

Mayor & Board of Trustees
Village Board Meeting
August 1, 2017

PRESENT:

Trustees Richard A. Funchion, Duane M. Jackson, Cesare Pasquale and Nicolas Zachary
Village Administrator Kevin Hay
Village Attorney Stephanie V. Porteus
Village Board Secretary Susan F. Matthews
Highway Foreman Bobby Wheeler

ABSENT:

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Deputy Mayor Funchion called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. He led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and informed them of the fire regulations.

Deputy Mayor Funchion announced that Mayor Knickerbocker is at home recovering from surgery and will not be with us tonight.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION:

Deputy Mayor Funchion read a letter from a resident praising the work of Officers Budde and Farrell of the Buchanan Police Department (*copy attached*). Deputy Mayor Funchion said that it is always nice to get a letter of compliment like this. He felt the same way about all of our police officers.

2. APPROVE MINUTES:

April 3, 2017 Budget Workshop: A MOTION to approve these minutes as read was made by Trustee Zachary, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

April 10, 2017 Budget Hearing: A MOTION to approve these minutes as read was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

July 5, 2017 Regular Board Meeting: A MOTION to approve these minutes as read was made by Trustee Zachary, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

CHANGE TO AGENDA:

Deputy Mayor Funchion announced that items (c) and (d) have been removed from the agenda.

Village Attorney Porteus advised that this was just to increase the fees and penalties for animal nuisances. The Local Law was done several months ago when the cat issue came before this Board. It was sent for publication in the Code but it does not appear. It has been resent to the publisher. Tonight was not for anything except penalties.

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

Henry Gallagher, 228 Rockledge Avenue, asked why his cat has to have a leash on it. It has a pet door into his house and comes and goes as it wants. Trustee Jackson asked why he was being told that the cats had to have a leash. Mr. Gallagher advised that was what he was told. Deputy Mayor Funchion advised that there is no regulation requiring cats to have a leash. He explained that there were two neighbors who had a disagreement about cats. He believes the problem was resolved to their satisfaction. Mr. Gallagher commented that his cat has its own door that he paid a couple hundred dollars for. He never puts a leash on the cat and never heard of anyone doing that. He commented that if we are worried about cats, we have three nuclear plants with spent fuel rods that we should be worrying about. He has lived in this Village for 66 years. Deputy Mayor Funchion advised that Mr. Gallagher had been given incorrect information. This Resolution talked about fees. For example if somebody has a dog and it barks all day long, it is a nuisance situation and the police would come and talk to the people. Those fees are fines for a violation. This will make them more equal to all the other ones in Westchester County. It has nothing to do with the subject Mr. Gallaher was referring to. Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that we are beyond that. The parties were satisfied with the resolution of their issue. He commented that he could not account for people gossiping.

Trustee Zachary referred to Mr. Gallagher's comments on Indian Point. He appreciates what Mr. Gallagher was saying but that is a separate issue. We do not have any legal control over the storage of nuclear waste. Mr. Gallagher feels that we should. Trustee Zachary commented that we can make our opinions known. Mr. Gallagher commented that he was in the construction business for 50 years and he never worked over at Indian Point for that reason. He feels that it has to be looked at. He commented that Governor Cuomo is giving several million dollars to 2 nuclear plants that are not even operational. Deputy Mayor Funchion advised that if Mr. Gallagher wanted to wait, there is a portion of the meeting when he can comment on any subject. Right now we have to proceed with the agenda. He thinks that we have answered Mr. Gallagher's question and thanked him for his comments.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a) PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 211 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

At 7:42 PM a MOTION to open the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Zachary, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

Deputy Mayor Funchion advised that this was an issue about trailer parks. Village Attorney Porteus explained that as part of our Code we allow mobile homes and mobile home parks by special permit. What we are doing is increasing the minimum lot size, width and entire lot size. You can still have them but you have to have 10,000 square feet. The intention is to not have them built one on top of another. Trustee Zachary commented that this came about from the Comprehensive Plan Committee after looking at current zoning. Mobile home parks are allowed by special use permit in the C1 Zone. That is basically the Route 9A corridor. If anything is left to be developed, the committee we would rather see other types of development. They do not want to see that any more on Route 9A. The intent was to eliminate that but legally we cannot. So in order to control it, we are specifying the required lot size to discourage it.

The Deputy Mayor asked for comments from the floor. There were none.

At 7:45 PM a MOTION to close the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Zachary, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

b) 17-40 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2017 AMENDING CHAPTER 211 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

Deputy Mayor Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

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

c) PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 59 OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

This item was deleted from the agenda.

d) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2017 AMENDING CHAPTER 59 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

This item was deleted from the agenda.

e) PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED INSTALLTION OF “NO THRU TRUCK TRAFFIC” SIGNS.

At 7:48 PM a MOTION to open the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that most of the residents of Buchanan have seen truck drivers who are not making deliveries in the Village using our streets as a corridor to move around. He thinks that most residents are not too much in favor of these huge trucks going up and down our streets not to mention that they have also impacted our roadways, requiring them to be repaired more often.

Trustee Zachary thinks this is a great idea. He commented that we do not want to be a short cut at the expense of noise and wear and tear of our roads. The Route 9A corridor is a State road. Trucks can come in from Louisa Street if they are going toward the area of Broadway or Bleakley Avenue. There are other routes. Tractor-trailers should not be coming across Tate or Bleakley Avenues if they are not directly doing business in the Village.

Deputy Mayor Funchion asked for any comments from the floor.

Henry Gallagher, 228 Rockledge Avenue, would like the Board to add Rockledge Avenue. He commented that there are a lot of trucks coming up and down that street. He also feels that all commercial vehicles should not be parked in their driveways. He commented that when he went through the Village earlier this evening there were a lot of commercial vehicles in the driveways. That is already a law. Deputy Mayor Funchion advised that we are looking into that. Mr. Gallagher commented that there are a lot of Franzozo Contracting trucks.

Reed Outhouse, 241 Westchester Avenue, commented that this seems pretty general to him. He asked if we are putting these signs on every street in the Village or on specific thoroughfares. The Village Attorney advised it will be Westchester, Tate and Bleakley Avenues. Trustee Zachary advised it is the main streets that cut across the Village. Mr. Outhouse commented that his biggest concern is whether the Village has done any traffic study. He asked how we are going to place them and where we are going to put them. He commented that government is great but whenever government comes and tells him that they are going to help, he first wants to know what will be the effect on him. He commented that before we put up the signs he wants to know the logistics of where they will be put. He agrees that the intersection of Tate Avenue and Kings Ferry Road where Deputy Mayor Funchion lives is a dangerous intersection. He commented that if there were a sign saying no

trucks on Tate Avenue and a truck came up over that hill on Kings Ferry Road, they would not see that sign until they made the turn. Then you would have a dangerous situation with a truck in the middle of the road on that hump. He suggested that before we do this to first find out where it would be done and then do it smartly. He wanted to know how big these signs have to be. Are they going to block visibility to the left or right? He commented that if a tractor-trailer made a turn onto a road and it was too late to see the sign, now you have a truck backing out. He suggested doing an informal study with our Police Department instead of having to hire a traffic consultant.

Trustee Zachary advised that State law specifies the size of the print on the sign. Mr. Outhouse commented that a good example is the intersection between Kings Ferry Road and Tate Avenue. There are already signs there across the street along the guard rail. That is a critical area. He sees what goes on in the Town of Cortlandt and other municipalities. When they put signs up and they change things, they study it and see the effects. He commented to not jump the gun. Trustee Zachary commented that you may need two so you can see in either direction.

Mr. Outhouse commented that as a resident everybody has different thresholds and tolerances. He lives on Westchester Avenue, one of the busiest roads in the Village. He does not see a truck problem there. He knows it gets trucks including municipal and Town of Cortlandt trucks. The other thing is that if we are going to be doing that on Westchester Avenue, we will be putting a sign at the Town of Cortlandt line. So when a truck travelling down Westchester Avenue hits the Buchanan line where the sign is, what does he do? Does he go up to the B/V School to turn around so that he does not get a ticket? Mr. Outhouse thinks that it is a lot to just say that we are going to put these signs up all over the Village. His personal opinion is that the worst truck traffic was when the Town of Cortlandt did the Lake Meahagh project. There were 10 wheeled dump trucks going up and down Westchester Avenue for months starting at 6:30 in the morning and at 6 AM on Saturdays. He commented that people brought it up and nobody did anything. If you have a house being built or a project going on you are obviously going to see trucks. Trustee Zachary advised that this will not apply if you are doing business in the Village. This is for people using it as a thoroughfare. We do not want to stop delivery trucks. He believes that municipal vehicles engaged in work are exempt. Mr. Outhouse commented that he is constantly aware of the traffic around his house. He reiterated that he does not see an unusual amount of truck traffic. He cited examples of the trucks currently using that road that would have to reroute themselves. Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that maybe Westchester Avenue should be removed from the list. Trustee Jackson commented that we may be confusing 18-wheelers with trucks making deliveries like a mail truck or a furniture store truck or a UPS truck.

Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that this resolution is a quality of life issue. Truck drivers in this area do use Tate Avenue to travel from Kings Ferry Road to Route 9A. It is constant. Even the people building the new houses across from the library go down Tate Avenue. He referred to Mr. Gallagher's comments about trucks going down other streets in the Village. Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that what this Board is trying to accomplish in the past couple of months is to bring back the quality of life in Buchanan and not let it get out of hand. We do not want the Village to become a place where people store trucks and drive trucks through. He commented that he has lived here for close to 40 years. He commented that the whole exit on Louisa Street was built so that the community would not have to listen to the trucks going through. He understands what Mr. Outhouse is saying about where to place the signs and agrees that could be an issue. But he does not think that placing signs is. He commented that he lives on an intersection and sees too many things. There is a blind person who lives across the street from him. The issue at Kings Ferry Road and Tate Avenue is that there is dual coverage, the Town of Cortlandt on one side of the street and the Village of Buchanan is on the other. It is not just trucks there. It is also motorcycles and people speeding and in his experience people who do not bother with mufflers. He knows people in the Village who ride around on their motorcycles without any mufflers, especially in the evening when you want to sit on your porch and relax. He commented that it is heard all over the Village. He thinks that is where this is emanating from. Deputy Mayor Funchion wanted to know if the Board thinks that Westchester Avenue should be included.

Trustee Zachary suggested that we think of an alternative to this. This is for no through traffic on any Village street because we do not want as a result of putting a sign up for example on Tate Avenue the trucks going over to Bannan Avenue and then out Seward Street and Rockledge Avenues. He commented that it is like water when you put up a dam. It takes the next shortest route. He thinks that maybe we should consider no through traffic on any Village road except when there is local business involved. If a business is in the Village obviously their trucks have to get in and out. If they are making a delivery or working on a house, they have to get through.

Village Attorney Porteus advised if we are going to do that then we are going to need a truck route that is clear. She advised that you cannot stop a truck from coming if they cannot get from point "a" to point "b". She advised that we brought this up 5 or 6 years ago. It was expensive to do a study. She commented that Mr. Outhouse made a good point about Westchester Avenue. We need a truck route, especially if we are going to make a blanket on any Village street.

Mr. Outhouse commented that there are different designations of trucks. One is by weight. He noted that on Bleakley Avenue it says no semi-trailers. He commented that you may get a mail box truck with 6 wheels or a dump truck and will not go if you do 10,000 pounds or 5

tons. He commented that if you do 10,000 lbs. or 5 tons, that limits it as well. He does not know the regulations. Trustee Pasquale agrees that weight limit is a good way to go.

Trustee Zachary asked if we could designate Kings Ferry Road to Route 9A. The Village Attorney advised to talk to the planner or Village Engineer. We cannot stop all trucks from using Village roads. She commented that we can do it on some roads but as was noted, they will just go down others. Deputy Mayor Funchion thinks that everyone agrees that Tate Avenue is the main street going through our Village. He commented that the situation with Bleakley Avenue was that there were a lot of complaints. That entrance and exit on Louisa Street was built specifically so that people would not go down Bleakley Avenue.

Deputy Mayor Funchion has no problem if the Board wants to table this and discuss it further. The Board members agreed. Deputy Mayor Funchion directed this tabled to the Workshop. The Public Hearing will be held open.

A MOTION to adjourn the Public Hearing to the next Village Board meeting was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.

f) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION OF “NO THRU TRUCK TRAFFIC” SIGNS.

To be held over until the Public Hearing is closed.

g) 17-41 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AND AMENDMENT TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR.

Deputy Mayor Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Deputy Mayor Funchion advised that the Village Board has to vote on the contract that we have for the Village Administrator so that it is in line with other Administrators' pay and reimbursement. He commented that we are very fortunate to have Kevin Hay as our Administrator. The Deputy Mayor noted that our Administrator also does the Village Clerk's job. He commented that everyone on the Village Board enjoys working with Kevin Hay. Trustee Zachary commented that the Board discussed this and everybody felt that we want to have Village Administrator Hay continue with us, so we agreed to what we thought were reasonable numbers.

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

h) 17-42 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE WATER RATES OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

Deputy Mayor Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Village Administrator Hay advised that the last time we adopted a change was 2013. Since that time the rates at which we purchase water have gone up 25%. Last year in our Water Fund we lost over \$200,000 partially due to a water main break which has since been repaired. It was also due to the increase in rates. He advised that we ran some numbers. This should help us get the Water Fund back to a healthy level. The increase for the average resident's 6 month bill will be around \$30. Trustee Zachary noted that our purchase rate has increased 25% but this increase is only about 10%. He wanted to know if we are covering our costs. The Administrator advised that we will be. It is a balance of what we think that we lost in the water main break plus when we looked at this increase it will bring in about \$20,000 more. Our larger users like Continental Buchanan and Entergy and certain other businesses use the majority of the water. It will cover the losses that we are having. Trustee Jackson wanted to know how often the purchase rate changes. The Administrator advised that it is yearly. We can change the rates yearly or if we feel we are not covering the cost.

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

i) 17-43 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A BID FOR A 1983 JEEP.

Deputy Mayor Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

He commented that 34 years is a long time to keep a vehicle. We got every ounce of value out of this one.

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

j) 17-44 RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 211 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

Deputy Mayor Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Village Attorney Porteus advised that there are a lot of changes. The Board has to look at it before the Public Hearing. She commented that we are trying to give our Building Inspector some “bite” on these enforcement issues. He gets complaints about too many people in a dwelling for example but when he asks if he may please come in, they say “no!” This would give him some rights to enter a building. She advised that the biggest change is that before anybody can sell a property, they are going to have to get an updated Certificate of Occupancy (C.O.). That allows the Village to get in there and find things that were done or not done such as Code violations which would affect the safety of the buyer. It gives an opportunity to see what is going on with the property and bring it up to Code. She commented that a lot of municipalities are doing this lately, including Dobbs Ferry, the Town of Cortlandt and City of Peekskill. They require the Building Inspector to come in, do an inspection and give an updated C.O. It also allows the Building Inspector the right of entry after receiving a complaint. The Village Attorney advised that currently the resolution is a draft. The Board was asked to let her know if they have any changes.

Deputy Mayor Funchion feels that this goes to the quality of life. It helps protect the buyer and all of us because if somebody has a problem with their house, it might affect the next door neighbor. He commented that for anyone who has not had any interaction with our Building Inspector, Anthony Conti is an excellent Building Inspector. He is a nice person. He does not put you down. He explains the law. Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that has personally learned so much from him. He is an exemplary employee.

Trustee Zachary commented that that Board has discussed accessory apartments. It is a legally set up situation with required square footage, the owner must occupy the building and the Village has a legal right to annually inspect. Trustee Zachary advised that illegal apartments were one of the concerns that residents noted in the recent survey. He commented that we cannot just barge in to these apartments. We need a reason. If the police are called, or there is a fire or a health situation, if they go in a house they can then report what they see. But we cannot just knock on the door and get carte blanche access. He thinks this local law is a great idea if it gives us the right to go inspect at the time of transfer. Trustee Zachary commented that if the purchase is financed through a bank they require a title search. The Village will then know that house is being transferred. He asked if someone was buying directly from the owner for cash would they be able to bypass this process. The Village Attorney advised that they could. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if they would still need a new C.O. to do the transfer. The Village Attorney advised that according to our Code you do but how would we know. It is an enforcement issue. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if it would be possible in those cases for the Village to see that there was a new owner after the transfer was completed and under this local law would we or would we not have the right to inspect. He asked the Village Attorney if language can be included to cover that. The Village Attorney commented that she recommends to her clients in real estate transactions to pull the

title anyway. Trustee Zachary commented that maybe it is too complicated to include. The Village Attorney advised that we can consider it.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know if we have to modify our Fee Schedule along with this. The Administrator advised that the Board would have to make a change to the Fee Schedule. Trustee Zachary noted that our Fee Schedule is not in the Code Book nor could he find it on the Village web site. The Administrator advised that it is in the Village Clerk's Office. He can put it on the Village web site. Trustee Zachary agreed. He noted that it is not part of the Zoning Book. He commented that it is public information and should be available on the Village web site.

Trustee Funchion directed that we can discuss these questions at the Public Hearing.

The Village Attorney advised that we did pass this by the Building Inspector who felt that it would help him. He likes the way it was written. She asked that the Board give her any comments during the month.

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

k) **17-45 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A JOINT GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE TOWN OF CORTLANDT.**

Deputy Mayor Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*) .

The Administrator advised that this was discussed with the Town. Since we share a waterfront in proximity, with the changes to Entergy and the future changes to the waterfront, we discussed getting together to apply for a joint grant to develop a local waterfront revitalization plan. The \$250,000 will be for consulting services to develop that plan. The Administrator commented that with the consolidated funding application that they have changed it looks good when multiple municipalities are going in together on these grants. We think that it will better our chances of getting this money. There would be no cost to the Village. The Administrator advised that the time that he and the Town of Cortlandt officials put in would count toward our matching 45%. Hopefully we get the grant money and move forward. In response to Trustee Jackson, the Administrator advised that we are looking for \$250,000 for the consultant's cost to put the plan together.

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

1) 17-46 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A STIPULATION BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND THE BUCHANAN POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

Deputy Mayor Funchion read the Resolution (*copy attached*).

Deputy Mayor Funchion noted that he and Trustee Pasquale were involved in the negotiations with the PBA. This is outside of the regular negotiations. Their contract will be up in 2018. He commented that for a police officer, working shifts can get pretty bad. We want to accommodate our police officers in the Village. They will work it out among themselves to be on a steady shift instead of rotating from one week on midnights, then the next on days and the next on a swing shift. He commented that it is a “win/win” for all of us. We like to keep our employees happy. They have been good with us and he thinks it is a good idea. It is something that they wanted and it does not cost the Village any money.

Trustee Pasquale commented that when he was first involved with the Police Department here he did not know that they did not have steady hours and were still doing rotating shifts. He feels that this is so important for them to be able to have the steady tours to allow them to spend more time with their families and to lift their morale. They are all for it. He commented that it is also good for the Village. We will be able to identify with the police officer who does each shift. He commented if for example something comes up on a Monday you know that officer will be back the next day on the same shift and that you can talk to them. He agrees that it is a “win/win”. He is glad that they will be trying it to see if it works for them.

Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that another advantage is that the officer working midnights for example gets to know who is out and about. They know what is normal and who or what does not belong there. Trustee Pasquale agreed that they get a good pulse of the players and how the Village works.

Trustee Jackson wanted to know how they will determine if it was successful after the trial period of 60 days. Deputy Mayor Funchion knows that the PBA voted overwhelmingly for it. After 60 days they will say if they do not like it or if they found a problem. It is up to the individual person. Trustee Pasquale thinks that it is good that they are going to do this on a trial basis. That is rare. He commented that sometimes it is “This is the policy whether you like it or not.” Here they are given the opportunity.

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

5. INFORMATION FROM OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS:

- a) Justice Court Report – June 2017
Received and filed.

The monies received were \$750 and \$7,623. Deputy Mayor Funchion noted that the monies taken in went up. That is good to see. He noted that there is a lot of illegal activity going on with cars. He commented that the glass is half full or half empty.

- b) Police Reports – June 2017
Received and filed.

- c) Attorney's Report:

Village Attorney Porteus reported that she had nothing further for the Board at this time.

- d) Administrator's Report:

Village Administrator Hay gave an update on the White Street property. It has been posted in the newspapers as required by the Code. On the fourth week the Building Inspector and Village Engineer will do their survey and then the Village Attorney takes it to court.

The Administrator reported that the sludge removal bids have gone out. They are due back by August 26. We will have a resolution to adopt the lowest bidder. A Request For Qualifications for energy savings proposal is due back by August 17. We will have time to review those. The Administrator has received a few calls from 3 firms that have shown interest in this. Hopefully they will put together good proposals.

The Administrator reported that we provided in our budget for replacing the Building Inspector's vehicle. New York State has changed the bidding process. They used to have open bidding. Now they have a process where you create mini-bids. He advised that ours is out there for other companies to bid on. We hope to have something within the next 7 days. The police vehicle was an already bid through Westchester County. We will coordinate that purchase and finance them together.

The Administrator reminded that the camp is closing this week. The pool remains open until Labor Day.

The Administrator asked the Board that any notices for the Newsletter be sent in earlier. One of our office staff is on vacation.

Trustee Jackson asked that the process with the White Street property be explained again for the residents. The Administrator advised that there are certain requirements in our Code in order to remove or declare a property as a nuisance. First a Certified Mail letter is sent to try to find any interested owner. If that does not happen it must be posted in 2 newspapers for 4 weeks. Currently it is in the Cortlandt Gazette and the Journal News. We are in week 3 on that. If nobody comes forward, the Building Inspector and Village Engineer do the survey. The Village Attorney then files to declare it a nuisance and we get bids to take it down.

e) Mayor's Report;

Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that it was a quiet month for most of the Board. He asked the Board about having an August Workshop. He noted that there is none scheduled on the calendar in the monthly Newsletter. The date of the Workshop would be August 22. Trustee Pasquale advised that he will be in Florida returning on August 29. Trustee Zachary will be here. Trustee Jackson will be up north. Therefore Deputy Mayor Funchion cancelled the August Workshop. He advised that we do not know at this time when the Mayor is coming back following her surgery. He asked that we all keep her in our thoughts and prayers. It has been a tough recovery for her. We look forward to her coming back.

Deputy Mayor Funchion asked the Board to give the Administrator the information for the residents' survey as quickly as possible. We are trying to develop a survey of our Village residents. The Board will walk the streets in the Village to find out what our residents think the Board should do and how the Village should go with the Entergy situation. He commented that some people say raise the taxes, that it is great and that they love everything here. Other people say that without any remuneration from the State or Entergy, if there is a significant increase in taxes they may be forced to move. The Board wants to get the pulse of the individual people. He would like to Board to have input. He directed them to e-mail the Village Administrator. He commented that the sooner we can get out there the better because this weather is when people are outside. We want to get feedback from people if we have to do certain things and if necessary what services do you feel have to be cut or not cut. He emphasized that he is not saying that we are or will be cutting services. Nothing has happened yet. The Board and especially our Mayor is working very hard. He commented that there are a lot of positive things down the road with Entergy process. One thing he feels very positive about is that the mayor of Zion, Illinois on the border of Illinois and Wisconsin where another Entergy plant was closed wants to get together and demand from the Federal government that we get money for storing all that nuclear fuel. Deputy Mayor Funchion commented that right now we are losing our tax base but we all know what a stigma that is as far as the value of the land.

f) Trustees' Reports

Trustee Pasquale commented that it is important to not listen to rumors. If you have any questions on anything, e-mail the Board and we will get back to you. It makes life easier.

He hears things where people say that they heard this or that. Residents should get in touch with the Board and they will be more than happy to give you the right answers.

Trustee Pasquale gave a “shout out” to Sergeant Mike Guida of the Buchanan Police Department. He came up to 30 years working for law enforcement. Trustee Pasquale was on the job with him for a few years in the NYPD. Sergeant Guida has 25 years in Buchanan and 30 years as a cop. Trustee Pasquale remarked that is like 60 years in the private sector. He thinks that all our police officers are fantastic.

Trustee Jackson commented that summer time is here and kids are out with their bikes. We should all be mindful of that as we do our chores and errands here in the Village. With the camp concluding there may be more kids on the street.

Trustee Jackson said “hats off” to the Fire Department for the work they do. They had a call today. He commented to remember they are all volunteers and to remember what they do on a daily basis to protect the well-being of our community and environment. Make sure to continue supporting them.

Trustee Jackson said to enjoy the rest of the summer.

Trustee Zachary reported that the Comprehensive Plan Committee met in July. They will have their next meeting on the third Tuesday of August at 6:30 PM in the Village Hall.

Trustee Zachary reported on an article in USA Today. He commented that he was out in Oregon on July 7 when it appeared. It was about nuclear plants closing and towns in crisis. If anybody wants to see this, they should go to USATODAY.com and search keyword “nuclear”. He noted that most of those articles in the search have to do with North Korea. This was a very good article. It gives you a broad understanding. They mentioned the town on Lake Michigan with the mayor from the town of Zion and his efforts. There is proposed legislation to get the Federal government to pay \$100 million to the towns that are hosting nuclear waste storage. That would send some money our way and to the Vermont plant that was closed. It talked about how taxes have gone up in a lot of these communities and home values have gone down. Trustee Zachary thinks it is not a one faceted approach. Solving everybody’s problems by doubling everybody’s taxes is not the way it is going to be. It has to be a mixed approach whether it is a combination of business development, Federal aid and some tax increases. He thinks that a lot of things are going to happen. He does not think it is a doomsday scenario partly because we are in Westchester County, New York. This is a very upscale county. He understands that we are not Chappaqua or Bronxville. This is Buchanan. But it is in an area where a lot of people commute to New York City for work. He commented that in some communities where these plants closed it was the only source of high paying jobs. We have an access to much broader economy. He commented that Westchester is great place to live. We have access to a lot of open space on the river that a lot of towns in the lower County do not. There are a lot of great things here and we are part of a larger vibrant economic community stemming from New York City. Trustee

Zachary has commuted to work there for the last 26 years. Personally he does not think that we are going to see that kind of depreciation in home values. He will do everything he can and this Board will do everything to not just make taxes the way out of this. There is a lot of information in this newspaper article.

Trustee Zachary wished everyone a great rest of the summer.

6. BOARD REBUTTALS:

None

7. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Harry Gallagher, 228 Rockledge Avenue, commented that there are 2 streets in the Village that are named after members of his family: William Street and John Street. He would like to see signs put up there. John Street is a little walkway between Catherine and Gallagher Streets. It was named after his uncle. William Street is at the end of Gallagher Street between Catherine and Gallagher Streets. He does not know if it has to go through the Village Board or the Historical Committee to get signs put up. Trustee Zachary asked if they were walkable paths or can a car go through. Mr. Gallagher advised that John Street was made a walkway because of a big rock. The walkway is blacktopped. William Street is just where former Mayor Murray's house is.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Deputy Mayor Funchion thanked everyone for coming and bearing with him. He commented that he is not used to running the meeting. He hopes that Mayor Knickerbocker will be back as soon as possible.

At 8:42 PM a MOTION to adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor and Mayor Knickerbocker absent.