

**VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2013**

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 7:35 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

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

CITIZENS: Six (6).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Armacost with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of January 8, 2013 were approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

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

Multi-Fund No. 37-2012-13	\$ 3,161,32
Multi-Fund No. 38-2012-13	\$278,880.67

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Gonder, 153 James Street: Building 52, you threw a monkey wrench last meeting, when you said \$4 million just for scraping the floor and other things. I hope the Board maybe reconsiders everything. A million-dollar grant, the biggest grant Hastings ever got, that is your words, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Swiderski: Two-million.

Mr. Gonder: And \$4 million just to scrape and do a few things. You never got a report about those logs that go out horizontal, you got PCBs. I remember there are several latrines, one on the north end and one in the center portion, and I am not sure, the west side. But if anybody has to dig to straighten out some traps or whatever, piping, it is fresh water or sewage, and they hit PCBs, British Petroleum is going to have to knock that building down and clean up. You ought to have a reconsideration.

Mayor Swiderski: There is nothing to consider. We have not made any decision on 52.

Mr. Gonder: You made it, right? You are going to keep it.

Mayor Swiderski: It is not our building to keep. So we cannot decide, ultimately, the disposition of that structure. And we have not decided one way or another. We have not formally had that discussion yet, as a board. The only decision we made was to ask BP to run that study to find out how much mothballing the building would cost. The next thing we asked for was time slots for when they could speak before the Board. They have come back with dates which I will mention later in the meeting.

5:13 INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH WESTCHESTER COUNTY TO ALLOW FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION AND STORAGE OF INFORMATION

Village Manager Frobel: This is an extension of our existing relationship with Westchester County PD. It allows the county to store, for all the municipalities participating, data on criminal blotter information that the police departments collect and to share it among the various agencies.

This is for a five-year term. There is no expense to the Village. We are obligated to provide evidence of Workmans Compensation and to name the county as an additional insured.

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

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Chief of Police to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety to participate in the Westchester County Repository for Integrated Criminalistic Information (RICI System) to allow for the electronic transmission and storage of criminal record and police blotter information for the period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2017.

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

6:13 RETURN OF ACCOUNT AND AFFIDAVIT

Village Manager Frobel: You received the list of properties delinquent on their taxes as of December 31. This evening you received the most up to date list. It has been reduced in size dramatically, as it will continue to be reduced as we get closer to a tax sale date.

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

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees certify and approve the Return of Account and Affidavit as attached for the Village 2012-13 tax roll.

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

7:13 SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2013 TO ADD PERMITTED USES TO THEMULTIFAMILY RESIDENCE/COMMERCIAL (MR-C) DISTRICT and PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2013 TO EXEMPT CERTAIN RETAIL USES AND RESTAURANTS IN THE MR-C DISTRICT FROM PARKING REQUIREMENS

Village Attorney Stecich: I drafted the two local laws to reflect the Board's discussion at the last meeting. It adds three new uses to the principal uses allowed, meaning they are allowed as-of-right, you do not need a special permit. The three new ones are personal service establishments, other service establishments but excluding gasoline filling stations and motor vehicle storage and copy, offset and incidental job printing.

It also broadens the retail uses from what was specific retail use before: retail sale of antiques, books, arts, gifts or other similar specialty items. Now it would be any retail uses, with a floor limit gross floor area of 2,500 square feet or less, that being the size limit of restaurants in that district. The Board had also suggested it might make sense to have production and processing of goods, provided the goods are sold on premises. But there was some concern, maybe not every use; it would depend on the smells, whatever. It occurred to me that the way to deal with that is rather than making it an as-of-right use to make a special permit use. So instead of including it with the principal uses, I included it a special permit use. It would be production and processing of goods, provided that the goods produced and processed are sold at retail on the premises – it does not say only on premises, but they have to be sold there – and that the area used for the production and processing of goods does not exceed 40 percent of the use, and that no offensive gases, fumes, odors, vibrations or other objectionable influences or hazards shall emanate from such use; and the operation of such use shall not be detrimental to the health, safety or general welfare of neighboring properties in the community.

It would also help the Board. Special permits are granted by the Zoning Board, and it would give the Board the discretion to add hours of operation, which Fran suggested. Because this is in a residential neighborhood, you might want some limitations on it, depending on what the use is. That would give you the flexibility.

Then the other one I made a bit of a change to.. It is not a substantive change over what I sent. Let me back up. In the CC district, the required parking does not have to be provided for retail uses with a gross floor area of 2,500 feet or less. The intention of that was also that it cover restaurants. Somehow that did not get in the code; it was just an oversight. So this fixes that. It also adds the MR-C district, that has similar concerns as the CC district. Just as it is waived in the CC district, it seemed to make sense in the MR-C. The way it would read is, within the CC and MR-C districts, a restaurant or retail use with a gross floor area of 2,500 square feet or less shall be exempt from providing off-street parking spaces, as required by this chapter. The language I took out was: occupying, or proposed to occupy, a building structure portion thereof. Jamie Cameron sent me an e-mail today. He read it, and thought that it was confusing that the building only be 2,500 square feet of the use. So that clarifies that. That is the language that was already in the code, but we may as well fix it as long as we are fixing this section.

Trustee Apel: A lot of times, these districts cascade into other districts.

Village Attorney Stecich: No, that is not an issue here. The MR-C does not.

Trustee Apel: And the same with the CC? That does not cascade into anything else?

Village Attorney Stecich: This parking regulation comes not from the list of uses and permitted uses. It is a separate parking section, so the cascading does not happen there anyway. It is a different section of the code.

Trustee Apel: Could you explain where the CC district is and the MR-C?

Village Attorney Stecich: The MR-C is on Washington from Warburton to Southside, and then it goes up Warburton a little bit.

Trustee Walker: Warburton to the bridge, and Southside north to the Zinsser parking lot.

Village Attorney Stecich: It is a very small district. Most of the properties are on Washington. So on Southside, it runs from Washington to where the limits of the CC district are, and then two properties south, on Southside.

Process-wise, all you are doing is calling for the public hearing. There are several steps that still need to be taken. Once you call for the public hearing, it will be sent to the Zoning Board and the Planning Board for reports. We will have the public hearing, and then we will have to do SEQRA on it. I imagine this would be negative declaration. I do not see any environmental impacts from it.

Trustee Walker: In section B, principal uses requiring a special use permit, where we are allowing for the production and processing of goods if the area used for the production and processing of goods does not exceed 40 percent of the use.; retail is changing so much in downtowns that I wonder if 40 percent is big enough. A couple of examples in Hastings: By the Way Bakery and Antoinette's, where they both have bakeries in the back where they are producing goods to be sold to other restaurants. I do not know what the percentage of the total is, but I would imagine that in the case of By the Way the bakery the back is probably much bigger than the little retail store in the front. This is the way things are moving in a lot of downtowns, where you cannot make it on retail alone. These work/sell spaces or make/sell spaces are becoming common in downtowns. It seems to me you would have to give more space to the "make" part than the "sell" part for it to be financially viable.

Trustee Apel: What would be the cost for the special use permit? We are not looking to make it onerous.

Village Manager Frobel: It is not based on value. It does not cover the cost of anything. It is just processing an application.

Village Attorney Stecich: And it is probably not a complicated application that you would have to hire an attorney.

Trustee Walker: Other uses where you might need more production space than retail might be leather goods. Maybe you make purses and backpacks. There are a lot of places like that in Greenwich Village, where they have leather goods, or some kind of upholsterer. We have one on Main Street. What would that fall under? They have tiny retail.

Village Attorney Stecich: That is a service establishment.

Trustee Walker: But you understand what I am saying. You can picture artisans making things, whether it is pottery, ceramic shop, hats.

Mayor Swiderski: Are you suggesting that number be changed?

Trustee Walker: I do not know what the correct number is: I am just raising it as a question. I would think it would be more like 70 percent.

Trustee Armacost: Could you leave it at 40, and then get a special permit to make it more?

Village Attorney Stecich: If you were going to make it bigger you would get a variance. You would be before the same board. The Zoning Board gives both special permits and variances.

Trustee Walker: So maybe we are just cognizant of this, and understanding that we do not want to restrict uses that may take up more than 40 percent, we just want to review them.

Trustee Jennings: I am not sure that the procedural suggestion answers the question you are raising which would come back at the Zoning Board in terms of how are they going to make a decision whether or not to grant this variance; what kind of evidence would a merchant have to provide in order to justify. My leather thing or my bakery ovens have to be 60 percent, not 40 percent. Why? They do not make smaller ovens than that, or, I want to make a certain level of profit, or what kind of answer would be a good answer from the point of view of the Zoning Board? This raises the question of what manufacturing or commercial uses are we afraid of in the downtown, and that we want to try to restrict or prohibit. But exactly what is it we do not want? Bakeries do not seem to bother us in this conversation. If I was on the Zoning Board, I am not sure I know how to make this decision.

Village Attorney Stecich: The Zoning Board is a little easier than other boards in making decisions because the state law sets the standards. There are five factors to take into consideration: whether it would be detrimental to the character of the neighborhood; whether it is going to have any negative environmental consequences; whether it is substantial; whether the hardship is self-created; and how big is the variance you are seeking. The Board has to balance those factors, and decide whether the benefit to the applicant outweighs the detriment to the neighborhood. So I do not think that would be a hard decision for them to make. Obviously, if there is a more realistic number, the more realistic number makes sense. Maybe you do not want somebody manufacturing tools. If you do not have a limit, they would be able to get around it by selling a few screwdrivers at the front counter. Maybe you do not care about that, but this is what the limit was getting at.

Trustee Walker: I am trying to make it easier for people to run businesses in our downtown and make money because pure retail is tough these days.

Village Attorney Stecich: How about going up a little bit, like 50 percent? Then at some point it does not seem right, people are coming in for too many variances, then you know there is a problem with the law and that would not be a difficult thing to change. But right now, we have nothing to base it on except what is in the code right now.

Trustee Jennings: Is the special permit process a different judgment by the Zoning Board than the variance you just described?

Village Attorney Stecich: Yes.

Trustee Jennings: There are a lot of criteria for special permit. Is there a similar list of things they have to consider?

Village Attorney Stecich: They have to consider what is laid out in the code. They have to check that, in fact, the goods are processed there and there is not going to be offensive noise or gas. There is a general standard of harm to the neighborhood. But for the most part, when either a zoning board or a planning board grants a special permit it takes into account the standards you have laid out in the statute.

Trustee Jennings: Can you get a special permit for 50 percent or 60 percent?

Village Attorney Stecich: If the code reads 40 percent, that is the standard and that is all they can grant. Let us say we adopt it at 40 percent, and you come in and say the processing part of my business takes up 60 percent of the space. Then they would have to get a variance in addition to the special permit.

Trustee Armacost: Has everyone who has been in that position got the variance?

Village Attorney Stecich: I have never seen it.

Trustee Walker: For example, in the CC district we have a few.

Trustee Armacost: Yes, we have at least three. None of them have asked for a variance? Do we care. I imagine we should follow up on that.

Trustee Apel: They would be grandfathered in?

Village Attorney Stecich: No, some of them are fairly recent.

Trustee Apel: They do not know they need to do these things. That is what is not clear.

Trustee Armacost: So how would they even find out?

Village Manager Frobel: We respond to a complaint.

Village Attorney Stecich: It depends on how they describe their business. If they come to the Building Department and say we are opening a bakery, a bakery is a permitted use, that is fine. But let us say all these trucks are coming all the time, headed all over the county with whatever they are selling. Then you might check and say this is not really an on-site bakery. That is how it would come up. The issue has never come before the Zoning Board.

Trustee Walker: What does bakery fall under?

Village Attorney Stecich: Retail.

Trustee Walker: Even if they are doing quite a bit of production there? Bakery means you are baking. It is not just selling baked goods.

Village Attorney Stecich: What is allowed is a retail use. Generally, it is 40 percent. Like that Wonder Bread place that used to be in Elmsford, that is not a bakery.

Trustee Jennings: Meg, when you say many of the businesses find that they cannot make a go of it on retail alone, I thought you had in mind that they would be making more baked goods than they sell in the front, and sending the other stuff someplace else. The trucks are going to be coming and going if that is what they are doing, is it not?

Village Attorney Stecich: This would allow it.

Mayor Swiderski: I do not think there is a space in the downtown that will lend itself to an industrial volume of production of anything.

Trustee Armacost: This kind of thing happens incrementally. The intention when it is set up is to sell locally, you are successful, and then people start hearing about your shop, and then you are in the delivery business, you deliver cakes here and there. A similar thing can happen with other businesses.

Trustee Walker: We have not had something like that. We did have a ceramics shop once, on Warburton, right in this district. They had a big ceramic studio in the back, a little retail area in the front, and they also gave classes. They had to put a kiln in there, so it was a major ventilation issue. I do not know if they had to get a special permit. So things like that, but very, very rare. Back then, it was the CC district.

Village Attorney Stecich: In the CC district, it is not a special permit use, so it would not have come in for a special permit. The difference between the MR-C and the CC is, the MR has a lot more residential than the CC. So you would want to make sure that there is not too much noise or smells or anything like that.

Trustee Walker: It used to be the case. But we have a lot of residential in the CC also.

Trustee Armacost: Maybe this issue has to do with the application process and there needs to be a question on the intended expansion plan. Is the intention only to sell locally on the premises, is the intention to sell outside? Then you would have more of a sense of whether this would be relevant or not, and you could advise them whether they need to get a permit.

Trustee Walker: Some people may be selling on the Internet also, which means UPS trucks coming.

Trustee Armacost: In fact, the bookstores in this district only sell on the Internet. Very rarely does anyone walk into any of those bookshops.

Village Attorney Stecich: As we are talking about it, it seems to me that if this is the way the use is on the books in the CC district, and there has not been a problem with it, I would use the same use rather than trying to rework it, although because this is a partly residential district, I would still leave it as a special permit use but keep the wording the same as it is in the CC district.

Trustee Walker: I suggest we keep it as is, but we become more aware when these situations occur. Maybe we can talk to the Building Inspector about it.

Trustee Apel: If we pass it this way, we put in that we want to review this in a year see if the numbers are working right.

Mayor Swiderski: I do not know how many turnovers we will have in that period in this particular district. You can have one, and be sitting there. But we can.

Trustee Armacost: But that is not affecting this specific issue. This is totally separate. We could make it that now and then come back and revisit it in a year. My guess is this issue will not come up at all in that time period, in either district.

Trustee Walker: It may be that our retail spaces are so small that you cannot do any manufacturing unless it is something that is really tiny.

Mayor Swiderski: So in short, we leave it as is.

Trustee Walker: Yes. One other point I t wanted to bring up is, it used to be that this MR-C was very similar to the MR-O, as we have discussed. The MR-O is Warburton south of Washington, down to Nodine Street. So now we are changing MR-C to allow more retail uses than the MR-O, which had the same kind of antique store uses, books, art, gifts and so on that MR-C had. We are leaving MR unchanged which makes sense. When you think about what are some of the uses in that MR-O district, we have got Antoinette's. There are offices on the ground floor. There used to be some kind of vitamin store.

Trustee Armacost: The toy store was there, that old toy store.

Trustee Walker: Old toy store? Oh, right, the special needs toys. That is going to be a photography place. He is doing the old-fashioned development of photographs, and some digital, too. So that is really production. Good point. And there may be a gallery in the front, as well.

Trustee Armacost: Will there be a museum?

Trustee Walker: You could call it a museum. And then I am not sure what is happening to the big old warehouse building. They were trying to redevelop that into condos. I am not sure where that is headed, but that was a potential artist studio or artisans area. At any rate, I am just pointing out that we are changing this in the MR-C because we think that certain

types of retail uses seem appropriate for lower Warburton, maybe at a higher density retail than we could imagine on lower Warburton south of Washington. Now there is going to be a distinction between them. And we are allowing service establishments on Washington, when we do not on Warburton.

Trustee Armacost: But are you recommending that we expand on the MR-O?

Trustee Walker: No, because I do not think we necessarily have a good reason to unless we wanted to see an increase in retail or manufacturing of goods, production of goods, or service establishments on that part of Warburton Avenue. It was the parking issue that discouraged those uses in the past, when we discussed this before with the people in the neighborhood. So just a point, that is all.

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

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. or shortly thereafter to consider the advisability of amending the Zoning Code to adopt Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2013 to add permitted uses to the Multifamily Residence/Commercial (MR-C) District and Proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2013 to exempt certain retail uses and restaurants in the MR-C district from parking requirements.

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

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Frobel: The governor released his budget today, and some good news. It appears that it contains level funding for the monies that municipalities expected under the state highway improvement fund. For us, that is a big issue. That is \$105,000 we receive. But also two interesting things. One, his budget includes some improvement to this binding arbitration issue that we have been all following. It looks like they are trying to strengthen, in the process, an arbitrator's decision, using the ability to pay as a variable. A footnote is

that it is going to be only affecting those communities that can be determined to be economically distressed. I am not certain we fall in that category. I suspect not. But at least it is in the right direction. The arbitrator would be limited in his award of two percent. So we could not exceed two percent in his award, based on the ability to pay factor. I view that at least as pointing in the right direction of some relief.

Trustee Walker: Two percent of what?

Village Manager Frobel: It says "of his award." So does that include a municipality's contribution towards their pension expense, health care, or just wages? I do not know. I have not read the legislation. The Conference of Mayors sent out a notice late this afternoon. I do not know all the details. But the summary says that the arbitrator would be somewhat restricted by the two percent.

Trustee Walker: Is this something that the New York Council of Mayors is lobbying for, this change in arbitration?

Village Manager Frobel: Yes, a lot of us have looked for relief in this arbitration process.

It looks like there is going to be an option to stabilize our pension contribution. His budget contains language that a municipality would determine what your contribution rate was going to be. For example, under the legislation as printed here it looks like, for the municipal employee, it would be a 12.5 percent payment, and for police, fire retirement it would be 18.5. Your contribution would not exceed these amounts as opposed to, say, 20 percent or whatever the market could be.

Mayor Swiderski: Eighteen percent is not ...

Trustee Armacost: Is outrageous.

Village Manager Frobel: ... is not much of a break. But there is going to be some kind of an option where you can structure your payment, if you so choose.

Trustee Armacost: On the 100k that you were talking about for transportation, is that 100k we know we are going to get?

Village Manager Frobel: It is what we have gotten in the past. It indicates this budget remains level-funded, so that would assume the pie stays the same. I hope the slices are all the same. I cannot guarantee Hastings would get the same amount, but at least the funding level is the same.

Trustee Armacost: But could it be more than that?

Village Manager Frobel: If they change the formula, or it could be less if they change the format. But at least the amount the governor is asking for is the same as the current year, which would lead us to believe we would expect to get the same amount.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

1. Green Building Code – Schedule Work Session

Mayor Swiderski: The Board will soon be getting a draft version of the green building code. This winter-early spring is going to see the green building code, activity on Building 52, the deer issue and the budget occurring at the same time. I am trying to queue it up on our calendar and make sure that it does not get pushed out into the summer. I added the discussion of a work session to the agenda so we can talk about where things stand.

Sharon Kivowitz, Conservation Commission: We really are minutes from being finished. There are just one or two outstanding questions I have out to our technical group. I am expecting, whether I get the answers to those questions or not, to e-mail it to the Conservation Commission with a request that they approve it by Friday, and then with the hopes of submitting it to you.

Mayor Swiderski: What I would look to you for at the next meeting is a presentation to help us walk through the document. The document will be on the Web site, the public can begin to view it. Some kind of introduction. The work session is entirely different. We could talk now about when that might be.

Ms. Kivowitz: We would like to present to you, at that point, a much more detailed analysis, and we will have me or somebody else here on the Feb. 5 to tee it up.

Mayor Swiderski: Good. Bruce, are you in accord with that?

Trustee Jennings: That seems quite reasonable. I would hope that we would not make decisions about it until we have had a chance to have a work session because it is lengthy and complex. At that time, members of the Conservation Commission and the group that prepared this will make presentations to help us formulate the questions we should consider in deciding whether to pass this or not.

Mayor Swiderski: Let us talk about the February meeting schedule and potential work session dates now.

[Discussion of Dates]

Trustee Walker: I am away on the 5th but I can do the 12th.

Trustee Apel: I am here on the 5th but gone the 9th through the 26th.

Trustee Armacost: The 12th is better for me, but I may be away the whole week of Feb. 25th.

Mayor Swiderski: Since we do not have a quorum on the 19th because it is a vacation week, we will make the second meeting in February on the 12th. For the work session, the 27th and 28th are the two choices, 27th preferred.

Ms. Kivowitz: Marianne, do you need to see this again?

Village Attorney Stecich: I do not think so, Sharon. Thanks, though.

Trustee Jennings: I thought that after we had discussed it and perhaps revised it, then Marianne would turn it into the right kind of form and language. But there is no point in having her work on it at this stage because sections may be deleted. It would be premature and waste her time. Do you agree, Marianne?

Village Attorney Stecich: I agree. I will review it when it is sent around in the regular Board packet. I think that was what we had agreed on before. I did spend a lot of time already on it.

Ms. Kivowitz-Siegel: I know, but it has changed significantly since then.

Village Attorney Stecich: This is just going to be an extra step for you, so I will make my comments then.

Trustee Jennings: I would like to put this in a brief context. The green code is a set of amendments to the existing Village building code. We have been working on this project for a couple of years now. We had a number of stakeholder meetings, where architects and contractors and others were there to share their ideas about how we ought to change our

building code to make it more environmentally sensitive and sound, and what others were doing and what the existing examples were out there. Then it evolved into a smaller group of volunteers, led by the Conservation Commission and with involvement right along and the leadership from the Planning Board, as well. That group worked on drafting provisions, and it has gone through many iterations. The Planning Board had extensive comments, and it has been refined over a long period of time until it has come to us now. It has been an activity in which we have tapped into the experience of volunteers living in Hastings. We have a lot of expertise in our community. So it has been a somewhat lengthy process, but in many ways a very rewarding one and a learning curve as we have gone along.

We have three different layers of scrutiny and regulation in terms of what is built and renovated in the Village: the Planning Board; the Zoning Board, and the building code. This applies only to the building code. This is not something that is going to alter the activities or the standards used by either the Planning Board or the Zoning Board, or the Architectural Review Board or the other entities that are involved in this general regulatory process. This is going to apply only to people under the building code who need to get building permits, need to get certificates of occupancy. The code will apply to both commercial building and to residential building. It will apply to new construction, as well as additions and renovations of existing structures.

The basic heart of the code is to bring Hastings standards for what is built up to the professional and market state of the art in terms of energy efficiency, in terms of the impact of buildings on the water supply and water usage and runoff, in terms of the relationship between the building and the land upon which it sits, the biodiversity and vegetation and landscaping of its property. So those three things are addressed by different provisions of the code. All of them, in different ways, are environmentally important and environmentally beneficial. Energy utilization and efficiency is important both because of the pollution of poorly-insulated buildings and also because of the waste of electricity that needs to be generated. And the generation of that electricity is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

So at a number of different levels of scales, we have environmental issues here that should be taken into consideration in today's world. And these amendment, to the building code standards have attempted to address many of those so that the buildings that are built and the additional improvements that are made will make Hastings' building stock a more environmentally friendly and sustainable building stock that it has been in the past, and will be in the future. It is a legacy for the future of our village.

It is technical in many ways. We wanted to be very careful that the standards we are asking people to follow would not be unduly burdensome to people in terms of. We do not believe

that it will be. We also believe that whatever increased up front costs might be caused by these regulations will be repaid very quickly and many times over by the energy savings that will accrue from following our code, for homeowners and for building owners. We do not think it is going to discourage improvement of the Village or commercial development so as to harm our tax base in any way. In fact, I think you can make the argument that this will enhance the marketplace for homeowners who wish to sell their homes and because there are a number of people who are looking for this kind of energy efficiency. Real estate people tell us that increasingly when people are looking at houses they want to know what the number is in terms of the utility bills each month and things of that kind, as well as having ecological considerations in their minds as a value.

So from a number of different benefit and economic reasonableness points of view, we feel that this makes a lot of good sense. It is not a radical proposal. It is new and innovative, and it will make Hastings a place that other communities might look to for leadership in this area. I look forward to discussion of it when you see what has been drafted by our volunteers, and I look forward to our deliberations on it.

APPOINTMENT

Mayor Swiderski: This is an announcement for a position on the Board of Assessment Review which meets twice to handle grievances. A former Trustee, Elsa DeVita, has agreed to serve on that board. Thank you, Elsa.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS (Continued)

2. Deer Management Program Timeline

Mayor Swiderski: We are going to begin the process of ginning up for the effort to run the deer immunocontraception program in this village. That is going to involve a mobilization of volunteers, an education of the community, a refinement of the data collection protocols we are going to need in place to make this a formal study, submission of documents to the DEC, public sessions, et cetera. I am going to be communicating out to both the community and everybody who has ever expressed an interest in volunteering on this effort specifically, looking to confirm who is still interested and what degree of interest that is. We are going to need considerable assistance out of the community to pull this off.

There are going to be a couple of different data collection efforts. One is logs that people will keep to track what they see so we get a sense of where the herds are and how they travel. One will be enclosures in the woods, where we can see what happens if a portion of the woods is undisturbed by deer traffic, what sort of rebirth we see. Modifications to the police

data collection they do when there is a deer strike so we make sure they are collecting what we need to have adequate information. For all those things, except for the police part, we are going to need volunteers and for assisting when we implement. Whether it is controlling access to the sections of the parks where this effort might be run, it is going to involve people. And they are going to have to be put in groups and trained and given their tasks. It is an effort. Constructing the management around us and pulling this off is what I hope happens over the next three months.

So in January, an e-mail out to the community and a call to volunteers. In February, the data gathering protocols are reviewed with the professor, Dr. Rutberg, who is running this with us, and submitted to the DEC. We want their input and approval. We will have more e-mails out to the community and a public session at the end of February or early March so we can begin to educate the public and give them a chance to interact with Dr. Rutberg. In March, we hope to finalize the data gathering protocols, get EPA approval and by then, hopefully, a DEC permit. Then in April, another public session. Observers begin to log their observations of deer in formal logs, and we begin to identify where the enclosures are likely to go, and reach out and identify where this will specifically happen, where in the various parks, and how it will work. I am hesitant to go beyond four months. That as far as we can go in any sort of granularity.

These timelines, and everything else, are going to be posted on the Web site and put out in e-mails to the community. There are still potential hitches along the way, but we are going to be off and running. For me, the big trick will be to organize the volunteers. So much of this is run by residents, and not by me. It is going to be a substantial effort, where no one person does a whole lot but there is going to be a fair amount coordinating.

Trustee Jennings: When will the drug injections take place?

Mayor Swiderski: The experiment is run in winter, typically a December-January time frame, when all the leaves are down.

Trustee Jennings: So December, 2013.

Mayor Swiderski: Yes. It sounds like a long distance, but not really. The impact on population is not felt for another year. The species counts and the protocols we put in place will have a couple of years of baseline so we have some decent numbers on population and regrowth. We can get an idea of what maximally we could hope to see. It is an experiment. We have \$12,000 that has been preliminarily collected by In Defense of Animals, on our behalf, and we will be pursuing more money. As this gets some attention, or more attention other than *Saturday Night Live*, I think it will pick up some speed. And with that, our search

for funding will become quite easy. Because it is a national experiment with some national interest, I think it will be pretty easy to collect more money.

Trustee Armacost: How many volunteers would we need, and what time commitment?

Mayor Swiderski: A lot of people. I have a list of 35 or 40 people who are willing to keep logs or do other activities.

Trustee Armacost: But is it a daily or a weekly or a monthly log?

Mayor Swiderski: As observed. What you saw and how much, you write it down. We have not worked through the protocol, but whether it is monthly or quarterly those are collected and submitted.

Trustee Armacost: If you have a herd that lives on your property you observe them once a day?

Mayor Swiderski: If you see them you write it down on the log, how many, what time of day. Over time, a sense of how many and where they go because they are ultimately creatures of habit, apparently. If you are seeing a herd of 12 at 5 p.m. often, that is a data point. We will eventually look at a map with all these data points on it.

Trustee Apel: I do not know how we can ever figure this out. I have deer that come on certain days and you can tell they are waiting for when the vegetation is going to come back again. But they may be across the street, so someone else may be counting them, and I am going to be counting them. We will not know if we are counting the same deer, or not.

Trustee Armacost: It does not matter.

Trustee Apel: It is just that particular day?

Mayor Swiderski: It is less of a challenge than it sounds. When you begin to lay it out geographically, you will see these two houses are reporting five and it is probably the same five. One sees it at four, one sees it at five, it is probably moving up the block. These patterns will emerge out of the data over time. It is not the only mechanism to count deer we hope to deploy. It is one tool.

Trustee Jennings: I assume that a scientific research team will be analyzing the data, not we, the people of Hastings.

Mayor Swiderski: Yes, and that remains to be determined. It depends on who we find to volunteer and what sort of information we have. We have not sorted out the data collection protocol yet. We have not worked out, whether it is on a paper log, whether it is in Excel, whatever it is on a iPad app, who knows. We hope to over the next couple of months. You are right. It would seem the analysis would be carried out by somebody at Tufts, but we do have people who have statistical backgrounds in town on the list of volunteers. So it is not crazy that we will do some of that.

Trustee Armacost: Is the 30 to 40 that you have enough?

Mayor Swiderski: I do not assume it is enough. We will be asking for other volunteers.

Trustee Armacost: We do have some people who have volunteered for things who we have not tapped. When it is clearer what the jobs are, it would be nice to throw it out to those people. They may not be interested in this set of jobs, but there is this nebulous group of people who want to contribute somehow to the Village.

Mayor Swiderski: Well, there are the data collectors, and the people who would stand at the entrance to a park and say you cannot go in there for the next four hours, and then there are the people coordinating those, people willing to step up and do slightly more than an episodic event. This is not going to be a small effort.

Trustee Walker: I was going to ask if you have some folks who are willing to take on a larger management role.

Mayor Swiderski: In the past, and we are going to be revisiting all of them, we will see who steps up.

Trustee Walker: Have you had enough contact with the DEC to be fairly confident? Have you gotten any assurance that they will turn this around quickly?

Mayor Swiderski: Not yet. Reaching out this week, in fact. The first assurance came from people at the EPA that the latest formulation is likely to go through. I did not want to jump the gun with the DEC. The EPA has to approve the latest formulation of PZP, and it has been approved. Or it has not been approved, but it seems to be favorably inclined. The DEC was not negative because they saw that this is going to be a formal study and that there is a structure around it. But we have to complete the process with them and get the permit.

Trustee Walker: Are we modeling this on any other communities' effort? I know we are the pilot project, but have there been other pilot projects?

Mayor Swiderski: Yes, and no. There have been a number of pilot projects that Dr. Rutberg has done in more closed communities that do not have the same free range population that we do.

Trustee Walker: Did he do it on Fire Island?

Mayor Swiderski: Yes. But there is still citizen involvement in all those projects. And it is his primary concern how that is coordinated and done. So he has experience with this, and is asking those questions as well. We are also working, and I am blanking on the name, with someone who did the bow hunting counts and monitoring at Pound Ridge and Mianus River Gorge. He helped run the metrics around that. He is an academic, as well, and has said he will work with us to help structure our data collection.

Trustee Walker: Any idea where we could go after funding? Should we be looking now?

Mayor Swiderski: I do not. Barbara Stagno does. We have spoken to a couple of foundation heads. Again, we got one grant. The other one wanted something larger than a single community. It would have funded us if we were in league with either Rye, which is contemplating this, or Dobbs, which no longer is. But again, I think once the seriousness of our effort becomes clear some doors may open.

Trustee Armacost: How much is it, \$12,000?

Mayor Swiderski: It is what we have received so far. It is about half of the first two years. I would like to see it fully funded, or largely funded, over the next four, looking to get outside grants.

Trustee Walker: So over four years, that would be \$50,000?

Mayor Swiderski: No. I think the cost drops off. But we are going to finalize the budget, as well, in the next two months.

Trustee Armacost: So is that for a year then? Is it \$12,000 for a year? When you say it is half for the next two years, is that it?

Mayor Swiderski: Roughly. I would not say it quite works out like that, but we are going to finalize the budget and get a sense for that, and then figure out how much money we need to pursue outside the Village. This is not going to be a small effort.

Trustee Armacost: If you get students to do any of the logging as part of the high school program, maybe the education foundation would support it if it were considered academic-oriented. Maybe a science teacher would take on a group of people.

Mayor Swiderski: That may be a group of volunteers we have not considered.

Tim Downey, 529 Farragut Parkway: Will this be a formal committee and will there be any larger meetings or educational events? Will they be conducted in the Orr Room or locations where they can be archived? If there are committees, will people be tasked with taking minutes so that besides just recording the deer we can record ourselves and see how we went about the process, and have something to reflect back on some years down the road?

Mayor Swiderski: That is a good idea. I have not gone that far. I know that IDA, which put up the \$12,000, would like to record this for a model for use elsewhere. I do not think we will necessarily do that writing. But for our own sake, it is a really good idea. Certainly, Rutberg's presentations will be captured on camera and done in a community setting. Whether the workers gather monthly and whether those are public sessions, I have not thought about it. I do not see the harm in doing so.

Mr. Downey: The presentation that was done in Dobbs Ferry two years ago was recorded so it became a potential tool for people who could not attend. You mentioned the woman from Dobbs Ferry. We have Rutberg from out of town, but there will be people from outside the Village composing this team. Just so there is a record of the dialogue or training that goes on, that is why I was suggesting either recording it or minutes.

Mayor Swiderski: Rutberg's presentation will be recorded. There is nothing opaque about this. I do not know the mechanics to recording the working sessions. But I see no harm in it.

Trustee Armacost: To Mr. Downey's point, if it is a pilot to be replicated elsewhere the easier you make it for someone to replicate it the better it is. From a fund-raising point of view, if you can prove that you were doing things and that people met and the counting happened, it is very helpful.

Mayor Swiderski: Without a doubt. We already have somebody willing to do the press kit work that we are going to need.

Trustee Armacost: I do not mean the press kit. I mean the community process.

Mayor Swiderski: But in building the collateral around this project, we are going to need that without a doubt. It is going to have a fair amount of attention paid to it, judging by the

attention already paid. We are going to need a way to capture this stuff and distribute it so we are not spending our time on the phone talking to every village in the surrounding 200 miles. I have gotten a scary number of calls from other communities contending with this. The sooner we begin to capture this in a form that we can point others to, it is an issue of replication, time-saving on our end, transparency, all of it.

Mr. Downey: To me it is transparency in public records. There has been a lot of conversation of recent happenings that have been a surprise to me. I want to stay in contact with this process because there have been some breaks that I was not aware of along the line.

Mr. Gonder: I want the best of the best for Hastings, especially when it comes to health and safety. We had Dr. Jacques Padawer, good researcher, did a tremendous job on doing a deer survey, from ticks all the way through. It was a thick report. And here I read in the paper about Dr. Rutberg. He does not come here, he did not put on any information whatsoever. All I get is what I read in the newspaper. I am not sure if you voted on this. You were going to check that. But I do remember that Jeremiah Quinlan said he did not think this would work. We have spent how many years, and now you are trying to do something that is an experiment. If the experiment was someplace else, and it worked, fine. But we are going to be the first. I would rather be the last. The DEC says they do not think it will work. Westchester County does not think it is going to work. But you, Mayor, think it is going to work. I am surprised that not one of you Trustees question and say I do not think this is going to work. The health and safety of our citizens are involved. I have two grandchildren. One had to get tested and treated for Lyme, the other one had a tick in his. I had three ticks on myself. Five years have gone by and nothing has been accomplished.

Mayor Swiderski: What is the question, please?

Mr. Gonder: My question is, why does somebody here not have the guts to say, Mr. Mayor, I think you are wrong, and have some discussion? Have this Rutberg here. You are talking about guns. I do not think they are air guns.

Mayor Swiderski: They are air guns.

Mr. Gonder: I am not sure, in Westchester, if you are allowed to use air guns.

Mayor Swiderski: You are.

Mr. Gonder: All the permits and everything else you need. I think you are going to take another three years before you get anything done.

Mayor Swiderski: Thank you for your thoughtful comments. I am not sure what the question was, but it is not that it has not worked. It has worked in closed communities. It has not been tried in communities like ours, but a cull in a community like ours has to be sustained year in, year out, and will encounter its own set of problems, including that it is easily disrupted and there is going to be community resistance to it. We are not going down that road first. This is experimental. Nobody has done anything on this topic in communities with our profile. Dense suburbs do not have tools to address this problem. Rather than walking away from it because, like most communities that face it and decide they cannot do a hunt, we are going to try something, at least. Will it work? I do not know. What do I think the odds are? I do not know. Worth trying, especially if the cost is relatively minimal. But I am not going to repeat myself on this much longer. If the Board feels contesting it, they can. But the justification here is done. So we are going to proceed and try this.

Mr. Gonder: Was there a vote?

Mayor Swiderski: I do not know if we need a formal vote, and I am not sure I am going to ask for one right now. But we have been talking about this for awhile. This is not a surprise. It is not like it is being sprung on the community.

Mr. Gonder: Why have you changed your mind so quickly?

Mayor Swiderski: Three years ago.

Mr. Gonder: So quickly you changed your mind, and it was in a back room. It was not out in the public.

Trustee Armacost: No, it was not in the back room. It was in the public because I was in those meetings. Marge can maybe say she was not there, but she is really the only one of us who can say that she was not there. But if she was watching the TV she would have heard these discussions. This is not a new discussion. The Mayor has the support of the Trustees, he has my support, in trying this. We have no idea whether it is going to be successful. There are many things we try and do we do not know if they are going to be successful. But if we do not try, then we cannot say we have tried. And we have had a lot of evidence that we have to try this right now.

Mr. Gonder: But you have a DEC permit that the Mayor got, and then was afraid to do it because people called him Hitler and other things which were not appropriate. And all of a sudden, the thing changed.

Trustee Armacost: We could not use that permit because of the way our woods are structured. It is not big enough. We would still have had to get permission. He went through a very detailed, and I thought thoughtful, presentation on exactly the reasons why that option was going to be very difficult for us. It was not as simple as getting a permit. It was getting all of the other people to agree to their properties. For me, it was a very compelling and powerful presentation. We need to stop discussing whether we are going to do it, and just do it.

Mayor Swiderski: It is being done. I do not promise success, but until somebody goes down this road we will not have a tool in this particular fight. There is no more ideal a community to try this for the interest in tackling it. Will it address the Lyme disease issue? No. Neither will a cull. Once Lyme disease is in your population it is almost impossible to remove. The only successful time that has been done has been on island communities where every deer was wiped out. Will it address some of the other issues, damage to the woods, car impacts, damage to personal property? Hopefully, you bring down the numbers by 40, 50 percent.

Mr. Gonder: Culling would have done the same thing a lot quicker.

Mayor Swiderski: But you have to sustain it year in, year out. With all due respect, we have been through this every single time you bring it up. I am not going to respond to it any further. Enough time spent.

Dave Skolnik, 47 Hillside Avenue: I have a question about the possibility of having meetings that are not open to wider than the community, and also not taped. Is it feasible from a purely legal sense, and is there some merit in having that kind of discussion within the community?

Mayor Swiderski: One of the attractive features of immunocontraception is that culturally it is not as volatile as a cull. You are not going to have the same probability of external disruption at a meeting as you would with the lethal option. So I am not worried about an external presence at a meeting and I do not know how you would implement that. I do not know legally whether you could. We will need to consider it. I am not going to be checking passports at the door of the Community Center.

Village Attorney Stecich: Legally, you cannot. The only way you can limit, and it is not presence at meetings, anybody can come to a meeting, but let us say you have chosen all your volunteers and they are local and you are having a work session. Your work session can be participation only by the people in the work session, and the Board.

Mayor Swiderski: I have no interest in that. I do not think it is going to be an issue.

Mr. Skolnik: But if there were a reason to reengage in a broader discussion that would be potentially volatile, like the ones we had where the repercussions were felt, are you saying that there would be no way to have that as a community discussion without opening it up to stuff being recorded that then made its way onto the Internet ...

Trustee Armacost: But why do we have to talk about that now? It seems like a very premature and speculative type of question.

Mayor Swiderski: But even then, I am willing to say open meetings are open meetings.

Mr. Skolnik: Is the study linked on our Web site?

Mayor Swiderski: The draft submission to the DEC, which included sections written by both Dr. Rutberg, the data collection protocols initially developed by Jacques Padawer, and a cover letter I wrote, is all on the Web site. It was part of the submission to the DEC.

Mr. Skolnik: You would not want to be in a situation where you have entered into this and suddenly you do not have the money to follow it through. Is there some realistic assessment of what a completed study would cost?

Mayor Swiderski: Initially, very roughly, numbers were discussed in the range of \$25,000 to \$30,000. But we want to tighten that budget over the next two months. The ultimate idea would be that if this works the ongoing effort is a small fraction of that. The ongoing effort becomes volunteer-driven, and the cost of the darts and the initial guns that you would buy.

Mr. Skolnik: At what point there would be some clear evidence that this has worked or not worked. What is the assessment part of this process, and time frame?

Mayor Swiderski: Very good question. We have spoken about three to four years. But we are going to be posting and reviewing numbers from the first year. To me, a successful project is something that is felt: some drop in the number of car impacts, some drop in observed deer and, as a result, the predation of those deer on gardens, and ultimately some revival in the forests. If the numbers are tweaked down a small amount, and we are not seeing statistically meaningful impacts on car accidents and what people are observing, then in three or four years' time we have a discussion whether it is worth turning this into an ongoing yearly event.

3. Saw Mill Lofts Affordable Housing

Mayor Swiderski: We had a Saw Mill Lofts affordable housing item on here that was way premature. We received a document that seemed to imply a timeline that we had to abide by. The Affordable Housing Committee has indicated that is not so, and when they are prepared to present on this they will.

Trustee Apel: If the next time we get the information it only deals with the five units they were asking for, I have no concept of what the rest of this is looking like.

Village Attorney Stecich: There was a total of 66 units.

Trustee Apel: It was not in that material.

Village Attorney Stecich: The approval for any development over there has lapsed. They needed initial approval from the Board of Trustees and also from the Planning Board, and that lapsed, so they are going to have to go back to square zero.

Trustee Apel: They are not going to come back to us about the affordable housing before they the approval of the whole thing, right?

Village Attorney Stecich: This was just an application to get funding for the affordable units.

Mayor Swiderski: It is beginning the process of ginning up.

Trustee Apel: But they need approval first.

Mayor Swiderski: Totally.

Trustee Apel: I was on the Board before when we spent hours and hours. I do not want to see anything from them until they get approval from the Board that they can do whatever they are doing down there, and then come back to us about the affordable housing. I am not going to do this backwards and spend all this time. I am not wasting my time on this.

Mayor Swiderski: It is a busy year. I have no problem with your sentiment on that subject.

Trustee Apel: Just get your approval for the housing, whatever you can do to begin with, and then come back with all the details. I am not going to be going through this, and then find out that they are not going to do it again. It a waste of my time.

Mayor Swiderski: But they, at the very least, should explain that timing. If there is some compelling reason I will not rule it out, but I want to hear that.

Trustee Apel: It better be very compelling. I am not wasting my time on this.

Mayor Swiderski: I understand. But on the other hand, if it is associated with our Affordable Housing Committee and Sue Smith can explain why this has to happen, I am certainly willing to listen.

4. Update on the Downtown

Trustee Walker: We had a meeting of our ad hoc downtown committee last week. Got some more volunteers, people who are interested in undertaking different efforts. Some are updating the data that we have on businesses and buildings in the downtown that Angie Witkowski did a few years ago, so we are updating our maps and our lists of businesses and information about those businesses. We are updating our list of landlords. We are gearing up to reach out to businesses and landlords. . We are talking about the possibility of a pop-up retail program for the summer, focusing on the vacant retail spaces. That requires reaching out to the landlords to talk about that effort.

That coincides with what the Tourism Board is hoping to do. Our Rivertowns Tourism Board received a grant for \$17,000 to promote our downtowns, our Aqueduct, whatever it is we want to promote. Each village is talking among themselves about what they would like to promote. It will not just be walking on the Aqueduct. It might also include riding on the South County Trailway. But ultimately, we want to get people into our downtowns. We are thinking about what we could do on a spring weekend that we could promote in our downtowns. Would it be a festival, a Friday Night Live the night before, a Saturday festival, a pop-up retail program in the empty spaces? We are thinking that might be the first or second weekend in June, and we promote it as a discover the Rivertowns weekend, and it is tied to similar festivals and activities in the other Rivertowns.

I was approached by a trustee from Dobbs Ferry who is also a local business owner and a member of their downtown improvement committee. They wanted to talk about possibly merging our Chambers of Commerce or merging our downtown efforts, or at least coordinating our downtown efforts. We are going to meet tomorrow night and talk about this. One of the problems that each one of these Chambers has, at least Dobbs and Hastings, is we never get enough members who will engage in doing things to make things move forward. People will pay their dues, and they are too busy to do a lot more. We were wondering if we had a two village or even a three village Chamber of Commerce there might

be the critical mass of involved businesses who could make stuff happen, with more financial wherewithal perhaps to hire part-time staff or contract things out, do more of these promotional efforts that we are talking about that we are doing through this Rivertowns Tourism Board could be done through a joint Chamber of Commerce.

5. Update on the Waterfront

Village Manager Frobel: The Exxon Mobil site is nearing completion. Crews worked over the weekend putting the final touches on the site. They expect it to be complete for the winter, finish it up perhaps early next week. At the Uhlich Color/Chevron, energizing the entire system by the end of this week. Running a shakedown early part of the week. It should be permanently running by next Friday.

Mayor Swiderski: On Building 52, I got a call today from BP offering two possible dates to come before the Board to answer questions around their response and engineering work: March 5 or April 16. It is likely to be a half-hour, 45-minute event, with Allen Peterson, a representative of his engineering firm, and Fred Yaeger, who is on the public relations side. I am inclined to grab the first possible date because March is a lighter than April is likely to be once the budget gets going.

Trustee Armacost: On the budget, there are some dates which Fran had told us about earlier, and then are some dates which we do not know about until now. I am wondering maybe at the next meeting if we can figure out what that schedule is. Some of us are in flux and moving around, and I would like to be around for at least those meetings.

Mayor Swiderski: To finish up on Building 52, Doug Alligood has come back with some questions about the submission. I am going to formalize those into a letter, pass those on to BP, expecting to be able to answer those questions in the session before us. The letter will be posted on the Web site so people will understand his concerns.

Trustee Armacost: There are a number of other people who cared about those issues. I think that it is important that they are notified. There was an informal committee at that time.

Mayor Swiderski: There was, Doug was on it. When I talk to Doug I will ask him to reach out and mobilize that. I do not expect this will be the last meeting on this topic, the one on March 5. But at least it queues up a discussion that is overdue. Let us resolve it. Also, the Waterfront Infrastructure Committee chair, Lee Kinnally, has asked Doug to work with the Conservation Commission on incorporating sustainability issues into the Waterfront Infrastructure Committee Plan.

6. Other

Trustee Walker: A thought about the budget. There are a few committees that have, in the past, asked for small amounts of money: the Arts Commission, the Economic Development Committee. I wonder if it would be worthwhile asking our committee chairs to think about it. We are not talking about large sums of money. But sometimes they say if we just had a few hundred dollars to do things with we could do more.

Village Manager Frobel: Normally, they are familiar with the process.

Trustee Walker: But I do not think they are.

Village Manager Frobel: I can send out an e-mail reminding them that I am in the budget process development time if they had some program requests for something.

Trustee Walker: Yes, it might be programming, it might be maybe they want to do some data collection. The Arts Commission likes to think about that.

Trustee Armacost: The Arts Commission has put quite a lot of thought into it and has a process on it. We had a series of meetings on this, and some of them wanted to fund-raise independently. There were a number of different things we discussed relating to some of that. But I suppose it depends on what the money is needed for. Also, it depends on the group. I cannot imagine the Zoning Board would need money, or the Planning Board.

Trustee Walker: There are already funds in the budget for them to go to training, for example. But the other committees, I do not think we have anything in mind.

Trustee Armacost: Is this prompted by something? Normally, when asked that kind of question, one has something in mind.

Trustee Walker: It has been prompted by discussions with the Arts Commission in the past. They are the ones who have been most engaged with us in putting forth proposals. I will tell you where else it came up, and this is not a committee. I was talking to Nancy DeNatale about Riverview Park. She said we did not get the grant for Riverview Park, how can we move forward, for example, with doing a dog park in Riverview Park? I said the best thing is to go to Kendra and the Parks Commission and discuss with them. This is not a committee, but it is citizens going there. Come up with a proposal for some money to do a dog park then, and bring it to us and we would discuss putting it in the budget.

Trustee Armacost: There are a few groups that work with Parks and Rec, and they are using facilities of the Village. They contribute, but they also need support in order to improve. The Little League is probably the one that has been most effective and has contributed the largest amount.

Mayor Swiderski: Because they can bring both financial and management muscle.

Trustee Armacost: To do it, right. But that is not a commission. I do not think that is a board and commission issue.

Village Manager Frobel: We discuss that at the last Park Commission meeting, and Nancy sent me a letter today. I spoke to Kendra. We are trying to get that group reformulated and active, and meet perhaps as early as next week.

Trustee Jennings: I can think of some examples of Conservation Commission educational events, where a little money is needed to support travel of an outside speaker and other incidental costs of this climate action week events or similar sustainability things. There are a number of things on the long-term agenda of the Conservation Commission which require student intern volunteers this. Some of it is data entry. We are not monitoring things the way we had hoped to two or three years ago when we joined the ICLEI process. It is fine if we can get volunteers to do it pro bono. But it would be helpful if we could pay a student a little hourly wage. They have the skill set, often, that older people lack,

Trustee Armacost: I think there is discretionary funding in Fran's budget. There are amounts used for events. The budget is the time when those things get discussed. We have a \$200,000 contingency fund each year. It is not like there is not money there. The question is, people need to ask when it is budget season, not after the budget has been done.

Trustee Walker: With a little warning, they might be able to think about what their needs are in advance instead of coming afterwards.

Trustee Apel: Maybe the chair of each committee should get a notice on the budget.

Village Manager Frobel: I will send a note to them.

Mayor Swiderski: I do not want to feel like this is a raid on the piggybank either. That we are raising hopes.

Trustee Walker: I know, but I have heard from people that they feel like we are stingy in not giving committees any funding.

Trustee Armacost: We have been through a financial crisis. There is a reason to be stingy.

Trustee Walker: It is a reason to be stingy, but we are only talking about a few hundred dollars sometimes. It is not a lot of money.

Village Manager Frobel: We often accommodate. If someone has some travel expenses or out of pocket expenses we find the wherewithal to make it.

Mayor Swiderski: Saturday, February 2 the very popular shredder will be at the train station parking lot from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is always a much bigger hit than you would ever suspect. There were cars backed out of that lot because people grab the opportunity to go through all their old checks and everything else.

Trustee Jennings: The last time this occurred there were some logistical complaints and issues. Let us fix it this time. You could not walk to take your stuff up on foot. It was only set up for cars. People felt virtuous about carrying instead of driving their stuff.

Trustee Armacost: Why would they not be allowed to go up?

Mayor Swiderski: It was the protocol of the shredder that they were being told there was a line. They objected to having to wait at the end of a line of cars belching fumes in their face.

Trustee Armacost: But you could understand why the people in the cars would not like someone to skip the line just because they happen to be walking. It is an issue of whether you are queuing or not.

Trustee Apel: But there is a philosophical thing here, because are we not encouraging people to walk and not idle their cars.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Jennings with a voice vote of all in favor, the Board scheduled an Executive Session immediately following the Regular Meeting to discuss legal matters.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION of Trustee Jennings, SECONDED by Trustee Armacost with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Swiderski adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:35 p.m.