

**Village of Buchanan**  
**Mayor & Board of Trustees**  
**Board Meeting**  
**October 4, 2016**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker  
Trustees Richard A. Funchion, Duane M. Jackson and Nicolas Zachary  
Village Administrator Kevin Hay  
Village Attorney Stephanie V. Porteus  
Village Building Inspector Anthony Conti  
Village Board Secretary Susan Matthews

**ABSENT:**

Trustee Cesare Pasquale (ill).

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that Trustee Pasquale is home ill with bronchitis.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Knickerbocker opened the meeting at 7:30 PM, welcomed everyone, and informed them of the fire regulations. She announced that the Cortlandt National Little League was present and invited them to come to the front of the room to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Mayor Knickerbocker held a moment of silence for the passing away of Planning Board member and Village resident Don Zern.

**2. APPROVE MINUTES:**

June 28, 2016 Workshop Meeting: Trustee Zachary amended pages 2, 3 and 4; where it reads 732, it should have been 832. A MOTION to accept these minutes as amended was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor and Trustee Pasquale absent.

August 2, 2016 Regular Board Meeting: A MOTION to accept these minutes as read was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Trustee Pasquale absent.

September 6, 2016 Regular Board Meeting: A MOTION to accept these minutes as read was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor, Trustee Jackson abstaining as he was not present and Trustee Pasquale absent.

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

None

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Knickerbocker noted that the order of the Resolutions was changed in order to move the following up to the beginning.

**a. 16-46 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BIDS FOR THE WESTCHESTER AVENUE FIELD PROJECT.**

Mike Vaccaro of the Cortlandt National Little League said that the young men in the front of the room are members of the Cortlandt National Little League who have all graduated out of that league. The gentlemen with them are coaches and board members. Mayor Knickerbocker invited everyone to introduce themselves by name.

Mr. Vaccaro commented that he and two other representatives of the league were before the Board a year or so ago talking about the field at the Buchanan pavilion. He noted that every one of the young men present tonight played Tee-Ball on that field. It was where they began their careers. He commented that there has been a shortage of fields in our area because of the growing popularity of baseball. He commented that as they get older they will be playing on what is called a 60/40 field. That is a high school regulation sized field. He advised that we have one in our area, Sunset Park. There are many, many teams fighting for space on that field. The league asked the Village Board if they could do something with the field here. He commented that it is a beautiful piece of property. It has a nice playground, rest room facilities and the pavilion. They think that it may bring some life back into the area. He commented renovate it and make it a multi-use field because of the many kids that are playing. They are here tonight in support of the proposal to improve and renovate that field. He commented that they can assure the Board that not only the young gentlemen who are here but many young men from our area and surrounding areas will be looking to use that field. It will be very well used and they think will bring a lot of people to the area.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that one of the Board's major concerns was whether the field would be used. She thinks that considering that there is currently only one in the area that it will be used quite a bit. She noted that the field has not been attended to for many years and needs

some upgrades on it. We sent out for several bids and only one person responded. Mr. Vaccaro hopes that the Board sees fit to approve it and that they can play ball.

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

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that Village Administrator Hay worked very hard trying to get bids, meeting with people and talking to them. Only one person put in a bid. We did go through the bidding process. It will be awarded to Sport-Tech Construction of Brewster, NY who bid \$25,500. The Mayor understands that they have agreed to start work within the next two weeks. The field should be up and running in the Spring.

Trustee Funchion commented that this only includes redoing the field and not the stands. The Administrator advised that was correct. The stands would be \$18,000 for the fence work and back stop. It will be bid out in the Spring to get a better price for the fence. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that we will look at that again in the Spring. She commented that the hard work is doing the field, the sod and clay and all that right now.

Trustee Zachary was very happy that the Village has this Recreation Fund that we can do this for the Cortlandt National Little League. His son played at the Tee-Ball field there from the age of 5 right through high school. He went on to play club ball in college. He graduated last year. Trustee Zachary commented that is two decades of going through the whole process. He commented that it was a lot of fun, camaraderie and getting good exercise. He thinks that it is a valuable thing to see these young guys participate in team sports and the efforts that the parents make. He commented that sometimes the parents get a little over-excited. He thinks that the parents get more nervous than the kids. He commented that it was such a great experience and he is so glad that the Board can do this. He thinks that for safety's sake that eventually we will have to do something with the fences to protect the bystanders. He does not know what shape the back stop is in. He recalls that it is a little low. He would like to see us move ahead with the other part of this at some point if we can. He suggested that maybe we could write into the contract to have an option at that \$18,000 price for some period of time so that if we explore other prices we still have option to go back to that if we do not get something better. He looks forward to seeing it and thanked everyone for coming.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that we look forward to opening day.

Trustee Jackson commented that as a parent of a young man who played Tee-Ball there. He noted that shortly after that his son went over to soccer but that is another story. He is proud of the work that the coaches and those [who run the league] do in keeping the kids occupied and having fun. He noted the camaraderie that exists with a team sport. The Board is proud of that

and thankful that the funds were available to make this happen and to continue on to some bigger and better things. He thanked everyone for coming out tonight and being participants.

Mr. Vaccaro and his group gave the Mayor, Village Administrator and Village Board a round of applause.

Trustee Zachary commented that baseball is his number one sport but a lot of people play other sports. He commented that a buddy of his who was very active with the Cortlandt Little League and coached for year and was president at one point said to him lacrosse is for kids that cannot hit a fast ball. The [Little League members] agreed. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that even though she is a little older, back in the day she was a pitcher. That was the position she played.

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

Mr. Vaccaro thanked the Board. He asked if they could be excused from the rest of the meeting because this is a school night.

**b. 16-47 RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING TO INSTALL “SCHOOL ZONE 15 MPH” SIGNS.**

Trustee Jackson 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 and Trustee Pasquale absent.

**c. 16-48 RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 189 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.**

Trustee Jackson read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that this is about our winter parking. Currently it starts on November 15 and ends on April 15. The Board had a small discussion at a Workshop. Trustee Zachary suggested changing the date to be December 1 to April 1 which is what the City of Peekskill and several other municipalities do. We will be having the Public Hearing for people to voice their opinions on that. This resolution is setting a Public Hearing for the November Village Board meeting.

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

**d. 16-49 RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 53 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.**

Trustee Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that this will set a Public Hearing for the next Village Board meeting. She asked the Village Attorney to explain what this pertains to.

Village Attorney Porteus explained that this is a change in our Village Code. She commented that at the last meeting the Board had some concerns about cats and other domestic animals. Trustee Funchion wanted to amend the Code as it was in terms of just using dogs and cats. She advised that it did not work out that way because there is very specific language in the Code that deals with just dogs such as leashing them and fencing them. You do not do that with cats and other domestic animals. The Village Attorney advised that she added a separate article. She asked the Board to read it and see what they think. It deals with just cats and other domestic animals. It defines what a domestic animal is which she took out of a legal dictionary. She has limited what we did with dogs in terms of what is and is not a nuisance. She noted that there is an area there that the Board can decide. We do not have an animal control officer in the Village. She made the Building Inspector the animal control officer here. It gives him the right to call the SPCA or some other agency to take control. There would be some fees associated with that which we should probably look up and make known to people before we pass this. She noted that we have our own fines as well. She noted that Trustee Zachary wanted to increase the fine so she did that in the beginning. She amended some of the sections where we were increasing the fines and then gave the same fines in terms of penalties for cats and other domestic animals. She asked the Board to read through it and see what they want and do not want and any ideas they might have. She suggested that we could discuss it at the Workshop and she could then have the final ready for the next Board meeting.

Trustee Zachary commented that looking at the Code where it refers to dogs he agrees that there is stuff that does not apply to cats unless they howl in a loud manner. But he thinks that there are some things that do that he thinks are central to what the Board was talking about. Under Section 359 – Nuisances (which he read), he thinks that for those sections where it very much applies that we should say dogs or cats. The Village Attorney advised that she added another article, 5316, called Nuisances. She advised that will apply to cats and other domestic animals and mimics it. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if it won't be more confusing because you would then be reading one part of the Code with the old wording and then the new part

somewhat later in where it overrides the previous part. The Village Attorney advised that one speaks to dogs. What she did was have an article that speaks to cats and other domestic animals and gave definitions of nuisance and so forth. Trustee Zachary wanted to confirm that it was basically adding another section for cats completely. The Village Attorney commented that was correct. When you look at the Code you will see dog and then you will see cats. She explained that she could have rewritten the whole Code but then it was difficult dealing with howling, barking and leashes for dogs only. So she just added another article. She noted that she did deal with nuisances. She commented that if Trustee Zachary thinks that there are others that we should have, we certainly can. Trustee Zachary thinks that under Nuisances it should very specifically deal with both. He commented that the part covering dogs placed by their owner in cruel, unsanitary or otherwise inhuman conditions should be in both. The Village Attorney advised that it is. Trustee Zachary said that those were his two biggest things. The Village Attorney advised that she tried to use the same nuisances. She could not include domestic animals with dogs because it did not work cleanly for her. She advised that we have time between the Workshop and the next Board meeting for the Board to review this.

Trustee Zachary asked about licensing. He commented that licenses are required for dogs. He wanted to know if other municipalities license cats. The Village Attorney advised that the Town of Cortlandt does not require cats to have licenses. Trustee Zachary believes that he has seen cats with tags. He did not know if they were licenses or just a tag. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that it may have been for their [veterinary] shots. The Village Attorney advised that we would have to look it up and see if cats need to be licensed. Our Code specifically calls for licensing of dogs. We do not ask for licensing for cats. Trustee Zachary commented that he was wondering if that applies to both. He asked if any other Board member had an opinion. He is looking for things that are specifically for dogs that might apply. Trustee Jackson commented that there are stray cats that sometimes roam through people's yards. He thinks the licensing is a bit much. Trustee Zachary commented that we are talking about enforcement. If his neighbor's dirty cats are [defecating] on his lawn, if the cat has a license that shows who it belongs to it might assist in enforcement. He commented that he is just raising the question. Trustee Jackson commented that it begs the question of how many is too much and do we want to put in some sort of amount of how many can be on one dwelling since the complaint that spurred this is based on the amount. He asked the Administrator if there is some jurisdiction in the area that has something in place. The Administrator advised that he could look at other municipalities' Codes. Trustee Zachary commented that once you get to that number you are kind of violating the other thing about cruel and unsanitary or inhumane conditions. He commented on if you could actually have 30 pets for example running around and not have unsanitary conditions. Trustee Jackson commented that they could check it out and see if there is any precedent in the area and circle back to it.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that those were good comments. This resolution is to schedule a Public Hearing.

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

**e. 16-50 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BIDS FOR THE SOFFIT REPAIR PROJECT.**

Trustee Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Mayor Knickerbocker advised said that currently with our window repair Franzoso Contracting is replacing our windows. She asked the cameraman to pan to our new windows. She commented that they look great. The Mayor advised that Franzoso was also the lowest bidder on repairing the soffits. She noted that the soffit is the upper part of the building that looks white. We originally had budgeted to paint it. Before the painting was started, we realized that there was lead in the paint. It was going to be a huge problem to scrape that and maintain the lead. It was going to be a mess. We are now going to enclose that area with vinyl. Trustee Zachary advised that it would be aluminum. The Mayor commented that now we do not have to get into the mess with the other stuff.

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

**f. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BIDS FOR THE BANNON AVENUE WATER PIT PROJECT**

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that this is for the Bannon Avenue water pit. We need some heavy duty upgrades there. This resolution will be tabled to the next Board meeting. She asked the Administrator to explain why.

The Administrator advised that when he first came to the Board he had talked to the Village Engineer who estimated it to be about \$75,000. The bids came in at almost twice that amount. He talked to the Village Engineer about the prices. He had not expected them to be that high. The thought was to have the DEP who will have their own meter in that pit as well look at the bids to see if they were reasonable and give us some feedback. The Village Engineer suggested that we can always re-bid it because sometimes you get better prices when you re-bid. The Administrator advised that he talked to the Mayor who agreed. So we will hold off a little bit to get some feedback and rebid it to try to get a price closer to what we thought the original price was. Trustee Jackson wanted to confirm that the DEP is involved in this project. The

Administrator advised that they have a meter in there as well. Part of the cost is going to be covered by them. The lion's share would be on the Village.

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that this Resolution will be tabled at this time and hopefully get it resolved for the November Board meeting.

**g. 16-51 RESOLUTION REPORTING THE STANDARD WORKDAY.**

Trustee Zachary read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

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

**h. 16-52 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF A VILLAGE FACILITY.**

Trustee Zachary read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

He noted that the certificate of insurance and fee payment of \$300 were included along with the application.

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

**i. 16-53 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SEASONAL PERSONNEL.**

Mayor Knickerbocker read the Resolution (*copy attached*). *Did she read this one?*

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that we do this every Fall and in the summer time. We hire additional people for the needs of our additional work load. These people have all worked doing this before. We will be hiring them back.

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

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

- a) Justice Court Report – August 2016  
Received and filed.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that the Court amount was \$1,826. She noted that she liked to read that so people can see what is going on in the court.

b) Wastewater Report – August 2016

Received and filed.

c) Planning Board Minutes – August 2016

Received and filed.

d) Fire Inspector's Report – August-September 2016

Received and filed.

e) Police Report – August 2016

Received and filed.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know what the 7 Code violations were. Village Attorney Porteus advised that we have a site plan approval, a permit required and a Certificate of Occupancy [CO]. The Administrator advised that we have two Stop Work orders for a project started without a building permit. The Village Attorney advised that WIC and AAA account for 5 of the 6. The Administrator advised that we had a resident that had a Stop Work order as well.

Trustee Jackson wanted to know since we now have a full-time Building Inspector if it would be prudent to have a Building Inspector's report. Trustee Zachary commented that we talked about that and about getting a list of current permit requests. The Administrator advised that we could have a report. The Building Inspector will be at the Workshop. The report can have building permits and COs and he can generate a small report for the Board.

f) Attorney's Report

Village Attorney Porteus reported that with the Planning Board, CHI on behalf of the owner Glenn Griffin is moving through the Planning Board. AAA has an application for a merger. She advised that she spoke to their attorney to advise that they would also have to submit a site plan because even with a merger and even if that second lot became part of the first lot, without an approved site plan they would automatically be put in violation again. She noted that the Planning Board is obviously not going to approve a merger with an illegal use. They will be putting in a site plan for use of that second lot when it becomes part of the first lot. They will submit that on Monday so it will be heard this month. She thinks that WIC is or should be coming in this month. She has been working with the Building Inspector who has been working with the owner. The Village Attorney commented that it has been a busy time with the Planning Board but hopefully it will maybe get some compliance with our Codes.

g) Administrator's Report

Village Administrator Hay reported that Consorti was in the Village today starting the curb work. That will probably take a week and a half and then it will be on to paving work as well. He advised that some of the paving work has changed. Con Edison has advised that they will be doing gas work from Burke Court to Kings Ferry Road. They gave it a 5 year plan. There will also be some gas work on Third Street heading into the intersection. The Administrator advised that we talked about it and it was decided to go from Burke Court to Third Street instead of from Kings Ferry Road all the way to First Street. So we have shortened it up. We are still going to do the same curb work. Because some of the patches go a little past Burke Court we are going to have them build that section out too. So all the work from Con Ed's gas work will be repaired. Trustee Zachary wanted to confirm that none of that trench was cut past Third Street. The Administrator advised that it stopped at Fourth Street. He noted that it will scale down the amount of paving that we are doing this year. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that she is disappointed. The Administrator advised that it will prevent them from cutting it opening in a year or two.

Trustee Funchion commented that he did not understand with Con Edison. He noted that it was from Burke Court to Kings Ferry Road and they had this whole thing opened up before. He remarked that seemed to be stupid. He wanted to know why they cannot do it within the next week. The Administrator does not know. He advised that they had talked about the Village's doing all that repaving and they did not have anything planned necessarily for this year. We asked what they had in the next couple of years, almost like a 5 year plan. They said that was one section that they were going to come back and do. He agrees with Trustee Funchion. Trustee Funchion commented that it is an enormous inconvenience to this Village. Trustee Zachary commented that we changed our Code to say that any time they do excavating that they have to repave out to the center line. Trustee Funchion commented that maybe we have to change it again so they would have to repave the whole street. Trustee Zachary commented that if they do one side of the road and they repave to the center line, he does not think that we have a problem. Trustee Funchion commented that would be payment for the inconvenience that they are going to cause people. He feels that what they are doing does not make any sense and that there should be a penalty if they do the excavation. They should have to repave the whole street. Trustee Zachary commented if you go to the center line you would not have a mess. Trustee Funchion commented that he is talking about a basic consideration for this Village. He commented that you are talking about one block; not even a city block but 7 or 8 houses. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that it was done piecemeal. Trustee Funchion agreed and commented that the intersection they are going up to, Kings Ferry and Tate Avenue, is extremely busy. He thinks that we should change the Code and make them to do the whole thing.

Mayor Knickerbocker asked the Administrator how long it would take Con Edison to do that section. She commented that they had it half way down. Trustee Zachary commented that it would take them a month before they start. We lost our opportunity to pave this Fall because there is no way that they will do it that expediently. The Mayor advised that the [asphalt] plants are still open. We originally got this going a lot earlier. She is disappointed that here we now are and it is going to be in the middle of October.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know what is happening with our price if we cut back at the east and west ends of this project. He wanted to know if we are going to get a proportionate cut in the price. The Administrator advised that these are all bid items and all done from quantities. Some are linear feet, some are cubic yards. It all depends on the item and how they bid it out. So it is going to change the quantity. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if there is another area that really could have used the paving where we could take that square footage and apply it. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that the Village Engineer and the Administrator are going to look at it. The other area is upper Fourth Street but the discussion was if we are going to put in curbs or just repave. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if we can tell Con Ed that that section is scheduled for repaving next year and if they do not do their work by then that they will be required to pave the whole thing. The Mayor commented that you could tell them that. Trustee Zachary commented that it does not make it legal or binding. The Mayor advised that she is trying to get the main roads done. The focus is to get heavily traveled roads done. She commented that coming out of the Village Hall by the back entrance and going down to First Street is a road in need of repair. It was on the list. The Administrator and Village Engineer will be looking at that to see if we can get it in. She does not think that it is not a difficult thing for the contractor to add it in as an "add on". Trustee Zachary wanted to know if they do that section, do they understand that they have to do it out to the center line. The Administrator advised that the one request they had was that it be on every request for a street opening permit, which we will do so that they can estimate their cost appropriately. The Mayor is disappointed that the repaving will not go from First Street to Kings Ferry Road but it did not make sense to do it and then have it torn up. She feels that it would be a waste of money.

The Administrator reported that the windows at the Village Hall are progressing nicely. They have finished everything but the first floor and then the soffit work which was approved tonight.

The Administrator reported that the Village audit went well. The auditors were here for a week. We should receive a draft of the financials soon and the final audit in December.

The Administrator reported that we have a few events coming up. The Halloween Parade on October 29. We have the Best Scarecrow Contest. Judging will be between October 24 to 26. The winner will be announced the day of the parade and party.

The Administrator reported that leaf pick up begins the week of October 17. It will follow the garbage pick-up routes. All residents received all the rules and regulations in the last Newsletter. He announced that if you do not have it, they are also available on the web site.

#### h) Mayor's Reports

Mayor Knickerbocker thanked the Beautification Committee. They put all the mums in the barrels around the Circle. They did really well with the fund raiser. They had 100 plants and sold every one of them. She thanked everyone who worked with the Beautification Committee and supported them.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that on October 10 in Croton, State Senator Terrence Murphy will be having a Public Hearing for the proposed barge anchorage. The information announcing the location and time will be on the Village Facebook page and Buchanan Channel screen.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that the Master Plan Committee had their first meeting. They will have a meeting every month. It will take about a year to go through and update it. The public is welcome. You can sit in on the meetings which start at 6:30 PM.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported on the trailer survey. She asked that residents get it in by the end of the month so the Board can look at all the responses. We will probably schedule a Public Hearing in November and a Public Hearing in December.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported on Buchanan Day. She thanked the committee. The kids had a really good time. She thanked Trustees Zachary and Funchion and everyone who worked on it. It was a good day. The Mayor thinks that it was the first time that we had it on a perfect Fall day.

#### i) Trustee's Reports

Trustee Zachary reported on Buchanan Day. He thanked everyone. It went very well. It was a lively crowd came who came earlier than he recalls in previous years. We added a couple of new things. There was a steady line of kids riding the trackless train ride. The pony ride was very popular. It was a lot of fun. The weather was great. He thanked Colleen Lonergan and Norma Macaluso who do more work than anyone. He thanked Trustee Funchion and Mayor Knickerbocker for their help, not the least of which was driving upstate to get all the pumpkins. He thanked the Hen Hud Cheerleaders who did the face painting. He thanked all the vendors that came out to help make this work. He commented that as soon as we pick a date for the next one, we will get it going for next year.

Trustee Zachary commented that the trailer survey was mailed out and some people have this automatic reflex that because it is not a check, to throw it into the recycling bin. He advised that if you do not have the trailer survey you can get it on the Village web site and on the Village Facebook page. If you do not have those, you can get it at the Village Hall. Drop it at the Village Hall or mail or e-mail it. You can put your name on it or not. That is up to you. The Board wants to get as much input as possible. He commented that it is a volatile issue with people reacting strongly on both sides. If you have an opinion on what kind of trailers, recreation vehicles and things like that should be parked on people's properties; where they should be parked; if they should be limited and if so, how should they be limited; any opinions on this that you care to express the Board will look at. He commented that this will be going on for the next couple of meetings.

Trustee Zachary wanted to point out that gasoline is 30 cents per gallon cheaper in Croton. Local gas stations up here are at \$2.43 and \$2.49 at Welcher Avenue. In Croton it is \$2.13 which is 30 cents per gallon cheaper. He commented that last time it took [the local gas stations] about 6 months to get in line with everybody and by the time they do the price will probably go back up. He commented that if you are going down that way, you can save a few bucks.

Mayor Knickerbocker remarked that she thinks that people are disappointed that people are not seeing their New York State property tax rebate checks so when they do not, they just toss everything else out. She commented that they said that the checks are in the mail.

Trustee Funchion commented that Trustee Zachary and Mayor Knickerbocker have mentioned Buchanan Day. It was very successful. He commented that we have a few people working a lot to get that done. They could use help in the future. He asked anybody who is available to volunteer next year. That would be appreciated. He commented that there are a lot of little ins and outs that have to be done. When we bring more people into the mix, we get more ideas and they may have connections with other affairs that go on that will bring in different types of entertainment for our day. It was a great success. He thanked Trustee Zachary, Colleen Lonergan and Norma Macaluso. They do an enormous amount of work and he really appreciates what they do.

Trustee Funchion reported on the Town of Cortlandt's 9/11 Memorial ceremony. It was a beautiful day. It was very touching. It was very dear to his heart. He thanked Town Supervisor Linda Puglisi and the Town of Cortlandt for putting it on every year. He commented that if anybody has not gotten down to that site, it is very meaningful and extremely well done. He noted that Trustee Zachary was part of the committee that put it together.

Trustee Funchion wished all of his Italian-American friends a Happy Columbus Day which is coming up.

Trustee Jackson reported that he was driving up and down Tate Avenue a couple times a day and he saw a couple picking up paper as they were walking. The second time through he pulled over and introduced himself. They were a couple from Bannon Avenue. Trustee Jackson introduced himself and thanked them for what they did. They said that this is what they do and it is part of their routine. Trustee Jackson commented that they know who they are and we thank them for that.

Trustee Jackson commented that brings him to our recently departed member of this community, Don Zern, who always preached about the catch basins, how they flowed, and the trash and those things. He will be missed. He noted that Don Zern was part of the Historical Society. Trustee Jackson commented that they had a great time entertaining the kids from B/V School last year and Mr. Zern was an integral part of that. Trustee Jackson noted that they lost two of their members, Lillian Stein and Don Zern. He commented peace be with them both.

Trustee Jackson commented “hats off” to the Fire Department for all they do. There has been an increase in calls as of late. He commented that they are courageous and volunteering and keeping all of us safe.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that there will be fund raiser on Sunday, October 30 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Fire House. Adults = \$6; Children under 10 = \$4. She encouraged everyone commented to go out to participate and support our Fire House.

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

Former Trustee Joe Tropiano, Burke Court, congratulated the Board and Buchanan Day Committee for a good day. There were a lot of people there. It was good. He commented that he did not have any children. There were a lot of people.

Mr. Tropiano commented that at the Senior’s meeting today a lot of Seniors were ecstatic about the new windows at the Village Hall. He commented that if you pacify the Seniors, you did a good job.

Mr. Tropiano commented that the Board mentioned Burke Court again. He commented that has been a thorn in the side of the people living there. Con Edison keeps coming back. He commented that it looks like a roller coaster over there. He wanted to know what they are doing next there and if they would be doing any digging. The Administrator advised that it was gas work. They told him that potentially there is a project that they are planning there within the next 2 years. Mr. Tropiano remarked for the third or fourth time. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that the last time it was an electrical problem. She hopes that they can resolve both problems when they dig up the road there. Mr. Tropiano commented that he did not understand

it. He can see if you have a gas leak that is a problem. He wanted to know if they are now going in to do more electrical work or gas work. The Administrator advised that his understanding is that they are digging up the road for gas work. Mr. Tropiano commented no pipe in there. He wanted to know if it was all the way through. The Administrator said that they did not give us any details. We had just reached out to them to see what kind of work they were possibly going to do. Mr. Tropiano commented that they were there before on a gas leak, besides the electric. It seems to be an on-going situation there. The road looks like a roller coaster.

Trustee Zachary advised that the Code has been rewritten. If they dig it up now, it now requires that they repave going out to the center line. He commented that we will enforce that so that you will not get those little patches. If they run a pipe, they have to go right to the center line. Mr. Tropiano commented if you look at the way that they did the one section of Tate Avenue that is like a roller coaster too. He commented that he is not pressuring Con Edison but if they are going to go in there and do the job, they should do it right. He commented that it is not only Burke Court. It is other places too. If they patch, let them patch the right way. He commented that it makes it easier for the Highway Department when they have to do their job. He commented that this goes on and on. It seems to him like they always come in, do it for a month and then come back and do the same thing. He thinks that it gets ridiculous. He hopes that the Board will keep on top of them and at least satisfy some of the people in the Village because it starts to become a bit of a burden for some people. He commented that if they start putting plates down, it is another burden and they have to come back again.

Eileen Absenger, Tate Avenue, wanted to confirm that they were not digging the gas line past Third Street. The Administrator advised that it is supposed to go down Third Street but it supposed to come up to the intersection of Third Street and Tate Avenue. So that is why we left that off the list. Ms. Absenger commented that right in front of Danny Stewart's house something is all mapped off. The Administrator advised that we are doing some curb work on certain sections of Tate Avenue. But we are not going to be milling and paving that section. Ms. Absenger wanted to know if Tate Avenue is going to be left the way that it is, how will that affect the snow plowing because it is not flat? Mayor Knickerbocker advised that from Third Street to Burke Court will be completely milled and paved. We decided not to go up to First Street because they are going to be ripping up the road on Third Street.

Ms. Absenger wanted to know from the Village Attorney if we have a sign ordinance that if someone has done work or continuously do work that they can keep their sign up forever on multiple people's lawns. Trustee Zachary advised that it is not allowed. The Village Attorney asked if the Board ever really tweaked it. The Administrator advised that we did not work out the enforcement of the Code. He advised that if there are certain situations to send the Building Inspector out. The Mayor wanted to confirm that Ms. Absenger is talking about a contractor who has done work and they are leaving. Ms. Absenger advised that it is a lawn service. It is on

two lawns on Tate Avenue where he comes every week. Trustee Zachary believes that it is in the Code that the signs must come down within a certain time after completion of the work. The Village Attorney advised that it is in the Code and it is just an enforcement thing. Ms. Absenger asked that the Building Inspector talk to them.

Ms. Absenger commented that cats do not wear collars because they do not get walked. If they do have one, if it is not a flea or tick collar which glides off if they get caught in any brush or anything, if they have a regular collar they could choke themselves. Trustee Zachary commented that he has seen them with bells and such. Ms. Absenger commented that is for people who think that is going to alert the birds if they do not want the cat to get the birds. She has never heard of cats being licensed except maybe in cities. She commented that the Town of Cortlandt has a Code concerning the number of cats. Trustee Zachary wanted to know how you enforce the number of cats. Ms. Absenger commented that now she has more cats in her yard. Mayor Knickerbocker wanted to know if they are feral. Ms. Absenger does not know. One of them is but she commented that it has been around for ages. One is new. She does not know where it came from. It is not that skittish. The feral one is. It goes into the bushes.

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

None

#### **8. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Knickerbocker requested that the Board enter into an Executive Session to discuss police matters. No funds will be expended and no decisions will be made.

At 8:37 PM a MOTION to enter into Executive Session was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor and Trustee Pasquale absent.

Mayor Knickerbocker said to have a great Buchanan Day and thanked everyone for coming.

The Executive Session was closed at 9:37 PM on a MOTION made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Trustee Pasquale absent.

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:38 PM a MOTION to adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Trustee Pasquale absent.