

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 20, 2010

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 7:40 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Swiderski, Trustee Bruce Jennings, Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan, Trustee Meg Walker, Trustee Nicola Armacost, Village Manager Francis A. Frobels, Village Attorney Marianne Stecich, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto.

CITIZENS: Thirty-five (35).

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE - Trustee Nicola Armacost

Mayor Swiderski administered the oath of office to Trustee Armacost.

PRESENTATION

Mayor Swiderski: Not on the agenda, but a request from the district attorney's office. We respect that. Judith McCarthy is here to speak about constituent services.

Judith McCarthy, Assistant Attorney General, Westchester: I am the assistant attorney general in charge of the attorney general's Westchester regional office, not the district attorney's office - slightly different. The difference is we do civil work, while the DA does most of the criminal work. Thank you very much for allowing me to come and take a few minutes of your time. There are 13 regional offices throughout the attorney general's office. A lot of people know the attorney general's office from the stuff that is in the news regarding pension fraud and various other things. What we do in the regions is not heard as much, and it is good to come and talk to you so you can direct constituents to our office.

We have a mediation unit that people do not hear a lot about, and that is what I wanted to introduce to you. The mediation unit mediates complaints from consumers throughout my region of Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties. In 2009 we mediated over 1,880 complaints and got nearly \$675,000 back to constituents in just this region alone. The complaints range from as simple as I did not get my rent deposit check back, to I did not get a product that I had ordered, or it was delivered damaged and they will not take it back, or I have a credit card bill and I never made this purchase. I have a staff that will write letters to the businesses and try to work out an arrangement. We do not represent individuals so if the company does not cooperate with us there is nothing more we can do. But we do have a very good success rate, and a lot of that comes from having the attorney general's name on the letters. A lot of it also comes from what we can do, which is when we start seeing repeated

fraud we then, under the executive law in New York, can bring a case. That is the other reason we want people to complain to us. Even if we cannot help them now, once we see that it is happening to a lot of constituents, then we can help. For instance, last year around this time Fortunoff went out of business. Liquidators came in and would not honor the gift cards. By law, they did not have to. But we got a lot of complaints and we had someone who specializes in bankruptcy court go in and negotiate to allow them to honor the gift cards. Then we got complaints about Fortunoff not delivering items. We went back in and got them to deliver.

That is the kind of thing we can do for consumers. We encourage people, if they have a problem they cannot handle on their own, to come to us. We will do our best to try to help. If we are not the right place, we try to get them to the right place. We try not to answer, I am sorry, we cannot help you, and have a good day. We try to figure out who can help them.

Mayor Swiderski: Is there an expense associated to the public for the use of the service?

Ms. McCarthy: Not at all.

Mayor Swiderski: Can you give the phone number so we can run it as a crawl on TV?

Ms. McCarthy: Our direct office number is 914-422-8755. We also have a health care bureau. If you are having a problem with a doctor's bill or a billing company, we have health care advocates that work out of our Albany office that are terrific. If they cannot help you, they are good at explaining your own coverage to you so you know not to do this again because I am going to be stuck with an out of pocket expense. They are wonderful people, and they have helped a tremendous amount of New Yorkers with a variety of health care issues. So when you keep getting that same bill for that co-pay, and you want to pay the \$20 to get them off your back, we would rather see you call us and see if we can help you.

Trustee Walker: Do you handle cases dealing with elder abuse or scams?

Ms. McCarthy: We do handle scams. But if it rises to the level of a crime, the district attorney's office handles them. But, for instance, there was a gentleman by the name of American Heritage Tours that we handled a few years ago that was preying on elderly senior groups, setting up tours to the *Lion King* or even to Niagara Falls, taking very large down payments and then canceling and not giving the money back. We went after him, we put him out of business. Unfortunately, we have not been able to collect on the money he owes although there is a judgment against him. The problem is that a lot of these people either are very good at hiding their money or have no money; they spend it as they get it.

Trustee Jennings: Do you only handle financial transactions, or would you handle something like an eviction from an apartment?

Ms. McCarthy: No. When someone calls and they are about to be evicted, since it is usually urgent business and they do need representation, we suggest that they get an attorney. We cannot represent the individual in court. If they cannot afford it, we will give them the names for legal services and legal aid. If there is an underlying issue regarding the eviction that may be more long-term, that is where we will handle it. If someone is being evicted and they are mentally impaired, we are going to get the county protective services for adults involved. We try to hook up the connections if we cannot do anything ourselves.

Mayor Swiderski: It is always amazing what services are out there that I had no idea about.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On MOTION of Trustee Walker, SECONDED by Trustee Jennings with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of the Organizational of April 6, 2010 were approved as presented.

On MOTION of Trustee Walker, SECONDED by Trustee Jennings with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2010 were approved as presented.

On MOTION of Trustee Walker, SECONDED by Trustee Jennings with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of the Executive Session of April 6, 2010 were approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

On MOTION of Trustee Jennings, SECONDED by Trustee Walker with a voice vote of all in favor, the following Warrants were approved:

Multi-Fund No. 67-2009-10 \$ 51,232.85

Multi-Fund No. 68-2009-10 \$214,220.67

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Swiderski: A number of people are certainly here for the first time in regard to issues of music and nightlife. We are looking for three to four minutes apiece at the mic. If somebody has just said what you are about to say, do not feel compelled to repeat the comment. There are people here who might be employed in the establishments in question. I would like to let them speak first so they can get back to their jobs.

James Dale, 12 Maple Avenue: I grew up in Yonkers, but I have lived in Hastings since 1996. One of the reasons I love this town is because it celebrates the arts and artists, such as writers, directors, musicians. I have been playing in bands for over 20 years and I have played at the establishment at 533 Warburton Avenue dozens of times in those 20 years under different names and different bands. I have been there hundreds of times to see other bands. Two things remained constant throughout those 20 years. First of all, the bands were always allowed to play until 2 a.m. And second of all, I have never seen the police called because of a noise complaint. It is always a fun time. My parents come to see me. My pregnant girlfriend comes to see me. Everybody is safe, it is not rowdy, it is not excessively loud. It is live music but, like I said, I have never seen any noise complaints or police summoned in those 20 years.

My issue is, on Monday, Apr. 5, 2010, the owner of the Roadhouse was summoned to Chief Bloomer's office and instructed that they are going to start enforcing this ordinance which, evidently, is decades old and has never been enforced before that says there can be no live music in Hastings between the hours of 12 a.m. and 8 a.m. We are simply looking for an amendment to that. Already in the past two weeks since this law has been enforced the Roadhouse has lost money. Every bar in the county has live music until 2 a.m. I do not understand why we would want to put the Roadhouse at a disadvantage, when they are competing in this live music venue.

Bill Calderbank, 47 James Street: I am part owner of the River Roadhouse. In the six years that we have had the River Roadhouse we have had two legitimate noise complaints, and both times they were taken care of immediately and the complaints stopped. We have not had a complaint, I do not think, in the last two years. All of a sudden, this new ordinance is enforced on us for no rhyme nor reason. We lose a lot of money because of that. It costs the workers money because they lose out in tips, and it costs the bands money because obviously you cannot pay them as much money if they are only playing until midnight. So the way I see it, everyone's losing out on the deal.

Kim Porter, 17 Washington Avenue: I work at the River Roadhouse. I can personally say that this is affecting my livelihood, the fact that this is being enforced at this time. As James said, it started on April 5. I understand it is ordinance 138 or something like that, and says that no music can be played between 12 and 8 a.m.; no jukebox, no electronic music, no live music, anything. I spoke to workers at other places in town that serve alcohol and have live music, and none of them were contacted and told that this ordinance was going to be enforced. So I feel that it is being arbitrarily and unfairly enforced at this point. I would like to reiterate what Bill said. We lost a considerable amount of money over the past two weekends, the bartenders and the bar itself. We are asking not that the law be ignored, it is a

law. We are asking for it to be amended to pretty much follow what the tacit agreement has been for the past 20 years, which is that the music stops at 2 a.m.

Anthony Fortunate, Owner, Rainwater Grill: I am an out of town resident. I am the owner of the Rainwater Grill, 19 Main Street, in Hastings. Not to keep playing on what we have already heard, but I, like Bill, could definitely use music to support our business at the restaurant. I am in a different position, where a lot of my business takes place before the hours of midnight, where we are sitting down and we are comfortable. I am trying to build the business late night, and I cannot have that band in during regular business hours: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 o'clock. I would prefer to start at 10 o'clock and go until 2. A lot of people call up and they are very surprised we are open at midnight and 1 o'clock. Apparently, this particular space has not drawn a late-night crowd. We do that. We stay until 1, we stay until 2, we stay until 3. We feel that there is an opportunity, an untapped market, for people to come out in this area and support my business and Bill's business and others in the late-night hours. So we would certainly appreciate any support that you have for us. Obviously, I am here to make money and take care of my family, but I do know that every dime I make, so does the town. It is important for me to increase sales and revenues and just make everyone happy.

Janet Mercaldi, 465 Broadway: My husband and I moved to the Village last year, and we were attracted to it because it was an artist-friendly village. I would really like to see that still happen.

Mayor Swiderski: Anyone else? Just to get a sense of the people here for that topic so we can represent the numbers, those in accord with the sentiments that have been expressed could you raise your hands? [approx. 30] Thank you very much.

Is there anyone here who wants to speak to another topic?

Danielle Zaccara, 61 Amherst Drive: I am here to speak about the deer population. I have lived here my entire life, 36 years. My husband is also a resident, and his father is a resident for over 40 years. I have a daughter. I am here to speak on behalf of all of us. I found out what is going on with the deer population through a letter that sent to my father-in-law's house, and I was appalled to find out how it is being handled, and that the animals are going to be trapped by net and bolt. I feel it is very inhumane, and I believe that there are others ways to go about this. I am in the medical field, I have a doctorate. Just knowing about physiology, these animals will suffer. It is not something that is instantly taken care of. I am sure people have had dogs or cats that had to be euthanized. It is done in a more humane way, where they are not suffering and they are not scared. There is also birth control for animals or sterilization that can be done very effectively. It has been done all around the country. I believe it is being taken care of in one of the river towns.

I feel other options should be considered before going through something that is going to cost the taxpayers a lot of money. I feel they also are not aware of it. I am sure if you take a poll of the room to find how many people knew about this, it is very upsetting. When I found out about it I was appalled, and that is why I am here. I do not have a lot of time. I have a newborn baby at home. I am just very upset about it.

Mayor Swiderski: Typically we do not respond to public comments because it is a chance for the public to speak, but just to clear up something, there is a letter going around and a Web site or two and a Facebook page or two with a fair amount of misrepresentation. You should be aware that no contract has been signed, no hard decisions have been made. Nothing is going to happen for quite a while, until we go through a public process where everybody will have a chance to weigh in, and we, up here, will decide what makes sense.

But nothing is set in stone; nothing has been determined. Beyond that, I do not think it makes much sense to talk about it now. We are getting through the budget season. We still do not have a permit to do anything, and until we get that we will not precipitate a discussion which may be for naught. So at this point in time, there seems to be some misleading information implying that everything has been done in secret and is ready to go. Nothing has been done in secret, it is all quite public, and we have initiated a process that we are only in the early stages on. I hear you, I understand your concern. But you are speaking to information which is not entirely accurate. It will be some time in June, probably, that we will begin the discussion.

Danielle Zaccara: How will I know about it?

Mayor Swiderski: If you go to the Village Web site, www.hastingsgov.org, you can sign up on the email list and things will go out. It will be hard to ignore the topic when it comes up. It will be in the papers. It is an emotional issue, and it will not be done quietly.

Barbara Stagno, Dobbs Ferry: I am also here to speak about the deer issue. I am working with a task force in Dobbs Ferry which is exploring surgical sterilization and immunocontraception. We are very disappointed, I am very disappointed, let me speak for myself and not for Dobbs Ferry, that Hastings is pursuing this very extreme lethal method of deer control. I know you just said it is not set in stone, but the DEC says that they have granted the permit. Kevin Clarke of the DEC came to our task force meeting and said that Hastings' permit has been approved and it has been appropriated effective now.

Mayor Swiderski: We have not been informed, or received anything back.

Ms. Stagno: That is something you might want to know. Also, you were at one of the Dobbs Ferry meetings and seemed to indicate that this was something you were going to go forward with and that it was not open for public discussion. I hope that that is correct, that it is open for public discussion.

Mayor Swiderski: Of course it is.

Ms. Stagno: I think that is important because the people I have been speaking to are not aware about it. I want to talk about my role on the Dobbs Ferry committee: to bring the information about other options that are humane, that are non-lethal. One of the women on our committee is collecting data on surgical sterilization and working with veterinarians to donate time and to look at doing this in a field setting. I have been speaking to an expert at Tufts University Center for Veterinary Medicine, who has pioneered immunocontraception, which is using vaccines to do contraception in deer. He came to Greenburgh to speak to local officials. We are talking about it in Dobbs Ferry. We are looking to see if we can get a permit. Irvington is interested. We would like to speak to Hastings. I have information, and was very disappointed that no one came to the meeting in January which I set up for all of the river towns and for Greenburgh. I would like to see Hastings collect the information.

I would also like to say that lethal methods, in addition to being extremely cruel, are ineffective for the following reason: you always have a rebound effect. Whenever you kill animals, whether it is by bow and arrow or rifle or net and bolt, which is the method that Hastings seems to be pursuing, deer fertility responds to the food supply. When you have fewer deer, you have greater amounts of food for the deer. They will give birth the following season to twins and to triplets. You have a documented rebound effect. You are in a killing cycle. You are perpetuating the problem. This is always one of the problems with hunting. It is why communities are looking for other solutions, in addition to the cruelty involved. Netting and bolting is Medieval, it is barbaric. I know I do not live in this community but I live in a neighboring community. I would really hate to see it come here.

Olga Morabito, 3 Hogan Place: I am just below Draper Park, and we get an awful lot of deer there. They come into my property and have a ball. We have gotten a deer fence and that has helped an awful lot. But I do not want to see them destroyed in a lethal way.

Danielle Goodman, 28 Ashley Road: I thought I was coming to speak about the 7.9 percent tax increase, but since I have always believed in connecting the dots I had no idea the River Roadhouse issue was afoot. For gosh sakes, we are trying to build our tax base. If we had a row of River Roadhouses in this Village we would be the better for it. Perhaps we could find a way to encourage business. If there is some issue with the noise, please try to resolve it. But if we an opportunity to have business in downtown from midnight to 2 a.m., let us try to

do that because you are about to consider a 7.9 percent tax increase. I leave it to your discretion as to how to do this business that you have to run, but you have one set of wallets and there are two balance sheets in the Village, yours and the school district's. Between the two, we are being pressed. I know there are a lot of things the Village needs. Perhaps we need a citizen's budget committee. Perhaps we need a lobbying committee. You have a lot of talent in the Village, and we should try to figure this out. I do not mean to criticize you. I know that you are working hard. I thank you for that. But 7.9 percent is a lot, and if we start closing down the River Roadhouse, next year it will be 10 percent. We have to encourage business, we have to increase our tax base, and we do not want to be viewed as a community that destroys business.

Jim Metzger, 427 Warburton Avenue: I have a way for the Village to raise some money. We need to have a police officer on the corner of Washington and Warburton. There is an epidemic of dog waste. A building that has been empty on the corner, and it is being used as a dumping ground, to put it mildly. In a bit of irony, the greatest concentration seems to be right around the sign that says \$100 fine for not picking up after your dog. It is a humorous thing to talk about in public like this, but the fact is that it started there, and now, as you walk up and down Warburton, people are not cleaning up after their dog anywhere on Warburton. It is becoming a serious problem. I know we have laws against it. The same way that we go after speeders and other people that break the law, it would be really nice if we could tackle this problem, as well.

John Ciborowski, 443 Warburton Avenue: I have not spoken with Mr. Metzger about the problem, but that is the reason I am here today also. So it is two of us here. It has gotten horrendous. It is a health hazard. I believe we do not have a street sweeper working any longer so they are just being tossed into the gutters. It is filthy. South Warburton Avenue, I am a lifelong resident, 60 years on that side of the bridge. I have never seen the town look so bad. There are more and more people. I wish I knew if these dogs are licensed. Every room must have a dog. I do not mind dogs. I love dogs. It is the people that do not pick up after the dogs that I do not like. We have talked to the police, and the police say we have to see them. Well, I have a better chance of winning MegaBall than the police seeing one of the dogs go. Something has to be done with the law. Perhaps we could have one of the meter maids come an hour a day once in awhile and walk up and down. If a few violations were handed out perhaps some of these people would get the idea that they have to pick up after their dogs and they just cannot leave it. I have elderly people at home. They cannot bend down and pick it up. They are 90 years old. It is a big difficulty in the neighborhood. It is a health hazard, and it is just a plain mess and unsightly.

Tim Downey, 520 Farragut Parkway: I watched last week's work session on the archive and I want to commend you on the great job you did. You were very respectful and

thoughtful in your questions, you put a lot of work into it, and I hope that continues along those lines. It was a great job and nice to watch. I would like to respond to the gentleman who spoke about the individual reserve funds for different departments. I would be in agreement with Trustee Quinlan that until we get into a healthier condition with our budgets we should not allow that. We need to change our ways or we are just like the Titanic: we are drinking and playing music while the ship is going down. I spoke about this in February, 2009. We need to go after that reserve fund in the worst way. Mr. Froebel needs to have a cushion so he can work with the Village. I would definitely stick to that point of culling and bringing everything in.

The big gorilla in the room with this budget issue is going to be the liabilities costs. That is something we cannot do much about here in the Village. But collectively, mayors in communities throughout the river towns area, the counties throughout the state, are going to need to come together. Anyone who knows how to read a spread sheet, knows about actuarial tables, knows that we are in big trouble ahead because of the liabilities. So worrying about paper clips and paper and so forth does not come to the hard issue. At some point, critical groups are going to have to come together, address this issue, and have some law changes.

One thing that caught my eye again over the wintertime, I know of many instances, and I would give names off-camera, where residents from outside the Village, or contractors, are using our truck on Saturday. Before Christmas I watched a former client of mine in Dobbs Ferry come down and use the truck to get rid of their debris. I know a contractor in Dobbs Ferry who often comes and uses our truck for debris. We do not expect the gentleman at the truck to be a police officer or to get into scuffles or debates about it, but at some point if we can employ some sort of technology where there is identification of who is the resident and who is slipping in the door on us; we have to think about some method to rein in that abuse.

John Gonder, 153 James Street: In regard to your budget, I know you need revenue. You have that Warburton Avenue bridge, and you can put parking meters probably 20 on each side and get some revenue. It is not a big deal, I do not think. Maybe some residents in the Village would not like that, but it is a source of revenue. Trustee Goodman was here a few minutes ago. I told her I was thinking about her a few days ago about a year ago when we had the DEC here talking about the cleanup. It is 21 years. We should get some people digging. That is where we are going to get revenue. You ought to get the DEC back here and raise heck with them to get going on this. I know Trustee Quinlan thinks we are moving forward. But 21 years, to me, is not moving forward. It is a snail's pace, and I think we can do something if we get them here. I do not know what our consultants are doing in regard to it. But that is where the revenue is.

I like deer, but I do not like them in my yard. I do not like to see 18 deer hit around the Village and maybe people getting killed. There are people that are opposed to it, but we have to do something. The deer belong up in the Catskills, not in Hastings. I am a resident for 75 and three-quarter years, and before the last 20 years we never had deer in Hastings. It is because the population exploded when all the estates were sold. That is when the deer started coming in because there was no place for them. .

Mayor Swiderski: Thank you, everybody, for coming and speaking. The way this works, if there is strong interest in a topic it will become an item of discussion for the Board at the next meeting. Meanwhile, your words are now in the record and they are duly noted.

40:10 APPROVAL OF REVISED CAMP FEES

Village Manager Frobel: I think we have covered this pretty well. It is a recommendation of the Parks Commission. We believe it is fair. As much as we do not like having to pass these costs on, it is really unavoidable. We are poised to have this go into effect at the beginning of this season.

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Walker the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the following fees for the summer camps as follows:

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>CURRENT FEE</u>	<u>PROPOSED FEE</u>
Hillside Camp Full Season		
Early Bird	\$500.00	\$525.00
Regular	\$540.00	\$565.00
Hillside Camp Weekly		
Early Bird	\$ 95.00	\$105.00
Regular	\$100.00	\$110.00
Early Learning Camp Full		
Early Bird	\$325.00	\$350.00
Regular	\$350.00	\$375.00
Early Learning Weekly		
Early Bird	\$ 80.00	\$ 90.00
Regular	\$ 90.00	\$100.00

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

**41:10 FARMERS' MARKET – APPROVAL OF USE OF MUNICIPAL BUILDING
PARKING LOT**

Village Manager Frobel: It is time, once again, for the Board to consider the request of the Farmers' Market organizers to use our parking lot. With us tonight is Ms. Smith, who has been involved in this program from its beginning. I have asked her to be here tonight to answer some questions and offer some introductory remarks. We look forward to the start of it, and we hope the Board will continue this relationship of allowing the use of that parking lot for this service.

Sue Smith, 645 Broadway: This has been the 13th year, which is kind of amazing, for the Farmers' Market. The reason we started here 13 years ago is that it is best location that is available in the Village. That continues to be so, and has proven itself over time as being a felicitous relationship with the library and convenient to the downtown, as well as having restrooms and running water nearby. It does not hurt to have the police nearby either, I do not think. There is not any other site that matches the relationship to the downtown, which we have valued, as a way the people can come and shop downtown when they come to the market: combine their efforts. And try to bring more business into the downtown. That is the original reason we started this to begin with, to try to do something to make Hastings a destination. Certainly, the market has achieved that.

We really focused last year on addressing the requests of Judge Karas from the lawsuit that came to the Village for handicapped access and, particularly, for the market role in that. We have provided more spaces, as the judge had requested we do, chalk off an access lane for vans. We tried to be attentive to people who do come in. We have had a lot of handicapped people come to the market and express their appreciation for how easy it is for them to access the market. That includes wheelchairs as well as people with canes or other kinds of difficulties, people who are driving as well as people coming in on foot.

One boon, which is much appreciated, is the library decided that they would be open at 8:30 on market days rather than 9:30, which they usually would be. So we had an attendant, as the judge requested, at the lower level so people could go in that door and have someone to

help them with the door, and then get to the elevator. We had volunteers do that all day, every day of the market, all season long. The total count was the people who brought the lawsuit having a testing day in which somebody came in, and two other occasions. One was a group of disabled young people out on an excursion with a chaperone, and the other was one person with a cane. I realize that the lawsuit has not been decided, and I appreciate that we were able to come this evening and it is not an issue at this point with regard to the market. But, in fact, and I do not know this will ever be resolved, it just does not seem to be used. I appreciate very much the library would still be open, but to have a person there has not made more people come and use it. Even when we tried having some of the vendors down there, which we are not going to be doing because it turned out not to be such a great idea in terms of people liking to be close together. The library was great about it, but that has not been a draw. People access it in other ways.

We continue to try to address the issues of the neighbors. We have the crossing guard, or a traffic control person, at the corner of Spring and Maple so people cannot come down Spring and make a right-hand turn, which has helped reduce traffic and parking issues on Maple, and we have had no complaints from neighbors. In fact, there are spots available on Maple except for the busiest hours of the market. A lot of people are using the Zinsser lot by the train station. Of course, a lot of people who live nearby walk, some ride their bikes.

So it is bigger and better than ever, and more appreciated by people. It is something that Hastings has gotten to be known for. We did not take a survey this year to find out how many people are from out of town, but we will be doing it this year and will certainly report on that to you.

Village Attorney Stecich: Sue, you described the extra steps you took last year in response to Judge Karas's suggestions last year. I am assuming you are going to continue them this year.

Ms. Smith: Yes, we have to.

Village Attorney Stecich: I think you have to until this is resolved. I did speak with Mike Miranda, the lawyer who is handling the ADA suit, which is not moving along any too quickly although the Farmers' Market part of it is fine, and he said just to confirm there would not be any issue with the Farmers' Market, with the Board voting to let them use the Farmers' Market again. I did not think there would be, but I just confirmed it with him. So that is OK.

Sue Smith: I hope you have all been to the market and have a chance to see what it is like. It is a good time to see all your constituents.

Mayor Swiderski: This is a question born out of tough times but, to confirm, the cost of the crossing guard is borne by the market?

Sue Smith: Yes.

Mayor Swiderski: Are there any other costs that the Village incurs that are also covered by the market, or is that the extent of the cost?

Ms. Smith: I do not think there are any costs to the Village. There is more garbage to pick up, but they are here picking it up anyway. So I do not think there is anything.

Mayor Swiderski: Police presence, no. I have to ask in these times.

Trustee Jennings: Are the people who help with the library access route volunteers?

Ms. Smith: They are volunteers. For part of the day we have hired a person to do that, a young high school kid, because we were going back to volunteers so much of the time. But we have got our regular coterie of about eight people who took turns doing it. It is a very quiet, peaceful place to sit and read. Nothing is happening. Nothing goes on for hours.

Trustee Armacost: Do the vendors pay a fee to the Village for the service?

Ms. Smith: They do not pay it to the Village. They pay it to us, which helps support the costs that we have for the music, for all the programming, the yoga, whatever, and also a market director and our insurance, and we give the Village a certificate of insurance. So those are the expenses.

Trustee Armacost: So it makes the market self-sustaining

Mayor Swiderski: Trustee Armacost, we have received financial reports from the Farmers' Market in the past showing how that money is collected and spent. So there have been documented financials.

Ms. Smith: You are new on the Board so you have not seen that in the past, but I will be happy to provide that again.

Trustee Armacost: Is there a day when the financial reporting happens, or is it done on an ad hoc basis?

Ms. Smith: I think it was a little ad hoc. I do not think it was part of my request, but if you would like to see that I would be happy to give it to you again.

Trustee Armacost: Maybe it should just come in at budget time, or at some point that people think is sensible.

Ms. Smith: We are a separate corporate entity.

Trustee Armacost: Yes, but it is useful to know. For me, I love entities that are self-sustaining that are contributing in some way to their existence. So I am very interested in that, and that is something that I am very supportive of. And it is useful to have that data to be able to talk about successful examples in the Village.

Ms. Smith: Sure.

Trustee Walker: And you are officially a nonprofit at this time, right?

Ms. Smith: We are a nonprofit. We have not gotten our tax-exempt status at this point.

Trustee Jennings: I am curious about the current rapport between the Farmers' Market and the local businesses. How does that seem to you? Are establishments setting up tables, participating in the Farmers' Market? Do you have some ideas about how people who come to the market might be encouraged to go up to Warburton Avenue and do some extra shopping? Is there any kind of discount voucher or some kind of a connector between the two that you are thinking about?

Ms. Smith: Over the years we have tried a number of things. At one point we did a coupon sheet for local businesses. Very few of them were turned in. We did encourage people to have a table, a free table. The Chamber would have a table; they could rotate whoever they wanted to come in and offer their wares or tell people about what they offered. That happened a couple of times, and it just went by the by. We do have a number of local businesses. We have the Station Café that sells coffee. We have a local caterer, which works not out of a store in town, but who is there. We have a local honey person. So we are certainly open to anybody with a compatible business to be there. In fact, in those cases they are regular. They come every week, and they do pay a vendor fee.

But the Chamber, it was a nice idea but nobody took advantage of it. They do not have enough help to be here and in the store, too. We were disappointed because we do have a lot of the local nonprofit groups come to the market as a way to make contact with a lot of people to sell raffle tickets for their PTSA. Master Gardeners of Westchester has a table for

most of the summer to give out gardening tips. Those kinds of groups are looking for a place to be on Saturdays: the Girl Scouts selling something, a wide variety of groups. But the stores, there has been difficulty with that. When we measured last year in the survey, we asked how many people also did shopping downtown at the same time they came to the market. It was considerable. I do not have those numbers because we did not measure it this year. But there are a lot of people who do both things at the same time, including people from other communities. We have a lot of people that come from out of town.

Trustee Walker: I have spoken to a lot of merchants in the Village and there are varied responses. There are definitely some who say that the market days, when the market is open on those Saturdays, is their best time of the week. They do more sales during and right after the market than any other time in the week. I definitely have heard that. The Chamber is changing. There is a new president and a new vice-president. It might be worthwhile broaching that topic again. A lot of the businesses do not open until 10. So maybe between 8:30 and 10 they could be doing some promotion for themselves or selling or having a presence. So I think it is worth going to a Chamber meeting again and trying.

Ms. Smith: Try it again. I go to all the Chamber meetings, and it has not come up, but I will be happy to do it.

Trustee Walker: Letting them know that it is available. Because I have mentioned it, and I think that some of the new people on the Chamber were not aware. It may come to nothing, but it is worth a try.

Ms. Smith: It is worth a try, sure.

Trustee Jennings: I would hope that during this coming season we might be able to organize something using the Farmers' Market as informational and educational about the slow food movement, about organic gardening and farming practices, about diet issues and health issues. I hope the Farmers' Market might be open to working with the Conservation Commission, maybe bringing the schools into it. Maybe have one day as a slow food fair or something like that, which would be informational as well as the produce that you sell.

Ms. Smith: We have tried to do some educational things and book signings, with people talking about a food-related book. It is interesting: people seem to be mentally there to shop and to talk with people, and not to get educated. Maybe a program could be designed that would break through that, but we were surprised because we had things in mind. We have at the market an integrated pest management vegetable person, an organic vegetable person, and a biodynamic farming person who has vegetables as well as meats. So we kind of cover the range of the different ways to raise food. We thought that was a ready-made thing to try

to inform people of, but casually. They are interested in learning about it, but they do not seem to want to sit down. In fact, we have talked about doing that some time separate from the market in the community, and I am not sure whether that would be popular or not, but maybe it is worth a try. I am happy to work with the Conservation Commission or with any group.

Trustee Jennings: It might not be best on a Saturday morning, but if the Farmers' Market group would be interested in participating in something like that. We are hoping to have more educational stuff going on in the next year; maybe there will be a little buzz in the Village about it, maybe an evening program. We would certainly like to have the Farmers' Market be part of it.

Ms. Smith: Sure, yes. Anything about food. We have often had Sustainable Hastings there, particularly the first couple of years, maybe not so much last year on a regular basis. But they have had a free spot at the market whenever they want it.

Trustee Jennings: See if we can get Michael Pollan to come and sign some books.

Trustee Walker: The Cornell Cooperative Extension is frequently there. They have gardening tips.

Ms. Smith: They have been there occasionally. Yes, the Master Gardeners come almost all summer until about the end of August when things taper off a bit. The people in Hastings are master gardeners. It is local gardeners, which is great.

On MOTION of Trustee Jennings, SECONDED by Trustee Armacost the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the use of the Municipal Building parking lot for the 2010 Farmers' Market on Saturdays beginning June 5, 2010.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

Mayor Swiderski: I do not want to leave you with praise ringing in your ears from the whole Board, but you know how we feel about what you bring to the Village. It is, in many ways, the highlight of many people's week.

Ms. Smith: One thing I should say to you is it is a volunteer committee that puts in an incredible amount of time and has been doing it for years.

Mayor Swiderski: A ridiculous amount of time.

Ms. Smith: We do have a hired director to deal with the day-to-day stuff, but it is, again, a volunteer organization in Hastings, of which we have many good ones.

Mayor Swiderski: And they have created something that is a real important part of our fabric. It has become something very core to us, and thank you.

Trustee Armacost: Thank you.

Trustee Quinlan: I would just like to add that also other villages have tried to emulate our Farmers' Market.

Mayor Swiderski: They can try.

Ms. Smith: It is a competitive world out there.

Trustee Quinlan: No, but it has been so successful that other villages have said if Hastings can do that, let us give it try. But they certainly have not matched our farmers' market.

Sue Smith: Ours is still the best.

Mayor Swiderski: Thank you for coming out tonight.

42:10 APPROVAL OF CERTIORARI SETTLEMENT – VALLUM FOUNDATION LLC

Village Manager Frobel: Last week you heard from special counsel on this. His advice is to settle it. He believes it is in the best interest of the Village to effectuate this refund to this property located on Warburton Avenue.

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Walker the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

WHEREAS, petitions having been filed by the property owner, below challenging real property tax assessments on the Village's assessment roll with respect to the following parcels:

Property Owner	Address Description	Year(s)
VALLUM FOUNDATION, LLC	1 WARBURTON AVE Parcel HA-1-6-600-25	2005-2009

WHEREAS, Petitioner's court challenge is now pending in Supreme Court Westchester County; and

WHEREAS, the Village and the property owner have reached a mutually agreeable resolution with regard to the assessments at issue in the Court challenges, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, Counsel to the Village Attorney is authorized to execute a settlement on behalf of the Village for assessments for no less than the following:

Years	Current AV	Reduced AV	AV Reduction
2005	151,200	71,600	79,600
2006	151,200	66,000	85,200
2007	151,200	60,600	90,600
2008	151,200	54,800	96,400
2009	151,200	56,000	95,200

The refund of Village taxes amounts to \$87,992.00±.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Frobel: I received word last week that the president has, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, reacted positively to the request for a major disaster declaration. This is a reaction to the storm that we fought on March 13 through 15. What this declaration means is that FEMA will be contacting us shortly with additional paperwork. We are perhaps going to be receiving up to 75 percent reimbursement for those expenses that the Village incurred during the storm and continues to incur as part of the cleanup. My initial damage assessment report included out of pocket expenses to the Village of about \$50,000. That is continuing as we continue to pick up debris and dispose of it. We also went to the effort, as part of this initial damage assessment report, to calculate damage to private property. That will not be reimbursed under this program. Homeowners were advised to contact their private homeowners' insurance. But we also compiled data sheets on about 20 properties in the Village and provided the federal government with an estimate as to what that damage was.

This weekend is Village-wide cleanup day. We have a number of people already signed up for the various locations throughout the community. Still not too late to contact Lisa at the Parks and Recreation Department or just adopt a section in your neighborhood or in the Village and pick up litter. Everyone is invited to a luncheon that will be held at the Community Center that Saturday from noon to 2. This is always a very successful effort. This program is also part of our responsibilities under the stormwater maintenance reporting. We need to indicate each year as part of that report, which will come to you at your May meeting, our efforts to rid the community of litter, among other things. So this is a very important program for us, not only for the aesthetics that it offers, but improving the overall health of our fresh waters.

Finally, the Rowley's Bridge trail has been restored. We had a tremendous effort on the part of a number of volunteers to shepherd that program through, working cooperatively with the county. What we would like to do, based on Trustee Walker's suggestion, is at our next meeting have a few of those volunteers here before you to summarize the work they have done, their vision for the trail, and what further improvements some believe need to be accomplished to bring it back to what it was. Meg, do you want to add anything?

Trustee Walker: Particularly because this trail was so lovingly restored over many years by our dear departed Village Naturalist, Fred Hubbard, and he put so much effort into it along with hundreds of volunteers and opened it up to the Village for the first time, having been a dumping ground for years and years, I am concerned about it becoming a dumping ground again. A new roadway has been built. It was necessary for the trucks to get in. Metro-North is going to continue to use that, but it is very inviting to cars. So we need to think about

ways to discourage other vehicles from driving in there. I was down there the other day, somebody had just driven in and dumped a couch on the road. Once that starts, it continues to attract other dumpers. So that is one concern. The other is that when Fred was alive the trail was well-used by him and by a group of volunteers who are still involved now. Scout troops used it, a lot of people went down there on cleanup day. We had Arbor Day celebrations down there. Scenic Hudson had a river celebration down there. I just do not want the trail to be forgotten. I asked the Village Manager if we could invite Ray and volunteers to talk about it, and how we could better use it, better protect it, better celebrate it in the future, maybe even rededicate it. Now it looks completely different from the way it looked after Fred had completed it. They have done a good job of restoring it and they are going to put in a lot more trees, but it does not have the personal stamp of all those people who worked on it before, unfortunately. So how can we kind of embrace it again? Maybe we rededicate it to Fred's name. It is an important thing to recognize, and I would like to ask that we do that.

Trustee Armacost: Do we have a Village Naturalist at the moment?

Village Manager Frobel: No, we do not. We have a very active group. I have met with them a couple of times at the Community Center, the people that maintain our trails. But there is not one person yet who has kind of risen to that title.

Trustee Armacost: Perhaps we need a Village Naturalist to take it on.

Mayor Swiderski: Well, if we could find a person willing to do it. There was only one Fred, it seems like.

Trustee Walker: Fred became the Village Naturalist because, over the years, he undertook by himself, nobody requested this, to analyze and count all the flora and fauna of Hastings. He produced books which are still available. They are probably in the library now.

Village Manager Frobel: They are available. They just went through a reprinting, in fact. We participated in that.

Trustee Walker: That is fantastic. He spent months studying different parts of Hastings and writing up his findings as to the natural habitat of Hastings and what flora and fauna he found, everything from Hillside Woods to Kinnally Cove. He knew this village like the back of his hand. There are not many people like him, unfortunately. But his wife is still alive, and we can also honor her contribution because she always was standing behind him and helping him in all these endeavors. She was very much involved with Rowley's Bridge Trail as well. I would like his work to be honored and continued, and not forgotten.

Trustee Armacost: Maybe we should solicit for somebody who is interested in being the Village Naturalist.

Village Manager Frobel: Well, we tried, and at our meetings we would get 15 to 20 attendees. But let us try again.

Trustee Armacost: But perhaps we need to send a blast out if you have only got 15 people at the meeting.

Trustee Walker: What meetings?

Mayor Swiderski: The Trail Committee run by Thom Forbes and a couple of other people. People show up, but the problem is that his shoes were so large to fill that you do not solicit successfully. Somebody rises to the occasion or they do not.

Trustee Armacost: But there are people who did not know him who do not know what the shoes were like. So perhaps they are less intimidated than the ones who knew.

Mayor Swiderski: We will write something up and send it out. I will point them to you.

Trustee Armacost: Which reminds me of something else that I have been meaning to bring up. Jerry and I were sent a request by somebody who reminded us that April is Poetry Month and that perhaps we ought to consider having a poet laureate of the Village since we are a village that is filled with so many artists of so many different kinds. I wanted to table that for a discussion, since we are still technically in April, for us to consider.

Trustee Quinlan: I second that thought. The gentleman who wrote us the memo is a poet. I told him there have to be some guidelines on who we would choose just like anything else, and he sent the guideline. We also told him we would be very busy in April and would consider it in May or June. He said that would be great. After we are finished with the budget and have some time to breathe, we could put in on Board discussion.

Trustee Armacost: And plenty of other towns do have poet laureates, bigger towns. Queens has a poet laureate. Danielle's uncle is the poet laureate. In England, villages have poet laureates.

Trustee Quinlan: Queens is a county.

Trustee Armacost: That is true, Queens is a county.

Trustee Quinlan: It came out of a wonderful Friday Night Live that centered around poetry. That is what generated it. Liam who suggested it might be considered; he is a published poet.

Trustee Walker: We could give the poet laureate a task to organize a literary event for the year.

Trustee Jennings: That is what poet laureates are supposed to do. The poet laureate of the United States, who a few years ago was the poet Billy Collins, go around and promote poetry at schools, poetry events. That is the whole point of it. It is not to honor somebody because they are a great poet. It is to have somebody who promotes poetry.

Trustee Armacost: Of all towns, of all villages, we should be the one that is promoting this.

Mayor Swiderski: OK, I am in.

Trustee Armacost: So we could have two new official positions, naturalist and poet laureate.

Trustee Jennings: One last thing on the naturalist point. Interest may be stimulated in that as a matter of course because I hope that in the next few months we turn our attention to doing something like a biodiversity inventory or a wetlands survey in the Village so that we have a better sense of what we have actually got. It will be important in the zoning tasks we have before us for the large tracts and for other reasons. Maybe it will fit in with the Comprehensive Plan. But biodiversity is coming down the pipeline. I would think that people who were interested in that and will assist with that process would be the natural group from which this kind of leadership might spring.

Trustee Walker: But the survey should be led by the Conservation Commission, right?

Trustee Jennings: It probably will be.

Trustee Walker: But they could attract other volunteers to be involved in it.

Trustee Jennings: My point is, it is an activity that we should do for its own sake. But it will stimulate people to come out of the woodwork, if you will pardon that metaphor, who have this interest.

Trustee Walker: Right. Or come out of the woods.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

1. Update on Waterfront

Trustee Quinlan: I attended a meeting last Friday by teleconference between BP/ARCO, the Village, and the DEC. It was announced that Riverkeeper has hired a consultant to join the discussions, or at least review the materials and weigh in. His name is Frank Bowlen and he is from the University of Connecticut. Bill Ports asked me if we could set up a meeting in Hastings to bring him up to date and invite whoever wants to come. Dick Brownell would be invited, I assume, Joe Sontchi, and someone from the DEC to come and bring him up to date on what is going on. At the beginning of the meeting it was announced that the Fish & Wildlife division of the DEC has withdrawn from the meetings. They felt that they were spending too much time in the meetings, and their comments on the modified feasibility plan speak for themselves. The concern I expressed is that if they do not participate in the technical meetings, where we hope that some consensus is going to be raised on the type and extent of the cleanup, that after we get through all these meetings and then a consensus report is issued that they will say we do not like this, and we will be back to square one. That is a logical conclusion of what could happen. That is the worst case scenario, and it is very likely, considering some of the discussions that had been going on, because they were an integral part of the discussions. They had important information and a viewpoint to give, and without that viewpoint we are not going to hear from them until the end when, my guess is, they are not going to say this is great, and put a stamp on it and go ahead.

BP/ARCO and the DEC to a certain extent, they could not say anything. They are a remediation team, they were quiet. But BP/ARCO agreed with me, and Dick Brownell, our engineer, agreed with me also. So what could we do about that? I asked them who could I speak to that would be in charge of both Fish & Wildlife and the remediation team. I was given a phone number of a gentleman by the name of Chris Amato. During a break in the three-hour meeting I called him up. He was at his desk and he agreed to speak to me. I told him my concerns, and I told him that I would like him to look into it. He informed me that he knew nothing about that decision, that it was news to him, and that he was going to talk to the director of Fish & Wildlife of my concerns. I offered to give him my telephone number and my email, which he would not take. I thought that was interesting. When the meeting resumed, I informed the DEC remediation team of what I had done. They did not say anything, but I thought they were a little surprised. But I thought it was necessary to take some proactive steps to do what I could to prevent that from happening. I do not know if I will be successful, but I plan to follow up with that.

The things discussed at the meeting I am not going to get into because, quite frankly, most of it was way over my head having no engineering expertise. It was the dredge, fill, and cap under the water, not on the land, long-term monitoring and the extent of the dredging, due to the concentration of PCBs.

Trustee Walker: Remind us, Jerry, about Fish & Wildlife's comments on the modified remediation. If they say that the comments they made are going to stand, basically, and they do not want to continue to come to meetings, will they obstruct, will they make it difficult for the DEC and ARCO to resolve it? I know it is probably about removing habitat, extending the land into the water.

Trustee Quinlan: The comments about the modified feasibility plan ran pages and pages long, and the modified feasibility plan itself was as thick as a telephone book. I do not know specifically what the comments were off the top of my head, but I will say, through my participation in the discussions, that Fish & Wildlife is concerned with a whole different set of criteria than the remediation team is. They are more concerned with habitat, eels, fish, and what the concentrations of copper will do. They are concerned about the land that may be created and land that may be taken away, and how it is going to be replaced in the river. Their concerns are very different than the engineers about how to get rid of the PCBs, contain the copper and the lead, and how to cap it, how to control it, how not to let it spread. Their concern is more like what is the effect going to be on the wildlife.

Trustee Walker: And they have to express those concerns, but can the DEC overrule them?

Trustee Quinlan: Ultimately, there are people at the DEC who are in charge of both departments, like anything else. The question is, can we get them motivated to weigh in and to say, OK, I have heard your concerns and I have heard your concerns and here is what we are going to do. But I have not heard them do that yet. We are trying to ask them to do it.

Mayor Swiderski: It has happened in the past, and Fish & Wildlife has usually come out on the wrong end of the decision. As a result, in part they carry a chip on their shoulder for that and are truculent, frankly, in these discussions.

Trustee Walker: Because they are not listened to.

Mayor Swiderski: Right.

Trustee Quinlan: I agree. But that is not correct. They are listened to, but the problem is a lot of what they say is either impossible to do, expensive to do, or totally time-consuming.

Mayor Swiderski: Right. And at odds with an ultimate, realistic solution. We have got an institutional problem there.

Trustee Quinlan: There is political infighting in the state DEC and it is something we cannot control, and we watch it from the sidelines are just befuddled about why it is happening and why someone is not controlling it. Would that be fair? It is not healthy for our cleanup.

Mayor Swiderski: Nor new.

Trustee Quinlan: I am not blaming anybody. I am just saying I wish there was someone who could step in and say, I hear your point, I hear your point, and here is what we are going to do, we are going to do something in the middle.

2. Update on Comprehensive Plan

Trustee Quinlan: On April 22 the CPC is going to meet to review the draft plan. That will be posted on the Web site, and then they are going to schedule open house discussions in May with the consultant and without the consultant. We do not have that schedule yet. By June 8, 2010, the CPC hopes to approve a final plan and send it on to us.

Trustee Jennings: It would be better for everybody if the Board of Trustees did not wait until after all those public meetings to start thinking about it and discussing it. If we have fundamental questions to raise we should raise them so it would be a part of this longer process of public discussion and deliberation. We are asking for trouble with that timeline. I know the same thing that is going to be available to the public is going to be available to us, and I know we can go to these public meetings as individuals. But I am wondering if we could not slot in more of an advisory role at an earlier stage for us. Does that not make sense?

Trustee Quinlan: I do not think that is a legal question so much as a public policy question. It is a good point. I had not thought about it myself. I thought that if I felt so inclined that I would go to the open houses and the public comments and state my ideas about what they were talking about. But I am certainly open to anything that the Board offers as a solution.

Mayor Swiderski: Can you be more explicit on what you mean.

Trustee Jennings: We have not had very many substantive conversations with the Comprehensive Plan Committee based on drafts that looked like they were relatively polished and complete. Our meetings with them have been about hiring consultants and

doing crosswalks between the LWRP and the then-draft of the Comprehensive Plan and all that kind of thing. None of those meetings, in my opinion, was conducive to us sitting down and hashing things out. A better model of interaction was the model that we had with the Architectural Review Board, where we did have a fairly early process of looking at something and a chance before the final document. When that does come our way I will feel comfortable about voting on it because we really went through it.

Mayor Swiderski: I hear you but, again, they do not have a draft yet. They are looking at versions, but they have not put anything out yet that represents where they stand. I would expect to get that roughly when the community is getting it. My sentiment has been that it is largely hands-off by us because it is their document. At the point that they have a draft ready for review, we can begin to look at it as the community does. But when it comes before us it is in the same state that the ARB draft was, which was pretty polished. We took a look at it and made suggestions, but the final form was quite close to the one presented to us. I am not sure how, at this point in the cycle, we can intervene other than to get a copy of what they are working on.

Trustee Jennings: I am not suggesting intervening now in the cycle. I am suggesting maybe lengthening the cycle. I can tell you right now, I am not going to feel comfortable sometime in mid-June with being presented with a document that they think is final, and we are faced with the task of approving or disapproving it. I do not like that pathway, and I am just trying to short-circuit it now.

Mayor Swiderski: No, I hear you. I assume anything that comes to us is draft by definition. We are the final authority that implements it, and I have zero problem with reviewing it in detail and, if there is something we have an issue with...

Trustee Walker: They are doing it at the behest of the Board, and the Board appointed them, but in the end it is our document that we are going to stand behind.

Mayor Swiderski: But we will have a draft shortly, and we will all take a pass at it before something final comes up. If something is significantly problematic we can telegraph that. I do not know how else to do it

Trustee Walker: Do we do that as individuals, or as a board?

Mayor Swiderski: Probably as individuals. The Board discussion formally begins when they submit the draft to us.

Trustee Jennings: And then we are going to hold a series of public hearings and go through our process. Is that what you are saying?

Trustee Walker: Yes.

Mayor Swiderski: This is not a rubber stamp.

Trustee Quinlan: When it gets to us, then we decide what we want to do with it, how we want to set up the public meetings, work sessions, whatever, much like the budget. It is presented to us, let us see what we can do with it.

Mayor Swiderski: I view it as a work session.

Trustee Jennings: My reaction then is forget about June. There is no way we are going to get this done, under that description of the process, by June.

Trustee Quinlan: No, I did not say we were going to get done. I said they were going to present it to us sometime after June 10. When we get it done is up our discretion.

Trustee Jennings: So it is essentially they hand it off, and then we undertake the process of our own, which could be fairly lengthy.

Mayor Swiderski: Or we may find ourselves in general agreement and it is short.

3. Village Officials Committee Report

Mayor Swiderski: We met last week, started with a press conference, and then segued into our usual monthly meeting. These are the meetings where all the mayors get together with the village managers and discuss joint efforts. We are engaging in a group-wide asphalt repaving contract, once again more actively pulling the schools in if they want to join. The effort over the next year will be every contract that comes up we will try to pull the school systems in, as well. One or two of the schools joined in an elevator maintenance contract, and we will seek other venues as well.

Trustee Walker: Do you ever discuss going after planning grants or other types of grants besides these purchasing opportunities together?

Mayor Swiderski: We have, in passing. A couple of mayors have paired up and gone off after such grants, but it is not major focus.

Trustee Walker: Have you ever talked about buying a larger piece of equipment together, like a street sweeper?

Mayor Swiderski: More and more. We split a gum removal machine with Irvington and another community. We start with the trivial.

Village Manager Frobel: Tarrytown.

Mayor Swiderski: For \$2,000 each instead of \$6,000, whatever it came to. But the discussion is constant and increasingly detailed about large pieces of equipment, both sharing and purchasing.

Trustee Walker: I notice that Nancy Gold, the executive director of the Historic River Town of the Hudson Valley, has invited all the mayors to come to a meeting this week. Did you receive that invitation?

Mayor Swiderski: Maybe. I get a lot of invitations.

Trustee Walker: I used to go to those meetings regularly. One of the things they do very well is joint marketing for tourism for a number of river towns. They can be very effective. I am thinking from a Friday Night Live point of view, Chamber point of view more than from a village government point of view.

Mayor Swiderski: If you know where that meeting is, and you want to go as deputy mayor.

Trustee Walker: I could except that I have a meeting every single night this week, including Friday, and I do not have any time. If there is anybody else who would like to go.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On MOTION of Trustee Quinlan, SECONDED by Trustee Walker with a voice vote of all in favor, the Board scheduled an Executive Session immediately following the Regular Meeting to discuss negotiations and personnel.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Jennings with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Swiderski adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:20 p.m.