

**VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**APRIL 16, 2013**

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 16, 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. Frobel, Village Attorney Marianne Stecich, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto.

**CITIZENS:** Eight (8).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Apel with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of Organizational and Regular Meetings of April 2, 2013 were approved as presented.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

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

Multi-Fund No. 51-2012-13	\$ 20,062.00
Multi-Fund No. 52-2012-13	\$ 248,982.43
Multi-Fund No. 53-2012-13	\$ 15,586.69

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Tim Downey, 520 Farragut Parkway:** I want to commend the Board for the decision to stay with the arrangement as we have now regarding acting park superintendent. It was terrific from many standpoints, one being employee morale throughout the Village. I would like to read one point from a letter submitted to the *Enterprise*:

"Instead of a top-heavy, bloated administration, which I was concerned with, the thought of hiring somebody, I thought perhaps instead investing in employee training, refinement of purpose and mission, new equipment for task execution and seasonal temporary labor, employment, with the very same monies that would otherwise been earmarked for more administration would yield a far greater return on all measures."

I want to address also the seasonal blower law. As the law stands, we allow the use of an electric handheld blower. There exists a model gasoline blower of approximately the same dimension, same sounds, comparable in all ways except it has a gasoline motor. If one were to say one pollutes and one does not, that is not being truthful because electricity does not come for free. I would like to ask the Village to consider falling in the middle of where we currently are, no-blower usage during certain dates, and something that Ardsley has, one blower allowed, with permit, one per vehicle, for the companies working the property. I brought tonight a sample of two machines. This little red one is an electric one, this one is a gas one. They are very similar except for the engine. One member of a committee said they would not have a problem with use of the blowers in someone's hands like mine because I would be mindful of using it, but they cannot let other people use it because they do not have the training or the wherewithal. I would agree. But we do need this tool for all the debris that falls off the trees after the law goes in place in May, and in August, when the acorns and seeds come down. I would like the Board to give serious consideration, and to come back with a public answer, would they be willing to look at it and do a trial for one year. Let us see if we can find a compromise that works, that accommodates both the people who have concerns about the noise and then the ability to work.

**David Skolnik, 47 Hillside Avenue:** You had a discussion last night about the street lamps, mainly trying to figure out the efficacy of the change. I do not recall any discussion about the coloration of the lights and a trial period. I recall that there had been discussion about putting some in and then getting some feedback about them. Either I missed it or there has not been, but I wanted to offer my reaction to it which is that it leaves me very cold. I am on Hillside Avenue, where one of them has been changed and one is the older one. I find a remarkable difference in a visceral response to the coloration of the light. The conversation was about cost savings, but there should be some weight given to the aesthetics. The contrast between the brightness of that light, and then the illumination that it gives, it is not quite as successful as you might wish it.

Over the last few weeks you have spoken a great deal, and eloquently, about the issues facing the Village. You had to deal with a good deal of public feeling about the Parks and Recreation superintendent. You made some important points that people were not ready to absorb with regard to certain economic realities. On the other hand, you have referred on a number of occasions to this idea of a Hastings identity, and it has always left me a little off balance. If we think about what different people understand that to be, then there could be a certain amount of misunderstanding. You made it clear that you still want to remain open to working with the neighboring villages, with Dobbs Ferry, and that you were not encouraging this kind of separation that has been thrown out. But I am a little, I do not know if "skeptical" is the word, but the idea that we, on the one hand, need to economize and work together, but with what has gone on recently with regard to Dobbs and development, we have

no input in that situation. We do not have input as it relates to Yonkers. I am mildly mistrustful of going too far down this road of cooperation when there are plenty of things going on that affect us but that we have no input into.

**Village Manager Frobel:** I would like to respond to the LED question. We had two LED decorative lamps installed for people to view. We had street lamps in various locations that we urged residents to view. We also made referrals to several locations in Dobbs Ferry. The only feedback I got, and I got no negative feedback, was from a gentleman who lives in the community who sells street lamps. But I shared with you the concern that it would be a change. It is a much whiter, brighter light than the more yellow illumination that we have throughout the Village. We are in our third year of transitioning all our street lamps to a more efficient LED, and we are seeing some savings in the kilowatts used. Our payback we expect to be within four to five years. So we are seeing the results.

**Trustee Walker:** The LED lights are constantly improving so there may be more choices than there were a couple of years ago in terms of coloration and intensity.

**Trustee Armacost:** There are quite a few LED lights that have the feeling of the golden glow that many of us like.

**Trustee Apel:** Can you put not a screen or a filter on like they do in movie houses and stages? They put colors over the glass and they can change the color of the light.

**Village Manager Frobel:** I can inquire.

**Trustee Apel:** While we are waiting for the newer bulbs, because these last 10 years or so.

**Trustee Walker:** Lifetime, really.

**Trustee Armacost:** It also depends on where the lights are. There are locations where it is important that it is bright-bright because it is off the beaten path, and there are situations where it might be nicer if it were more muted. We are probably not at that nuanced phase yet. I am particularly interested in whether there is a savings or not and if we can document that, but at the same time if it can be a pleasant experience for people.

**Village Manager Frobel:** Let me redirect the memorandum that we prepared several years ago in which we demonstrated what we expect for a payback as a starting point.

**Trustee Armacost:** I am interested not so much in what was expected, but what it actually has been.

**John Gonder, 153 James Street:** The fire chief requested giving the same price to the families of firemen that Greenburgh would do. I was wondering if the Board has addressed that yet. I think you should. In fact, I think the firemen's children should go free, and I think all the children in the Hastings school district should go free.

I hope you have more police in your budget. In the crosswalk at Warburton at Villard, a car sped right by me. That is four times at that intersection. I know the police are doing a good job, they are arresting 17 at a clip, but that is just one thing. And they get people that do not have licenses or insurance. You need more police in this village, especially for Graham School.

Building 52, you want to spend \$17,000. If that is taxpayers' money that is a waste of money. If it is BP's, fine. But BP gave you a fair estimate of what it would cost, and you have that and you can give it to someone else for maybe \$1,000 and save so much labor and so much materials. I do not think you should spend \$17,000. You were looking for guidance when you said right now we are having nothing, and I think it is extraordinary and irresponsible to saddle the Village with a white elephant. I am going to give you some guidance. I am going to give you some wisdom and some common sense. Let Building 52 go. Nobody except a few architects really want that building. You could put it on a ballot next year and find out what the community wants. Nobody wants PCBs on the floor. I know you can encapsulate and other things, but liability to BP for years and years is going to be terrible. Why do you not just try to save the water tower.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Thank you. And we do not intend to spend that \$17,000 even if it is BP's. We are going to get an opinion from our engineers for a small fraction of that. As it turns out, they are in the process of creating a letter with their opinion as we speak.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

**Mayor Swiderski:** I would like to make a series of announcements. The following are reappointments: Advisory Committee for the Disabled – Maureen Bassman, three year term; Youth Council – Donna Hart, Jeff Edelman and Jeanne Newman to three year terms

The following are new appointments: Planning Board – Kerry Gould-Schmit, five year term; Parks & Recreation Commission – Angela Reeve, three year term; William Crosby to fill term expiring 2014. Youth Council – Anna Pearson and Karen Sokol to fill terms expiring 2015.

For all the work that has been done by those being reappointed, thank you. And for the five who have been newly appointed, thank you in advance. Especially thank you to Niki for the

work in soliciting those reappointments and calling the people to find out if they are interested for the new appointments, and following up. It is a lot of work, generally under-appreciated but not by me.

### **25:13 FARMERS' MARKET – APPROVAL OF USE OF MUNICIPAL BUILDING PARKING LOT**

**Mayor Swiderski:** This is an annual resolution where the Farmers' Market approaches the Village for the right to use the municipal parking lot for use during the bulk of the summer.

**Sue Smith, representing Hastings Farmers' Market:** It feels like the rite of spring for all of us. The only point from the memo, aside from the basic request to use it from June to just before Thanksgiving, is to say that every two years we do a survey on one Saturday as well as monthly attendance. The average attendance this past year was 1,500 adults, which is a lot. We do not do dogs and children, of which there are a lot. That is maybe a little off at the very height that it has been, but still we are very pleased with that.

In the survey we also found that 63 percent of the shoppers were from Hastings, which is a percentage point or two more than it has been in past years. Seventeen percent are from the Rivertowns; 20 percent are from other places, from Yonkers to Bronxville to Scarsdale to all over the place. Some people come by train. And 60 percent do additional shopping or errands in the Village in the same trip, which is close to what it has been in the past years. Last year we started taking food stamps for the first time. We have been disappointed in how few people are using that. We are trying to figure out other approaches, and have made a connection with the Youth Advocate's office because they have quite a few people who use the food pantry in Hastings. We do gleaning at the end of the market for leftovers, like the artisanal breads that cannot be sold the next day at a different market. Last week, I did that and there were some apples and vegetables and a variety of things for the food pantry. We are hoping that some of those people at the food pantry may also be food stamp people who would discover that some of the products from the market are worth coming for. We are hoping to do a program, which in the state is called "market buck," that would give all the food pantry recipients some free dollars, maybe \$5 or \$10 or something like that, to get them to come to the market. It would be free shopping for them, but it would also introduce the market to them and show them that they can get some good value. I know there is a feeling that a lot of the things are quite expensive, which is true. But there are also a lot of things that are not so expensive, that are good buys as well as being super-fresh. That is something that some people just have to discover and we are trying to find ways to draw that participation. That is our current challenge.

**Trustee Armacost:** Fran, you sent a memo to us about some of the fantastic contributions the Farmers' Market has made to the Village. People might not be aware of some of the side contributions that the Farmers' Market has made, in what is a very successful collaboration.

**Village Manager Frobel:** I agree. The promoters of the market have been very generous in responding to some of our capital needs. They participate in helping us address our ADA concerns. They made contributions to the library to help offset the out of pocket expenses the library incurs. Most recently, they are going to participate in an initiative that Susan Maggiotto has headed up making some improvements to the grounds at village hall.

We have heard the comments that in some communities perhaps it was more common for a contribution to be made for the rental of public space. Susan has done a survey and out of the seven or eight communities where we surveyed our neighbors only one charges a farmers' market for the use of their property. All of them grant it at no cost. We welcome their location here. Part of it was the notion that it would draw folks to the downtown area on a Saturday. As demonstrated, the statistics prove that. And as Niki points out, cooperatively they have made generous contributions to some of our capital needs. I like the idea of the donation to a capital need because we know specifically how it is being spent. I have a fear that if we received a weekly payment it would drop into the general fund, never to be seen again. To my way of thinking, these are concrete improvements we can make through their donations. So I thank you.

**Ms. Smith:** Could I add non-monetary contributions that we do? We welcome any non-profit groups in the community. We have become the place where people like to solicit for whatever their interest is, be it the fire department wanting new members or the Girl Scouts. Often there are a number of groups at the same time. It is wonderful to have a place where they have such a built-in audience. We also employ a lot of people from the community. We pay well for the music. And we have a lot of young people who are able to work for us also. So there are a lot of different ways in which we can contribute to the community.

**Trustee Walker:** I would add that it is like our agora. It becomes our community gathering place. A lot of different kinds of exchanges go on. There are opportunities to have spontaneous interactions with your neighbors, to meet new people, to welcome visitors to Hastings and give them a taste of what this community is all about. There is the entertainment aspect, there are activities for kids. Kids can run freely up there, it is safe. So it provides a lot of public benefits and community benefits to Hastings.

**Ms. Smith:** That is what we wanted. Thank you.

**Trustee Armacost:** Absolutely. In addition to all the things that you have mentioned, it has benefited the library. A lot of people wander seamlessly between the library and the market. My family has certainly done it. And you have the opportunity to explore new and exciting food and other things, which is also fantastic. So our family certainly has really enjoyed the experience. My son Cole is a huge fan. We have to plan our weekends around the Farmers' Market. Kudos to all of you for creating such an amazing environment.

**Ms. Smith:** Lots of people have pulled together to do that. We have a committee of about 11 people who volunteer a lot of time for it, which is great, and they are enthusiastic about it. But I should end by saying not only your support but the staff of the library and police is really important to making it work. They have to get the police cars down to the street, the library has to deal with more people coming in. They have a really busy morning. So I appreciate the support from the rest of the Village. And I should say the DPW, also.

**Mayor Swiderski:** The Farmers' Market is the most important addition to the cultural or sociological landscape of the Village in the last 14 years in the way it brings people together and offers a chance for community like nothing else. It is profoundly appreciated by a lot of people.

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 use of the Municipal Building parking lot for the 2013 Farmers' Market on Saturdays beginning June 1, 2013.

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

**Mayor Swiderski:** Sue, at the last meeting a topic came up where I do not think I personally interjected strongly enough on behalf of another committee you serve on. That was from one of the members of the public that involved inquiries about the incorporation and background of the Affordable Housing Development Fund. I want to personally say that I could not more strongly disagree with the tone or implication, even if it was not intended, of those comments.

There are a number of committees in this town that do truly thankless work. The group of people around affordable housing is one of those groups, and your work especially on that committee is truly valued. You meet monthly, beat your heads against a block with some of our committees trying to get approvals; work for years to do something that is truly valuable and important to this community. I do not think there is a person up here who has ever questioned the intent, integrity or fundamental good will of the people on that committee and of the fund; in almost all cases, the same people. I know I am profoundly grateful for the work you do. There is nothing in my silence that implies I think those words had any meaning in terms of the implication. I understand the desire for open government, but it should never slander or slur people and I want to be clear about that. So thank you.

### **26:13 AUTHORIZATION TO SELL EXCESS VEHICLES**

**Village Manager Frobel:** Staff periodically goes through out fleet to determine what are serviceable and practical and what we can dispose of. Mike Gunther and the mechanics have reviewed this list of equipment. It is their opinion that they have reached the end of their useful life, and we would like authority to sell them. We were quite successful the last time we had batched a lot like this. We expect to use the same service, an online auction. It is an international auction service so we expect to get some good prices.

**Trustee Armacost:** What is the problem with the 2005 vehicle? That seems relatively new.

**Village Manager Frobel:** It is an old police car that we have been using for parts only. There is not much left of the vehicle. It is not roadworthy today. A lot of the parts have come off it. I am not even sure if we took the transmission out of that one.

**Superintendent Gunther:** Yes, I believe we took the transmission out of it.

**Trustee Armacost:** But that is not that old, 2005.

**Village Manager Frobel:** It has the mileage, and we have been using it for parts for our other cruisers. So there is nothing left except scrap metal.

**Trustee Armacost:** If it is just transmission I do not think there is much we can do. If someone buys it, it is a miracle.

**Village Manager Frobel:** A cab company may buy it. If they have a transmission from another car that has been in a wreck or something they could piece something together. But we have been successful in the past, and Mike is confident that we will do well with this sale.



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 declare the following as excess vehicles and authorize the Village Manager to sell same by public bid:

1994 International dump truck  
1995 International dump truck  
2000 Chevy van  
2005 Crown Victoria  
1984 Kubota tractor

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
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:** In your packet you received a memorandum from me regarding the upcoming repairs to the Warburton bridge. I hope everyone has realized we are about to engage in a two-year disruptive capital improvement project. We met with the county planners and their outside engineering firm a few days ago. These improvements will start as early as this September and should be completed by July of 2015. The cost is estimated to be \$7.5 to \$8 million. The work will include deck replacement, some painting, sidewalk installation, lighting improvements, fencing and repairs to the superstructure of the bridge. At all times traffic will be able to travel southbound, with some infrequent interruptions. The idea is to do the east side of the bridge first and then move to the west side. It will be done in two phases. It could be done in a shorter time frame if we could live with the bridge being closed completely to traffic, but the fire department is reluctant to sign off on that due to the difficulty of fire apparatus reaching the south end of the community.

One of the major interruptions besides the nose and construction is the loss of parking spaces. We expect to lose about 42 spaces on the bridge, which will impact merchants, residents and shoppers. In the commuter lot, we expect to lose 20 metered spots. Those are

the spots closest to the Cropsey property because that will be closed off during the entire project. And then perhaps upwards to five parking spaces on Washington. Already the staff is planning some alternatives. The Chief of Police has taken the lead in trying to develop a plan. We have a little lead time as to how we can begin to squeeze some additional spaces. That includes approaching churches, BP, Metro-North. We are going to try every way we can to make up for those lost spaces.

The project will certainly be disruptive to businesses and residents living in that area. We will do everything we can to minimize it, but there is no escaping the fact that this is a major project. The county is awaiting one decision from us, and that has to do with design of the lights. I gave you a sketch of what they would like. The alternatives are the traditional more decorative lamps that we see throughout the downtown area versus a more modern arching light. The decorative lights will not be as visible as most of the lamps are downtown today because you are going to have pavement, the sidewalk, a chain link fence with the curved top, and then the lamp. The lamp will be obstructed by this chain link fence. It is not going to have the aesthetics that we might like, but it is unavoidable in the design. The lamps would extend over, provide better illumination on the bridge surface. They believe that is a better value. The county planners have offered to come here and make a presentation to you. The urgency is, this project is scheduled to go out to bid sometime end of May. They are at a point now where they need feedback as to your preference on the lighting. The community went through this same upset, 10, maybe 12 years ago. Many of you remember that. This will be pretty much the same arrangement.

**Trustee Walker:** I think it was 19 years ago. I remember it was closed when I moved to Hastings 20 years ago. I lived on Washington Avenue and all the buses were rerouted down Washington. So that is something that residents in that neighborhood should be aware of. There is supposed to be no truck traffic or bus traffic on Washington so all of a sudden we will be having these pretty noisy buses going up and down the hill.

**Village Manager Frobel:** We are meeting with the county transportation planners and the bus company on Thursday morning to begin planning that. You are right, they do not like going up Washington either with the narrowness of the streets and the climb.

**Trustee Walker:** It would be helpful to see what this railing looks like. The chain link fence startled me.

**Village Manager Frobel:** It is DOT standard now, and is to prevent people from trying to jump off. There have been two of late.

**Trustee Walker:** I wondered if ARB should be asked to weigh in.

**Trustee Armacost:** Is the work going to happen all at the same time, or is there a way that only half of the parking will be affected?

**Village Manager Frobel:** Certainly the lower part of Cropsey. We are going to argue that not all of Warburton has to be lost. From the bridge surface to Washington is quite a distance. There will be three Jersey barriers that will direct traffic to certain ways. So you are going to lose a lot of parking that you would think if you could angle it. But we are going to work on that to see if we can preserve something. They will also have materials stored on the roadway and their equipment. That is what is going to lose parking spaces.

**Trustee Armacost:** But just if there is a modular way of doing it, if they are not going to fix the entire thing for the entire two-year period, maybe it can be done. I know people are not necessarily reasonable that you have to deal with on those things.

**Village Manager Frobel:** This is going to be upsetting. We would prefer the bridge to be closed completely. It would cut the whole project in half; it would take one year. This way, it will be a two-year disruption, provided everything moves along smoothly. But the fire chief was in attendance at the meeting, and he voiced the concern about having to reroute fire apparatus around the bridge and the delay that could take to get to a scene. We have explored trying to park firefighting apparatus on the other side of the bridge, but that does not seem feasible from the fire department's perspective.

**Trustee Apel:** Is there a way that they could close it off for a year, but only the fire department could go through. It would be some sort of gate.

**Village Manager Frobel:** The bridge, half of it is going to be apart. They are going to take the surface down.

**Trustee Armacost:** If the plan is two years it is probably going to be three or four, do you not think?

**Village Manager Frobel:** That is my fear. It is two years or 18 months if things move smoothly.

**Trustee Jennings:** Do we have plans to make those routes which are now two-way streets one-way? Can we control the circulation somehow, such as Washington? Washington is a nightmare now, two ways. I am just wondering about buses. Could we make it a one-way street for two years while this is going on?

**Village Manager Frobel:** Let me meet with the transportation people on Thursday and talk about that. We will work some more with the state as to their plans. There is a whole series of detours that are being mapped out as the planners figure that out. The safest way. We are going to lose spaces even on Washington top to bottom because they are going to have to make a very tight turn there as they come down to Southside. It is going to be tricky. We are going to lose the loading zone. The liquor store is going to see some business interruptions. I expect Tony's will. This will be a disruption.

On another item, I want to pick up on Mr. Gonder's comment. The Parks and Recreation Commission met last Thursday evening and they unanimously supported the 10 percent member discount for volunteer firefighters and ambulance personnel.

Finally, I indicated to the Trustees that the Village is the recipient of a recognition by the county for our recycling efforts. We will be awarded at the Westchester County Earth Day Awards program this Sunday for one of the highest per pounds, per person daily recycling effort. Hastings is one of seven communities.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Do not say one of seven, we are the second.

**Trustee Walker:** Second to Pleasantville.

**Village Manager Frobel:** Just remarkable. We are extremely proud of our residents and how they have embraced and supported recycling. We are doing very well.

**Mayor Swiderski:** It is a useful metric, pounds per day. They tally it all up and divide it by the number of residents. We trail Pleasant Hill by 10 percent, and it gives us a bogey to shoot at.

## **BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS**

### **1. Proposal to Eliminate Saturday Dumping at Public Works Garage**

**Village Manager Frobel:** A few meetings ago we talked about a recommendation by the Conservation Commission to consider alternatives to the Saturday facility being open for residents to bring household refuse and recycling. We thought it would be useful to hear the reasons from the members of that commission. I have also asked Mike Gunther to be here.

**Elisa Zazzera, Conservation Commission:** The Saturday dump is where people can come and bring their household trash. We think eliminating it, not cold turkey but some method of getting rid of it, would help the environment, would save the Village money and be more

healthful for our residents. There is a cost savings. Health issues. The truck runs for four hours, non-stop. I went down one Saturday and put a white piece of cloth on top of the exhaust only for five minutes. Here is the white cloth, and that is what it did in just five minutes. A truck idling will spew more pollutants into the air in the same amount of time than if it were driving. Diesel fuel contains nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, arsenic, benzene, formaldehyde and nickel. Diesel emission is very fine-particled so they will more easily lodge deeply into your lungs without chance of getting them out. So we have an employee at the truck for four hours breathing this stuff, not to mention as it goes up all the people who live on the street up there. In terms of savings, I think the number was \$9,000 for wages for the men. I calculated about \$700 a year in fuel, and an hour of idling takes about a gallon of fuel. At \$3.32 a gallon, 52 weeks, the math comes out to about \$700. So it is about \$9,700. Also more wear and tear on the truck to idle. You are operating a vehicle in a place where it is not optimum. Driving is optimum, so there is more repair on that truck.

Also, we have a sustainability plan. This would go a long way to benefiting our sustainability plan, less emissions. There is something that is not in the letter we sent to you, which is my own sense that we are making it convenient for people to throw stuff out. I know the push-back will be this is convenient. If it is not available they need to think about their trash a little more. That would go a ways in getting us that 10 percent.

**Trustee Armacost:** I think there used to be a trading system there, where you could take things you wanted to drop off and then you would be able to collect things, like a swap shop. Did you not have a recommendation regarding that also?

**Ms. Zazzera:** I have never seen any structured thing. There are scrap dealers who come down to get the copper and whatever metals are going in. All of the pots on our patio came from the Saturday dump. Scavengers for stuff, but nothing is formal. Or even informal.

**Trustee Armacost:** I thought you were recommending something a little more formal to encourage reuse in the spirit of sustainability.

**Ms. Zazzera:** There is something called the TILI shed in White Plains, Take it or Leave It, which operates during the warmer months. I do not know that is the kind of model that we were looking at. Our commission cannot do that on our volunteer time. But maybe this \$9,700 in savings could be a way that gets that going.

**Trustee Jennings:** Years ago there was a gate and a fence. We are not talking about that now. So just because the truck is not there idling does not mean people cannot go down there. You can take your recycling on Saturday morning or any day; you can leave old

furniture and you can pick up old furniture. If we had a nice structure it would be nicer to do it than it is now, but this is only about not having the garbage truck there to put your trash in on Saturday morning. All the rest is not precluded by that. Also, what you are no longer able to bring down to the garbage truck on Saturday morning will be picked up in front of your house according to the pickup schedule. This does not change the service that the Village DPW provides to the citizens in terms of picking up refuse.

**Trustee Apel:** We have to define this concept of trash and recyclables. What someone may want to throw out they call trash because they want to get rid of it; it could very well be recycled or parts taken out or reused. We need to define what it is we are discussing. Then we can try all the different things like three times a year have swap days or furniture days. After the Village-wide garage sale, people have stuff that they do not want. That does not mean that it is trash. It could still be swapped, changed, brought, recycled, something else. . A lot of education is how to sort the stuff you do have and what you want to do with it, and how you want to recycle it.

My suggestion would be that we have Saturday dumping once a month and swapping once a month without the truck being there. Say the first Saturday of the month you are going to swap, and the third one you are going to trash.

**Trustee Armacost:** That sounds very sensible. I would love to hear the view of the DPW.

**Superintendent Gunther:** Currently the residents are coming on Saturdays and swapping out. Some people come down with items, they drop them off, they might take other items. Some people come down with their items and just leave them. As far as the swap idea, it would probably have to be closely monitored. If we leave the place unmanned, and people come down with their items and they intend to swap them, if people do not take them, then we come in Monday morning, like we had in the past, with piles and mounds of garbage.

The Saturday dump started a long time ago when we were under the Warburton Avenue bridge. We have always had recycling. It was strictly for the same items we are having now. It was stopped because it was taken advantage of. There is speculation about town residents and stuff that is still going on today. Local contractors would bring items of construction debris. It was always flying out there, I am sure you know. So we shut it down back in probably the '90s. Then we brought it back in when we went to the once a week garbage pickup. That was the prime reason, and still the prime reason, for the Saturday sanitation truck. It is for residents that cannot go a whole week with their regular trash. They have their party on a weekend or whatever, they like to come down with their household trash only, we used to say. But again, if a resident comes down with recycling, and they have their couch in the car, we are going to accept it because we accept it at the curb anyway. That

swap is a good idea, but it would have to be monitored and managed. You have to put it somewhere, in a barn, a shed. We do not have room. You could not leave it outside because of what it attracts.

**Mayor Swiderski:** To that point, the debate about outsiders, I was told that this Saturday there was police monitoring.

**Superintendent Gunther:** The past two, yes.

**Mayor Swiderski:** And that it was almost hysterically funny how many cars swiveled around and turned away. I heard it was a remarkable number when they saw that there was a police presence.

**Superintendent Gunther:** I did see some people turn around. They are taking advantage of it. The attendance there on Saturdays, mostly they do not know. But they get into altercations and stuff. After awhile it gets very tiring.

**Trustee Apel:** How many hours is it open?

**Superintendent Gunther:** Just four hours, from 8 a.m. until 12 noon.

**Mayor Swiderski:** The one downside to the swap idea is made clear here. I agree, it will become a dumping ground. Without monitoring it is very hard to stop that.

**Superintendent Gunther:** Years ago, we used to have our recycling. We have always had a recycling area. It was best managed when we were under the Warburton Avenue bridge because we closed the gate. We used to have gates when we first moved down there in 1986. We had gates in front of our recycling areas. Come in Monday morning, where are the recyclables? In front of the gates. We left them open. So the recycling area is fine. We have really good control of that. That is probably a good reason for the paper. To have that extra has been working. We have had problems in the past, and we have to clean out the dumpster by hand. But for the most part I think it is working well.

**Trustee Apel:** The other way you could do with swap is to have them not bring it down. You have a Village-wide swap meet. Everybody puts on their front lawn what they are willing to swap.

**Superintendent Gunther:** You could have a list, they have this old couch that somebody might want. I try to avoid people coming down there when it is unattended. They do it anyway now.

**Trustee Apel:** I think you mentioned that if it is at least on the person's lawn you know it belongs to them. It is not people bringing other stuff.

**Superintendent Gunther:** True, but if it is left there and they do not call for the pickup, the reason we make the appointment is so we can gauge the amount that is picked up. The resident has to speak to a person, and we tell them no construction debris. Or how much do you have, and we gauge it by barrel size, car size, whatever it is. First, number one, all their household garbage will be picked up, and whatever extra items they can have picked up. So most of the time the trucks are relatively full.

**Trustee Apel:** Is there any one time of the year when you are getting more of this?

**Superintendent Gunther:** This time of the year is spring cleaning. I talk to other superintendents and they do it three, four times a year. They send their crews out on a Saturday and do this, encourage the residents to put stuff out by appointment.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Are you aware of other communities that do what we do locally?

**Superintendent Gunther:** I cannot recall anybody that has a Saturday truck. Other than the city of Yonkers, but it is managed full-time. Six days a week, I think it is.

**Trustee Jennings:** I do not think that the swapping is relevant because we do not have gates. The way to control that is perhaps have the police monitor cameras. But that is a different issue. The thing we are talking about now is having guys paid and the truck running for four hours on Saturday morning. What does that get us? Will we lose fuel or efficiency if we tell everybody to put their garbage out at the curb as opposed to bringing it down themselves and tossing it in the truck? For those 50 people who use the Saturday, they put it curbside and our guys pick it up during their regular route. Would this make those routes longer? Would we have to hire more manpower? What would be the effect on the normal route operation of the department?

**Superintendent Gunther:** Other than doing this on a trial basis, this time of the year it would probably be tough. I do not think it would be a problem of getting the routes finished. I do think, though, the men will be out there longer. As we do now, our regular Monday and Tuesday, each truck is probably getting sometimes 15, 20 stops. It depends. It could be that one little cushion.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Fifteen or 20 requested stops?



**Superintendent Gunther:** Yes. Probably per truck, sometimes. This time of year, I am just saying I just hand out a list every Monday. Each one has between 15 and 20 stops. Again, gauge the size.

**Mayor Swiderski:** And how is that done? Is it a list issued in the morning?

**Superintendent Gunther:** Yes, it is called into Village Hall. We put it on a list, and I hand out the stops to each of the drivers in the morning before they go out on their route. It is not like they have to double back and pick this stuff up. They are there anyway picking it up. But without a trial basis, and do not hold me to it, I cannot really answer that. I could see them not having any problem making the entire route, not having full trucks, and making second runs and not getting all the household garbage. Back when I was on garbage sometimes we had to make two runs. But at this current time, with our recycling loads and the amounts of recyclables we are getting every year, I do not see it being a problem.

**Mayor Swiderski:** , I do want to say that I do not think it is a tradeoff for 50 dropped off versus 50 picked up. I suspect it is 50 dropped off versus 30 picked up, or however many cars turned around on Saturday. Those cars are turning around and they are not Village residents. Otherwise, you would not have that issue. So some lesser amount is going to land up getting dumped and, as a result, less in tipping fees. We have not factored that into the cost calculation, but I suspect it is something.

**Trustee Armacost:** But for the trial, in terms of the proposal that Marge was making, I was trying to work out whether you are enthusiastic about this proposal or whether you are neutral. You managed to be completely neutral in your response so it is hard for me to gauge. But I would love to know whether the team and the DPW, if this gets passed, will be going hooray, or whether they will be saying that was a huge mistake.

**Superintendent Gunther:** It is summertime now. It is hard to assign an employee. The guys have kids and stuff.

**Mayor Swiderski:** So you do not like the overtime?

**Superintendent Gunther:** They have other commitments, at times.

**Mayor Swiderski:** I would have thought it would be bitterness over the loss of overtime.

**Superintendent Gunther:** I have asked. There is usually the same few employees that do it every Saturday. I have spoken with them, and they do not have a problem, would not have a problem with it if it was eliminated.

**Ms. Zazzera:** I got an enthusiastic thumbs up when I asked.

**Trustee Walker:** On bulk pickups is there still a limitation on the size of lumber, furniture, appliances?

**Superintendent Gunther:** Yes.

**Trustee Walker:** Should there be more limitations on what you can pick up in terms of sizes or bulk or weight in order not to overload the trucks and require two runs? Maybe it would mean that somebody would have to call a commercial carter.

**Superintendent Gunther:** Yes, that is done right now when they call up for the appointment. Marie or myself asks the resident how much they have. If they have old 2 by 4s that are laying around we ask them to cut them in 4 foot lengths, tape and tie them, and bundle them so it is easy for the men to handle. But if you are demo'ing an entire house, no, you need to seek outside contractors.

**Trustee Walker:** I have mentioned before the idea of the pay to throw. If there is additional household garbage that you are throwing on top of what you normally do, could we have a specially marked bag that you have to pay for. I have seen this work in a lot of other communities. You have this orange bag that says Hastings-on-Hudson, and you pay \$6 or \$7 for that bag. I do not know if we are ready for it yet.

**Mayor Swiderski:** I am not ready. A bite at a time.

**Mr. Gonder:** That system right now works great. You call Marie Oelkers and she will ask you what you have. I have a metal, rusty old drum. Put it out Friday. I have three old benches. Put them out Monday, at the curb. If you have bulk stuff, she will say not more than 40 pounds. It works terrific. I have been using for probably 20 years.

**Mayor Swiderski:** In terms of reducing the Saturday you are in favor of this.

**Mr. Gonder:** Yes, sure. As long as you call it in, this works great.

**Mr. Downey:** This is an idea that is long overdue. All the other communities around us do not have this subsidy and this hand-holding. It puts the men in a very bad. They have gained a firmness of hand over the years, but it is very difficult. The cars are flying in, they are trying to manage traffic and safety, and hoping people do not hit the lever on the hopper. It is a liability there. I think it would be a great relief to the men to can this.

**Mr. Skolnik:** I find it difficult to be reasonable, because the arguments for eliminating it sound reasonable. Certainly, the pollution is hard to argue for unless there is some protein in some diesel fuel. I have watched guys down there having to be policemen. I have always felt that that was a position they should not be put in. On the other hand I am one of these people that have found it very useful to get rid of straight out garbage. My normal garbage pickup is Tuesday. There have been many times where I have not wanted to keep household garbage around, dealing with the raccoons. I was not aware there was previous history of there being two pickups. Are there other municipalities where they are one day a week?

**Village Attorney Stecich:** No, Greenburgh is two.

**Superintendent Gunther:** Dobbs is twice a week.

**Village Attorney Stecich:** Ardsley is twice plus recycling. So three pickups.

**Mr. Skolnik:** That should factor in to trying to come up with a solution. Relating to what I said before about Hastings and its identity, reinforces it. You asked Mike, and to his knowledge there is no other village that does that. This ends up being part of what makes the Village unique. I have watched it. It is a social place. There is an informal interaction there that is unique. If there is a way for reducing the pollutants that might be something to look at. I do not know what it would be. I have wondered what the costs are, and the toll on the truck. It seems remarkable that the trucks last as long as they do, having to work that hard.

**Village Manager Frobel:** You are right. There is the wear and tear factor. We have the figures for the manpower, which is the major cost that we are realizing with this.

**Kerry-Jane King, 87 James Street:** I had a question regarding the fence and why the fence was removed and whether any funds that were saved from this initiative could be used towards rebuilding the fence. This illegal dumping issue is chronic and a huge expense for the Village. It is not clear why we should be taking on that burden for other municipalities. I wondered what other municipalities do to prevent illegal dumping. Clearly, these people come from municipalities where they would have to pay to dispose of their garbage. There are often construction wastes, it could be a professional builder. But on Saturday it was many personal cars, people coming from places where they did not belong in Hastings, apparently using Hastings as their dump.

**Village Manager Frobel:** Over the years, Mike and I have tried to install a fence there. The problem is the street bisects our property. But Mike, the history of the fence.

**Superintendent Gunther:** We looked at putting a fence up and closing the entire road off. But gaining access. The fire department needs access, Metro-North needs access. There is the towing business at the end of the street that might need access. As far as the fences we used to have in front of our recycling center, like I said we used to close them off and they would pile right in front.

**Village Manager Frobel:** And also, as Mike said, the logistics. There is just not enough room to maneuver with a fence. It is just not a good site for that kind of operation.

**Superintendent Gunther:** Closing the road off, a lot of communities you see they are at dead end roads. Dobbs Ferry is off at a dead end street, the fence is closed. We had that, but it was not our property, under the Warburton Avenue bridge. We used to close the gate when we left at night. But it is an open street, and everybody goes down it.

**Trustee Jennings:** If memory serves me about that, we also encountered people who would simply break through the fence with their vehicle. Then you find a broken gate that was chained. And a camera was installed.

**Superintendent Gunther:** The camera, yes, the police department does monitor it. But there have been plenty of incidents where the resident is coming down with their recycling at night, after work, the convenience. They are sending a car down there and it is somebody just dumping. So it is not just always people coming down to dump. To have the police come down there, they use it all night long. In the middle of snowstorms I have seen people come down with their recycling.

**Trustee Jennings:** If we wanted to do it seriously we would almost have to do with BP does on their site. They have a 24-hour guard in a little gatehouse. The expense of that simply halts the conversation.

**Mayor Swiderski:** My one comment on the camera is we may benefit from a larger version of the small sign we have to discourage dumping on those Saturdays when we are picking up. Because otherwise, it is coming down and just leaving it there.

**Superintendent Gunther:** We have our LED sign that Chief Bloomer and Lieutenant Dosing set up for us, the police checking IDs, no construction, residents only. That is what turned around a lot of people.

**Trustee Armacost:** Have we issued fines to people? If there is a video are we not getting people's license plate numbers?

**Superintendent Gunther:** There is a video. It is a matter of the recorder and how closely it is monitored. I know in the past there has been summonses issued, but it is the amount of the summons.

**Trustee Armacost:** Because that is also income generation if we become known as the people who enforce it.

**Mayor Swiderski:** A sign with clear text. If it is not already there, then something new that says you are on camera, this is illegal, dumping has a fine of X amount of money, and we will enforce it.

**Ms. King:** You could have a \$500 fine for illegal dumping. It is a great revenue source for the Village, and is easily done, catching the license plates on camera.

**Mayor Swiderski:** So what do we want to do with this?

**Trustee Armacost:** I do not think people were aware that this was happening today, there needs to be an opportunity for people who care strongly on the other side to have their chance to say something. But in the meantime, I think we could reduce to one day a month.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Make it easy, and make it the first Saturday, beginning May, or beginning June after some public education? I think probably June.

**Village Manager Frobel:** You are suggesting at the meeting have it on the agenda for discussion?

**Trustee Apel:** We will have it on if anybody wants to make a comment next meeting.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Invite people to make comments. This is not legislation so no public hearing is required.

**Village Manager Frobel:** No, it is just a change in operations.

**Trustee Apel:** And at the same time, if anybody out there wishes to volunteer to set up swap meets and wants to form a Village committee or Village group to that, that would be very helpful.

**Mayor Swiderski:** So while this is not a change in legislation, just indicate, for the sake of getting us formally on board, the Board supports the idea of moving to the first Saturday of the month for a pickup from 8 to noon. And this is all in favor?

**Mr. Downey:** Suppose it was the first Saturday in January, big snow.

**Mayor Swiderski:** It would be moved.

**Ms. Zazzera:** I hope that this is a trial period so that in two years we can say let us do no Saturday dumps, or however long.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Quarterly or something. Let us see how it goes. Also, I would not mind, for the first three months, this police sign out.

**Village Manager Frobel:** We will have that. And the Chief has been very supportive, as Mike indicated. When he can, he will have a policeman down there to help our staff challenge the use of the facility.

**Trustee Armacost:** I would like to hear the statistics on the fine issue.

**Mayor Swiderski:** I doubt there have been any recently, but let us find out how much they are, make sure they are stiff, and make sure there is a sign indicating if you violate you pay.

**Trustee Armacost:** That there was a violation. Does anyone know what the fine is?

**Village Manager Frobel:** No, I do not. I want to say \$100.

**Superintendent Gunther:** The standard dumping fee is \$250. But that is very small.

**Trustee Armacost:** Can we change it to \$500?

**Mayor Swiderski:** I think that is going to require a hearing, right?

**Village Manager Frobel:** Yes, that does.

**Trustee Armacost:** I am requesting that we have a hearing on it to raise that fine level. Is that a problem?

**Mayor Swiderski:** I have no problem with raising the fine to \$250.

**Trustee Armacost:** Not to \$250, to \$500.

**Mayor Swiderski:** Five-hundred dollars is a stiff fine to hit people with.

**Trustee Armacost:** But it is a bad activity. We are trying to discourage activity.

**Trustee Apel:** Two-hundred-fifty dollars is too easy.

**Mayor Swiderski:** OK.

**Trustee Walker:** Are we monitoring it to the point where it will really make a difference whether it is \$250 or \$500? Is somebody actually looking at those videos, or can we catch an illegal dumper? It is a good deterrent, no doubt about that.

**Village Manager Frobel:** A short while ago I spent a lot of time with the police looking at video. We had someone dropping tires off after hours, and we just were not able to identify them. .

**Trustee Walker:** The quality is not good enough to see a license plate?

**Mayor Swiderski:** But if we are saving \$7,000 let us blow \$200 on a better camera. Raf can go off and shop to his heart's content, and get a better camera.

**Ms. Zazzera:** With regards to camera, I am sure there is technology, and it might be more than \$200. Are there motion-activated cameras so we do not have to record a bunch of nothing?

**Trustee Apel:** The person that wants to sell us surveillance cameras will come and give us a look and tell us what we need.

**Trustee Jennings:** It is important that we give information to the general public. We need to make sure that the legal dumpers, not the illegal dumpers, do not drive down on a Saturday morning expecting to be able to throw their plastic bags in the back of the garbage truck and a garbage truck is not there. I might be a y good guy and put those things back in the trunk of my car, or I might just toss them on the ground and leave them. We do not want that to happen. And that is not something you are going to fine people for. We need to focus on how to get the word out in an effective way so that that mistake does not happen.

**Mayor Swiderski:** I agree entirely. There is a mix of people who show up at those sites. And when the police are not there the local contractors who have debris in the back of their station wagon might also be tempted to dump that stuff there if the truck is not there. It is those people that I am more thinking about when I think of what you guys want to make \$500, and what I would say is \$250. But whatever the fine is, I am looking to discourage that guy, not Joe Local who is leaving behind two white bags of garbage.

**Trustee Walker:** Do we need to have a transition month, where even if we are not picking up we have somebody there to tell people?

**Mr. Skolnik:** You said that you were putting this on the agenda for discussion, and yet you seem, as a group, to have already indicated how you would vote on this.

**Mayor Swiderski:** There is no vote. We plan to proceed, though if there is a massive turnout and a compelling case not to do it, this board has been known to reconsider.

**Mr. Skolnik:** You are effectively changing the nature of the service, where this Saturday pickup had been in place of a second pickup, and now you are eliminating that. One Saturday a month, I do not understand the function of that. If the bulk items that one would have brought down on every Saturday are now going to be picked up on Wednesdays, then I do not understand the function of the one Saturday a month.

**Trustee Apel:** It is for those people that got used to doing that.

**Mr. Skolnik:** With all due respect, it makes absolutely no sense.

**Mayor Swiderski:** It is a transition.

**Mr. Skolnik:** But what does it mean? It means that one week out of the month I can actually get rid of my extra garbage, but the other three I cannot.

**Mayor Swiderski:** I do not think this is so much for you. You are inconvenienced as a result of this. And this will not gain much for you, but for the people who are used to dropping off not just the household garbage, but the other things, the spring cleaning, they will structure it around that month's pickup.

**Mr. Skolnik:** I understand that. Not to belabor, but the question is if it is only me or if there are two more of us. You know what I mean. Your thinking is clear enough, but you are lacking data.

**Trustee Apel:** It depends upon what garbage you are talking about. If you are looking because you are going to have a big event, I hate to say it but you may plan it around the garbage dump. People may say I am going to do my cleanup of my garbage before that weekend.

**Mr. Skolnik:** No, that is not the stuff I am talking about.



**Trustee Apel:** But if you are talking about apples and oranges and pears and pits and stuff like that.

**Mr. Skolnik:** That goes in the compost.

**Trustee Apel:** Then it goes in the compost. The reason that it went from two days to one is because we have recycling. And if people are composting and if they are recycling then you should not have a lot of garbage left because it has been recycled and done with.

**Mr. Skolnik:** Well, that is what Fran told me. But somehow I still end up with it.

## **2. Update on the Downtown**

**Trustee Walker:** I would like to announce the upcoming Friday Night Lives. May 3 is going to be Dancing in the Streets. We are going to be closing lower Main Street near Warburton and the Boulanger Plaza parking lot. We will be having a DJ, music, opportunities for our local restaurants to sell outdoors on the street, in the parking lot. Local teenage bands, high school bands will be performing, as well.

June 7 will be the Spring Thing. We That is part of the Discover the Rivertowns Weekend which is being promoted by the Rivertowns Tourism Board. We hope to attract a lot of outside visitors to Hastings. The Downtown Committee is planning some activities on Saturday, June 8. There may be a music concert, or music art installation, that Jeff Pucillo and a number of local musicians are putting together. Christina Griffin has offered to give an architectural tour of the downtown, and we will probably tie that in to a partial Aqueduct tour. We are publicizing the Farmers' Market, we are publicizing Friday Night Live broadly. But we want to have a few other activities, which we are working on.

We are meeting with downtown businesses tomorrow at the Purple Crayon. Susan Maggiotto took a lot of fliers around, a number of other people did. We were double- and triple-fliering last weekend. The business owners seem really interested in participating in some way. For Discover the Rivertowns weekend, whether it is river towns folks, Hastings folks, people from Manhattan we would like the business owners to think of ways that they could have specials, discounts for outsiders, sidewalk sales. We are going to be talking about a number of ideas tomorrow at this meeting.

I would like to put on a future agenda an opportunity to talk about another Rivertowns Tourism Board initiative which ties into the next state grant rounds. It would have to do with creating a bike trail, a loop through the Rivertowns; signing it, making it safer, putting in better crossings and so on, and, through our IMA, working with the other villages. We

would have to work with the state probably, as well, because it is the Aqueduct, and the county because we want to work on the South County Trailway. The grants are going to be announced shortly, so we have to start getting ready to pull that together. There is a lot of work in pulling these grant proposals together, especially when it involves three villages.

**Trustee Armacost:** On that point, is it possible before the budget to give us a report on last year the number of grants that we put in and what our success rate was, and the ones which are pending. Just trying to assess whether we are successful because we spend money on grant proposals and it would be useful to know the return we are getting on that investment.

**Village Manager Frobel:** It is not denial on the basis of the merits of the program. It is the factor of the competition state-wide. But we can report it. Our big grant this past year was our cooperative grant with Dobbs Ferry to open a DPW. It was a grant of \$50,000. But sure, I can give you a thumbnail sketch as to how we are doing.

**Trustee Armacost:** Lieutenant Dosin has been particularly successful in his grant.

**Village Manager Frobel:** We did get the grant to share in the expense of the most recent police four-wheel drive vehicle.

**Trustee Walker:** We were successful last year in getting the \$17,000 grant to promote our Discover the Rivertowns weekends. That cost nothing because I wrote the grant proposal. It cost my time, and a lot of other people pitched in, too. Other people on the Tourism Board pitched in a lot of time, as well.

**Mayor Swiderski:** And there was a community block grant on the park, which is held up now because of the problems the county has with HUD.

**Village Manager Frobel:** The disappointment was the grant to match some of the work we have done at the quarry to develop it into a park. It is understandable when you look at the competition and the shrinking grant pie that is being divided among the communities. But we will do a summary for you.

**Trustee Walker:** That it is also really clear. When we look at the last few years of what we have gotten and what we have not gotten, there are reasons, not only the competition, but sometimes it is the cost-effectiveness. And does it meet the criteria. So there are other reasons, sometimes. We are very hopeful about these things, but sometimes there are good reasons that we are not getting these grants. We should look at those.

**Trustee Armacost:** We should not apply if we do not meet the criteria.

**Trustee Walker:** We need somebody to write the proposal. We should really rethink that.

**Trustee Armacost:** Because that does cost money.

**Trustee Jennings:** This is another aspect of inter-village cooperation for mutual benefit, because we are just not big enough to make an impact, with our own singular proposal, in the eyes of lots of funders. I cannot speak to the state government, but certainly the private philanthropic community is looking to get more bang for their grant buck.

**Trustee Walker:** Now there is a whole other process that you have to go through and get approved by your regional economic council, and there are clear criteria in our regional economic development plan. So if you do not meet those criteria, in probably a good percentage of them you are not even going to be considered. It has become much clearer what we really qualify for and what we do not.

**Trustee Armacost:** Congressman Engel made a point, reinforcing exactly what you were saying, Bruce, that the grant proposals, or the proposals that come forward that are more successful, are often ones that involve sharing in the sense of either multiple villages or municipalities getting together, for example, to deal with the flooding on the Saw Mill rather than individual stand-alones.

**Trustee Walker:** Yes, and unless you are a very needy community, and can show a clear need. When you are a fairly well to do community you are not going to be as eligible, especially if you are applying by yourself.

### **3. Hastings Deer Control Plans**

**Mayor Swiderski:** We have a tentative date for Dr. Rutberg from Tufts for Thursday, May 9, for a meeting with potential volunteers, as well as a presentation to the community, on deer issue, the immunocontraception proposal.

### **3. Update on the Waterfront**

**Mayor Swiderski:** A couple of moving parts on the Infrastructure Committee. They will be working next week directly with Yale on refining a survey to the community for recreational uses, and vetting some of the ideas that they have come up with via a structured survey out to the community. We are looking for a different way of reaching out to get the greatest input from the community rather than not just a public meeting, but a public meeting where you

tend to get 30 or 40 and frequently the same faces. We are hoping to put out an e-mail survey of some sophistication that would look to get responses back from more people.

We have been in touch with our engineering firm on Building 52. They are in the process of drafting a letter in reaction to the \$6 million-plus mothballing which, without significantly revealing their hand, they generally feel is not an unrealistic number. They are also going to be commenting on the general state of the building and offering their assessment. So we are looking forward to that.

I have calls in to the DEC to see what degree of consideration they are giving to building preservation, issues that may have been raised by the department of building preservation.

**Trustee Walker:** State Historic Preservation Office.

**Mayor Swiderski:** I want to understand how that might affect issues. I am hoping to meet with our counsel, Mark Chertok, on the legal liability issues. I hope to reach out to the Board and get somebody to go with me because I do not like to go to meetings like that alone.

**Village Manager Frobel:** At the Exxon Mobil site, they will be coming back doing some planting. I have also given them the OK to do some additional perimeter fencing. They have had a rash of trespassers on their property and they are looking to strengthen some of the perimeter fencing within out code. It will prevent people from crossing over that bridge onto their property.

At the Uhlich Color-Chevron site, the treatment system is working. I will be meeting with them probably before the end of the month. The company will be going to the next phase of their restoration work. They will be bringing onto the site, through a barge network again much as we saw with Exxon Mobil, 30,000 cubic yards of fill. They will be covering their site with this clean fill sometime beginning in July. That process could take upwards to four months. I will be meeting with them as they finalize those plans.

**Trustee Walker:** We are getting closer and closer to completion.

**Mayor Swiderski:** At least visually. The stuff under the ground will take a few years to percolate out.

**Village Manager Frobel:** At the Exxon Mobil site, we asked about the shoreline work. It is the engineers' understanding that it will be more of a slope with riprap and not a pier.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mayor Swiderski:** May I have a motion to adjourn in memory of those who have lost their lives in Boston in that terror attack, with a moment of silence.

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Apel with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Swiderski adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:25 p.m.