

**Village of Buchanan  
Mayor & Board of Trustees  
Village Board Meeting  
September 1, 2015**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker

Trustees Nicolas Zachary, Richard A. Funchion, Duane M. Jackson and Cesare Pasquale

Village Board Secretary Susan F. Matthews

Village Administrator Kevin Hay

Village Attorney Stephanie V. Porteus

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Knickerbocker opened the meeting at 7:30 PM, welcomed everyone, informed them of the fire regulations and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. APPROVE MINUTES:**

July 7, 2015 Regular Board Meeting: Trustee Zachary amended for clarification Page 12, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, change “came up” to “signed up”. Trustee Zachary questioned Page 12, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, “.008%”. The actual figure is .22%. Trustee Funchion confirmed that he had used the figure .008%. Trustee Zachary questioned Page 24, paragraph 4, “being all around the scene”. He thinks it was “working behind the scene”. He asked that this be checked against the tape. Trustee Zachary questioned Page 38, last paragraph continuing to page 39. He believes those remarks were directed specifically to him and not the entire Board, and that he was being called a conservationist. He asked that it be checked against the tape. Mayor Knickerbocker amended Page 32, last paragraph, change “Bleakley Avenue” to “Broadway”; Page 33, paragraph 3, change “SAFE” to “SAPE” [ie- Stop The Algonquin Pipeline]; Page 34, last paragraph, change “acres” to “dollars”.

The Board members agreed to defer the approval of these minutes to allow the tape to be checked. Mayor Knickerbocker directed that they would be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

**3. PRESENTATION: PROCLAMATION FOR ROBERT MERANDO'S RETIREMENT**

Mayor Knickerbocker invited Robert “Bob” Merando, long time mail carrier in the Village to come forward with his family. She also introduced Penny Jackson, the new

Postmaster of the Buchanan Post Office. The Mayor presented Mr. Merando with a Proclamation on behalf of the Village of Buchanan and all its residents. The Mayor noted that we had several people who worked in the Post Office in our Village for a long time who have now retired: Karen Kraemer, Joe Rist and now Bob Merando. She commented that all the people whom we have known for a long time have now retired. She read the Proclamation (*copy attached*), congratulated him on his retirement, thanked him for his service to the Village and wished him an enjoyable retirement.

#### **4. PRESENTATION TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Mayor Knickerbocker said that a couple of months ago she was contacted by a gentleman, Mr. Bruce Metzger, who had lived in the Village for 10 years. He now lives in Tucson, Arizona. He felt that the Buchanan residents would appreciate a gift he wished to present. The Mayor read his letter (*copy attached*). It gave the history and significance to the Village of a cane which he sent. Mayor Knickerbocker noted that we have some history on our Village web site including some early history of the Buchanan who is our Village's namesake. The Mayor read a portion of it. The Buchanan family started what was at one time the largest oil cloth plant in the country on the site of what is now the Westchester Industrial Complex. Much later the property was sold to Tensolite who made wiring for the space program. The Village was originally called Centerville. It was renamed Buchanan when it received a Post Office in 1890. George Buchanan was the first Postmaster. When the Village was incorporated in 1928 it was named after the Buchanan family. Mayor Knickerbocker showed everyone the cane. It is an ornate cane with the inscription: "Presented To George W. Buchanan by employees - October 24, 1906". The Mayor commented that this is a super piece of history for Buchanan. She will give it to Trustee Jackson for the Historical Room. The Mayor asked that if anybody else in the Village had anything about Buchanan's history to donate to the Historical Room to please do so so that we can all enjoy it. She thanked Bruce Metzger very much. Because he has been so kind to the Village, she is sending him a Village of Buchanan tee shirt because once a Buchanan-ite, always a Buchanan-ite. She hopes that he wears it in good health. A copy of the tape of this meeting will also be sent to Mr. Metzger accompanying the shirt.

Trustee Jackson commented that as we talk about the rich history of Buchanan and its continued growth, he and Mayor Knickerbocker met a new resident who just moved into the Village. It is always nice to see young families moving in. He announced that on September 8 the Historical Society will meet at the Village Hall at 6:30 PM. It is in the Newsletter. They are preparing for the Buchanan Historical Society Open House on October 5. The young people from the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades will be here from 10 AM to 2

PM. In the evening it will be open to all residents and local politicians. He invited everyone to come out and join in the festivities.

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

None

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Knickerbocker announced that Bill Balter was supposed to come this evening to continue the Public Hearing on the proposed Single Multi-Family Zoning change. He has requested an adjournment to reschedule to October 6.

a. **15-43 RESOLUTION AWARDING ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

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

The Mayor advised that every year our Village Engineer chooses the roads that need to be done. The ones we do first are the roads that are in the worst shape. We budgeted \$255,000 and now we have some extra money to do crack sealing.

Trustee Funchion asked how they determine the concrete curbs to be done and whether they are the ones that get messed up by snow plowing. Village Administrator Hay advised that most of the curb work is on Catherine and Cortlandt Streets. It is the drop curbs in front of people's driveways. Sometimes it is deterioration. Sometimes something gets hit. Sometimes there are complaints. He and George Pommer drive around the Village and get a look at them. Trustee Funchion noted that his own curb and his neighbor's across the street are ripped up. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that she spoke to Mr. Medoro about that.

Trustee Zachary asked logistically, how Greentown Road is handled being that repaving can disrupt businesses. He wanted to know if we tell all the businesses that they cannot go in the door for a day or two. The Administrator believes that they do the road work half at a time. Trustee Zachary asked if it is wide enough to do that. The Administrator will find out from the Village Engineer. They will have traffic control. Mayor Knickerbocker thinks that they will mill it in one day because they can avoid most of the road and go left or right. The next day they would pave it. She commented that road is in tough shape.

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

## **7. INFORMATION FROM OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS:**

- a) Justice Court Report – July 2015  
Received and filed. Mayor Knickerbocker noted the July total collection was \$2,675.
- b) Zoning Board Minutes – June 10, 2015  
Received and filed.
- c) Planning Board Minutes – July 16, 2015  
Received and filed.
- d) Police Reports – July 2015  
Received and filed.
- e) Wastewater Report – August 2015  
Received and filed.
- f) Attorney's Report

Village Attorney Porteus reported that we have had some questions about the paper street. She is reading through mounds of paperwork to sort through it. She wanted to update the Board. We have some applicants in front of various boards looking for part of the street and whether or not part of the paper street is included in lot coverage. It has become an issue. She asked that if anyone has the history to contact her because the paperwork is scarce and conflicting. She thinks it is going to come up to the Village Board to determine how to proceed. Mayor Knickerbocker wanted to know how many streets we are talking about. Village Attorney Porteus advised that in 1979 the Village Board passed a Resolution abandoning the paper street. Questions arose at the time from the audience as to "Do we own it now?". The answer was no, that they could use it. Some people said that they did not want it if the liability was theirs. Some people said, "Great! We'll use it and fence it." As the years went by, quit claim deeds were given by the Village despite earlier decisions that the Village did not own it and could not give it away. Village Attorney Porteus commented that she is doing her best to weed through this because it is affecting the applicant and some residents. She will be bringing it to the Village Board with some suggestions on how it might be resolved.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know if it is just the one on First Street. The Village Attorney advised that there are probably ten. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that the way the

Village was built years ago, such as on Park Street, there are some streets where there is a lot in between them. It was technically on the map as a paper street because, she believes, the Village had plans of developing them at one time. One of the paper streets that were not turned over is as you come out of the Village Hall; instead of going up Ketchum Avenue if you took a left, it is adjacent to the field there. It is technically a paper street. Years ago the Village Board decided that they had no use for these paper streets and did not want to maintain them. They were not planning to ever make a street out of them. So they went to the residents and told them that whoever was adjacent or next to it, they would have half the street; that it would be split in half and they would have half. Trustee Zachary wanted to know if on their property surveys it will now reflect that they own it or did they just use it. He commented that we are all using a few feet of Village property for our front lawns adjacent to the curb. The Village Attorney noted that is the issue. Some people actually submitted quit claim deeds to the Village that were signed off giving 25 out of 50 feet. She would assume that those people would have immediately done a re-survey. The person in front of one of the boards right now did not do that. The person was certain that it was given to him through the generations. The Village Attorney cannot find a record of it. It becomes complicated. She does not know where the quick claim deeds came from. The Mayor commented that she remembers the meetings. She believes it was in the 1980s. She was not on the Board at that time. Village Attorney Porteus is hoping to have more information for the Workshop so that the Board can determine how we want to move forward with the properties that were not deeded out.

Eileen Absenger, Tate Avenue, commented that in the 1980s there was property sold to Velardo that became Lake Drive. The Van Tassels had a paper road on that property. That was turned over to Velardo. She commented that the Van Tassels had used it for probably 40 years so they thought they had squatter's rights on it. It ended up that that property became Velardo's when he purchased it from Steinberg. Ms. Absenger commented that she sold the property to Velardo in 1985. She knows that the Van Tassels felt that they really owned that and it did not end up that way. Mayor Knickerbocker noted that the Van Tassels used to live on Tate Avenue as you go around the bend just past what is now Lake Drive. Ms. Absenger said that the paper road was the back yard of what is now Hilltop Road. She described where it was. Trustee Jackson noted that is now either number 7 or 9 Hilltop Road.

g) Administrator's Report

Village Administrator Hay reported that he is still working on getting the Village bond rating. We have to roll the ban over into a bond. He is providing the bond counsel with

the information they need. The auditors will be here at the end of September and on September 30 to do the court audit.

The Administrator announced that the Recreation Department will be showing a children's/family movie at the Village Hall, on the second floor, on October 8 at 4:30 PM.

The Administrator reported that the new air conditioning unit at Village Hall is up and running and the breaker has been replaced. The roof on the back storage room at Village Hall has been replaced. We in the process of getting bids for the roof at the Highway Department garage, the windows and replacing of the brick on the back of the building at Village Hall. Mayor Knickerbocker reported that we are also looking at the pool roof.

The Administrator reported that he just wrapped up the New York State Greenway Trail Program. He put in a request for \$10,000, the maximum, for rehabilitation of the Tropiano Trail at Lent's Cove. The deadline was Friday. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that she and Trustee Zachary walked it. Parts of the trail are dangerous. It is too close to a cliff. If we can get some grant money, it would be great. She thanked the Village Administrator for all his work in doing that.

#### h) Mayor's Report

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that the Buchanan Fire Department's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade will be held on September 19. It is in the Newsletter. She called on Bobby Wheeler from the Fire Department to give us an update. Bobby Wheeler said that September 19 is right around the corner. The Fire Department is in the process of getting the letter together to all the people who will be affected by the parade that day. The line up roads will be on Bannon Avenue, Cortlandt Street and Seward Streets. The parade route will be down Tate Avenue to the Circle, left onto Westchester Avenue and to the pavilion. There will be no parking on the parade route. If you have anything to do that day, please get out early. The line up is at Noon. Judging of the fire trucks will begin at 9 AM at the B/V School. It is by appointment so local fire companies will be coming first then driving back to their fire houses. Those companies coming from quite a ways will be staying in town. He commented that everything is under control. He said that our Fire Department has been watching what others have done and are trying to not do what they did wrong. It is a big challenge but they are very organized. He said that if anything else is needed, the Board should let them know.

Trustee Funchion wanted to know what they envision for the affected streets if somebody has to go out and by when do they have to get back to their house. Mr. Wheeler said they

are trying to line everyone up on one side of the street and impress that they do not block driveways so that people can get into their houses. They are asking all the fire companies to all come into the Village in one direction so that it is one way for those vehicles. For example, on Bannan Avenue they will line up on the right hand side so the road will be wide. The fire fighters are generally very respectful of people's property. Trustee Funchion wanted to know for the parade routes when will people not be able to get in or out. Mr. Wheeler advised that the parade starts at 2 PM. It is going to require the police. We are going to have Fire Police, our own police and Westchester County Auxiliary police. There are enough guys to take care of that. Hopefully there will be no emergencies. If there is, they have to make a break in the parade and they move through. The parade will start at 2 PM and that they are pretty good at getting it started on time. The streets are set up pretty good to have an organized line up. Everyone will enter from Albany Post Road up either Rockledge Avenue to Seward Street or Catherine Street to Cortlandt Street. He commented that as long as they pay attention, it should be easy to get to where they should be. Hopefully it will be a good day. Mayor Knickerbocker added, and hopefully good weather. Mr. Wheeler said that they are anticipating quite a few people. They will do the trophies outside at the pavilion later on. The streets on the lower end of the Village – First, Second, Third, Fourth and Center Streets - will be packed. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that this is a big event for our Village. We do not do this all the time. The last time it was for Buchanan Engine Company's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She asked if they expect to be done around 6:30 PM. Mr. Wheeler said that is when they would like to be done. The parade judges have a lot to do with that. They go and tally their scores and we have to wait to get their results back. But they are aiming to be completed with the trophies by 6:30 PM.

In response to a question from the Mayor, Mr. Wheeler advised that there will be garbage bags and Port-a-Potties strategically set along the parade route and at the pavilion. Even though we have the bathrooms there, they will need a few more. They expect to have as many as 800-1,000 people. They have to have handicapped accessible Port-a-Potties. There are people coming from the Firemen's Home who will be watching from the reviewing stand. Mayor Knickerbocker noted that the reviewing stand will be in front of the Village Hall. In response to a question from Mr. Wheeler, the Mayor advised that we have that resolved. The City of Peekskill has been very generous. She asked if we could borrow their bandstand. Mr. Wheeler thanked her for that. The Mayor commented that we have good neighbors.

Mr. Wheeler commented on the Golf Outing on September 11. There is a dinner-dance and a clambake. Anyone interested in the Golf Outing they should contact him. It is one of their biggest fund raisers. Right now they have 140 golfers. He commented that it is time consuming to organize but he has a really good crew, people he can count on.

Mayor Knickerbocker said that if anyone wants to participate, they can call the non-emergency number at the fire house, (914) 737-5010. Mr. Wheeler added that they can also sponsor a hole. Trustee Zachary commented that after all that, the Fire Department will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs at Buchanan Day. Mr. Wheeler said it will be the day after their dinner-dance. It is a busy month for them. They are excited. Mayor Knickerbocker commented that it is a very busy month in the Village. She noted that Trustees Funchion and Zachary will talk more about Buchanan Day.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that everyone has seen the speed detector on Tate Avenue. It is on loan from the Town of Cortlandt. The Mayor advised that we are looking into if the Board would like to purchase one or two of those. The Board will be talking about it at the next Workshop. She asked the Police Chief to get some prices which he will present to the Board at the next Workshop.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony will be at 4 PM on September 11 at Croton Point Park. Everyone is invited.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that the Spectra gas line saga with FERC continues. FERC has put notice on the internet that the Spectra gas line will be starting. She will let everyone know when. They are looking to start on Bleakley Avenue so we are going to be the first. There are people, the SAPE (Stop The Algonquin Pipeline) people, who are still fighting and trying to make sure that it is in fact safe around our power plant. The Mayor will update everyone when she has more information. She commented that it is not good to have a 42 inch gas line coming into our backyards and that we did everything possible to fight that. We joined with the Town. It was an on-going process for quite a long time. It came to where we had no choice but to negotiate with them because they were going to start eminent domain proceedings. We were very fortunate in that instead of getting the appraised price of \$65,000 for our very small strip of property, we got \$725,000. The Mayor reported that at our last Workshop, we discussed some of the ways that we would use the money. We will not be doing anything extravagant. Everything will be for the needs of the Village. We will be doing new windows at the Village Hall. The Mayor noted that this building was done over in 1976. The windows are not in good shape and are not energy efficient. Some do not open and some are dangerous. The Village Administrator is getting bids. We need some work done with the pointing of the brick at Village Hall. The brick is not in good shape. The filling in between has to be done. We also talked about a bucket truck which we have a need for. We are looking at things that we need that we have been putting off and can now do, and to put that money to good use. We will also discuss putting some of the money into Contingency. The Mayor commented that this Board is very conservative and very respectful of the taxpayers. We will put that money to good use. In response to Trustee Jackson, the

Mayor said that we are talking about the pool roof. We did budget for the roof at the Highway Department garage last year. Any other thoughts can be discussed at our next Workshop. The Village Engineer is looking at the pavilion. There is some metal structure on the top. You can see that some of the metal has gotten smaller due to corrosion and weather. Hopefully he will have some information before our next Workshop.

Mayor Knickerbocker reported that she has gotten comments about our new police car. She commented that everyone has probably now seen our snazzy looking new police car. The facts are that we are replacing a 2005 Ford Explorer that has 131,000 miles on it. She noted that those miles are from local driving, not highway miles. There are many things going wrong on it. The transmission needs repair. It needs new tie rods and other things. Of course, we need our police cars to be reliable. She quipped that some people think that we got a Lamborghini. She advised that any equipment that we buy in the Village goes to a State bid. The State has negotiated the best price. So any time we purchase equipment, noting for example that we have budgeted and will be getting a leaf vac, comes off a State bid with its negotiated best price. With the police car, we purchased a Dodge Charger. The next car up is a Ford Taurus. The charger was \$12,000 less than the Taurus. She thanked Police Chief Tubbs who looked into what car would be the best for us and the best price, and determined that to be the Dodge Charger. She commented that most of the police organizations on the East Coast are going with that car. There was over \$3,000 of equipment under the contract that was removed. One of the things was the push bumper. We now have a new police car. The Mayor commented that we should be proud of our new car and some of the new things we are able to get in the Village. We have had some tough times for a few years where we had to postpone buying things that our Village needed.

i) Trustee's Reports

Trustee Pasquale noted that he was on vacation most of August. He reported that someone brought to his attention today that there were coyotes running on Seward Street. They are nasty. He advised to especially keep an eye on small pets and children.

Trustee Pasquale reminded that school starts tomorrow. Be cognizant of our children and our school buses. Keep an eye out. If you see something, say something.

Trustee Pasquale commented that it hit home with him that in the last 8 days we had 9 police officers assassinated here in the United States. If anybody sees anything suspicious, let the right people know. Mayor Knickerbocker said that it is a sad commentary on our society now.

Trustee Jackson reported that we had a little spot on News 12 last Tuesday, August 25. He thanked the members of the Historical Society: Lillian Stein, Diane Tangent and Larry Brown. It was filmed in the Historical Room. He thought we got a pretty good review. It talked about Buchanan being a suburban town, the quality of life being high and also focused on what it was like before Indian Point being built and what it is like now with the nuclear power plant there. He said that you will be able to see it if you go to the News 12 web site and click on the featured stories in the archives. Trustee Jackson hopes those political people at the State and Federal level as we go forward the need for alternative energy that must certainly be put in place and planned and thought about as a replacement for Indian Point because there will come a day when it will not be functioning. We want to remember that proper planning prevents poor performance. The Historical Society is gearing up for the October 5 Open House. They are looking forward to showcasing that to the young people and also the adults and Seniors and the region. People from Yorktown and Ossining have been invited to come and get a taste of the history of Buchanan and what is going on here since our incorporation in 1928 and the history that is so rich and continues to grow.

Trustee Jackson commented that as his colleague Trustee Pasquale said, school is opening so be aware of the children coming off the school buses and to slow down and take extra caution.

Trustee Jackson commented that his hat goes off to our volunteer Fire Department. They are vigilant and make sure that they are answering calls so that we are safe in the Village. He noted that just this evening there was a call on Tate Avenue. They responded excellently. He commented that for any new residents and anyone who wants to get involved with our Fire Department, new volunteers are always welcome. There is also a new recruitment program for the ambulance service. He encourages anyone in the Village or moving here to get involved in these two entities. We are our neighbors' best friends.

Trustee Zachary reported that the last lawn concert at Village Hall is scheduled for September 13 from 5 PM to 7 PM. He got a call that the person who was to perform has fallen ill. We are working on some other options and will post something as soon as it is locked down. If it is cancelled, it will be on the Village web site and on the sign on the lawn in front of the Village Hall. Hopefully they will have a replacement group.

Trustee Zachary reminded that Buchanan Day is coming up on September 26 from 11 AM to 4 PM. There will be pony rides, live music, food and lots of fun. The Buchanan Day Committee meetings will be on Tuesday, September 8 and Tuesday, September 22.

These are their last two group meetings to work out the details and paperwork. They can always use volunteers on the day of the event.

Trustee Funchion reported that he has been busily working on the police contract. It is an awful lot of work. He puts it down as a change in the cultural attitude in the Village concerning this particular issue. He commented that it used to be more that everybody knows everybody and you would sit down and come to a decision. Now we have gone to a State mediator on this particular contract. That is going to be a lengthy process and it can go to arbitration. He noted that unlike other labor contracts with Civil Servants, they are binding arbitration. It does not necessarily mean that it is to the advantage of the community, or the Village or the city. Binding arbitration can go against you. He commented that it is unlike baseball for example, where the player says that he wants a million dollars and the team says they will offer \$500,000 and the arbitrator has to say one or the other, not split the difference. In this arbitration process, they can split the difference. It is a lengthy process. Trustee Funchion commented that it has been an eye opener because all his experience with labor management laws was with the Federal government and this is on the State level. He has had experience negotiating law enforcement contracts. He commented that ironically the one that he was involved with was with an agency of 18,000 people. This one is 5 people and it seems to be more hectic.

Trustee Funchion reported on the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at Croton Landing in Croton. It is a really beautiful ceremony. He feels bad that he cannot make it. He encourages everybody to go.

Trustee Funchion reported on Buchanan Day. Trustee Zachary and Norma Drummond and Colleen Lonergan did a lot of work. It will be a really good event. He encouraged everybody to be there for that day.

Trustee Funchion wished everyone a Happy Labor Day. He commented to not forget that without American labor, the world would be a different place. We would not have won World War II. This country was built on American labor. He encouraged everyone to remember that day and the people who work in our labor forces.

#### 8. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Don Zern, Westchester Avenue, wanted to comment on the lake and about the Police Department. He said that we have an invasive species that is starting to grow into Lake Meahagh for the last 4-6 months. (He brought a sample of this plant type growth in a bucket). It is spreading in Verplanck. It stopped down there but is more or less in

Buchanan now and starting to choke out the waterways. The problem is that the water is a little too warm right now. There has not been a lot of rain. Also we have no aeration there. They have aerators in Verplanck. It has assisted in slowing down this growth there. Up here, from Fourth Street coming in where all of our storm drains come in, you can see this growth. Trustee Zachary asked if it was some kind of algae. Mr. Zern advised that it is a vine. (He showed what it looked like). It is anywhere from 12 inches. Mayor Knickerbocker asked if it is what they described in an article in the Journal News. Mr. Zern said that because he is not a biologist that he does not want to say what it is called although he had his suspicions. He said that the biggest problem is that once it is established in the lake, it gets very, very thick. There are a lot of boaters out there. We have the rowing team from Verplanck out there. We have people in kayaks and canoes. If you do not have a safety vest on and you fall in, you will get tangled up in this. He noted that it goes right down to the bottom of the lake. That is where the problem comes. He commented that it is bad enough that it is growing on the lake. Now we are talking about somebody potentially getting seriously injured or drowning. Trustee Zachary added plus it can choke out native species. He wanted to know if Mr. Zern could take a picture of it and send it to the Cornell Cooperative Extension. Mr. Zern said that he could not. He commented that normally he does all the speaking here and to the Town of Cortlandt. He said that right now he is laying back and let the Village take the lead on it. They can go to Town of Cortlandt Engineer Ed Vergano and he can advise who to go to. Mr. Zern believes that if we have aeration here that it will slow this down. He noted that we do have electric here that we can run straight out from the pumping station on Westchester Avenue. He commented that if we have a few dollars extra to see what that looks like. He commented that he does not have the solution. He is not a biologist. The Mayor wanted to know how many aerators the Town has there. Mr. Zern advised that there are 5 in operation but only 2 are currently working. Trustee Zachary wanted to know where the aerators are. Mr. Zern advised that they are in the Verplank section. He commented that he takes his canoe and goes out and scrubs the heads and pokes the holes to get them going again. He does it for the Town and he does it for the lake. Mayor Knickerbocker asked if he could leave the bucket with the sample of the growth.

Mr. Zern commented that when you are cutting your grass to take a blower or a broom and sweep it up. Do not let it go into the storm drain and into the lake. He cautioned to be careful with the fertilizers. It is a great problem. We are getting too many nutrients in the lake. That is a large cause of the problem with this growth. His main concern is that nobody drowns out there. The Mayor advised that we will look into that.

Don Zern asked Trustee Pasquale to inform the Police Chief that school opens tomorrow and ask if we could have a police car near the B/V School. Trustee Pasquale advised that the Police Chief is aware of this. Mr. Zern asked to take the speed sign off Tate Avenue

and put on Westchester Avenue for 10 days or 2 weeks. Even for one day would be good. Allow the people to speed. He noted that the speed limit is 15 miles per hour [in the school zone]. It is clearly stated. Give them some leeway for a week to 10 days. After that, it's "You live here. You are going to have to pay a price." Give them a summons. He commented that what the judicial system does with it when it is handed over to the courts is the court's problem. He commented that the problem is that the situation here now is to have the Police Chief ask the officers to pump out those tickets. We want to slow it down. We do not want to have an accident. He does not want to see somebody's child or grandchild out there and have somebody say that they were sorry, that they were only going a little over 40 m.p.h. He commented that public transportation must also be slowed down. Trustee Pasquale commented that he was going through the monthly police reports. They issued 47 moving violations in the Village as a whole. That is quite a lot. Mr. Zern commented that three times he had asked for how many speeding summonses were issued on Westchester Avenue for March, April and May and this is the fourth time he is asking. He wanted to know and then publically the Board can tell the public. Just speeding violations, nothing else. Trustee Pasquale said that the report lists moving violations. It does not say whether it was speeding or a red light or some other violation. Mr. Zern commented that in the computer age, it is really simple.

Mayor Knickerbocker commented that going back to speed detector, Westchester Avenue is one of the places we are looking at too. They are so advanced now. The Board will be talking about that in the Workshop. She commented that people get distracted on the phone and with the radio. She said that she and Trustee Pasquale were talking about this and he has also noticed that people will be zipping along and see their speed flashing on the sign. It jolts them into reality. It is a good thing for us to have. It alerts people to what they are doing. Trustee Pasquale commented that they see it and slow down. Whether they continue to slow down for the rest of their drive through the Village is another story. But he has observed that people who are going over the limit will see the sign and slow down once they are made aware of how fast they are going. He thinks that Tate Avenue might be a perfect location to put one on a pole. We can identify other places in the Village that could use one. Mr. Zern commented that all you have to do is notify the Town of Cortlandt and they can get you prices and sizes. The Mayor advised that we are already looking into that.

Eileen Absenger, Tate Avenue, commented on the invasive plants in the lake. She did a kayaking trip on Constitution Island two years ago. What the man who bought that property wanted in the water way is rice patties. Now you have an invasive species. She was deathly afraid of kayaking there because you could not get the oar or anything to go through it. They had to pass through it but she commented that she would not go back to try that by herself without a guide because it was so thick and it went down. It was much deeper than our lake. She

commented that she can see the crewing on the lake. She commented that if that oar gets caught in that the boat is going to go over and they do not wear life preservers. You are not going to have the runner boats out with the motors. Don Zern commented that it is basically down from Buchanan where it went straight across coming down our way toward Fourth Street. It is loaded with it. Ms. Absenger commented that someone could easily not be able to get out of it. She noted that people are on the lake in the crewing boats, row boats and commented that canoes are not that stable and that there are people in paddle boats on the lake. She does not know how that is going to be affected or if they are steady and balanced. She does not whether to contact Constitution Island or Ed Vergano at the Town and ask about Cornell. She commented that is going to be a problem. She commented that obviously that was not taken care of by reducing the level over the winter. Mr. Zern commented that they did not reduce it enough this year.

Trustee Zachary wanted to know if we would have the Building Inspector at the next Workshop. Mayor Knickerbocker advised that the Administrator is going to speak to him.

9. **BOARD MEMBER REBUTTALS:**

None

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:40 PM a MOTION to adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee Jackson, seconded by Trustee Zachary with all in favor.