

**Village of Buchanan  
Mayor & Board of Trustees  
Board Meeting  
November 1, 2016**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker  
Trustees Richard A. Funchion, Cesare Pasquale and Nicolas Zachary  
Village Administrator Kevin Hay  
Village Attorney Stephanie V. Porteus  
Village Board Secretary Susan Matthews

**ABSENT:**

Trustee Duane M. Jackson

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that Trustee Jackson had a previous engagement in New York City. He was hoping to arrive later.

**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:**

October 4, 2016 Regular Board Meeting: Trustee Funchion clarified his comment on page 10, paragraph 2, line 12 that he did not understand what Con Ed was doing and noted that it was not done from Burke Court to Kings Ferry Road. We need the whole thing opened up. But he remarked that they are stupid for not doing it at that time. A MOTION to approve these Minutes as amended was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Trustee Jackson absent.

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

Mayor Knickerbocker noted that most of the people present were here because of the Public Hearing. She advised that comments about the Public Hearing can be made when it is opened.

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. PUBLIC HEARING: INSTALLATION OF “SCHOOL ZONE 15 MPH” SIGNS.**

At 7:33 PM a MOTION to open the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Trustee Jackson absent.

Mayor Knickerbocker said that this is about a 15 m.p.h. speed limit sign on Church and Henry Streets where the school bus picks up children and there is a nursery school run there. They want to make it safer and slow the traffic down. The Police Chief and Village Administrator spoke to them and they felt that the safest way was to slow the traffic down. What happens at the nursery school is that when they are going in and coming out there are a lot of children who are happy and excited and running all over. It would be best for people to slow down or avoid that area at those times. Trustee Funchion wanted to know if we would have any time frame on it such as between certain hours. Trustee Zachary added or during school hours. The Administrator advised that we could add something like that on there. On those roads, they felt that 15 m.p.h. is safer. The Mayor advised that our Village speed limit is 30 m.p.h. We are asking people in that area to slow the speed to 15 m.p.h. Police Chief Tubbs advised that it is only enforceable when school is open. When school is closed and on Saturday, Sunday and holidays the speed reverts to 30 m.p.h. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if it would include after school. Police Chief Tubbs advised that the parameter is so far late in the day that he would have to look at the section of the Vehicle and Traffic Law. It is so many hours after school. Trustee Zachary suggested making it from 8 AM to 6 PM. Police Chief Tubbs advised that you can put it on the sign if it is within the law. Trustee Zachary thinks that it is a good sign anyway because when people see it, it makes them aware to slow down. The Police Chief commented or leave it as is so they will slow down any time.

Mayor Knickerbocker asked if the Board would like to put the time on. Trustee Funchion commented that after what the Police Chief advised that it did not matter. The Mayor commented that we want to protect the children and make it safe.

At 7:36 PM a MOTION to close the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Trustee Jackson absent.

**b. 16-54 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION OF “SCHOOL ZONE 15 MPH” SIGNS.**

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 Jackson absent.

**c. PUBLIC HEARING: AMENDING CHAPTER 53 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN**

At 7:38 PM a MOTION to open the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor and Trustee Jackson absent.

Mayor Knickerbocker explained that we are looking to add on to our Code because there were several complaints from Village residents about a nuisance situation. She advised that when a complaint comes to the Board, the Board has to address the complaint. We open a Public Hearing to hear both sides of the issue and then make a decision. The Mayor advised that we are not closing the Public Hearing tonight. We are leaving it open for the December Village Board meeting on December 6. At that time we will probably vote. We will also discuss this again at the November Workshop which is on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that she is very disappointed with the direction that this has gone. She commented that we live in a very small community and after all is said and done we still have to live together as a community. She understands both sides of the issue. The Board is open to any comments. She directed that the comments should be kept civil. There will be no personal attacks allowed. She addressed the audience and directed that when they come up they should speak into the microphone and give their name. Each person will have 5 minutes to speak. She advised that it is limited to 5 minutes. She will see how the meeting is going. If she feels we need rebuttals, if necessary she will give them another 3 minutes for rebuttals. She advised that copies of the proposed change to the Code are available here if anyone wants a copy. She advised that what the Board is looking to do with this Code is to eliminate the nuisance to the neighbors. We are also currently talking about cats. She advised that the complaints we received were about cats in the neighborhoods going into the neighbors' properties, and other domestic animals. This Code does not pertain solely to cats. It is dogs, cats and domestic animals.

Barbara Vines, Donahue Court, commented that this has everything to do with her and her house. She is a foster mom for Paws For Love and Recycled Paws. She has been doing this for the last 4 years. She estimates that she has helped about 400 cats and kittens be adopted through PetSmart. She commented that unfortunately she does have some unadoptable cats for whatever reason whether it is behavioral or personality. She commented that some of them you cannot even touch. They always hold out hope that at some point and time they can get them turned around and get them their "forever homes". She commented that 3 years ago the SPCA told her that her property was certainly big enough to accommodate a feral colony. She lives on a one and a half acre property. She is surrounded on three sides by the lake and has woods behind her. The SPCA thought it was fine to have a feral colony. She commented that as the Mayor pointed out because we live in a small village we have people who do put out food for critters which

pulls the cats out from behind the house. She said that they do wander. She commented that for 3 years the Board did not receive any complaints. It was only after a neighbor approached her and asked if she would help her to enclose her porch because these cats were coming and sitting on her porch. Ms. Vines refused. She commented that the neighbors got together in the middle of the road and started plotting how to stop her and the cats. She commented that it is unfortunate because as the Mayor pointed out we live in a very small community. She feels that what the Board is proposing to do is certainly going to turn neighbor upon neighbor. She has at least 4 or 5 cats that wander into her yard that do not belong to her. She commented that it would be a shame if she started calling the people that she knows own those cats because they are on her property. She commented that last week she watched one back up and pee on her car. She is not about to call the neighbor who owned that cat and say that it did this. She feels that the law the Board is looking to change is going to turn neighbor unto neighbor. She thinks that there are a lot of holes in the Village ordinance as to who is going to do what and how it is going to be enforced. She feels that the reality is that the Board is wasting time, energy and money for something that probably cannot be enforced. She advised that to try to alleviate the problem she did put up an enclosure because the coyotes are now in her back yard. She commented that they have been seen so it is prudent for the safety of those feral and friendly cats there to have them outside but able to go in and out of this enclosure through a basement window. She commented that was what sparked all of this. She finds it interesting that 2 weeks before the Village started being called one of her neighbors stopped her in a store and wanted to know if one of the cats that had slipped out of her house was available for adoption. She commented that it was okay then but after she said no, that she was not going to help this neighbor enclose her front porch that was when all of this started. She feels that is unfair because it not only impacts her, it impacts other people who have cats that go in and out.

Mayor Knickerbocker wanted to know how big the enclosure is. Ms. Vines advised that it is 8x8 feet. The Mayor wanted to confirm that Ms. Vines has house cats and a feral cat colony. Ms. Vines commented that she is a foster mom. She has rotating cats. Trustee Zachary wanted to know what a foster mom to a cat would be. Ms. Vines advised that it is the same as to a child. She commented that on Friday 4 kittens came into her possession. She noted that there should have been 6. They were in a dumpster and they started to poison them. Two kittens died and she ended up with 4 of them. On Sunday, a young gal brought a 6 week old to PetSmart. When she was doing Meals On Wheels, they spotted a kitten in the road. They stopped and picked it up. They had no place to take those kittens so Ms. Vines took it. She commented that those kittens will now be taken care of and vetted. When they are ready, they go to the cages at PetSmart because Ms. Vines is part of their charity. From there, they are adopted out. The cats and kittens come and go. She advised that from week to week she has different cats in her possession. When they are ready, they go out. She advised that her part of the foster home is that she is the one that pulls in from the other foster homes, gets them vetted which is spayed and neutered. On Thursday nights, she puts them into PetSmart cages. Whichever ones are left over on Sunday

night go to her house or to other foster moms. So they are never the same cats and kittens because every weekend they are at PetSmart adopting out. She noted that since January 1, they have adopted out 140 cats and kittens. Trustee Pasquale wanted to know how many cats on average does she keep at one time. Ms. Vines advised 25-30. She commented that may sound like a lot but when you have kittens that fit in your hand, it really is not. If you have a pup tent set up that accommodates 10 little kittens, noting that they come and go, it is not much. She remarked that her house shrinks on Thursday nights when she comes home and 10 have been out into PetSmart. Trustee Pasquale wanted to know if any of those cats give birth. Ms. Vines advised that she is not a birthing mom. There are other foster moms who do that.

Trustee Funchion commented that he is looking at the way this is written. It is basically the same as is written about dogs. He asked if Ms. Vines has read it and was wondering what part she objects to. She confirmed that she has read it. She objects to the fact that we need it at all. She commented that dogs are registered. She commented how do you know that the cat that is peeing or pooping on your property belongs to a family? They are not registered. She remarked that a black cat looks like a black cat. You have no idea whose cat it is. She wanted to know who is going to enforce this law. You do not know who really owns the cats. She commented that she had 4 or 5 that wander onto her property and she has no idea who they belong to. She knows that one is her next door neighbor's. She does not know who owns the others, only that they are not hers. They come and they go and sniff around and leave. But they are recurring animals that frequent her property. She commented that when that cat goes onto someone else's property that it now becomes "her cat" because it was seen on her property. You never can tell with the cats. Trustee Funchion commented that he was confused. He owns dogs. His first reaction to this was why should the same rules as apply to dogs not be given to cats. Ms. Vines commented because cats are not registered. Trustee Funchion commented that they can create the same problems for your neighbor. Ms. Vines agreed but commented that you can also do things to not allow that to happen. She commented that as far as SPCA is concerned, they are treated like raccoons because you cannot control them either. They come onto your property, pee and poop and do damage to your property. Trustee Zachary commented that he can put a Hav-a-Heart trap and trap raccoons. He wanted to know if he can trap cats. Several people in the audience advised that you can. Trustee Zachary commented what does he do with them then?

Mayor Knickerbocker wanted to know how many foster mom houses there are. Ms. Vines advised that they have 6 foster moms. Each one has various jobs in the organization. A lady in the audience remarked that they are all present.

Kathleen O'Connell commented that she lives in the Town of Cortlandt, in Verplanck, and that she also has a feral cat colony that she feeds. She has no idea who they are or where they came from but they did trap them. She had them spayed and neutered and gave them rabies shots. She

made sure that they are not reproducing. Now she has fosters in her house. She has 2 that escape on and off and she has to go find them. But her neighbor knows that she has them. She commented that when one of her cats goes out she worries that it is next door. She commented that they are trying to control the cat population, trying to keep the population down and find the home for the ones that are adoptable. She commented that sometimes when they do escape it is hard. She noted that she got a copy of the Code from the Town of Cortlandt. If the Town has a problem, they warn the person and if it is not fixed, they are called again. Then they pursue it from there. She commented that in the situation with Ms. Vines, somebody said something. Nobody gave her a chance to correct the problem. She was waiting for the enclosure to be delivered. In the meantime, the next thing you know the Village is in it. Ms. O'Connell commented that they are trying their best to control the cat population but to penalize Ms. Vines because she is a foster mom, noting that every one of the people who came tonight all have cats. They foster them. The cats go in and out. They take them to PetSmart. She has 7 cats in her house that are unadoptable for whatever reason. Some get out and she has to chase them down. She understands that the neighbor has a problem with it. She commented that it is extreme and hard to control. She lives across from the Montrose State forest. She has a neighbor who works for the Town who lives by the lake and whose cat is in her yard every day. Ms. O'Connell commented that unfortunately these cats were not able to be adopted. She thinks, as does everyone she has talked to, that this is extreme to talk about limiting cats. She commented that Ms. Vines is trying to correct the situation. She is putting the kennel out so that the cats can go out and are protected from the coyotes. Ms. O'Connell thinks that some parts of this are a waste of time. She commented if this draws attention to all these cats that are unadoptable, that they are trying to help the situation.

Ms. O'Connell commented that Susan Haywood works with the SPCA and does a lot of trapping for the City of Peekskill. People call every weekend. Every weekend she is trapping cats. She takes them to the SPCA and gets them spayed, neutered, rabies shots and whatever. Ms. O'Connell commented that they are trying to do this and sometimes a cat gets away from them. She is sorry for whatever happened with the neighbor in this case. She commented that it could or cannot be helped. Ms. Vine is trying to correct the situation. They are trying to help the cats.

Trustee Pasquale wanted to know how one becomes a cat foster parent. Ms. O'Connell advised that they are volunteers. If somebody finds kittens in their window for example, they call them. They get the cats if they are old enough to be spayed or neutered. They take them to the SPCA. Then they take them to PetSmart to get adopted. She commented that sometimes they get adopted right away. Sometimes it takes a while. Sometimes they are cats that do not come around or are not friendly. She commented but they are not going to throw them back out onto the street. Trustee Pasquale wanted to know if they need to register their house to do that. Ms. O'Connell advised that they do not. Trustee Pasquale wanted to know how do people know that they are doing this. Ms. O'Connell advised that they let people come in to PetSmart. They are

there every Sunday. They are Paws For Love and Recycled Rescued Paws. One part of their organization does dogs and the other part does cats. She commented that if they find a volunteer, noting that they have to be creditable, they talk to them and make sure that they have the proper room and that they are willing and able to take care of the cats. They can bring the cats every Sunday to PetSmart for the Adoption Day.

Kathy Lamb [*address not given*] advised that she volunteers with Care About The Strays. She commented that what we are discussing is TNR, “Trap, Neuter and Return”. It is a big movement all over the world. She commented that the only way we can deal with stray community cats which is what we are speaking about. She commented that these are stray community cats. They exist because you have someone who adopts 2 kittens but when they become a year or two old starts thinking that they are not that cute anymore. So they dump them. They move. She commented that they get a phone call that a neighbor moved and their 2 cats are sitting there and are asked what to do about it. Ms. Lamb commented that these are all our cats. They did not materialize out of nowhere. They are here because of the residents of Buchanan, Peekskill, Cortlandt, Somers, all over the country. She noted that you can read more about it by going to the internet. She commented that the other thing that is amazing is that the Center for Disease Control because of TNR, because of what people sitting here have done, we have not had a case of cat-to-person rabies in 50 years. She commented that cats do not carry rabies. They are victims of rabies. She commented because of the work that these people are doing we have cut down on the incidents of rabies. She commented that you want to say that you can have 3 cats. So if a mother and 5 kittens show up in your back yard, the mother and 2 kittens stay and the others die. That is what will happen. She commented that it is because of the compassion of some people. The [volunteers] do not make money. She commented that she is not telling what she pays per month for what she does for her rescues and kitties that she and Becky have adopted out. She paraphrased Gandhi by saying that the true character of a nation is judged by how it treats its animals. She thinks that in the United States it is better but we do not do a good job. She commented that it is time for everybody to stand up and do what is right. She commented that we do not license cats and feels that we should not. But through a program of awareness, instead of fighting each other let us work together. She commented that if you take on the responsibility of an animal, take on that responsibility because if people did then they would not have to do this.

Trustee Funchion referred to the first page of the draft. He commented that to him, “pack” means something that is wandering around. Trustee Zachary thinks that is what it is as opposed to being in a house. Trustee Funchion wanted to know if that is to mean that people can have 3 cats. Village Attorney Porteus advised that it does not. This is a draft and the Board can change whatever they want. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that is why she wants to hear the comments from the audience. This is just preliminary. Village Attorney Porteus advised that realistically nobody is going to knock on your door and ask to count your cats. Trustee Funchion

wanted to confirm that we are not dealing with how many numbers of cats you can have. The Village Attorney advised that was correct.

Ms. Vicki Cianfaglione, *[address not given]*, commented that she did read it and it did sort of read to her that it could be interpreted that cats would be a nuisance if they were in a pack of 3 or more. Trustee Funchion commented that dogs in a pack become more than a nuisance; they become dangerous. They have a pack mentality and can attack people. That is his interpretation of a pack. It is not that you have 2, 3 or 5 dogs in your house. The number does not matter if they are wandering around attacking people. Ms. Cianfaglione noted that it does not specifically say that. She commented that as to what makes sense concerning wandering, cats do not typically wander as a pack mentality. They do congregate. Trustee Zachary commented that we are taking and trying to adapt the Code that formerly refers typically to dogs. He agrees that this is one item that does not apply to cats. He has seen packs of dogs when he lived in industrial areas of Queens. Junk yard dogs would form groups. It could be very problematic. 10 or 15 dogs running down the street at night can be pretty scary. He does not think that cats do that. Ms. Cianfaglione advised that cats do congregate. It would be considered a colony. It is not dangerous. She wanted to clarify that, because she does not think it should be considered a nuisance if someone is feeding 3 or more stray cats that have formed a colony. When they are all fixed, spayed or neutered they do have a territory. They keep others out so that it does not continue to grow, because they are territorial. That is part of trap and release. They do bring them back and let them exist. She commented that recently there was a very interesting article in the Wall Street Journal. Chicago is having a rodent problem. She commented that of course, Chicago is not Buchanan but she thinks that even around here there are people who get rodents in their house. Cats in the neighborhood cut down on the rodent problem. That is what they like to do to because they are the easiest prey. Trustee Funchion commented that the Javits Center in Manhattan uses cats. Ms. O'Connell commented that Chicago brought in cats for that purpose. Ms. Cianfaglione commented that they are using feral cats to control their rodent problem. That has been the most effective instead of bringing toxic poisons. She commented that the article was very informational and educational.

Ms. Cianfaglione commented that from the questions that have been coming in maybe the Board members are dog people and are not very familiar with cats. She takes care of 2 stray cats at her house. One went missing. It got trapped in a vacant house. When she went door to door asking people if they had seen her cat, if maybe it had been hit by a car, because people were not cat people per se they told her no, there were no cats around there. She commented that maybe because she is a cat person and has done trap and release with Susan Haywood in her area, she knew that there are a lot of cats in that area. But people that are not looking for them do not realize it. She wanted to bring to the Board's attention that if you have a dog there probably are cats passing through your properties and are not a nuisance at all. They are probably killing a few rodents and keeping them out of your house.

Ms. Cianfaglione wants to make herself more familiar with this before there is anything else to say. Trustee Funchion commented that mention was made of coyotes. He wanted to know if there is any correlation between the increase in the cat population and the subsequent increase in coyotes because they tend to kill smaller animals. Ms. Cianfaglione commented that unfortunately coyotes do kill smaller animals like rabbits and anything that is around that they can get their hands on. She does not believe that cats are a lure for coyotes coming in. Unfortunately in this area the weather and the construction for the pipe line has brought them out of their own territory into ours.

Mayor Knickerbocker wanted to take a second to summarize the nuisances defined in the Code, just to spell it out. She read from the Code.

Jennifer Fleming, Donahue Court, commented that she first wanted to respond directly to Mr. Mevec and Ms. Vines. Mayor Knickerbocker directed that she has to direct her comments to the Board. Ms. Fleming commented that she has been trying everything in her power to keep the peace with her neighbors. She said that she has never gone public about the issues that she has had with them. There are two problems she had with them but she would never have gone public. She commented that in the process of trying to clear up the cat situation on her property, she has been attacked on Facebook on the Paws For Love Facebook page. She commented that they called her uneducated, lazy, saying that she is not an animal lover and saying that somebody is going to get hurt if she does not talk to Ms. Vines prior to this meeting. Ms. Fleming noted that it is on paper and she has copies. She commented that she is now living in fear of these people. They are threatening her. She has been crying for days. She commented that her name has been smeared all over Facebook. Their page has over 2,000 followers and it was shared 7 times with her full name on there. She remarked God knows how people have seen that so far.

[Several voices in the audience were raised at once.]

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that everybody can speak for 5 minutes. There might be a 3 minute rebuttal after everyone has spoken. She does not want any fighting. She wants to get all the facts and discuss everything.

Ms. Fleming commented that she went to Ms. Vines to discuss the cat problem on her property. So far she has spent \$200 on labor and maintenance to close off the bottom of her porch so that the cats cannot run under there and run out. She commented that last winter her mother fell down. She was walking her dog when one of the cats ran out from under her porch. The dog went after the cat, pulled her mother down and she was on the ground for 20 minutes. No one was home and no one could help her. She finally crawled over to where she could climb up on the garbage cans and walk back into the house. Ms. Fleming ran home when she was called and

took her mother to the Emergency Room. She commented that she never charged Ms. Vines for the E.R. visit because the cat ran right to Ms. Vines' front door. She never charged her the \$200 for that. Ms. Fleming commented that in addition, she has had to replace the cushions on her porch 3 times and laundered them 3 or 4 times in addition to replacing them. She commented that she did go to Ms. Vines to correct the problem. Ms. Fleming commented that she was willing to alter the appearance of her house by letting them fence in her front porch so that her mother who has emphysema and who is not allowed around cats could sit on the front porch. Ms. Fleming said that Ms. Vines said yes. The next day she came over and told Ms. Fleming that she had spoken to whomever in her association and was told to give Ms. Fleming something, which was a bag of tin foil, double sided tape and a spray bottle. She wanted Ms. Fleming to wrap her cushions in tin foil, double sided tape and to sit on them and spray her cats when they come over onto her property. Ms. Fleming said that is not a solution for her. That is not working. She commented that she is not the only one who has a problem with the cats. Her neighbor's dog has been covered in cat feces. They used to tie up the cat feces on the light pole by their house. Ms. Fleming commented that they pick it up in bags full. It is disgusting. After Ms. Vines said that she would screen in Ms. Fleming's porch, Ms. Fleming asked her if she put an enclosure on her property. Ms. Fleming said that Ms. Vines said that was not going to happen. Ms. Fleming commented that she has tried her best to work with her. She feels that she has done more than she can do at this point. She does not want the cats on her property no matter what. She commented that she had adopted 3 cats in her life. She has adopted a dog. She even adopted her child. She commented that she is not a heartless human being. She commented that her mother comes before the cats. This is her property. She remarked if her mother falls again, she is going to blame all of you.

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that that she is going to end this Public Hearing in 2 seconds and the Board will make decisions based on that. She does not want any fighting here. Everyone has the opportunity to speak for 5 minutes. She has asked everyone to be respectful. She expects that to happen. This is a hot topic. People are very into it. She respects that. She thinks it is commendable what people try to do to save cats. By the same token she understands the nuisance that the neighbors are going through. She said that we are trying to come to some type of agreement here. The Mayor said that if there were any more outbursts, this will be the end to the Public hearing tonight.

Ms. Fleming commented that she has heard about cats being killed by coyotes in the back of her house. The screams are horrible. Her son has had nightmares from that. She has seen the foster mother's kids' friends kick the cats outside of her house. She commented that she has personally taken one of those cats that had to be treated to the vet and she paid the bill and found the cat a home. She commented that she is not a cold hearted person. She is asking for peace on her block and for everybody to respect their neighbors. She picks up her dog's feces every time she walks him. She noted that she does not even complain about the cat feces issue and she should.

Trustee Zachary commented that people are throwing around this thing about Ms. Fleming not being an animal lover like it is an insult. He commented that you do not have to be an animal lover. He commented that you guys are passionate about what you do and that they do very positive and good things. But they have to realize that everybody does not feel the same way and have the same passion about animals. He is a nature lover and an animal lover. Personally, he does not like cats. He commented that they creep him out when they start digging their claws into your legs. He commented that if he was not a commuter he would be glad to have a dog. He likes animals but obviously not as passionately as [some who spoke tonight]. He thinks that we need to have something that is fair to everybody. He wanted to point out that as much as this is tending towards an argument on a particular case, a year ago he first suggested that any of these nuisance things with animals crapping in your yard should apply to cats and dogs. People with dogs know that they have to clean up after themselves. He understands that cats are a different type of animal. He commented that he is a hands in the dirt gardener and more than once his hands have gone into something other than dirt. He thinks that we have to have something that shows concerns for all residents both in an extreme case like this and in general. He thinks that what they do is great. He is concerned about having that going on on a residential street where it is clearly attracting coyotes. He thinks that is an issue. With smaller pets and small kids and more and more coyotes in the area, he thinks that something that attracts them is more of an issue. We have to look at the whole thing. We cannot look at it in a one sided way.

Gwen Tomplee, commented that she is very sorry if Ms. Fleming thinks she was going to attack her or even come close to her. She commented that she was reacting to the way Ms. Fleming turned while at the microphone. She commented that she is not a cat lover, not in any way. She is a dog person but her daughter is a cat person. For her, she fosters kittens in her home. She commented that what they do is a wonderful thing. All the money comes out of their pockets including vet bills. She commented that many people do not know that AIDS is not just an epidemic among humans. It is also an epidemic among cats. There is a feline AIDS. So they take these cats and have them checked. Some of them can be adopted but only by someone who already has a cat or another animal with feline AIDS. So they are taking a lot of these off the streets. She commented that she fosters feral kittens which is when somebody lets the female out and she has kittens. They are running around and get trapped. They are feral. She commented that kittens can be pretty threatening. She is scared when they look at her and hiss. But they can be worked with and over time become the most loving animals. She commented that is what they do. They try to find a loving home for these little animals that are just out there trying to survive. She thinks that they do a lot of good work. She thinks that some of these fines are hard when these people are doing so much for the communities, not just for the cats. They are doing it for the communities that they live in too. It is cutting down on the number of the animals because they do fix them. She noted that with cats as soon as they have a litter of kittens, in a week or two they are ready to mate. She noted that Peekskill has trap and release. A lot of

communities had trap and release. But they neuter them, and then release them so they are not constantly having more and more kittens. She commented that most of the howling and most of the crying are the ones that have not been fixed yet. They are saying, "I am in heat". They are looking for a partner. They are calling out, "Come and get me". She commented that it is phenomenal what these people do. She reiterated that that she is not a cat person but she is an animal lover. She feels that with some of these fines would be very hard on what these people are doing for the animals. She commented on the portion of the Code referring to "injury or threaten injury to persons or person or other domestic animals including birds." The Mayor noted this is just cats. Ms. Tomplee commented that cats go after birds. That is what they do; and mice and other rodents which has proven to be great for a lot of neighborhoods. She lives in Croton. She commented that she goes up to her house sometimes and there is a cat on her stoop. She has no idea where it belongs because it could be anybody's. People just let their cats out. They know that they will come home. She commented that her daughter mentioned that her cat was missing. They put up signs everywhere. She knocked on doors asking people if they had seen this cat. She is a bus driver and she gave it to other bus drivers. They would tell her that somebody just down the road feeds them. She commented that when you are putting out food, they are going to congregate and will come from all over. Then the next day your cat does not come home and maybe it does not

Kevin Dever commented that he lives in the Town of Cortlandt and owns property in Buchanan, Yorktown and Somers. He commented that he has been involved with animals since he was 16 years old. He is a lobbyist for animals. He pays support and legal fees for animals. He is also a foster for dogs, birds, cats and snakes. He commented that neighbors should not fight over this. We have to find a happy medium because this problem exists everywhere. He commented if the Board shuts down Ms. Vines, what happens to the cats. He commented that there are a lot of people who showed up here. If each person here helps get a cat adopted, she would not have much cats left. It is everybody's problem. He commented that we all like to go out to restaurants. He said to show him one restaurant that did not have 4 or 5 feral cats out in back and he will show you a restaurant with a rodent problem. He commented that cats are tough. They are all over the place. He commented that ever since the pipeline started in this area he has had mice problems, and he has a cat. He commented that he used the company of a guy who lives in this town to help him out. He got a cat and he has no problem. He commented that it is true that they are opening up a path with this pipeline. We are getting a lot more deer and coyotes. The coyotes can go from Manhattan to Albany. He commented that instead of shutting Ms. Vines down, maybe the neighbors can come together and we can come to a nice, peaceful solution. He wanted to question about the 3 cat limit which he heard is being changed. He commented what about person who has a cat that is pregnant and has 8 babies. They would be breaking the law. He commented that they should not fight. He gave the name of his group. He helps animals. He commented that he hates people. He loves children and animals. We can work this out. It is personalities. He commented let us not hurt the animals.

Laurie Pynch noted that she lives on Donahue Court in the Village. She owns a cat and has been a cat lover her whole life. Hers is an indoor cat that goes out on their deck and porch. Ms. Pynch does not let her out a whole lot because of the traffic she sees from other cats. She commented that no one is questioning the good hearted effort of what is taking place and all the steps involved. It is appreciated. She just does not know if everyone in her neighborhood appreciates that so many cats are in one location in a residential area. She thinks that is the main concern. She has found cat feces all over the yard. They have a strong ammonia smell from cats that pee in the shrubs. It is very overwhelming. They are going to have to enclose the underside of their porch. Another neighbor mentioned to her that he had observed cats running in and out from under there in early mornings when he left to go to work. When he starts his car, they run out from under it. She commented that they should be able to find a solution. They have been working hard. There should not be any cause for “You said!..They said!” and have attacks on each other. She commented that the question out there like the previous speaker Kevin said is if the Board shuts Ms. Vines down, what are they going to do. They posted on their Facebook page that if Ms. Vines gets shut down then their group gets shut down. Ms. Pynch commented that if we all find a home for a cat that is a lovely thing. She has been trying to do that. But more cats will come. She commented that it cannot become her problem or her input all the time to make things better and have the cats find a home. It is the number of cats that are there that wander. She commented that her kids see the cats and even nicknamed them. She wanted to know if it is true or can the fostering of the homes be shared by other people. She wanted to know why they think that if Ms. Vines is shut down that they will be gone. Ms. Pynch wanted to know if Ms. Vines does the bulk of it. She does not know but it seems like it to her because they are so concerned that if she is shut down that they will have no program. Ms. Pynch commented that if everybody in the organization takes on more responsibility. She commented that she figured how they could do it. The cats that come to her porch and into her yard are approachable. She takes two cats out of her garage that try to take naps in the back corners on the shelves. She commented that they are lovely animals but they are not hers and she does not want to worry or care about them. She commented that she is not heartless but she does not want that responsibility. She commented that mowing the lawn is a problem. Having people out in the yard is a problem. Sitting on the porch is a problem due to the smell. Ms. Pynch thinks that letter (b) and letter (f) are the two biggest concerns in this proposal. Trustee Zachary thinks that we have to review that.

Rose Conklin, Donahue Court, commented that she is Ms. Pynch’s neighbor and lives adjacent to Ms. Vines. She was on the phone outside walking her dog on the leash. She was not paying too much attention to her dog. She has a little white Havanese. Ms. Conklin looked down and her dog was rolling on the lawn. She was covered in feces. Ms. Conklin could hardly pick her up. Her hands got full. She had to put her dog in the tub and clean her. She commented that she should not have to do that in her own yard. She commented that they have been picking it up off

their lawn and putting it in the bag. They showed Ms. Vines. She came over and said that it was her cats'. Ms. Conklin said that Ms. Vines actually identified the feces on the lawn. Ms. Conklin feels that it really is a problem.

Trustee Pasquale asked Ms. Pynch roughly how many cats come onto her property. Ms. Pynch could probably identify 8. She commented that these are approachable cats. They want love. They figure-8 around your ankles. These are not feral cats. They are friendly and adoptable. Trustee Zachary commented that feral cats would probably run off.

Louise Iacomini, 6 Donahue Court, commented that she walks on her porch and the cats are on the cushions. She commented that when they jump off it scares the hell out of you. Their poop is on her lawn. She and Ms. Fleming have both gone to the laundromat to clean their cushions. She commented that she likes dogs, not cats so much. But she cannot put up with it. She commented to keep all the cats you want. Just keep them off her property. She does not want them there.

Becky Mason [*address not given*] commented that Ms. Pynch brought up a topic that could be the root of the problem. There are very few people who are interested or take the time or make the effort that those who do rescue do. Ms. Mason commented that Ms. Pynch has a cat which is wonderful, but she is not interested in helping the situation. Ms. Mason thinks this is one of the problems. She commented that Ms. Pynch talked about people who are in these organizations who can do more. Ms. Mason commented that the truth of the matter is that there are almost none in the organization. She commented that the few of them that represent a particular organization work an inordinate amount of time and spend an inordinate amount of effort because they cannot find people to help. She commented that if perhaps some in the neighborhood where the issues are would consider fostering on the outside it would help alleviate the problem. She commented that if you are smelling an ammonia smell it is not a cat from a home where there are fosters in the home. Those would be mostly un-neutered males. There are cats that have been abandoned and who are friendly and who are outside that have not been neutered and/or spayed. She noted that is something that Ms. Lamb referred to before. She remarked that at the root of every animal's situation is a person. A person is always responsible for an issue with an animal. She commented that the truth is that those who do rescue really do need help. It is a problem in every community. She does not know if we have a problem in Buchanan where money is allocated for the trapping and neutering and spaying program that the SPCA offers at a very low cost. She thinks that is maybe something that the Board can look into that would help eliminate some of the problems in this community. She applauds everybody here. She thinks it is wonderful thing to try to find a solution to a problem that is really caused by humans.

Trustee Funchion had a question for the cat people. He commented that he is ignorant of this. He wanted to know why cats cannot be kept in one area. Ms. Mason replied that there is no leash law for cats in the State of New York. There is nothing that prohibits the animals from moving if they are not enclosed in the house. She commented that she has her own cats and fosters and none of them go out. So she does not have the problem that other people do. She commented that if they are not spayed or neutered then they do have a tendency to wander. They tend to stay in an area where they are which are called colonies and which are self-contained. The more spaying and neutering that goes on, the more likely they are to remain in a particular area because those colonies are fed and there shelters provided for them there. So they know that is essentially a safe home environment in an outside world. She hates animals being outside. It is very unsafe. She noted that coyotes have been mentioned. It is horrible. She commented that she heard a coyote taking down a deer in her area. Cats are very free to roam. The more spaying and neutering that goes on in any community, the better for the entire community. She commented that if there is any way that the Board can allocate funds for that, we would be helping ourselves immeasurably.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that one of her neighbors has feral cats. She called the SPCA thinking that they would come and take them. She was quite surprised when the cats came back. They were neutered but they came back. The Mayor does not think that we have a problem with that throughout the Village. She does not think that there are a lot of cats wandering around. She does not see a lot of cats on the streets in her area. Trustee Zachary sees them wandering around. There is no way to know if they are feral. Ms. Mason advised that feral cats that have been trapped will have an ear tip, meaning that a piece of the top of the ear generally has been cut off. That identifies free roaming cats, ferals that are out and about. She commented that we are probably unaware of the number of cats that are feral in our community. It is not something you look for. She never saw them before she became involved in the organization she is a part of. She did not see them then, but they are all over the place.

Trustee Zachary commented that he always thought of the rescue places and adoption places, whether it is dogs or cats, being done in commercial buildings that are contained. He described a place when he lived in Queens. It was always a commercial building and they were inside. He wanted to know if it was not possible to do what those here tonight do and contain the cats inside. Ms. Cianfaglione replied that Ms. Vines started this meeting by saying that she has put up an enclosure on her property. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if that works and can cats not climb a fence. Ms. Vines commented that it is enclosed all the way to the top. It is like having a screened in porch. Trustee Zachary commented if it is a possible solution that it can be done by building an enclosure so that the cats are contained. That way their rescue work can go on and people do not have the cats all over their property. Ms. Cianfaglione commented that Ms. Vines just put it up within the last couple of days. There should not be cats all over the place. Trustee Zachary commented that might indicate a direction that the Board might go in. Ms. Cianfaglione

commented that Ms. Vines mentioned in the beginning of the meeting that she had put up the enclosure and that there are other cats in the neighborhood that are not hers.

Cindy Dollinger, *[address not given]* feeds a colony of cats. She commented that it so happens that they do not like other cats so they have their own little containers that they run to to eat from when she comes to feed them. She commented that where she lives, 4 years ago they complained that she was feeding a couple of cats at the dumpster. She went down a hill and through the woods. She commented that she was a way in the woods because she was not giving up feeding them. She is presently feeding 9 cats with the help of Susan Haywood. Ms. Dollinger thinks it is unbelievable that Ms. Haywood has been doing it for 30 years. Where Ms. Dollinger lives she cannot bring a feral into her place. She would trap the cat on a Sunday and bring it to Ms. Haywood who would bring it to the SPCA Briarcliff. They would be tested for FIV, feline AIDS and feline leukemia which she noted humans cannot catch. It is just between felines. If they were sick, they were put down. They got rabies shots and got fixed. They got other preventative shots. They had 2 days of recovery. Ms. Dollinger would pick them up on Tuesday. She commented that if she had not done that over the past 3 years there would have been 50 cats. Once a kitten is born in 6 months a female is fertile. She may have 5 babies and then that litter has babies. She commented that we are talking about between 3 or 4 years. She commented so that colony has been kept down. She understands that Ms. Vines has this new enclosure. She commented that it is so different between cats and dogs. If you do not have your dog on a leash, you are going to get fined. She remarked who walks a cat on a leash? As a rule it is not done. An animal that has gone out is usually very discrete about where they go to the bathroom. She commented that raccoons and deer leave pellets all over. They do not use any discretion. She thinks that if there is going to be an enclosure, she does not see where the problem lies. She commented that you cannot control where the raccoons, cats, squirrels or deer poop. She commented who is to say that is your cat that did that. It could be anyone's because some people do not get their cats fixed. A male cat could wander way over a mile, especially when a female is in heat. Two male cats who are not fixed fight like the Dickens. They howl. They are real scrappers. Cats that are fixed tend to stay in the same area. Ferals are usually in a colony and they stay in that group. They may be independent where they may go but they feed at the one spot. She commented to decipher that it was "that cat" that pooped or came onto your yard, or somebody else's cat from 4 blocks away or wherever, is difficult to do. She commented that everyone is a volunteer. She cannot foster. Not everyone can. She commented that she lives in a rental and where she is they would flip if she were to foster cats. She helps in other ways. Not everybody owns a home. She commented that she is not going to lose her home. There are other ways of helping. As she sees it, the problem is being solved with the enclosure. If there are other cats around, there is nothing you can do.

Carol [*Thanes ?*], *[address not given]*, commented that she used to be a property owner here in Buchanan. She commented do we really hear what is being said here. A colony of cats in a

residential area, 30 cats. She remarked is she losing her mind? She commented how many children need to be adopted in this United States and we have people in a residential area with a colony of cats. It is bizarre to her. She commented that she loves animals. She had dogs. Her husband is allergic to cats. But to be speaking here about a colony of cats and letting them run loose is not acceptable in her opinion. She hopes it is not acceptable to the Board as well.

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that if everyone has spoken for the first time she will try to allow 3 minute rebuttals which we do not ordinarily do.

Ms. Vines commented that first of all she does not have a colony of 30 cats. There are 8 that are in the colony. She has others that rotate through PetSmart and they are adopted. She does not think that it should make any difference to anybody if she has 15 8-12 year old babies in her living room in pup tents and cages. They get adopted and they rotate through her house. She does not think that it should make any difference to anybody if it is a residential area or any other place. It is her house. She pays her taxes. She commented that the un-adoptables and those deemed able to go to PetSmart are rotated through PetSmart. Those 8 that the SPCA advised her were no problem because they are treated like raccoons, are in the enclosure. They are able to go in and out of her basement and go outside. She commented that as far as coyotes killing cats, every single one of her cats are accounted for and she has paperwork for every single one of them. As far as what Ms. Fleming said about Facebook, Ms. Vines commented that she knows nothing about Facebook. She does not do it and she does not see it. That has nothing to do with her. She commented that she works very hard in her house trying to take care of these cats and kittens to get them adopted. She does not feel that it should be anybody's business what is going on in her house or how many cat crates she is carrying in and out of her house. She works very hard for the animals. She has the enclosure. They should not see her cats out and about on the street. She feels that she has worked to solve the problem.

Ms. Fleming quoted from the Facebook page where somebody named Harmony wrote "So Barbara gave you the name to post on this site and you just followed instructions." She quoted the response from Recycle Paws For Love which said, "Yes, she is the president of our group." Ms. Fleming commented that they go on to demean her, thinking that she is the Harmony person. She commented that it goes on and on and on. Ms. Fleming commented that she is trying to say that she is doing, she is the president, she tried to take your name off but things went right back to the way they were before. Ms. Fleming commented that it is not her who is Harmony. She noted that she has it on paper so if Ms. Vines needs to see a copy she can look at it. She noted that they took it down from Facebook. She commented that it says that Ms. Vines gave Ms. Fleming's name and said to put it on Facebook. Ms. Fleming commented that she has been completely discreet with the problems she has had with her neighbor. She commented that there is plenty of other stuff that she could go public about. She chose to give them respect. She respects Mr. Mevec for being a judge. She respects Ms. Vines for being a teacher. She

commented that she would never go public and bring all of her accusations for the world to see. She has given every respect she could. She commented that she said please change the look of her house. No matter what, her mother comes before cats. She commented that her mother has the right to sit on her front porch. Ms. Fleming has had pets. She is allergic. Her son is allergic. She cannot have them on her property any more. When she asked Ms. Vines to have an enclosure she commented that the response was that that was not going to happen. Ms. Fleming feels that she is working as hard as she can to keep peace. Now she is being attacked in every way. She commented that there is not going to be peace right now. She cannot live this way.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that somehow we have to figure out how to resolve this because it is escalating. Trustee Zachary suggested adjourning the meeting since we have to discuss this further. We can continue the Public Hearing at the next Board meeting. The Mayor commented that it is agreeable to her. We will be discussing it at our next Workshop. She explained that the public can comment at that time. The Board discusses these issues at the Workshop. We talk about what is going on, what we would like to see changed and what we would like to happen. When we are finished our discussions we ask for comments. Everyone is welcome to come to the Workshop and the December Village Board meetings.

Kevin Mevec addressed Trustee Zachary noting that he talked about putting them in a commercial area. Trustee Zachary noted that he was describing what he was used to seeing. Mr. Mevec commented that if you take a cat and stick it in a crate and stick it in a commercial with other cats, they make so much noise that you cannot adopt them out because the cat is not giving its natural personality. It might be scared or it might be timid. He commented who would want that. If the cat is scared when you go to pet it, it might scratch you. When you put them in the foster home, they open up more. He commented that he has seen it a thousand times. This year he took in a dog that was 5 years old. It never had a name. It did not know how to drink water out of a bowl. He commented that for 5 years, she was a number, a USDA tag. He does not have a dog. His died a couple of months ago. It broke his heart. He commented that is why you foster an animal. He commented that he dropped one off last night and cried his eyes out, and he had only fostered it for 2 days. He commented that when they are in a home setting, it is easier to get the cats and dogs out. He commented that when you are going to adopt a cat or a dog, you are going to bring your child with you. You do not want your child to put their hand on the cat and have it scratched because there are 300 cats in there screaming and yelling. He commented that they get very defensive. Trustee Zachary commented that what we really have is a containment issue. Mr. Mevec commented that he does not understand too much about dogs and cats but domestic animals, he understands.

Ms. Pyrch commented that she knows that this group does good but she does not need to be solicited to join their group to do what they do. She has had Girl Scout troops for the past 12 years who have donated to the SPCA. Their awareness of the needs of cats and dogs without

homes has been made. They are aware of it and have learned valuable lessons. She does not need to be solicited with her neighbors to do it. She has one cat that they love. They adopted her from the SPCA. She wanted to clarify that cats that are not neutered give off a stronger odor in their urine. But cats that are neutered still have a strong ammonia smell. She commented that only 10% keep that strong smell. She commented that if you have ever kept a litter box, you will know what she is talking about. She commented that you cannot say there is no smell. There is a strong one. It is a deposit that is so noticeable outside, from neutered cats as well. She commented if anybody wants to come by her porch and have a sniff, they are welcome to.

A lady in the audience responded that Ms. Pyrch said earlier that she let her cat out.

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that this is why we have to stop at this time. Emotions are running high and we are not finished with this. She announced that the November Workshop is on the fourth Tuesday which is November 22. The Board has gotten a lot of information. We have heard from both sides. She advised that we will be talking about it, looking at what is here, and come to some type of conclusion. She commented that hopefully we will somehow keep the neighborhood in peace and find some type of resolution that everybody can live with. She thanked everyone for coming.

At 8:59 PM a MOTION to continue this Public Hearing at the next Village Board meeting was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor and Trustee Jackson absent.

Mayor Knickerbocker called for a brief intermission. At 9:07 PM, Mayor Knickerbocker called the meeting back to order.

**d. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW 3 OF 2016 AMENDING CHAPTER 53 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.**

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that this Resolution will be held over until the next Village Board meeting.

**e. PUBLIC HEARING AMENDING CHAPTER 189 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.**

At 9:09 AM a MOTION to open this Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor with Trustee Jackson absent.

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that this is to change the off the street parking ordinance to December 1 to April 1. Trustee Zachary noted that we are cutting off 2 weeks at each end. The

Mayor commented that hopefully this will not work against us this year. The reason why we do the off street parking is that it allows the Highway Department to plow curb to curb. We usually do not see a lot of snow until the December time frame. She noted that other communities around us do December 1 to April 1. Trustee Zachary commented that snow at that time of the year tends to melt quickly.

Mayor Knickerbocker asked for comments to this proposed change. There were none.

At 9:10 PM a MOTION to close this Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Trustee Jackson absent.

**f. 16-55 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW 4 OF 2016 AMENDING CHAPTER 189 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.**

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

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

**g. 16-56 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH WESTCHESTER COUNTY FOR ADVERTISING AT THE BUS SHELTERS.**

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

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that we do get money for our bus shelter across from the Post Office. We get a percentage from the County. Last year we received \$1,197. Village Attorney Porteus advised that if there is another project that is eventually built, we will be getting another bus shelter. Trustee Funchion wanted to know what we have to do to maintain this and if we put up the advertising ourselves. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that they contract it out. They also have somebody who cleans the windows. We do nothing and collect \$1200. Trustee Zachary noted that we did this 5 years ago. They gave us an option if we feel there are any additional bus shelters needed. He does not know where all the bus shelters are but if we feel that we need any additional bus shelters at any of the stops, we could request that. He did not know of any.

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

**h. 16-57 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH WESTCHESTER COUNTY FOR THE STOP DWI PROGRAM.**

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

Mayor Knickerbocker asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak on this. There were no comments. The Mayor noted that as Trustee Funchion read there will be money that the Police Department can use to set up DWI check points. She thanked the Police Chief for looking into that and getting us the money. He will be setting that up with his officers. Eileen Absenger, Tate Avenue, wanted to know if anybody knew how many tickets were given out in the Village for DWI. Police Chief Tubbs advised that he would have to look that up. Trustee Funchion wanted to know if this involved people texting while driving. The Police Chief advised that it did not. It is just alcohol or drugs. Trustee Zachary noted that we also did this within the last 5 years.

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

**i. 16-58 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.**

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

Mayor Knickerbocker noted that Trustees Funchion and Pasquale have been involved right from the beginning and have spent a lot of time. She thanked them for doing that and asked if they had any comments.

Trustee Funchion was very happy that we got the whole thing done without hard feelings between the community, the Police Benevolent Association and the Village Board. He feels that it came out very well. There was a lot of back and forth. He commented that it is typical of labor-management negotiations. He commented that this one went a little harder than he expected but we got it done. He thanked Police Chief Tubbs for participating so well and for his advice during the contract negotiations. His input was important. Trustee Pasquale commented that it was amazing. He commented that being a retired police officer and sitting on the other end of this was such an eye opening experience. He thanked Trustee Funchion for involving him in this. He is also glad that we came to an agreement. He thinks that it is a very fair contract. He hopes that the Police Chief and police officers are happy with it. The Buchanan Police Department does a wonderful job. Trustee Zachary commented that it was a lot of work and thanked Trustees Funchion and Pasquale.

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

**j. 16-59 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SEASONAL PERSONNEL.**

Trustee Pasquale 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 Jackson absent.

**k. 16-60 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF CORTLANDT FOR USE OF THE NORTHERN TIER TRANSFER STATION.**

Trustee Pasquale 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 Jackson absent.

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

- a) Justice Court Report – September 2016  
Received and filed.
- b) Planning Board Minutes – September 15, 2016  
Received and filed.
- c) Zoning Board Minutes – March 16, 2016  
Received and filed.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know why we are getting these March minutes now. Village Attorney Porteus explained that there were no meetings. The Chairman called this meeting just to get these minutes approved.

- d) Police Reports – September 2016  
Received and filed.
- e) Attorney's Report:

Village Attorney Porteus reported that she had nothing to report at this time. Trustee Zachary asked about the draft of the Code for the trailers. Village Attorney Porteus asked the Board to review the draft for the next Workshop. She advised that she incorporated what was talked about. There are some questions for the Board. The Mayor advised that the Workshop is on the fourth Tuesday of the month, November 22.

f) Administrator's Report:

Village Administrator Hay reported that paving work started today. The curb work had already begun and will continue as long as the weather holds out which we expect will be for another 2 weeks. We will try to squeeze in all the curb work. The milling of Tate Avenue started today. They expect that will take a week and a half to finish.

The Administrator reported that the work on the ball field started a couple days ago and is moving forward.

The Administrator reported that the soffit work on the Village Hall is expected to start in 2 weeks. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that we have talked about and approved that but the jury is still out on the color of the soffits, white or earth tone. The Administrator Hay advised that brown is readily available. It is up to Board if we want to keep it the same color as the windows or white. There are two samples downstairs.

Trustee Zachary asked for an update on the bids for the water pit. The Administrator advised that the Village Engineer has not heard from the DEC on the recommendation of whether it was a good price or an accurate price. There are certain things that the DEC will be pitching in money for. They will be paying for the meter. The Administrator believes it will probably have to re-bid at some point. Mayor Knickerbocker wants to get this done sooner than later.

g) Mayor's Report:

Mayor Knickerbocker said that she would like to apologize for raising her voice during the Public Hearing on cats. Emotions were running high and she saw some things going on in the room and thought there might be a fight. So she yelled to get their attention to stop it. She apologized. Emotions were running high but she thinks that the meeting ended calmly. We are trying to get all the information so the Board can make a decision.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that there were over 50 kids and the parents dressed up at the Halloween parade in the Village last Saturday. We had a beautiful day. She thanked the Fire Department and Police Department who did a great job on Halloween evening. Each year they

come out and make sure that the kids are safe and that there are no problems. They did a great job as always.

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that the Veteran's Day ceremony will be on November 11 at 12:30 PM at the Muriel Morabito Center in Cortlandt Manor. She encouraged everyone to please come out and thank our Veterans for everything they do.

h) Trustee's Reports:

Trustee Funchion had a comment about the on-going trailer situation. He was reading it over today where it prohibits parking a trailer in the front lawn or yard. He sees a problem because some people's front lawns are not front, they are to the side. He does not know if we are going to get really specific about what is considered a front. He noted that he is on a corner lot and his back yard faces his neighbor's side. Village Attorney Porteus advised that he has two front yards. Trustee Funchion just wanted the Board to take that into account when reading it over. Trustee Zachary commented that a question is sometimes a driveway is the side of your front yard. He advised that in terms of zoning the driveway is considered part of your front yard. He commented that in zoning the setbacks is referred to as front yard and yet with the driveway we may want to distinguish that because at the side of the front yard may be your driveway.

Trustee Funchion reminded everybody to come out and vote a week from today. He commented that the one thing we have to remember is that as a democratic, industrialized nation we are one of the worst for voter turnout. He is always proud to say that Buchanan goes contrary to that. We have a much higher turnout than the national average, even for local elections.

Trustee Funchion complimented Mayor Knickerbocker for how she handled the meeting. He thinks that she stopped something that could have gotten really out of hand. He commented that it was only right to bring it back and have a better discussion about what was going on.

Trustee Funchion hopes to be at the Veteran's Day event on the November 11 at the Muriel Morabito Center. He wished everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Trustee Zachary had nothing to report.

Trustee Pasquale apologized for not being at the Village Board meeting last month. He was not feeling well. He was not able to mention his condolences about Don Zern.

Trustee Pasquale wished everyone a happy Veteran's Day and to never forget our Veterans. He reminded people to come out and vote on Election Day. He wished everyone a very Happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

**6. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Eileen Absenger, 138 Tate Avenue, wanted people to know that in the League of Women Voter's flyer Assemblywoman Sandy Galef is not listed for Buchanan. State Senator Murphy is listed for Buchanan but Assemblywoman Galef is listed for the Town of Cortlandt. Ms. Absenger noted that it does not have any villages so people who are voting in the Village for the first time might not know who Assemblywoman Galef represents. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that she has represented this area for many years.

Ms. Absenger commented that she spoke to the fellow doing the milling. He was very cordial, polite and helpful. He asked if everything was okay. She commented that she tried to pinpoint him. He knew that the milling would be done today. He told her that they would be milling both sides and then they will blacktop. Ms. Absenger wanted to know who is doing the other side of the street and if it was the Village. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that they will be doing the whole street. Ms. Absenger wanted to know if they are paying for the whole street or only the part that they upheaved. Trustee Zachary advised that they are independent of Con Edison. Con Ed is paying for one side. The Mayor advised that this company is doing the whole thing. The Board decided to do Tate Avenue because we had the money and it would be stupid to just do half the road. She advised that if Ms. Absenger had any problems or questions to contact the Village Administrator. She is hoping that everything is resolved.

Reed Outhouse, 241 Westchester Avenue, commented that he has no knowledge of what the circumstances are but if we are going to do hiring and appointments of employees in the Village he thinks that we should always give preference to Village residents. He commented that was not done tonight with the seasonal hiring. His son put in for it. Mr. Outhouse commented that he knows that other people put in for it and that is fine. But he thinks that we should always give preference to Village residents. He does not know the circumstances but he always got the impression that it was done that way. He thinks it should be a primary condition in the future.

**7. BOARD MEMBER REBUTTALS:**

None

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

At 9:36 PM a MOTION to close the meeting was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor and Trustee Jackson absent.