more and more out there to let the population of the Village, the Town of Cortlandt, Croton and surrounding communities realize the impact this is going to make on our communities.

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that we have sent petitions with the May Newsletter that can be sent back to the Public Service Commission for both projects.

Mayor Knickerbocker explained that this is a power line that would originate in Athens, NY. The cable would come down the Hudson River and come in to Verplanck where the quarry is. There would be a huge converter station there which is where the noise would emanate. The cable would come up Broadway and into the Village of Buchanan. They are able to do two cables. Each would be 1,000 megawatts. In comparison, each one of the Indian Point power plants produces 1,000 megawatts. 2,000 megawatts could potentially take over Indian Point. Because of all the environmental concerns and all the negatives, the Mayor urges everyone to get those petitions and send them in. She announced that on June 18 at 6 PM at the Letteri ball field in Verplanck, we are going to have a large group of people talking about and demonstrating against the project. She wants to see everybody in the Village there. We are all one big community in the Tri-Villages.

Trustee Zachary commented that Trustee Funchion summed it up very well and what he said is very true. You may not hear some of the sounds during the day when there are other sounds around. But in the evening and when it is normally quiet around here, sound does carry. You will hear the converter station which is going to be near our border in Verplanck. Trustee Zachary believes it will affect the property values in our area. It is important to attend the protest rally at Letteri field at 6 PM on June 18. He commented that it is very important that we have a good showing to demonstrate that this is not just a few people protesting it. We do not want to be taken advantage of. He commented that this is the age of "Not in my backyard!" and that we have hosted an important source of power in this community for 50 years. We do not want it to translate into "You can do whatever you want here." You have to put a stop to this.

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

**c) 14-25 RESOLUTION OPPOSING SPECTRA ENERGY'S ALGONQUIN GAS TRANSMISSION LINE.**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker explained that they are proposing a new 42 inch pipeline beneath the river from Stony Point to Verplanck, through the Village of Buchanan to Yorktown Heights and 8 miles of line between Southeast and Danbury, Connecticut. The Mayor met with the Spectra people last week. They had a long discussion. She told them many times that we are totally against this application. What concerns her most is the close proximity, to within 500 feet of, our school. She told them that is not happening. They showed her the route. The Mayor advised that when we speak next week, she has the map and can show where the pipeline would go. She noted that currently there is an existing gas line on the Entergy property. It comes in through the Entergy property at Bleakley Avenue. That is still going to exist. The proposed 42 inch line would come up in Verplanck, come up Broadway, come across just past the cemetery and shoot over to Bleakley Avenue. They would be coming across Bleakley Avenue. The Mayor noted that we just spent \$550,000 to redo that the road. She has advised Spectra that they would not be digging up that road and if that did happen, they would be repaving that complete road. She advised that at the upcoming meeting, there is a member of the task force who has a big piece of tubing so that you will be able to see how big a 42 inch line is.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that we are unfortunately fighting two of these things at the same time but that there is strength in numbers. We have to stick together with our neighbors to have this not happen. Her biggest fear is not only that it is going through the Village but that if there is a catastrophic event, we really do not have what we need here to take care of it. They

assured her it is very safe. But the Mayor told them that they cannot say it is 100%. She commented that it is not a positive for the Village and we are fighting this.

Trustee Funchion commented that in both of these instances, they tout that they will use Eminent Domain to take the property and basically ignore the wishes of the community. That is a piece of publicity that has to be out there. These two projects are literally being forced down our necks. He commented why is it that Verplanck and Buchanan are becoming the Grand Central Station for power in the entire metropolitan area. We already have to deal with the nuclear power plants and the gas line underneath the power plant. We do have a fault there. He commented that there is an extremely little chance of something happening from an earthquake but if a gas explosion happens to think of what effect that would have on Indian Point. He noted that they will not use the line that already goes through Indian Point. This new line will be put into effect. The construction of it will be quite cumbersome on the people of Verplanck. As Spectra described it, there are these huge pipes that are pushed into and under the river. Trustee Funchion commented that the construction will be right in our face. He urged everyone to please come out to the meetings. Come to the demonstrations. Talk to your neighbors. Talk to the newspapers, businesses and any elected representatives because we have to battle this to the very end.

Trustee Zachary commented that there is no advantage to the Village. If you look at the risks versus rewards, you can come up with lots of risks but there are no rewards. He commented that there is a small amount of tax revenue for an underground gas pipe but it is like when you do an improvement to your house. It is amortized. It is broken down over 20 or 30 years. So what little tax we get would diminish every year. There is next to no advantage to the Village but there are plenty of risks. The Mayor advised that currently we get \$70,000 per year from Spectra for the lines coming in now.

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

**d) 14-26 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SUMMER SEASONAL HELP.**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

**e) 14-27 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF RECREATION PERSONNEL**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Trustee Funchion noted that we have an individual listed who is going to be out the first two weeks. He wanted to know if we are paying him the same money as the other people the whole time. Trustee Zachary had the same question and noted that there are two people. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that their salaries are prorated.

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

**f) 14-28 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF RECREATION PERSONNEL (POOL).**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Trustee Zachary noted that three people are listed as head life guards. He wanted to know why two are listed at \$12 per hour and one at \$15 per hour. Village Administrator Hay advised that the third person has more certification, including certification to teach lifeguarding courses, and she is going to be used only at the end of the season as needed, possibly when the others go back to school. Trustee Zachary questioned why one person is listed as a head lifeguard at \$12 per hour and as a lifeguard at \$10 per hour. The Village Administrator advised that sometimes he will be functioning as head lifeguard and at other times filling in shifts, as needed, as a regular lifeguard.

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

**g) 14-29 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH BUCHANAN ENGINE CO. #1**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that this is our annual contract that we enter into with the Fire Department. She noted that this price has not been raised for several years and that \$25,000 goes into the Vehicle Replacement fund.

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor and Trustee Jackson abstaining as he is a member of Buchanan Engine Company.

**h) 14-30 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A FACILITY USE.**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker noted that as always, we get a certificate of liability insurance for any applicant who uses our facilities. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if it is clear that everyone is responsible to do their own clean up. Village Administrator Hay advised that we have a dumpster there.

A MOTION to adopt this Resolution as presented was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

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

- a) Justice Court Reports – April 2014  
Received and filed.

Mayor Knickerbocker noted that this \$10,268 happens to be one of the larger amounts that we have collected for one month. The Village Board members had requested that we have a list of the fines and what they were for attached to this report. Village Administrator Hay advised that he will reach out to Michelle to get that information.

- b) Wastewater Report – May 2014  
Received and filed.

- c) Police Reports – February-April 2014  
Received and filed.

Trustee Pasquale commented that he has been living on Tate Avenue for 14 years and that the speeding and motorcycles have been going on forever. But over the last 6 to 8 months he has seen a decrease and he is out there all the time. He wants to give a shout out to the Police Department. He sees their cars going up and down Tate Avenue a lot more. There is police visibility. He has also seen a high visibility of their presence on Fourth Street. It is a good thing.

Trustee Jackson commented that with school getting ready to end, our young people should be reminded that they have to wear helmets when riding on Village streets. It is for their protection. It is a State law.

- d) Attorney's Report

Village Attorney Porteus reported that we have had an improper practice suit filed against the Village by the PBA for what they perceived to be an improper practice. The Village Attorney advised that she and the Village Administrator, and possibly Police Chief Tubbs, will be going. It is scheduled for June 30 but Village Attorney Porteus is going to be seeking an adjustment because she is not available that week.

Village Attorney Porteus commented that Trustee Zachary did a great job of explaining the process for the Griffin proposal. She agreed that people do confuse that with a site plan review which it is not.

#### e) Mayor's Report

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that on Thursday, June 29, Christine Metzger received the Woman of Distinction award. State Senator Greg Ball presents this each year to nominees from his whole district. She was recognized for her distinguished volunteer service and civic commitment representing the Village of Buchanan. The Mayor congratulated her on behalf of the Village. She was there and it was a wonderful event. The Mayor said that when it is received the picture that was taken there will be displayed at the Village Hall.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that at our last Workshop, we spoke about the advertising signs that are popping up all over the Village. We are looking at a Code that restricts that. Suddenly we are seeing all types of advertising signs. Anyone interested in discussing this should come to our next Workshop.

Mayor Knickerbocker said that on Thursday morning she had the honor of attending a Memorial Day parade at the Buchanan/Verplanck School. She said it was the highlight of her first two months as mayor. It was unbelievable to see the children. They did a fantastic job. She congratulated the Superintendent, the Principal and the students. They left the school and marched up Fourth Street then down First Street to the memorial at the pavilion where they read different things they had written and sang songs. The Mayor said it was heartwarming and she was very touched. She told the children that a while back there was a survey of children their age who were asked what they knew about Memorial Day. Most answered with things like, "We have a picnic" and "The pools are open". All different things other than what the true meaning of Memorial Day is. So the Mayor congratulated the students at B/V School because they knew what it was all about and that they took the time to remember the people who gave their ultimate sacrifice for our country. She commented that it was the cutest thing and she was very touched by it.



Mayor Knickerbocker reported that she and Trustees Jackson and Funchion were at the Town of Cortlandt Memorial Day ceremony. It was a nice service. They had a lot of speakers. Each year in the tri-villages, each community in turn sponsors a Memorial Day ceremony on Memorial Day itself. This year it was in Verplanck, right out by the Hudson River where the Town has their memorial park. It was a beautiful setting. She was impressed at how many people were there. There was a huge turnout. She congratulated them because most communities do not observe Memorial Day. It is good to see that our community still remembers and honors those who gave their lives and did what they did serving our country.

#### f) Trustee's Reports

Trustee Jackson wanted to echo Mayor Knickerbocker's sentiments about the Memorial Day parade and gathering. So many communities around the country do not celebrate it. He commented that it makes it all the more important for us to really get out and fight this pipeline and high voltage project because it has a direct impact on our quality of life in Buchanan and the Hudson Valley. He said that he moved here 21 years ago for that quality of life. It is threatened. We have to take this seriously. He commended the people who came out for the parade, the participants from the Blue Mountain School and the high school and the band because that is what small town America is. He commented that although we are close to New York City, there are a lot of people there who think this does not exist. They think that everything is Manhattan or Brooklyn. He commented that we have this jewel here in Buchanan. It is worth fighting for. He said that he knows he speaks for our Board members in saying that we will be there to fight this fight and we are going to win this fight. Mayor Knickerbocker remarked that the people in Manhattan think we are upstate New York.

Trustee Funchion commented that when he first moved here 36 years ago, guys he worked with wanted to know if we still had bears here. In New York City they think we are way out there.

Trustee Funchion attended the Memorial Day events sponsored by the Town of Cortlandt. He was away for the parade. He commented that on Memorial Day we have to remember those who died and also the families who are struggling with those deaths and are also struggling from the economic impact of them. He does not think that is mentioned enough. There should be more emphasis on the families left behind.

Trustee Funchion reminded that June 14 is Flag Day. He would like everyone to fly their flags. He commented that all American flags should be made in the USA and not in China. He finds it offensive to have an American flag made in China. He said to try to find those made in the USA. You can buy one made in the USA if you go on Amazon. It is his pet peeve.

Trustee Funchion reported that they had meetings for Buchanan Day. It is all coming along. Trustee Zachary will mention more about that. This year it will be on September 13. We look forward to better weather.

Trustee Funchion wished everyone a Happy Fathers' Day.

Trustee Jackson asked about the Town of Cortlandt's Veterans' picnic. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that it will be on Thursday, June 26 from 11:30 AM to 2 PM at the Village pavilion. It is a veterans' picnic. Town Supervisor Puglisi sponsors it.

Trustee Pasquale reported that he had nothing to add.

Trustee Zachary Trustee Zachary reported that the Board did a site visit to the Griffin property where there is a proposal for Senior housing. Trustee Zachary was blown away with how beautiful the property is. He personally thinks that some uses could decimate that property. He hopes that we can find a use that allows it to be enjoyed by many people. He feels that the proposed use could be that because it includes recreation trails around the clay pond and a lot of the natural beauty will be maintained.

Trustee Zachary announced that there will be two Buchanan Day committee meetings: Wednesday, June 4 and Wednesday, June 25, at 7:00 PM at the Highway Department building. They have a small group of volunteers and welcome anyone who is interested.

On the question by Trustee Zachary, Village Administrator Hay advised that the Newsletter went out last Wednesday. Trustee Zachary announced that in it is the announcement that the Village has a prescription drug drop box. It is not recommended that you leave old prescriptions around or flush them. Drop them at the police station any weekday any time a police officer is there. The drop box has to be in the police precinct where it can be seen at all times. Trustee Zachary encouraged everyone to take advantage of this. It is a big problem. Some of these drugs get into the hands of people who abuse them.

Trustee Zachary urged people to come out to the rally on June 18 at 6 PM opposing the West Point Partners and Spectra projects.

Trustee Jackson reminded everyone that there is a 24 hour prescription drop box in Peekskill and Croton at their police stations.

Village Administrator Hay reported on the LED lights. He said that he gave the Board members a sample of a unit that will be here in four weeks. The vendor will be doing an installation at the intersection at Church Street. They wanted to do an intersection to show how the light can be

spread as well as one to each side. It uses a Google Earth shot to see what the intersection looks like. They have light patterns so they can get an appropriate unit for the area. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that this is the overhead LED street light, the Cobras. We are going to get some samples to see how it looks and if it is going to work for us. Trustee Zachary noted that we have one contractor. Village Administrator Hay advised that they will do the engineering if it is a project and we decide to go forward and whether we decide to do the pole lamps first. We have 340 lights in the Village according to Con Ed. He was not sure how many are the lamp style. This company will engineer the project in hope that they are one of the bidders. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if we will be required to put it out to bid and if there are any possible funding sources. Village Administrator Hay advised that he looked at NYSERTA. Most of the things are low cost financing. Whenever something comes in, he checks it out and takes a look at it. Trustee Zachary said to do the research and to contact other municipalities. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that we should be meeting with another municipality about funding next week. Village Administrator Hay advised that the Village of Irvington sent an e-mail to all the Administrators and Managers about who would be interested in a group buy. They are initially looking for feedback from communities who would be interested. Village Administrator Hay advised them that we would. Trustee Jackson wanted to know if the Village Administrator has contacted anyone in Representative Nita Lowey's office to see if there was something available at the Federal level, from the Department of Energy for example. Trustee Jackson had a name of whom to contact. The Village Administrator will follow up.

## **6. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Diane Tangen, 240 Catherine Street, wanted to know about the development in Peekskill that was mentioned tonight that was done by the developer who would do the Griffin property. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that it is Jacobs Hill and the developer is Bill Balter. Trustee Zachary advised that the Board visited Jacobs Hill. Ms. Tangen commented that she knows people who live there and they are very happy. Trustee Zachary commented that the community room there blew him away.

Concerning the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and the June 18<sup>th</sup> demonstration, Ms. Tangen commented that there are still people in our community who are not aware of what is going on. She wanted to know if we are going to get any publicity. She could not believe that there was no publicity about the Public Service Commission meeting on this. She commented that Rockland County just had a meeting on some issue and had all kinds of publicity. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that is why we are having the meeting here. There are still people who are not aware of what is going on. Ms. Tangen commented that we need to have people other than the Senior Citizens know about this rally. She got one notice from the Town. Mayor Knickerbocker said that we are hoping to have Channel 12 and the Journal News here. Trustee Jackson wanted to

know if the Village sends out a press release. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that Town Supervisor Puglisi was sending a press release out. We can also.

Ms. Tangen asked about the PILOT Program and would like to have an overview of what happened in the past and a little idea of what we have to look forward to in the future. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that right now we are in very preliminary discussions with it along with the Town and the school district. It is very basic. There have just been a few meetings. In June, it will get more involved. She cannot get too much into it. Ms. Tangen wanted to know what we did in the past; what we got; how many years has it been; how much money we got each year; whether we started low and went high or the opposite. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that she is getting more and more educated as she goes into the negotiations. She advised that we stayed flat after a certain point because we were front ended \$500,000 up front. Instead of the money being used to soften the blow to the Village residents, it was lumped up front so that that year's budget did not look that bad. They went from 90% down to 40%. We took a huge hit. At the time when this all started an implementing agreement was signed. That was in 2001. The implementing agreement bound the Village to the PILOT negotiation. She noted that Ms. Tangen was more than welcome to get a copy of the PILOT. In 2002-2003, our total PILOT payment for Indian Point II and III was \$2,665,000; in 2003-2004 it was \$2,264,000; in 2005-2006, noting that it stayed flat at that point, it was \$1,964,500. The agreement ends in 2015.

Ms. Tangen asked if the Board has have ever thought that maybe we need to spend some money to make some money when we are negotiating with as large and entity as Entergy. She commented that her father owned a service station in the Village. Con Edison was going to take his gas station to put their high lines through. He got a lawyer to fight them and he won. He had to get expert help in those negotiations. She commented that people belong to unions because you are going to have people come in to negotiate. If you are dealing with someone and it has to do with money, you get a CPA as the person that you use to negotiate. She asked if it has occurred to the Board that perhaps we need to hire someone along, perhaps with the school district and the Town of Cortlandt, some experts to negotiate with Entergy. She wanted to know whose responsibility it is for all of the spent fuel there and is it only Entergy or the Federal government. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that the Federal government technically owns it. In the 1990s, the Federal government set up a fund. At the time it was Yucca Mountain. Since the Federal government did not find a suitable place for the spent fuel, and it was in the paper, the Federal Government stopped taking the \$17 million Indian Point was paying to them each year. That was not just Indian Point. It was all the nuclear facilities. Now that they have fought that, they no longer have to pay the \$17 million. Now we have the dry cask on site. Ms. Tangen thinks it should have been included in the negotiations. Mayor Knickerbocker agreed and advised that it was not included before. She advised that hiring an expert is one of the options. Ms. Tangen feels that we should hire and maybe with the Town and school district even though

we could have different outcomes. The Mayor advised that one of the options is that they go back on the tax rolls. This Board is going to pursue whatever is the best deal is for the Village.

Ms. Tangen wanted to know if the entire facility is under the PILOT. Village Administrator Hay advised that the administrative building is separate and they pay taxes on that.

Trustee Zachary did not think there is any negotiation regarding the waste storage. It is not in Entergy's hands. It is being shoved down their throats by the NRC. They do not have a choice. He is sure that every nuclear power plant would like to get their waste off their site. But the NRC has not provided any place and they are being told to keep it on site. So he does not think there is anything that Entergy can negotiate with us concerning taxes. If it impacts the assessment of the property that would be one question. Ms. Tangen commented that they are not paying the \$17 million any more. She wanted to know if there is anything we can do with the Federal government. Trustee Zachary advised that the NRC controls that. He commented that as much as Governor Cuomo would like to shut down Indian Point, he cannot do it. He can try to raise support by using other organizations to support that. He can try through the State DEC's review of their water permit. They need that before the NRC can relicense them. But only the NRC can directly close the plant. They pretty much control everything there. There is nothing that Entergy controls regarding the waste. It is out of their hands. Ms. Tangen wanted to know who paid for the casks when they were built. Trustee Zachary advised that was Entergy. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that they would like to not have that there.

Ms. Tangen wanted to confirm that this Wednesday there will be an opportunity for people to address the NRC about this. She commented that usually a lot of naysayers are the ones who go.

Ms. Tangen wanted to know if there will be publicity on the meetings about the West point Partners and Spectra proposals. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that there will be. We are sending it out in the Newsletter. The weekend before, she would like to get a group of people together to go door to door to remind people to come out to take care of their neighborhood. Anyone who is interested in distributing a reminder flyer in their neighborhood, they will be available at the Village Hall.

Ms. Tangen wanted to know if the task force in Verplanck has asked for any funds. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that the Town of Cortlandt is an intervener and has gotten funding. They have spent \$73,000 and have gotten legal and they are asking for additional funding. There is a homeowners' coalition and they are very good. Ms. Tangen commented that she was very impressed. She attended the PSC hearings. There were about 100 people there that night. She noted that it was a terrible weather night. She understands there were about as many in the afternoon. She was shocked that there was no publicity whatsoever. Trustee Zachary advised

that it is on the web site. Ms. Tangen commented that it does not reach the same volume of people as if it was on Channel 12 or in the Journal News.

Don Zern, Westchester Avenue, commented that he would like to see everybody on board with stopping the dumping in this good Village. He commented that between the power line that they want to put in Verplanck, the gas line that is going through and the Resco plant, everyone is dumping into this little Village. He commented we can go down the line and up the line, bring it in to Poughkeepsie or Yonkers. It is always us who is getting dumped on. He commented that the number one problem here is that the values of the properties in the Village are going down and down. One of our school districts according to the different real estate agencies in the community is pulling down drastically on the dollars in this Village. The school district here is being dumped on. He commented who wants to come here to this good Village. He built a house here and intends to stay here for many years. Hopefully one of his children will take it over. He commented that with these different situations coming into the Village what is going to happen. Where is the tax basis going to be? We are not going to reassess. He commented that there are too many Ma's and Pa's living here. So the bottom line is where do we stop and where do we begin. We have a project coming up with the housing. He wished that the person proposing this was here. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that he will be at the next Workshop. Mr. Zern commented that people do not come to the Workshops or as could be seen tonight, to the Board meetings. He commented that at least you are on t.v. so at least a lot of people can find out exactly what is going on.

Mr. Zern commented that the big problem is the size of the complex. Number two are services. He commented that we have a very small and unique place. Our police department has one man on duty at a time. The question is can we afford to tax them. Can we afford to pay the overtime? He asked what about our volunteer ambulance corp. Who is going to pay for it? Where are all the volunteers going to be when the number of calls might be doubled or tripled? We do not know how many people are going to live there. Supposedly it will be 90 units, one and two bedrooms with two to three people living there. Are we going to have 110 or 200 to 300 people living there? How many grandchildren will be staying overnight? He commented that they are taxing his school district. The next thing is our fire department. How many calls will there be? How many volunteers will there be? Who is paying for all of this? Mr. Zern said he was very glad to see the Board turn it over to the Planning Board. They might be able to assist it and come up to this Board with a solution.

Mr. Zern commented that he was happy to hear about the signs in the Village. He wanted to tell those watching on t.v. that there are tag sale signs. He commented that thinks tag sales are the greatest thing in America. He thinks everybody should have a tag sale. But with everybody who puts a sign up, there is responsibility of the person who puts it on the pole to take it down. He would like to see 48 or 72 hours to get the sign down. He does not know who put it up but he

would like to see if it can be rectified. He proposes that the first time to give them a warning and the second time, a \$50 fine.

Mr. Zern appreciates what the Board is doing and that they are totally on board to stop a lot of this dumping in the Village.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented on the Griffin project. She advised that density is a big concern. The Board walked the property. There is now another proposal coming forward. What was given before was just a concept. They are now talking about two buildings, four stories high. The Mayor commented that the facts were not all there. It was conceptual. Now they are coming forward with an actual plan. The Mayor's concern is with the density and also what is going to happen to our services. They have said that they will have their own private carter. She noted that the Cartalemi property is right there on the other side. The Mayor also noted what about snow removal and what about the police department? She commented that she is not going to hurt the services of this Village for a new project. We are not going to lessen the services in our Village to bring in another community.

Eileen Absenger wanted to know if the June 10 meeting would be filmed so the people who cannot come will be able to see the presentation. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that it will be.

Trustee Funchion commented that all the issues Mr. Zern brought up are valid. The Board members are all asking those questions. Trustee Funchion commented that anything we go forward with has to have a positive impact on the Village. The Board is looking at every issue Mr. Zern brought up. Mayor Knickerbocker noted that Mr. Zern is on the Planning Board and he will be on the front line asking questions.

#### **7. BOARD MEMBER REBUTTALS:**

There were none.

#### **8. EXECUTIVE SESSION (to discuss union contracts)**

At 8:45 PM a MOTION to go into Executive Session was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

At 9:30 PM a MOTION to return to the meeting from Executive Session was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Funchion with all in favor.

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that there were no monies expended and no decisions made.

The Board wished Village Administrator Hay a very Happy Birthday on Wednesday, June 4.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:32 PM a MOTION to adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.