

**Village of Buchanan
Mayor & Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
June 2, 2020**

PRESENT: (This meeting was done via zoom and zoom audio)

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker
Trustees Richard A. Funchion, Duane Jackson, Cesare Pasquale and Nicolas Zachary
Village Administrator Marcus Serrano
Village Attorney Stephanie Porteus
Village Clerk Cynthia Kempter

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Knickerbocker called the meeting to order at 7:33PM. She led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Mayor Knickerbocker called for a moment of silence for George Floyd who was killed in Minneapolis, MN and for our country. It is time for some peace and time for all of us to learn how to live together and respect one another. We are still dealing with COVID-19 and now this. It has been a tough 2020 and we hope for peace and for everyone to get along together. Fortunately, we live in an area where people do get along and respect each other.

2. APPROVE MINUTES:

February 25, 2020 Workshop Meeting: Trustee Zachary said that on the first page, bottom paragraph, in the middle, the sentence reads the finished assemblies are transported by rail and truck. Trustee Zachary specifically remembers that they said because they are very big they need to transport them by barges down the Hudson. When they assemble them they have these huge several hundred foot long windmill assemblies that they ship out to the Atlantic by barge. Trustee Funchion stated that what he thought they were saying was they transported by rail or truck to the pier, not that they transported by rail or truck anyplace else other than to a pier where they go on a barge. Mayor Knickerbocker stated that we are talking about the windmills. Trustee Zachary questioned, are we talking about the components coming in individually as opposed to the assembly going out? The finished assembly is basically the windmill they have to stand up. Mayor Knickerbocker stated that this is what was going to be done by barge that is what the interest is for the property. Trustee Zachary said things would come into the facility by truck, but the finished assemblies, he

thinks they specifically said those would have to go on barge which is why they want the deep port. When they assemble these things they are very big. Trustee Zachary stated that it is his recollection and questioned if we had to correct the minutes. Village Attorney Porteus stated that we cannot correct the minutes, but will put it in these minutes because that is what you remembered. A Motion to approve these minutes was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

May 5, 2020 Board Meeting: A Motion to approve these minutes was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.

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

None

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discussion on Peddler Permits (Ice Cream Truck)

Mayor Knickerbocker stated that there have been ice creams trucks around the Village with no permit. The vendors must comply with our permit requirements. Mayor Knickerbocker stated we are concerned for the residents' health and safety which is why we have certain requirements. After much discussion the Village Board agreed that they will allow ice cream trucks in the Village as long as they get a permit.

b. Consider a Motion to open the Public Hearing regarding a Local Law Amending Chapter 163 of the Code of the Village of Buchanan

A motion to open the Public Hearing was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale, with all in favor. Village Administrator Serrano explained that this will be a new local law regarding dumpster fees. The fee will be \$30 per dumpster per pickup. One dumpster will be gratis and recycling dumpster will continue to be free. The local law also states that if you put out more than four (4) garbage pails of 30 gallons each you will be charged a dumpster fee. After discussion, Village Attorney Porteus read the changes to the Local Law. In the first paragraph under Imposition of Dumpster Fees: a) Any commercial establishment or multifamily house shall be entitled to have one (1) dumpster for refuse picked up without charge by the Village of Buchanan and Paragraph d) Billing and payment for use of dumpsters shall be made quarterly in advance of each quarter as described in the Local Law.

Mayor Knickerbocker asked for any public comments. There were none.

A motion to close the Public Hearing regarding a Local Law Amending Chapter 163 of the Code of the Village of Buchanan was made by Trustee Zachary, seconded by Trustee Pasquale, with all in favor.

A motion to approve the Local Law Amending Chapter 163 of the Code of the Village of Buchanan was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Zachary, with all in favor.

- c. Consider a Motion to appoint Robert Phillips and Giuseppe Paonessa as seasonal highway help from May 15 – August 31, 2020 at a rate of \$13.00 per hour and Zachary Girvalo as seasonal highway help from June 1 – August 31, 2020 at a rate of \$13.00 per hour.**

A motion to appoint was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Jackson, with all in favor.

- d. Consider a Motion to appoint Sharon Murphy as Deputy Clerk effective June 1, 2020 at a total annual salary of \$3,000.**

Village Administrator Serrano said that it was great working with Sharon and this appointment is well deserved. Village Clerk Kempter agreed and said that they work well together. Mayor Knickerbocker mentioned that Sharon and Cindy are so good with the residents and go out of their way to provide great customer service. Trustee Pasquale said the appointment is well deserved.

A motion to appoint was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale, with all in favor.

- e. 2020-18 Resolution Restricting Parking and Authorizing the Installation of No Parking Signs**

The NYS DOT has been doing work on Route 9A prior to the paving project. A sidewalk was installed from Bleakley Avenue to the existing sidewalk. The Village has been approved to continue the sidewalk on the west side up to the gas station by Tate Avenue. After looking at the conditions on Route 9A, the DOT agrees that it is a safety concern and they will install the no parking signs. There was discussion on having no commercial vehicle parking on the east side of Route 9A from Tate Avenue to Bleakley Avenue.

A motion to adopt this Resolution was made by Trustee Funchion, seconded by Trustee Pasquale, with all in favor.

5. INFORMATION FROM OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS:

- a. Police Report – March 2020, April 2020

Received and filed.

- b. Highway Department – April 2020, May 2020

Received and filed.

- c. MS4 Annual Report – Period ending March 9, 2020

Received and filed.

- d. Wastewater and Building Inspector Reports were emailed to the Board.

- e. Attorney's Report

Village Attorney Porteus gave an update on the 2 bills that the Village is trying to push through Albany. They are only in committee and not on the floor yet.

Buchanan Engine Company and the new PILOT will be discussed in Executive Session.

The question was raised if the Board wanted to talk about camp now or in Executive Session. Mayor Knickerbocker stated that the governor said today that the pool and camps could be opened up. He is sending the decision back to the local communities to deal with. The Village has already said that we are closing our camp and pool because of concerns with the COVID-19. The Board has discussed possibly having an event in July or August if things calmed down. Trustee Zachary state that he had been talking to Recreation Leader Bayer and Highway Foreman Wheeler about possibly doing a movie night. A decision was made to reconvene on Monday, June 8 in order for Recreation Leader Bayer to look over the CDC requirements for camp and see if it is feasible to have camp this summer.

- f. Administrator's Report

Village Administrator Serrano mentioned the DOT hit some snags along the way in other communities so they have to finish that before they get to Route9A. The paving will take place in July. The Village was hoping to get

the sidewalks in before the paving, but the supervisor for the sidewalk project required a survey to take place before we do any work on the DOT right of way. That is delaying the project couple of weeks. The Village was hoping to have the DOT approve the grant to allow us to do the project. It could have been the same vendor that is doing the paving and the milling work. They gave us a proposal price of \$95,000 versus the \$150,000. That could have saved money for the state as well, but that deadline cannot be met. The repaving is going to take place and then the Village will go through the whole process with DOT and get the sidewalk in.

g.. Mayor's Report

Mayor Knickerbocker gave an update on Indian Point. Unit 2 ceased operation on April 30th. All of the spent fuel is out of the Unit 2 core and has been transferred into the pools.

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that there is an executive order by the state to give an additional 21 days without penalty for the residents to pay their taxes. The taxes are normally due on June 30 for the village. This is now extended to July 21 for the residents without paying a late fee penalty.

h. Trustee Reports

Trustee Zachary reported he met with the people on the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan. They were brainstorming ideas for Lents Cove. Some ideas include a gazebo, a playground, a wildflower garden, picnic tables and possibly a community garden. Trustee Zachary walked the trail down along the Hudson. This seemed to be a bigger mess out there than he previously thought. There were bags of garbage laying around, with some **are** broken open. It appears that people are fishing and then lighting fires to cook the fish they have caught. Trustee Zachary would like to discuss this further at the next workshop and communicate with Entergy as far as an enforced ban on fires. Mayor Knickerbocker mentioned that she had been in touch with Entergy and passed on her concerns about if there is a fire that starts there it is going to be very difficult to get any firefighting equipment in there. Trustee Zachary would like to do a survey on how the Village residents receive Village information and that will give the Village some insight as to the most effective way to reach people.

Trustee Jackson gave a big shout out to the beautification committee and everybody who was involved in selling the plants. Many people made comments about how nice that was that that they were able to get out of the

house and drive by and pick up plants at the circle. Trustee Jackson mentioned that all our village employees work hard and should be proud that the work ethic is there.

Trustee Funchion mentioned that the Village Memorial Day Celebration was very nice. Trustee Funchion talked about the school budget and reminded people to also vote in the primary election coming up.

Trustee Pasquale hoped that everyone is healthy and well. Trustee Pasquale will continue to thank our police departments, fire departments, highway departments, all front line workers and all EMS people for everything they do until we get back to some normalcy. Trustee Pasquale mentioned a few incidents that our police department took care in the past month.

6. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

NONE

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:47PM a MOTION to enter into Executive Session to discuss contractual and employment negotiations and issues was made by Trustee Pasquale, seconded by Trustee Jackson with all in favor

7. ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:36PM a MOTION to adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Pasquale with all in favor.