

**Mayor & Board of Trustees
Village Board Meeting
September 5, 2017**

PRESENT:

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker

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

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Knickerbocker called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. She led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and informed them of the fire regulations.

2. APPROVE MINUTES:

January 12, 2017 Special Meeting: Trustee Zachary had a change on page 9, second to last paragraph, line 4: change “but” to “if”. A MOTION to approve these minutes as amended was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

May 23, 2017 Workshop: A MOTION to approve these minutes as read was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

August 1, 2017 Regular Board Meeting: Trustee Zachary had a comment on page 14, line 4. He wanted to clarify to look for articles under “nuclear”. Most of the articles that first show up from the search are about North Korea. Within those search results however is an article that reports on communities who are losing nuclear plants and the tax impact. A MOTION to approve these minutes as amended was made by Trustee Funchion seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

3. PRESENTATION: CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO ERIC QUARATO

Mayor Knickerbocker invited Eric to the podium. She told him what a great job he did decorating the pool building. She asked him what gave him the idea to paint the pool building. He said that he was a lifeguard there. He felt that the pool was not being used as much as it

could be and he wanted to bring attention to it and have people come and use it more. The Mayor commented that the painting grabs your attention and is nicely done. She noted that he is an Eagle Scout and did this as his Eagle Scout project. Eric advised that he finished the project and needs to get signatures from the Boy Scout Council. The Mayor noted that he conceived and organized the project enlisting others to help. She asked how many people worked on it. Eric said that he brought in family, friends, other people from Boy Scout Troop #45 and local artists. Forty two people responded and came to work on it. The Mayor asked for the list of those people. She told Eric's mother Susan that she had a great son. Mayor Knickerbocker then presented him with the Certificate of Appreciation. Photos of this presentation and of the newly decorated pool will be on the Village Facebook page.

Trustee Jackson congratulated Eric and noted that he had been a Boy Scout himself. Mayor Knickerbocker noted that she had been a Girl Scout.

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

None.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

a. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF “NO THRU TRUCK TRAFFIC” SIGNS.

At 7:43 PM a MOTION to Open the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

Trustee Funchion thinks that a couple of comments were made by people at the last meeting which he thinks are important. They asked if we have done any studies, if there is a problem and if indeed there is then where would we put the signs? They indicated that the Board had not thought about it. He commented that we cannot put it inside on Tate Avenue because trucks are already on it. Trustee Funchion commented that as one of the proponents he did not think of that himself. He thinks that somebody who puts up signs would have better knowledge of where to put them and whether or not we could because we would be dealing with the Town of Cortlandt on one end. Another person had brought up that on Westchester Avenue if the truck did not go down and was at the Circle, where would they go from there. Trustee Funchion thinks that there are some issues with this and he would like to hear from the other Board members.

Mayor Knickerbocker advised that we do not need to approve or take a vote on this because more information is needed.

Trustee Zachary commented that he liked it in concept but agrees that it is kind of complicated. He commented that he was looking at a map imagining every direction that truck would be coming from. There are a few that were capped. For example if you are coming down

Broadway from Verplanck, when you reach Bleakley Avenue there could be a sign saying that you cannot turn onto Bleakley along with instructions to proceed on to Louisa Street. He thinks that would work. But if you are coming down Albany Post Road and want to make a right turn onto Bleakley Avenue, if you cannot make that turn where do you go then? He thinks that most likely the truck will find some other Village street, one that no one wants them on, and turn there to get around it. He thinks that even if they followed the longest course that would least disrupt private homes, would they go down to the entrance to Route 9 north and go all the way up to Louisa Street and come back down that way? It would be a big, long, circuitous route or a disturbance to other streets. He thinks that it is a mix of places where a sign would work and they would have another point to go to and turn. For example, if they were coming up Kings Ferry Road from Verplanck and there was a sign prohibiting a turn onto Tate Avenue, they could continue straight to Route 9A. If they were coming down Kings Ferry Road from Montrose, you are stuck with going down into Verplanck and cannot come back out the other way. Trustee Jackson noted that is a Town of Cortlandt road. Trustee Zachary commented that as much as he likes the concept there are complications at every turn. The last thing we want to do is have trucks going down smaller streets to avoid the ones that are posted. So unless someone comes up with a way to make this work, he does not see us being able to do this.

Village Attorney Porteus noted that several years back when Sean Murray was the mayor the same thing came up. What came out of that was that to do this the Board would need to establish a truck route. We would need input from our Village Engineer, what we are doing and some studies because it affects everybody. She commented that when this began it appeared that the Board only wanted to do two local streets but that requires a truck route. She commented that we can do that by getting help to determine what that should be to avoid smaller streets. But it does take some doing.

Trustee Funchion commented that looking at the geography of the area, trucks can go north and south on Route 9A or Broadway. They can go east and west on Kings Ferry Road. So they have their ways. He agrees with Trustee Zachary that maybe it is somewhat circuitous and in retrospect he does not know if there is significant truck traffic. Trustee Pasquale commented that he sees a few trucks on Tate Avenue but not enough to be a concern. His concern is if there is a sign prohibiting trucks from turning onto Tate Avenue, if one misses it and does turn how are they going to turn around and go back? Would they be making U-turns in the library? He asked about enforcement. If our Police Department sees them coming and pulls them over a tractor trailer can sit there for 15 minutes and cause a traffic jam while he is getting a summons.

Mayor Knickerbocker agreed that this needs more work. Trustee Zachary commented that there might be a way to do it. We have to establish a truck route. Or we had discussed a restriction on trucks of a certain size and weight. He commented if a tractor-trailer is coming down Kings Ferry Road how does it even maneuver a right turn onto Tate Avenue. Trustee Funchion commented that it is very difficult. He has seen them go over the curb a lot of times. Trustee

Pasquale commented that they do it. Trustee Zachary would like a sign saying no tractor-trailers or no turns for vehicles over a certain weight or longer than a certain length except for local deliveries.

Trustee Jackson referred to the Village Attorney's comments about this having come up before a past Village Board and asked what they did. She advised that the matter was left unresolved.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know if you have a truck route and it goes to a State road does that mean that we would need the State's approval. The Village Attorney advised that it would be more complicated.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that we have a sign going into Bleakley Avenue. A lot of tractor trailers see it as they are turning and go past it. She noted that she has contacted Continental about this. The trucks miss it and will not take that right turn. They go on to the Village Circle and try to turn around on the Circle. She has caught a few of them and showed them the directions. She commented that Continental has to show them the correct route because GPS takes them right to Bleakley Avenue.

Trustee Funchion commented that one of the problems he has brought up before is one that he does not know who to approach to resolve. There is a sign on Route 9 that says to use the Welcher Avenue/Buchanan exit for Indian Point. He commented that millions of dollars were spent to construct the Louisa Street entrance and exit. He wants that Indian Point sign moved from before the Welcher Avenue exit to after it. He commented that if you are going to Indian Point or anywhere on John Walsh Boulevard you should not be exiting Route 9 at Welcher Avenue. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if it is just an oversight that the sign was not moved after the Louisa Street exit was built. Trustee Funchion believes that is the case. He wants the sign moved. He reiterated that tractor-trailers going to Indian Point should not be getting off at Welcher Avenue. That causes a problem with Bleakley Avenue. They should be getting off at Louisa Street.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that is one of our big problems. There is also an issue with Entergy when they have their outages. Trustee Funchion wanted to know if we have to talk to State Senator Murphy or Assemblywoman Galef concerning moving the sign. The Administrator advised that we have to talk to the NYS DOT. The Mayor commented to look at how long it took us to get the road fixed [on Route 9A] under the railroad bridge. She commented that the State is not easy to deal it. She said that the Administrator will be getting on that and will chase them down.

At 8:54 PM a MOTION to adjourn the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor.

b. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION OF "NO THRU TRUCK TRAFFIC" SIGNS

Held over.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

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

At 7:55 PM a MOTION to open this Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.

Mayor Knickerbocker explained that this law will aid the Building Inspector in doing his job. He can inspect or re-inspect a property. We have had some alleged housing violations. We are hearing things concerning possible overcrowding and we want to nip that in the bud now. This [relates in part] to re-inspection violations and change of ownership. There is more to the law. It is to help the Building Inspector to do his job.

The Mayor asked the Board for questions on this to be directed to our Village Attorney.

Trustee Jackson feels that Item (d) concerning systematic inspections is very broad. He thought that when the Board first talked about this the enforcement would be when there is a change of ownership. It would give the Building Inspector the opportunity to re-inspect. That would be the standard.

Trustee Zachary had the same concern. He commented that he is fine with it if it is legal. The Village Attorney advised that it is legal. She advised that we have to come up with a plan for periodic inspections. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if that would be even if there is no violation reported or complaint. The Village Attorney advised that was correct. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that many other municipalities are doing this including the Town of Cortlandt and City of Peekskill. The Village Attorney commented that we are aware that the Building Inspector will see something or not see something and just go by. It is a problem. People say no to him and to go away. Trustee Zachary commented that as a routine you are not targeting somebody. He asked what is meant by a “target area of inspection”. The Village Attorney advised that is one area at a time that we are going to do, such as the Circle or businesses. Trustee Zachary commented that means it is to break it up into one or more target areas and you are still setting up a plan for periodic inspections. The Village Attorney advised that is correct. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if that includes being allowed entry. The Village Attorney advised that it does. Trustee Jackson wanted to confirm that we are on good legal footing with this language. The Village Attorney advised that we are but we have to develop a plan.

Mayor Knickerbocker asked if the recommendation of the Village Attorney would be to adjourn this Public Hearing. The Village Attorney advised that she thinks a Workshop would have helped. The Mayor asked the Board if they would like to adjourn this at this time to further absorb this and bring the Building Inspector to the Workshop. Trustee Zachary thinks that the

question is if we need to develop the plan before or after that. He asked if we could develop the plan after this. The Village Attorney advised that we could. It might give the Board more of an idea. It is the Board's decision.

Trustee Pasquale wanted to confirm that this would be random; that you would not need probable cause. The Village Attorney advised that is correct. Trustee Pasquale wanted to know if it would be by appointment or just a knock on the door. The Village Attorney advised that part of the plan would be giving notice. It would not be just a knock on the door.

The Mayor thinks that in this the Village Attorney outlined it well by saying that it is "...to safeguard the safety, health and welfare of the public the Building Inspector is authorized to develop and carry out plans for inspection". The Mayor commented that the Board is concerned about the safety and health of the residents in the Village. We have heard about different things and we are going to address them. The Village Attorney commented that the Building Inspector has tried nicely but there is no bite behind his bark. People are saying, "No thank you. Go away" and the buildings continue and you do not know what is inside. That is dangerous.

Trustee Pasquale wanted to know if there will be fines. The Village Attorney advised that there are penalties. She noted that there are penalties in the proposed law. Those that have been changed have been highlighted. She thinks the Board should review that in the Workshop.

Trustee Zachary cited 211.46 (a), number 2 concerning the right of the Building Inspector to enter in cases of emergency. He wanted to know what is considered to be an emergency. The Village Attorney advised a fire, for example.

Trustee Funchion commented that if we are going to discuss this at a Workshop these questions should be raised then. His opinion is to keep it as is. He feels that time is wasting and our Building Inspector needs a right of access. He commented that the Building Inspector is not doing it to go after people. He is doing it for the safety of our residents. He commented that if the Board wants to discuss it further that is fine.

Trustee Zachary agreed. He would be willing to go to a vote right now. For him, the question is to develop the plan. The Village Attorney thinks that it should be discussed at the Workshop.

Trustee Jackson asked if we can get some information on those jurisdictions that have already enacted it. The Village Attorney thinks it would help and she would like to have more discussion.

The Mayor asked for comments from the public.

Eileen Absenger, 238 Tate Avenue, asked if this is going to be part of a reassessment if the Building Inspector finds violations and something has to be changed. The Village Attorney advised that it is not a reassessment. She asked if the Building Inspector finds that instead of a 2 bedroom you have a 4 bedroom/3 bathrooms for example, who assesses that? Trustee Zachary commented that there would be a procedure. You would have to try after the fact to get a C.O.

and approval. If someone had done illegal additions, it might lead to a reassessment. It is not connected to a reassessment for the most part. It is a safety violation. Ms. Absenger commented that “most part” did not mean absolute. The Village Attorney explained that if somebody comes in and gets a building permit and puts on an addition or second floor for example, they get a C.O. and it is assessed then. Ms. Absenger commented that we are talking about the invasion of the Building Inspector into a home for whatever reason. There might be 6 cars outside, for example. He may want to ask why there are 6 cars. Somebody may be watching and happens to see somebody going into the basement and there is an extra car there. She wanted to know if the Building Inspector would be sent there. The Village Attorney advised that he would be sent there now. Ms. Absenger wanted to know if that would only be in response to a complaint or on his own initiative. The Village Attorney advised that it would be both. Ms. Absenger commented that it sounded like “Big Brother” to her. She knows that the Town of Cortlandt is doing it and that the reason for it is safety and the rest of that. The Mayor commented that we are seeing more and more of what Ms. Absenger is describing, such as people coming out of basements and houses potentially being converted into more than one family dwellings. So we want to address that. Ms. Absenger commented that she understands that. She feels the problem is that there are residents who are not doing that or anything wrong. They may feel violated if the Building Inspector comes to their door and says that he wants to look at their house even if they have not done anything wrong. She feels that is a fine line and something that the Board must think about.

Trustee Zachary agreed that is an issue. He noted that as the Village Attorney explained, we cannot just target a house. There has to be a plan. We are looking at potential illegal housing. It is not a reassessment. It is an order to correct. He commented that just because someone has an illegal apartment does not mean that suddenly there is going to be a reassessment. That is a violation. They have to revert to what they have a C.O. for. The Village Attorney noted or get a permit and ask for a new C.O. Trustee Zachary advised then it is a Zoning Board issue. The intent is to have things remedied and corrected to where it should be as opposed to just granting the new space or new apartment and reassessing. The Mayor commented that then it gets into a safety issue if that is happening and there is a split where there is a multi-family house.

Trustee Jackson commented to do it case by case. The Mayor commented that the problem now is that we have to worry about safety. For example, did they use a licensed electrician? It is a huge safety issue. We see things in other communities and the Board is trying to address things here before they blow up. Trustee Zachary commented that along with the illegal apartments there is a lot of illegal work, electrical and plumbing. The Mayor commented that is more of what we are looking to do. We are not looking to harass or hurt anyone. It is to give the Building Inspector a little more leeway to do what he needs to when there is a complaint. Trustee Zachary commented there is a lack of proper egress.

At 8:06 PM a MOTION to adjourn this Public Hearing was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

b. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 5 OF 2017 AMENDING CHAPTER 211 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BUCHANAN.

Held over.

c. 17-47 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION AND TAX REFUND

Trustee Jackson 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.

d. 17-48 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF SEASON PERSONNEL

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

Village Administrator Hay advised that this hiring is done for the leaf season. During the summer season, we had \$9,000 left on the summer help budget line this year. One of the summer help employees did not start until June 18 and two others left early to go back to college. The Highway Foreman asked to bring the Fall seasonal help in early. It was discussed with the Mayor. We had the money in the budget. It brings in the possibility next in October when the leaf season normally kicks up to bring in a third person. We would still have the one extra person to work on other projects. We have catch basins to catch up on and other projects that he could be assigned to.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that this is different. Normally we start bringing people in for the Fall in the middle of October. This is special. We have projects that need to be done. She would like the Trustees to have exactly what projects this will include in their mailboxes on Monday. Catch basins were mentioned and there are other projects, especially since the weather is getting cooler. The Mayor asked if Jerry is currently working on painting of the fire hydrants. The Administrator confirmed that he is.

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

e. 17-49 RESOLUTION AWARDED THE SLUDGE REMOVAL CONTRACT.

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

Mayor Knickerbocker wanted it included that normally we have 3 bidders. This time there was only one. Trustee Zachary wanted to confirm that we are required to have 3 bidders and put this

one out there as required but having gotten only one back still met the requirements. The Village Attorney advised that is correct.

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

f. 17-50 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF A VILLAGE FACILILTY.

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

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

g. 17-51 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS.

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

Trustee Zachary commented that this is a standard thing the Board does.

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

7. INFORMATION FROM OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS:

a) Justice Court Report – July 2017

Received and filed.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that one check was for \$2,677.00 and the other for \$420.00.

b) Police Reports – July 2017

Received and filed.

Mayor Knickerbocker wants to tell people what is going on here and read from the list of monthly calls (*copy attached*). Trustee Zachary wanted to know if “Animal Complaints” were things like coyotes and wild animals in their yards or people complaining about a neighbor’s pet. The Administrator replied that it is probably both but he will find out. Trustee Zachary thinks that “Suspicious Incident” is vague and wanted to know what is included there. He noted 4 “Identity Theft/Fraud”. He wanted to know what that was. The Administrator advised that is when a person called in concerning a phone call they received that may have been a scam.

c) Fire Inspector’s Reports – June-August 2017

Received and filed.

d) Planning Board Minutes – May-June 2017

Received and filed.

e) Attorney's Report

Village Attorney Porteus gave an update on the White Street property. The Mayor noted that this is the house at the corner of Route 9A and White Street. The Village Attorney reported that the Administrator took care of the publications requirements. It was in two newspapers for 4 weeks. The next step is a survey. The Building Inspector and Village Engineer will see that is done. They would invite the owner of the house except we cannot find him. Once the survey is done and they recommend that the house be torn down then the Board authorizes the Village Attorney to make application in State Supreme Court to declare the house a nuisance and have it torn down. Mayor Knickerbocker wanted to know how much longer before we can start that process. The Village Attorney commented that the survey is easy. The Village Engineer did it a few years ago. He just has to go back out there. The house is a mess and dangerous. We are following our own Code requirements in doing that. Other municipalities' Codes do not but ours does and we are following it. The application should be quick and easy. The Mayor asked if it would probably be within the next couple of months. The Village Attorney confirmed that was correct. Trustee Pasquale commented especially when the winter comes because that roof cannot take that much snow before it will fall in. The Village Attorney advised that the court declares it a nuisance and will ask the Village Attorney if the Village wants to repair it. She advised that the cost to demolish it attaches a lien on the land. She noted that we will be the second, third or fourth lien in line. She advised that the asbestos issue is all taken care of. The Mayor commented that the house is in bad shape but within a couple of months it should be coming down.

f) Administrator's Report

Village Administrator Hay reported that the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony will be at the memorial at Croton Point Park on September 11 at 4 PM. They will begin to walk out there at 3:30 PM.

The auditors will be here on September 11. They are usually here for a full week.

Paving is expected to begin this Thursday and Friday on Tate Avenue from the Circle to Third Street, Bleakley Avenue from Greentown Road where the Algonquin pipe line went through and Ketchum Avenue. We are piggybacking on the Town of Cortlandt's paving contract. That is \$235000 worth of paving. We got a very good price for milling and paving.

The Administrator reported that we have received prices for the window treatments and will be going ahead with that. We are doing the whole Village Hall building. It takes one month to order and 2 days to install. Mayor Knickerbocker noted that we are going to be installing solar shades. We are replacing the red curtains that have been here since 1975 or 1976.

The Administrator reported that the RFQ came back and we had only one bidder, Siemens. There are other firms that do that kind of work but only Siemens bid. He will give copies to the Board for their discussion and decision on whether we move forward with accepting their proposal that they come in and start doing their full energy efficiency engineering. Once they come up with that we then decide if we move forward. The Mayor noted that that right now it is not costing the Village anything. The Administrator added even the next phase where they do the engineering on where we would get the energy savings. After they do the whole proposal, we decide if we want to move forward. They guarantee that these energy efficiencies will pay for themselves. At this point it is no cost to us at all.

The Administrator reported that we received a bidding process for vehicles. We got a bid for a 2018 Ford Escape at a price of about \$21,875. There were no 2017 vehicles that matched our specs. This vehicle will be built for us. There is a 6-8 week build out so we will probably have it sometime in November. It will replace the blue one we have here now.

The Administrator reported that everyone should have received a robo-call this evening. The Montrose Improvement District is doing required maintenance on their 16 inch water main out on Route 6 by the Bear Mountain Parkway. The project will go on for about 4 weeks. When the main was originally put in it was not in the Route 6 right-of-way. Route 6 was subsequently widened and the main is now in the roadway. It is 20-25 feet deep. There is damage to that line and they have to replace it. Residents may see some low water pressure. Mayor Knickerbocker explained that we buy our water from two sources, one being the Montrose Improvement District who will be doing this work. The water comes in to a pit on Bannan Avenue and by the high school. We also buy water from the City of Peekskill and that water pit is by the diner on Route 9A. She advised that we worked out with the City of Peekskill to minimize the effect to the Village. If there is a problem, residents should call the Village Hall.

Trustee Zachary asked if the robo-call was done with our Code Red system. The Administrator confirmed that it was. Trustee Zachary commented that the message began saying that it was the Montrose Improvement District. The Administrator noted that the message began "Attention residents" and continued by saying that the Montrose Improvement District supplies water to the

Village. Trustee Zachary commented that when he listened it was not apparent to him that the call was from our system. At the end it said, “call the Village of Buchanan at...”.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know if there are any potential issues as far as fire hydrant pressure.

The Administrator advised that potentially that could be an issue. We are all trying to get as much water as we can get from Peekskill and we have throttled down the Albany Post Road and Bannon Avenue pits. Trustee Zachary wanted to know since they are saying that there could be some reduction in pressure for the next 30 days, could it be monitored based on what they are doing. He commented that they might not have any reduction in pressure for 2 weeks for example, then suddenly one day there is based on what they are doing. He wanted to know if that could be monitored so a robo-call could be made saying that if you lived on [an affected] street that your water pressure might be affected for a certain time period. He wants the message to be more precise. Some people will be affected and some will not. He thinks that the current message is unclear. The Administrator advised that we would rely a lot on Jerry’s daily testing of the water pressure. The Administrator commented that the hardest part will be delivering water to the upper Village. Probably Seward, Cortlandt and Catherine Streets and those areas with the higher elevations will have more potential for low water pressure. Trustee Zachary commented that is all the more reason that he would like to see some way for us to monitor it and

if at any point it is affecting certain streets to put out a robo-call giving more detail and specifics.

The Mayor commented that it is a good thing that it is not the summer time with people watering lawns and filling their pools. They wanted to do this in June which would have been a problem. She agrees with Trustee Zachary’s point concerning the fire hydrants.

g) Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Knickerbocker thanked everyone for their cards, phone calls, Get Well wishes and prayers. She had surgery on July 21 to repair a torn ligament in her right leg. She was in a cast for 2 months. She remarked that was no fun, especially in the summer time. She is on the mend and thanks everyone for thinking of her. The Mayor especially thanked Deputy Mayor Funchion for running the last Village Board meeting. He did a great job. She commented that if she ever has to be out she knows that the Village is in good hands.

The Mayor reported that State Senator Murphy is trying to fill a truck to go to Texas for hurricane relief. We will have a donation box in the lobby of Village Hall. It will be announced on the Village Facebook page. The Mayor commented that people there have lost everything. Among the items being collected are back to school supplies, baby supplies, baby food and

formula, diapers and wipes, personal hygiene items, feminine products, body wipes and hand sanitizers, etc. Anything that people want to donate will be appreciated. If you do not want to donate there, go the Red Cross or Salvation Army web sites. The Salvation Army is also accepting new clothing. The Mayor commented that there by the grace of God go all of us because you never know when a natural disaster might happen. She commented that with all the fighting going on in the country over politics and racial issues, when something like this happens it does not matter who you are. People have come together to support one another. We do not agree on everything but it does not mean that we must be enemies. She noted that there are other organizations taking donations that can be found on-line. The people in Texas need everything. She commented to just imagine that you had to suddenly leave your house and leave everything behind then came back and had to start over with nothing. Trustee Zachary asked that this be posted on the Village web site and our Facebook page. The Mayor directed that to be done. The truck will be going to different municipalities. She noted that it is leaving this Friday night and donations will be accepted through Friday morning. Whatever is given is very much appreciated.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that in the minutes of the last Village Board meeting she saw Trustee Zachary's comments about a recent article in USA Today on the impact of closing nuclear power plants and specifically Zion, Illinois and their Mayor Hill. In June the Mayor went to the Clearwater/LoHud meeting. Mayor Hill was there. Mayor Knickerbocker met and spoke to him.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that people including herself have been having problems seeing the Village Board meetings on their Verizon lines. It is being worked on. The Administrator advised that they called today. They reported that they tried to do some work over the weekend but it is still pixilating. They think that they will have to replace the decoder. The Mayor wanted to know if Optimum was still good. The Administrator advised that we have to replace the decoder there also. Trustee Zachary would like to have our Board meetings put on the Village web site where they can be streamed. The Administrator advised that he spoke with our videographer and that could be done. We have to set up a YouTube channel. It would be linked to the web site. The Administrator advised that if the Board wanted to go ahead with our videographer that he can do it. Trustee Zachary asked about the cost. The Administrator advised that it would be \$50 more per meeting; instead of \$300 per meeting it would be \$350. The Mayor asked for the Board's opinion. Trustee Zachary was in favor.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that Zion, Illinois is just finishing up the decommissioning of the nuclear power plant. They got hit very hard with the closing of their power plant. It was \$20 million. What their mayor and legislators, their Congressional Representatives and Senators are doing is proposing legislation. It is currently being worked on. The Mayor commented that what happened over all these years was that each year the nuclear power plant had to donate millions of dollars to the Department of Energy. They were holding on to that money to find a

place to store the nuclear waste. They had a site out in Nevada that they were looking at. But currently there is nothing. So all the nuclear waste is being stored on site where it was used. We do not want that. The Mayor of Zion does not want that for his site either. They are on Lake Michigan and the waterfront property where the power plant is is very valuable. They are looking to redevelop it but the problem is the storage of the nuclear waste. Legislation is almost finished. It is going to Congress asking for money from the Department of Energy. Everyone is included. They will be having a meeting. Mayor Knickerbocker will attend. She commented that it is not fair for us to keep the storage of this waste. We do not want to get it stored here. What this legislation does is ask the Department of Energy for the money that was supposed to go to Yucca Mountain for storage of the nuclear waste. It will go to every nuclear power plant in the country as compensation for storing that waste because they are de facto storage places. That is in process. The Mayor commented that she and Mayor Hill speak. He believes that legislation will be ready by mid-September. She commented that all the affected municipalities around the country need to get together and support this legislation and really put the pressure on Congress to let go of that money. We hope that eventually they will find a place. Right now there is nothing other than Yucca Mountain and there is trouble with that.

Trustee Zachary commented that it is a major failing of the Federal government. They have been looking at that since the 1970s. He recently saw some documentaries from 40 years ago where they talked about the challenges of Yucca Mountain. It was expressed in the documentary that it was hoped to have it completed by the mid-1980s. It had dragged on and on. Nevada has fought it every step of the way. The way the site was chosen was not by working in conjunction with the state of Nevada. It was shoved down their throats. Trustee Zachary commented that it was not handled right. There is no place to put the waste so every nuclear plant is in that position now. He is glad that the Mayor is working on that. He agrees that is a good tactic. He commented that people have been paying into that fund and getting nothing for it.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that Nevada, New York, it does not matter where. It is "NIMBY...not in my back yard." The whole state is subsidizing the nuclear power plants up in Oswego, NY. She commented that one of our local politicians said something about why could we not ship our nuclear waste up there because they are still active and there is more security. The Mayor commented that the problem is easy to understand. If we were being subsidized here, would we really want more nuclear waste? It is "NIMBY...we do not want more than we already have". So that is not happening. We are working on some things. The Power Through Cortlandt meeting last month was an update on where we are. We are with the Town Task Force meeting will be on September 7. On September 28 we will be back with the State Task Force meeting. We are working on different things with them. The Mayor commented that things are happening, just not fast enough.

Mayor Knickerbocker reminded everyone that September 23 is our annual Buchanan Day. It is always fun. On September 23-24, the Rotary Club Horse Show will be at Blue Mountain Reservation. The money they raise is given to different organizations in our communities.

h. Trustee's Reports:

Trustee Pasquale reported that he was in Florida most of the month. He hopes everybody had a nice summer and good Labor Day. He reminded everyone that school started today. Be mindful of our children and the school buses. The Buchanan Police Department did a little rally to raise awareness for school safety. There are photos on the Village's Facebook page of Police Chief Tubbs and Officer Loertscher who were there.

Trustee Pasquale hopes that everyone will come to Buchanan Day on September 23. He noted that this year there will be a puppy kissing booth.

Trustee Pasquale announced that Village resident George Lonergan just retired after 40 years with the Hendrick Hudson School District working in the high school and as a school bus driver. Trustee Pasquale thanked him for keeping our kids safe while getting them back and forth from school for 40 years. It is a well deserved retirement. He said welcome to the "club" and to enjoy it.

Trustee Pasquale noted that today is in National Cheese Pizza Day. He hopes everybody celebrated accordingly.

Trustee Zachary requested two Workshops in October because he has a whole bunch of stuff that we started and left off. He wants the Board to review them and decide if we are going to get anywhere with them or drop them. Mayor Knickerbocker said that we would discuss this at the September Workshop and decide on additional Workshops at that time. Trustee Zachary feels that there are a lot of loose ends including the proposed trailer law. He knows there have got to be some complications but there are a few good aspects that he would like to see followed up on. He noted that we had a resolution last week that we held over but we are dropping that.

Trustee Zachary reminded everyone that the Police Department has a drug drop off box at the Village Hall for unwanted prescription drugs. He reminded that they should not be disposed of down the toilet. If you are done with them, we have a drop off box. He commented that everyone knows that there is a big problem with narcotics. Young people are dying from this. Often the starting point is prescription pain killers. He commented that we get them from a doctor or dentist and often take one or two then the rest of the bottle sits there. He commented that he recently had the unfortunate experience of seeing pictures on Facebook of four young boys around 10 years old. He knew two of them from when he was coaching Little League baseball. Three of the four are now dead. They were in their early to mid-20s. It is a big problem that has hit us all.

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that State Senator Murphy will have a “Shed The Meds” drop off at Buchanan Day. If you cannot get to the Police Department, there is going to be a drop off at Buchanan Day. She commented that when she had her first surgery she was given 90 Oxycodone that she did not need. New York State has now changed that. Now you only get 30.

Trustee Zachary noted that the County web site also does this two days a year. They set up a station at the Croton Commons. So there are other ways to do it.

Trustee Zachary commented on the charitable causes on behalf of all the people who lost their homes due to the hurricanes in Texas and Louisiana. He advised to watch out for scam phone calls. A lot of them are robo-calls. If somebody calls, you can say “Please remove my name from your calling list”. He noted that there are charities like the Red Cross where the majority of the money goes to the causes, not to the administration. Every charity varies in that. You can look it up on-line. He cautioned to not get scammed by people you have never heard of. Do not give anything over the phone unless it is somebody you know personally. Tell them to mail you something and that you will look at that. Do not give any personal information over the phone. They especially prey on older people. Mayor Knickerbocker noted that the top 3 organizations for hurricane relief donations are the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Samaritans’ Purse.

Trustee Funchion welcomed the Mayor back after her surgery and recovery and hopes that the pain subsides as the days go by. He noted that he ran the August Village Board meeting as Deputy Mayor.

Trustee Funchion wishes George Lonergan well in his retirement. Trustee Funchion recalled that when he retired his co-workers said to him, “Every night is Friday and every day is Saturday”, and that is what retirement is.

Trustee Funchion announced that the 9/11 Remembrance ceremony is at 4 PM on September 11. There will be the dedication of the completion of the memorial statue down by the Hudson River at Croton Point Park. The steel beam came from the World Trade Center. He advised that they are working on the road that goes from the last parking lot up to where the march would be to the monument. He thinks if somebody really wants to go down there, to go earlier or park on the other side of the highway and walk over. There will be a bus going back and forth. He encouraged everyone to come. It is a significant contribution to the community. It is a beautiful place.

Trustee Funchion reported that Buchanan Day is September 23 from 11 AM to 4 PM. He joked that he will be there with a camera to see Trustee Pasquale kiss the puppies. They are going to have more vendors and it has been expanded a little bit. He thanked Colleen Lonergan who does so much of the work on Buchanan Day. The meetings were at her house and she has done the greater portion of the work.

Trustee Funchion reported that he and Trustee Zachary are putting together a residents' survey. They will be going out with it to the Village. It will be sent in the mail and on-line and they will be going out walking the streets to find out people's thoughts on the closing of Entergy. He emphasized that this is for the Board to get ideas. He commented that there is nothing written in stone about how we are going to proceed with the closing of Indian Point and how it will affect us economically, socially and culturally. The survey has been given to the Board members tonight for their review and he would like to have that done at the next Workshop and be on the street by October. He commented that we cannot let time go by. It is a short survey. We want to get feedback from the residents of the Village on how they feel. It is the opportunity for every resident to have a voice and to have a say. He commented that if people receive the survey and put it in the garbage, do not come back here and complain about what is going on and say that you did not know what is going on. The Board wants to be able to say that a certain percentage of our residents felt a certain way about whatever. He thanked Trustee Zachary for his help. Trustee Zachary would like the Board members to review it before the next Workshop and to e-mail or call Trustee Funchion by the end of the week with their comments or questions. Trustee Funchion agreed. He noted that the Administrator has it on an MS Word file. The Mayor asked if the Board agrees with a Friday deadline. The Board members concurred.

Trustee Jackson congratulated George Lonergan. He has known him for over 20 years. He is an outstanding person and Trustee Jackson looks forward to playing more golf with him.

Trustee Jackson reported that the Historical Committee will be doing an Open House in October. The date will be announced. They will be inviting the school children to see our Historical Room and tell tales of the days of the Revolutionary War.

Trustee Jackson wanted to comment about some of the things going on recently in our country and in particular the recent incident in Charlottesville, Virginia. He said that his mother and father were both WWII veterans. He commented that this American flag that stands behind him was fought for in the Revolutionary War against the British and again in the Civil War against the Confederacy. To have these people parade around and talk about Nazis, the Final Solution and hatred of Jews and other minorities was quite disturbing. He commented that as a public official we should all take our measure and denounce those things, which many have. Freedom is not free. Not challenges to our freedom from domestic folks or from abroad. We should all take solace in the fact that people have died for the freedoms that we enjoy. He commented that it is a shame that the young lady in Charlottesville lost her life. It is his belief that this democracy in its changing forms will survive and go forward. But we must be vigilant, concerned and proactive to make sure that just the idea that there are those who would grant the model of an Adolf Hitler here in America is repugnant. He commented that here in Buchanan we are insulated in a lot of ways. We have a great community. He has great neighbors. To see that this thing rears its ugly head is shameful. But he knows that democracy shall prevail as it has for

these last 200 years. We will have some bumps in the road. But we are all in the same boat and north is the true star. He said let us be thankful that we all have each other here in Buchanan and Westchester County, New York State and in America.

Mayor Knickerbocker thanked Trustee Jackson for saying what he did.

8. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

None

9. ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:00 PM a MOTION to adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Funchion with all in favor.

Mayor Knickerbocker said to have a great Buchanan day.