

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 5, 2015

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, March 5, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Marjorie Apel, Trustee Meg Walker, Trustee Nicola Armacost, Trustee Daniel Lemons, Village Manager Francis A. Frobel, Village Attorney Linda Whitehead, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto

ABSENT: Mayor Peter Swiderski

CITIZENS: Thirteen (13).

Deputy Mayor Apel: Mayor Swiderski is out on business and will be returning sometime tonight. He is flying back in, and sends his regrets that he cannot be here.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On MOTION of Trustee Armacost, SECONDED by Trustee Walker with a voice vote of all in favor, the minutes of the Public Hearing, the Organizational Meeting and the Regular Meeting of April 7, 2015; and the Regular Meeting of April 21, 2015 were approved.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

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

Multi-Fund No. 74-2014-15 \$67,670.17

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Gonder: I am not sure if I have to give where I live so I will not. Again, that television is still here. It is blocking my favorite mayors.

Last week, there was a gentleman who owned two businesses in the Village. He had some problems with oils. I do not know if they were stolen or whatnot, but there was a spill. But that is beside the point. I do not know too many facts. But Trustee Meg Walker said he should come and join a Chamber of Commerce, the first time in seven years or more that I heard of the Chamber of Commerce. So thumbs up. We also have a personality besides Meg Walker, an advocator for downtown. I hope she has a position guide, job description. Number one priority should be to have the Village merchants get a Chamber of Commerce

going so they can bring up their problems in a nice manner instead of individual I have been saying you should have a Chamber of Commerce for the last seven or eight years.

Building 52. This gentleman put on a nice show last month, where the roads and everything should be and talking about Building 52. We got to put 14 feet of fill on the east side. So they have to build a wall if you are going to keep Building 52, plus the bridge that is going to have to go over eventually. He should deal with BP. They want to take the building down. They were supposed to put a million dollars into the structure so it would last for another five or seven years during some of the construction and removal of PCBs. You ought to negotiate, maybe you could get five acres. We'll give you a permit next month, and we will want in return five acres and put up the water tower where we want. There is a lot of things that you could do and I do not think you are doing it. You have the opportunity. A lot of people, mostly architects, want to save that building. But is pretty rundown and it is going to cost millions of dollars. So there are other alternatives and the Board should be looking into negotiating with them and maybe getting four or five acres of prime land, not the stuff that will be parkland. If we did that, maybe the Village would be much better off.

Tim Downey, 520 Farragut Parkway: When this notion of the DPW study came out I was skeptical as to the validity and value of it. But looking back on the meeting last week, I thought it was of great value because it was broadly acknowledged that the Board members and perhaps even people in the community are aware of certain issues that they may not have otherwise known about. I will retract any position I may have had in the past about it being a waste of time and money. It was nice to see that expressed by those who attended that they thought there was value in the study itself.

At the last meeting the mayor said upon reading the study he had not realized how old our equipment was. He tipped his hat to Mike and the mechanic staff at the DPW. I am sure that was not just the Mayor. That is pretty universal, with the exception of Fran, that people and the Board have to be more aware when they are having budgetary conversations. When there is an appeal or a request for certain equipment, it is not just the boys wanting to have toys; there is a real need for this equipment. Otherwise, we let them go into such an aged condition that it is not a serviceable or efficient piece of equipment.

There was mention in the last meeting about purchasing a vehicle for the Parks Department for about \$100,000. I would love to see this board come to a position where they budget a certain amount of money every year so we are not having to do these types of purchases with bonds. In this situation I can see the math, where the fire truck plus a few other things gives you a bond over a million, where you want to keep a little of that cash in-house so your reserve is at the 10 percent mark where you have a better bond rate but, going forward, I would like to see where we could pay for stuff for cash

Sweeper service. We budget for out of town service. There is perhaps some conversation of buying a machine for the Village once again. There has been a great deal of complaint about the cleanliness of the Village. There is an option to the service we have now, which does a very good job on the streets. There is a different type of sweeping that occurs in the Village center and parking lots than on the main streets. One is more rough gravel, branches and heavy stuff that would beat up certain machines, and one is more of a refined machine that is better for litter and leaves, particularly litter. There is a service out of Yonkers, Colonial Landscaping, which has asked how to split the sweeping: the service takes the heavy road and he does the parking lots. He is closer, he is very meticulous when he does his work. Splitting services would put the best machine at the best location.

The Ravensdale Bridge overpass. Put more emphasis on keeping that overpass cleaner. People like to use that sidewalk. There is a lot of gravel on it now, and vegetation in the summer, spring and fall season. There is a lot of loose grit from the pothole killer and the potholes, all the gravel combined. I watch children coming over from the other side of the Saw Mill Parkway to school. It is almost like a death sprint coming over that bridge. It is an anxious moment for even the people who use the Putnam Trail. It creates a certain level of anxiety because you are on a bridge now above the parkway. If we could clean the sidewalks and the curbway and, in addition, paint in a bike lane, because it is very wide. That paint in the ground is not going to give a safe partition or a false sense of safety, but it would give measure where the bikers going to and fro, especially the children going to and from school and the weekend activity, where at least the drivers of cars could have some sense of greater respect, that that space is for bikers. That would be something to consider in the safe streets type of idea..

Patrick Randolph Bell: I would like to continue with the street sweeper. It looked almost like the Dobbs mayor was saying we could use theirs. I am not sure we can cancel this other contract if we get a better deal with Dobbs. Maybe Mr. Frobels could look into it.

The bridge, it is going to be closed so what is next? Is it the concrete? Then when is the first view-blocking fence going up, the so-called "suicide fence" facing the Cropsey?

A lot of people on 10706 are upset about the tree in Zinsser Park next to the playground. Some people think it was taken down too quick, and they would have liked to have tonight to discuss it with you. Maybe we could have another arborist take a look at it. Maybe you could comment on why you had to chop the tree down, what the arborist said, who this arborist was, what we paid for him to check out that one tree or do we have a contract with an arborist. I understand from Susan it is on a case by case basis. Also, why did we cut down that tree over here?

I asked Ms. Whitehead if she was able to read through those committee on open government documents. She has not had a chance yet. But it is about the elderly and handicapped accessibility to the different Village Board meetings. I noticed we have a Conservation Commission meeting next week that is scheduled for the conference room, and also the Arts Commission. I will discuss with the groups themselves and see what they think about moving the meetings to a more accessible place and not to the Community Center. Do you guys know how you would get in here after hours? What is the process? How would you get in this building if you did not have a car and you were elderly or handicapped and could not make it up the stairs?

Village Manager Frobel: Would you like me to answer that?

Mr. Bell: No, you do not count.

Village Attorney Whitehead: But he is the Village's ADA ...

Mr. Bell: OK, go ahead, Mr. Frobel.

Village Manager Frobel: I know you are aware of this, Mr. Bell, because we have explained it to you. The Village was the subject of a thorough examination by Westchester on the Move. They are an advocacy group for the disabled.

Mr. Bell: What year was it? I did not know this and would love to hear what they said.

Village Manager Frobel: Let us say 2012. It was part of an involvement that they had, making certain all our facilities were fully ADA-compliant. In answer to your direct question, the person would go down to the Maple street location, press the buzzer, and we would make arrangements to bring them to this facility. Or if the library were open, they would go from that location to the library, press the buzzer, and a staff member would bring them to the first floor of the library over to here. That is on those rare occasions when that person you are describing is trying to access Village Hall without a vehicle.

Mr. Bell: Correct. I would like to add a little more. When you come and you would like to press that button to come up here so you do not have to go through the library, I tried ringing that library buzzer the other night. Nobody responded. There were three women working up there in front of the desk. Nobody came down. Two of them heard it, one did not hear it. So what would happen, you would push the buzzer. The police officer is here, and I guess there is a separate phone. I talked to one of the sergeants today. You push the button, he picks up the phone. And I did not hear it the other day. I could not hear them talking and was not sure. I mentioned that to you a couple weeks ago to check the speaker.

So you press the buzzer and they have to then find a police officer. After 5 o'clock, when there is only one guy manning the desk, they have to take a guy off the and that could be awhile. Today, for instance, there was an ambulance call and another call at the same time. When I asked the sergeant how long do you think it would have taken today if something like that happened, he said about 45 minutes to gain access to the building. This is not what the spirit of the law is of the ADA. They should have equal access without having to make a phone call, without having to wait 45 minutes or longer. Let us say the guy does come here. They take him to basement, and I do not know how that basement entrance is ADA-compliant because it is at a 10-degree angle. That is much more than allowed by the ADA. There is no handrail, either, to get to that basement door. Once you get in there you have to go through the locker room, past the gun range which may be in use.

If we could move these meetings, in the spirit of the ADA and the spirit of these open meetings laws, to the center of the Village to try to get more people to come. It is me, Mr. Gonder, Mr. Downey. Other people have to come on a particular issue, but they are not right there where they could walk across the street or on the way home walking up there. I would like you to think about that, maybe discuss it with the Village Attorney and give me an opinion on it.

Ms. Rynders, 39 Fraser Place: Patrick mentioned the tree that was cut down in Zinsser Park. To my friend and I that has become a very important issue to us. We take our children there every single day. Having the tree cut down so quickly after the report from the arborist was very hard for us to understand why there was not a second opinion, why there was not more discussion. I understand there is a case for liability, I understand there is a case for safety. And we have small children, we obviously do not want them to be crushed by a tree. But the overall effect on the park could have been considered a little longer. The request moving forward is what is going to be done to replace that tree. And most importantly, that it not be the awful shade structures that are in Dobbs. We love the aesthetic of Hastings, we love that it is this tree town, we want it to feel very natural and like home. Moving forward, trying to find a way to have more accountability, and I do not mean that in a vindictive sense. Having the community more involved in these decisions and in helping to plan the parks we love so much.

Village Manager Frobel: Under Board discussion, we are going to get into some detail about Zinsser Park. We do not willingly or unnecessarily take down a tree. Kendra Garrison and Mike Gunther are much committed our urban forest. But I think even a layman could determine that that tree had been very much compromised. We viewed it as very dangerous, which is why it was fenced off for the last few days. The urgency was, I know how popular that playground is and I was very reluctant to go any longer than a few days before the tree could be removed so the park could be used.

Trustee Armacost: When we go into detail later on will you be explaining the role of the Tree Board, the role of multiple arborists that were consulted?

Village Manager Frobel: Sure.

Tiffany Arment, 117 Edgars Lane: We feel that there is a fear of liability going on with our parks. A tree is just as dangerous as the parking lot that is right there that the cars go in and out of that is not fenced off from the kids. It is just as dangerous as kids climbing up on playground equipment. A kid can get very hurt from playground equipment and we still have that. We as citizens and people, and moms that bring our kids to these parks and enjoy them, we do not want the fear of liability to destroy our public spaces that we love so much. We know we are not going to be suing anyone if something happens, but I know you cannot stop that if other people do.

I know about the arborist, I know about the Tree Board. I have been contacting a lot of people trying to get as much information as I y could and spread the correct information to people about the tree and about the park. We would love a say in what is going on in our parks. I know there is a Parks and Recreation Commission, but the transparency does not seem to be there. Taking down that tree at 7 o'clock in the morning on a Saturday, we did not get a chance to do anything about it. We know we could not do anything about it, I understand that, that is moot now. But it almost feels like that tree was taken so the issue could be moot very quickly. We look forward to continually working with everyone in the town and getting more involved. We are new residents. I have been here for five years, We love this town already, and we are just looking forward to working with everybody.

Trustee Armacost: We do have a number of boards and commissions where we happen to have a few empty spots. If you are serious have a chat afterwards because I am responsible for getting people onto those boards and commissions. We would love to have you.

Betty Ryberg, 11 Riverview Place: I live at 11 Riverview Place with my husband and my two children, who are 8 and 4. We have been there for 10 years, maybe 11, We moved here because we wanted to have our children here. A group of friends of Zinsser wrote a letter to the Board. I am not the representative of that group. Many of them wanted to be here but could not this evening so I decided I should come to say something. It is very hard to raise two children and be awoken in the middle of the night. I have experienced that, as well as my whole family, when the snow from elsewhere in the Village is brought to Zinsser at three in the morning and continues until six. It sounds like a construction operation, and it does wake up my whole family. Other neighbors have heard it. They did not want to continue like that. I do not want to do that. It is very difficult to function and to raise your children. Both my husband and I work full-time so we can afford to live in this lovely community.

We moved to Riverview in particular because of Zinsser Park. It was an attractive feature. It has a small playground, it has a stream which we love. I went there many times with my children when they were even smaller. It was a wonderful highlight of our time together as a family, and also to be part of the neighborhood and in that proximity. We have the best of all worlds. We are close to the train, we have greenery all around us, and we have Zinsser Park. One of the best things about Zinsser is its access to the Aqueduct. I recommend visiting if you all have not, and feel free to drop by our house if you would like to do that.

I am concerned about the dumping of snow at Zinsser from elsewhere in the Village and also the wood chipping and yard pickup operations. It has resulted not only in the noise that I complained about and find impossible to deal with, but it has also resulted in lots of contamination and garbage everywhere. Also, whether it is intentionally done or not, it ends up being pushed into the wooded area, raising the level of the earth around those trees. They will surely die so you should budget now for tree removal of those trees.

Those are my complaints. I request that maintenance operations not occur in Zinsser. It is entirely a park and part of the park system in Hastings that we tout and that we all love and enjoy. I love the snow. I do worry when it snows because I worry that I will be awakened and I cannot function. I am an attorney, I try to write things and they make no sense. Maybe they would normally not make sense, but they make less sense when it snows. We often go into the park when it is snowing to go to the Aqueduct. I did that recently with my 8 year old. We skied on the Aqueduct. We came down when we were done and could not get out of the park because of all the snow. I fell and had a very bad break of my wrist, which I am still recovering from. That amount of snow is a problem. We love snow, we love the snowfall, and we love being with friends and neighbors in that park when it snows. But I would prefer that maintenance activities not occur there.

Deputy Mayor Apel: Are your concerns the trucks coming in the middle of the night, the snow?

Betty Ryberg: Garbage, and wood chipping does occur. The trucks come in the middle of the night. They also come during the day and move things around, whether it is snow or wood chips. That is primarily what I am concerned about.

I was one of the original Quarry Committee members when Neil was here. I volunteered for that before children, spent many a night working on the report and looking at the quarry. My feeling is that that is exactly how the quarry started. It began with leaf things occurring and being put there for whatever reason and then other things got put there. I know a car got put there. I would not want to see that happen at Zinsser.

34:15 TAX WARRANT 2015 - 2016

Village Manager Frobel: The warrant reflects your action on the budget. It causes the tax rate to go up 0.34 percent, so less than half of one percent. It would cost the average taxpayer, with a home assessed at just over \$16,000, about four cents a day, or \$15 a year. We met our objectives in putting together a budget that was fair and within the cap, but also very sensitive to the taxpayers' concerns. I would urge your adoption.

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 authorize the Mayor to sign the Tax Warrant for 2015 – 2016.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Deputy Mayor Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	Absent	

35:15 GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY PLAN SUBMISSION

Village Manager Frobel: I am pleased to report that, again, we met our objectives. When this law first went into effect we joined with our neighbors to meet our one percent efficiency objective. Hastings will be a contributor to that effort. Some of the other communities are doing things that we have already done so we were able to get credit for it; things that we have done several years ago which are not allowable for credit. I am pleased that the community has already done things that, now, Tarrytown and Dobbs and Ardsley are doing. We expect to realize those efficiencies principally through our LED conversion. Hastings was the leader in converting to the LED street lights but we were doing it incrementally. We are proposing that be accelerated, and later on this evening we are going to talk about that plan. But an element of our contribution will be the savings we anticipate in 2016 and 2017. Another item we will be saving on is the continuation of our pavement program. Through the Village Officials Committee effort we join with our neighbors to prepare specifications and realized some economies of scale in our savings. Overall, the group has attained nearly \$780,000 worth of savings which we needed to identify. We are at a point now where we can guarantee for our homeowners the rebate that if they qualify under the STAR program they would be entitled to it based on your commitment to this plan.

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

WHEREAS, the NYS Legislature has enacted the Property Tax Freeze Credit; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Dobbs Ferry has agreed to act as Lead Agency; and

WHEREAS, the 2015-16 Budget for the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson has been adopted within the allowable increase in tax levy and is eligible to participate in the program of rebate by New York State; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson is joining with the Villages of Elmsford, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, Irvington, Dobbs Ferry and Ardsley to prepare and submit a qualified Government Efficiency Plan (GEP); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has reviewed and approved the portion of the GEP that applies to the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village-of-Hastings approve the preparation and submission of the GEP to the New York State Division of the Budget by June 1, 2015, and be it further

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and the Treasurer hereby are authorized to sign the three required certifications to accompany the submission of the GEP.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYE

NAY

Deputy Mayor Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	Absent	

36:15 INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH WESTCHESTER COUNTY FOR PRISONER TRANSPORTATION

Village Manager Frobel: Looking to renew our relationship with Westchester County for bringing prisoners to the county jail and getting reimbursed for that expense. It expired in December; the county was late in getting it to us. They are looking for a slight increase of a little over three percent, which we were pleased to receive. We get mileage plus the flat rate.

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

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Village Manager to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Westchester County to provide prisoner transportation between the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson and the Westchester County jail for the term commencing January 1, 2015 and terminating December 31, 2016.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Deputy Mayor Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	Absent	

37:15 STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Village Manager Frobel: The Village went through a thorough examination by the state comptroller's office, and as part of that, we are vigilant in keeping current with all their required reporting resolutions. With the recent election it is necessary that we adjust the term for the Village Clerk and the Deputy Treasurer bringing it into compliance with the mayor's term of office.

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 Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for elected and appointed officials as attached.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Deputy Mayor Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	Absent	

38:15 SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED LOCAL LAW A OF 2015 TO INCREASE INCOME LEVELS FOR THE SENIOR CITIZENS RENT INCREASE EXEMPTION (SCRIE) AND DISABLED PERSONS RENT INCREASE EXEMPTION (DRIE) PROGRAMS

Village Manager Frobel: This has been the subject of several work sessions. At our last meeting, the Board showed support. That threshold for income was very low, long overdue for an adjustment.

Trustee Armacost: I have met with the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee which very much supports this particular resolution. Susan has already advised them of when the public hearing will be so they will have a chance to come and speak in favor of it. It is something that will be welcomed by that segment of our community.

Trustee Walker: How is this passed on to the tenants? How is it enforced?

Trustee Armacost: People have to apply for it on their own, so part of our job is to publicize the fact that it has changed and is available.

Village Attorney Whitehead: There is more detail in the state law because our local law refers to the state law. You are adopting the provisions that are in the real property tax law. The renter, the senior citizen or the disabled, has to apply. Then the property owner gets an abatement for the amount of the increase that is eligible to be exempt and they are required to pass that on to the tenant. So the tenant does not have to pay that increase, but the landlord does not lose the money.

Deputy Mayor Apel: I would also emphasize that it is for disabled people also.

Village Attorney Whitehead: For senior citizens and disabled. They have to be in rent-controlled apartments.

Deputy Mayor Apel: They have to be 62?

Village Attorney Whitehead: Not for disabled. There is a definition in the code and in the state law. What we are doing is raising the income limit. The state has raised the income limits over the years in the enabling statute so we are just keeping up with that.

Trustee Walker: Then the tax abatement is just automatically passed on to the tenant and reflected in their rent bills, and nobody has to check up on it.

Village Attorney Whitehead: Right. Well, I am sure they do. They are the ones who have to go through the process of applying. So if they have gone through the process of applying they know they should not be getting an increase.

Trustee Walker: The other thing is helping them through the application process, and the senior advocate will help them with that.

Trustee Armacost: The Senior Citizen Advisory group will certainly help with that, but we also have a couple of people in the Village who have been real advocates of this beyond just within Hastings. I am sure they will act as advocates locally, as well.

Trustee Lemons: In our working session talked about getting some estimate and the numbers. Are we going to have those numbers?

Trustee Armacost: It is very difficult. I was one of the people who had asked for what we thought the amount of money would be from our side. She was very reticent to give a number, maybe because she is a lawyer and did not want to be held down to that number. But is quite difficult to know. We think there are not that many people who are affected so it should not be a big financial burden on the Village. But is certainly something we can do which will make a big difference to the number of people who do qualify.

Trustee Lemons: I do not know that it is all that relevant. I think it is something we want to do anyway.

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 schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. or soon thereafter to consider the advisability of adopting Proposed Local Law No. A of 2015 to increase income levels for the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disabled Persons Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) programs.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Deputy Mayor Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Trustee Nicola Armacost	X	
Trustee Daniel Lemons	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	Absent	

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Frobel: Work will resume in earnest next week on the Warburton Avenue Bridge. Over the winter months it had been pretty much shut down but over the last few weeks there has been some activity. They are looking to do that concrete pour of the decking. The original hope was to have that begin on May 1. Now we are told it will begin on Monday, May 11. For a two and a half day period the bridge will be closed except for public safety equipment. It will be a minor inconvenience during that period as they allow the maximum time for the concrete to cure.

In answer to the question regarding installation of the pedestrian fence, I do not know when that will be installed. I have to believe it will be installed before that lane is open to traffic and pedestrians. I can only make that assumption, but I will find out with certainty from the county, because it is, again, their project.

On the Ravensdale Bridge, conversations with the State of New York engineers indicate that they intend to fix the decking on that once we have addressed some of the drainage concerns. There is a catchbasin that has failed and our DPW forces will have to make that repair. Mike Gunther has committed our forces to do as quickly as possible. It does not mean that once we finish our work the state will as quickly as possible fix the decking. They have indicated that they will have to let it out to bid and get contracts, but we will get that fixed so we cannot be the cause of any delay.

Trustee Walker: Speaking to Mr. Downey's suggestion, this is one of those cases where the Complete Streets kicks in. If there is enough width we could look to painting bike lanes.

Village Manager Frobel: Very good point. I had written down the Safety Council would be a first spot on the bike lane, and we probably would want some advice from the state DOT. We have relied on them heavily as our consultant on matters like that. In the meantime, Mike can take care of any housekeeping issues he may see on the sidewalk there.

The DPW feasibility, the Mayor had asked that be on the agenda. I would prefer holding off until he is here. My intent tonight would be to suggest that we schedule it for a work session and spend some time among ourselves to discuss it. Talk about not only some of the long-term goals of that report, but some of the short-term. Some of that simply means developing an active steering committee to make certain we begin to set up some milestones so we continue to work towards implementing some of the recommendations in that report. A number stand out as immediate steps we can take. Street sweeping is certainly one of them. We have a five-year contract right now with the street sweeper that does our work. That was part of an effort to the Village of Ardsley, which bid that through our VOC. They are in the last year of that contract so we are looking to keep the maximum amount of flexibility we have in terms of whether we want another contractor to do it, whether we want to talk to Dobbs about being our subcontractor for the work. We have a host of opportunities. Ardsley, for example, is recently doing the blend. Even though they were the lead agency on this work that we have now with the streets we have contracted, they have secured a small street sweeper which does do some of the parking lots and some of the downtown; something that Mike and I have talked about in the past. It may be an option here. My recommendation would be that we hold a work session, perhaps in early June..

Trustee Armacost: I am sorry I was unable to come to that meeting. But one question was that the facility needs some kind of renovation. What do we understand the cost of that to be? You cannot do an analysis of the cost of consolidation without also taking into account the offset of the cost of not doing that consolidation and having to pay for it ourselves. That part I could not find, and maybe I was not looking carefully enough. But it seemed to be missing, and I feel that would be very useful as fodder for the discussion we have.

Village Manager Frobel: I agree, it is critical. One of the options was to maintain two facilities and have one of them be the location of dry storage or seasonal equipment. The report places the cost to renovate our existing facility at between \$1.3 and \$1.6 million. The cost is the fuel dispensing system, which is aging.

Trustee Armacost: Which has been on your plan at various points.

Village Manager Frobel: It has, and although we convinced the county department of health that it is sound, it is tested more frequently than it would have to be if it was a newer

vintage. The price includes replacing the underground fuel storage, the salt shed, and some repairs to the building. The building is in fairly good shape, but we would want to make some improvements. The other item that is included in that is a closed-cycle vehicle washing system. No longer can you wash your trucks, as you will hear from Susan tonight, and let the salt or dirt go into the drain. It needs to be captured and recycled, like at a carwash. Those three items are very pricey, and we need to discuss it. We are going to be in that location for a number of years, and you do have to weigh those necessary repairs and improvements.

Trustee Walker: In the report, they said there was additional land to the south of the building that we have rented out. We could potentially use that for some of the things we are talking about, perhaps snow storage or chipping.

Village Manager Frobel: It is very small, but we will show you the maps and focus exactly as to how much it is and what we think you could put there. Part of the recommendation was that may be where you will put your salt storage shed.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

1. Update on the Downtown

Downtown Advocate Prisament: Everyone knows that this Friday is the Friday Night Live that is the Spring Crawl. Everything is in place for it, including this half-page ad that ran in *The Enterprise* and various other outreach. I think we will have a great turnout and great weather. We have 16 participating restaurants or establishments, including the Southside Athletic and Social Club for the first time, which we are very happy about. On June 12 we have the Outdoor Adventure Friday Night Live, with the rock climbing wall courtesy of the Boy Scouts.

New business update. You all know about Penny Lick Ice Cream Company. That has been announced and the response has been so terrific. Everyone is thrilled that they are coming here to the downtown, not just at our markets. She does hope, even if the renovation is not completely finished, to have the doors open for the warm weather.

Scribble Art Workshop will be opening on June 6 and will be participating in our Friday Night Live with a lovely grand opening celebration. The owner, Sasha, and I met last week and talked about all the different things she can do to become part of the community. She is going to have an afterschool program and a summer camp, and she will come here and tell you more about her business herself. But she is looking forward to working with the other businesses in town and being part of our community, and she is quite lovely.

Next, physical improvements. I wanted to thank Tim Downey and the Board for \ how our village looks. On the Destination Hastings Facebook page Jim Metzger donated a photograph of the daffodils on Broadway. We posted it, and there at least 57 likes and comments directed towards you and the Board.

An update on the Steinschneider parking lot, and another thank you to Mike Gunther and the DPW and Fran for their support. Mike has added an additional run through Steinschneider on Monday mornings to pick up commingled which is really helpful because the restaurants generate a lot of glass and aluminum over the weekend. I was there yesterday morning and it looked much better with all the bottles gone right away. We are looking into some big Rubbermaid type of front opening-top closing bins. Dan and Danny at the hardware store are pricing some out and measuring them for us to see if we can work with the business owners there to put some bins there that they might purchase from them.

We are also working towards the weekend before the Memorial Day parade giving a few things in town a facelift. Thanks to Susan, and to Mike again, for looking at the tree pits in between and around the benches at Juniper Plaza and how we can remediate the ground there and put in some new plantings. There is discussion with the hardware store about putting a mural up on their wall and putting a little riser for music up on the VFW lawn. Next year we would like to work ahead of time and have a whole downtown physical facelift improvement day, where we do all kinds of projects similar to the village-wide cleanup, but that we plan ahead for and get a lot of input from merchants and community members.

There will be a merchant meeting this week.

Trustee Walker: A Downtown Collaborative meeting next Tuesday.

Downtown Advocate Prisant: Anybody who would like to come next Tuesday, please join us for that as well. There are other things we will be talking about at these meetings like welcome packets for new residents, many ideas and ways to collaborate for the holidays next year. We are starting to talk about that already.

Trustee Armacost: On the welcome packets for new residents, one idea the Senior Council had is that they would like to offer a senior with the package to explain the history of the Village from the perspective of somebody who has been here for many years. Many of the seniors are very enthusiastic and are quite fascinating people. Mr. Gonder, who we get the pleasure of being with, is in the category of senior. I do not know whether he would offer himself with the package, but there are others who offered themselves. So just for you to coordinate with the seniors on that.

Downtown Advocate Prisament: I love that. We could have a list, then, maybe of phone numbers.

2. Zinsser Park - Parking Lot Conditions

Amy Della Roca, Riverview Place: I work in town at Echo Hills, I have three kids, and I have been going to Zinsser with them for 11 years. I do not remember this much snow ever, I know it is a huge problem, I know it has to go somewhere and I do not want to just come up here and say not in my backyard. Zinsser is central for so many of our homes that surround it so opening up a discussion about an alternative would be great.

The snow is so beautiful and we all go there for sledding, bundle u, get outside in the freezing cold with hot chocolate. It is really fun for us. Kids were going towards the mounds because they are appealing. The kids do not care that they are dirty, these huge mounds of snow that have been plowed. So pulling the kids away from that disgusting snow that has been plowed, it changes a lot of how it feels over there. Betty talked about the potential damage, which is a concern. But it is a different feel over there in the winter.

It sounds like it is up for discussion, which is great, and we are really appreciative that it is being talked about in a different place. I do not know where. I think about where we bring our garbage and do not know if that is a possibility, or just another place where the noise of the trucks will not be so disruptive to so many homes. I know some folks live down there, too, so I realize this is a problem everywhere. But certainly, we hear the trucks in the middle of the night. It is a relatively new issue. I believe it has only been for a few years. Or it could just be that the snow is so huge for the last few years that I notice it much more over the last two years. I will just say that of course we want our winter wonderland of Zinsser back how it was, but I am glad it is being talked about.

Mr. Downey: So it has come home to roost. This is something I spoke about eight years ago. There are two different discussions here. One is the solid green waste: the wood chips, the debris from storms and so forth. That is a different creature and has to be handled differently than snow. We constantly neglect what I have been speaking about for over eight years about Zinsser Park being a dumping area for green waste. We double, triple, quadruple handle it. We have to develop a system where it is touched once. We would like to see it turned into a cash crop, where it is composted through an efficient method, and then keep it in-house. We do not handle it over and over, and then have to truck it down to Yonkers. We have to design engineer a solution for the green waste.

Snow is a different conversation. Snow is more of an emergency response issue, especially when there is impending snow after snow after snow. Now you have competing parties here. You have the stores that want clean streets and parking for their businesses. The snow has to go somewhere. What I like is when people come to the mic and instead of complaining, and the last person kind of went to this direction, ask to think this through, come here with solutions. Because if it is not your neighborhood, it is going to be trucked through somebody else's neighborhood. There is no easy out on this.

I am going to send you an e-mail that discusses techniques and equipment that can cut our time in half handling this stuff. Suppose we went in on some equipment with Dobbs Ferry that would cut this time in half. Suppose it was a flip of the coin in a snow event, you get the first one, we get the second one. Because I am cutting your time in half, I will still finish the same or sooner than you would doing the method we use right now, which is entirely inefficient, very damaging to the curbs and roadways. It is the wrong equipment for handling snow. There are smarter ways out there. A lot of communities like Boston bought a lot of this equipment because they realized we have to get it done, and done quickly. There is no easy solution for getting rid of this. It has to be put on dry land, it has to melt down, and you have to collect your litter solids. They want the oil and contaminants that might be in there to go through the biofilter, which is what the soil is, before it goes into the rivers. What we using is obsolete equipment. They need to be upgraded so we can accommodate these concerns and, at the same time accommodate the Village and the merchants.

Ms. Ryberg: I had met with Fran and Michael, and thank you for listening to me. I did sound like I was complaining, but I think Amy's comments were really on point. I am thrilled it is on the agenda. We did come up with some, to us anyway, feasible solutions. Please know that we were attempting to solve the problem. We are trying to help, but we do live here, too, so thank you for listening.

Eileen Charles, 41 Fraser Place: I live up the road for Zinsser, and I wanted to add that this is just not a neighbor NIMBY issue. It is the park that many of our residents use. And the snow dumping and the wood chipping, when the park is closed it affects everyone. We cannot use the park, the appearance of Zinsser has changed in the years I have been here. I have lived here for 23 years, and we do not see an overall plan for the park. It is seeming like a dumping ground, and now all the garden plots have been extended, the trees are being cut down without any replacement. It is the first time since I have lived here that I could stand at the ball field, look at Fraser Place, and see straight through the clearing. So the whole park is changing, and it has not been for the better. We appreciate the conversation. I live about 10 houses from the park, on the Aqueduct, and I hear the noise at night with the snow dumping. So I can only support my neighbors who are living with it constantly. It is sleep-disturbing and people's physical beings are being affected by this, as well as the soil

from the snow and the closing of the park for the children. It has also affected the parking on Edgar's Lane because when the parking lot is closed you will see there are about 30 cars that park way up to Edgar's Lane, across the Aqueduct. The street on Edgar's Lane, the sidewalk has not been shoveled or plowed all winter. There are kids that travel from across Broadway and go up to the Aqueduct to walk to school, they have to walk in the road. There is just a snowball of effects, pardon the pun, that is happening from all of this. So thank you for considering it. We had over 50 signatures on a letter the community wrote, so I am glad there has been response to that.

Trustee Armacost: This is a serious issue. I thought the letter was thoughtfully written and, as people have mentioned, had a number of signatories. It is one of those situations where there is not an obvious solution that stands out as an ideal solution that will make everyone happy. But we need to deal with it. The things I have heard are the noise issue which is a quality of life issue, the garbage and unsightliness of the park which is also a quality of life issue. This is maybe a bit of a dramatic word to use, but "destruction" of Zinsser, chipping away at the beauty of Zinsser in terms of the wood chip issue, the snow that is there.

I think the tree coming down is a different point which we should address separately. The material that I received showed that this was a thoughtful decision that had been gone into with a number of different people who are all highly qualified. It is a tragedy any time a tree has to come down but, unfortunately, that has to happen sometimes.

You very thoughtfully said this is not about it is not in my backyard, it is not that you want to push it into someone else's backyard. It is that we need to solve it in terms of everyone's backyard. It is not about taking it from Zinsser and shoving it onto Southside. It is how can solve it collectively, where we are not just moving it from one place into another place. It is a huge challenge for Mike. I have chatted to him many times about this issue. It is not so simple to solve.

Trustee Lemons: I will pick up on the tree discussion. The first year I moved here Paul Feiner was running for office and he came by our house. The only thing I remember about that discussion is that he said one thing he has learned is that he should not propose to cut any trees; that would not be good for his political future. I also read the tree report that was a pretty extensive tree report that came out on the various trees that were taken out. All of those trees, from that report which was pretty carefully done, were in serious trouble. The issue is what is going to happen after that. If you look at the trees around the Village and in Hillside Woods, you see that we have serious tree issues. You do not see a lot of trees that look super healthy. Some of it, a lot of it in Hillside Woods, is because of the deer. But we have to look forward and say the trees had to come down, we are pretty convinced they had to come down, but we do not want no trees. We want something coming back in there that is

going to, again, make this beautiful. This is part of our managed transition that has to happen. We probably have not managed it as well as we could have, but it is a transition that does happen. Trees get old and eventually there is a succession that you have to have. But we would have to do that.

Trustee Armacost: Fran, if you could explain to people how the Tree Board works. We do have a Tree Board, and we have a member of the Tree Board sitting with us. Each of those people on the Tree Board are well qualified in their own right.

Trustee Walker: Before we get into the trees, can we talk about the park and the issues with the park? Yes, they are separate issues when we start talking about the Tree Board and everything. I wanted to address the issue of these things happening suddenly, without any warning, and it is something we could do something about and have perhaps a policy in place. We have seen this happen a few times, when beloved trees disappear suddenly. I know when you realize they are in bad shape you feel they should come down immediately. But there needs to be some kind of community involvement or warning or I do not know exactly what so it does not seem like it happens stealthily, overnight, the tree disappears.

But back to the park. Fran, you and Mike have been talking about this and you wanted to address it tonight, too. Could we talk about what you have been discussing with Mike about where else the snow and the chipping operation could go, if anyplace.

Village Manager Frobel: At our last meeting with spent time where I acknowledged receipt of the letter, and some of the points that were raised. It is something we are very sensitive to. We have all seen the park, we know we are coming off two very severe winters. This past year, we have received over six feet of snow. There are some competing interests. We are under a lot of pressure to remove all the snow from those commuter lots. Our pressure is, when the storms ends finally, land say it ends at 4 or 5 o'clock in the afternoon, Mike knows that by 7:00 a.m. he better have 70 percent of the parking lot clear because we are going to hear about it from commuters who rely on that lot. After that, we are going to hear from the merchants where we need to get all that snow out of the downtown area. So we feel a lot of pressure to get that snow out, which is why they work in the early morning hours.

We are going to look at a host of options. Some involve ice-melting, some involve trucking it distances. This is a problem with our neighboring communities, as well, as they lose vacant lots. Dobbs is facing it with their waterfront developing, Sleepy Hollow has a problem having lost their open lots. So we are looking at a host of things. Part of this equation I would like to see is the residents participate, to work with the staff, as we begin to explain to them the pressures we are under to be not only sensitive to their needs and the condition of the park, of course, but the urgency we feel to maintain our streets.

Mike has been working up there for the last couple of weeks. We will admit that our housekeeping needed some attention with the wood chips. Coming off Sandy and another storms, we woke up to the fact that we have got chips there we have not used in a number of years. So Mike has been very aggressively cleaning that up. And part of that, we will get into the Tree Board role. Hastings has an aggressive tree replacement program. Our focus has been in the downtown area with trees. We had citizen volunteers participate in a comprehensive tree inventory. And certainly, we are going to be replacing the trees in Zinsser that we had to remove. They are going to be trees that are the right ones to plant in the park. We rely on our Tree Board expertise and that inventory to be our guide as to what trees are most suitable for urban settings.

Over the summer months we are going to need to look at some options. Some of the options that were shared with me two years ago we are told were not practical. We do have to clear the lots. The snow has to be removed from the commuter lot. We do have to clear the downtown. We cannot leave the snow where it falls. So some of those suggestions that were made are not practical, but we will explore them again and they will be part of the report that we will present to you. And with that, expenses that will come as we address how we remove snow from our community.

Trustee Walker: I would like to make one comment about park planning, in general. I am glad Kendra is here, and perhaps this is something that you, with the Parks Commission, can talk about in terms of when your department and the Parks Commission are thinking about changes to a park. Again, it is a way to involve the community in advance. Now we have a Friends of Zinsser Park organization, and it would be great if we had friends organizations for other parks so there would be somebody to contact when you or have to take some measures in the park or you are thinking about expanding the garden plots. Or, in the case of Reynolds Field, we want to replace the playground equipment and are asking the community for community involvement. We could come up with a procedure to engage the public more in the process of parking planning, and maybe we come up with a master plan for the parks. You do have one, actually, but in terms of engaging the public as you are implementing your master plan and going through the steps. Come up with a way to involve people a little more. This is what I am hearing, people are saying my beloved park is changing and we are not involved in the process.

Village Manager Frobel: We can work on that. There have been changes. We now have underground sprinklers in the field, we have the dugouts that were installed, we made improvements to the gardens. So there are things going on at the park and the Parks Commission takes an active role in all of that. But unless you are invited or know it is going to be talked about that evening, you probably would not attend. But now that we do have

some contacts, let us see if we can develop that link so we have some contact not only from our commission, which is residents living throughout the community, but who live right in that immediate environment.

Trustee Armacost: There can be liaisons. For example, there could be a friends and neighbors of Zinsser Park liaison to the Parks Commission or a friends of the Burke Estate or the friends of Reynolds Field liaison to the Parks Commission. I would encourage you to volunteer. I do not think there is an opening at the moment, but when there are openings on that commission, it is valuable to have people who care volunteering for those positions. The liaison could be rotated. It does not have to be the same person, it just means that somebody is getting information to and from the Parks Commission. I do understand that the Parks Commission also thinks it is doing its job and is meeting and is getting a lot of stuff done. They should rightly feel that they have made a big contribution also. Part of it is a way of communicating and finding a mechanism, informal, of that happening. The Conservation Commission has done a great job with liaisons and subcommittees that deal with certain kinds of things that could be helpful.

Regarding dumping of the snow, we do have a huge amount of land on the waterfront which does not belong to us. An arrangement could be made with BP, at least in this temporary period before we know what is going to happen with that land. Maybe there is a way to use that property. Perhaps you have already thought about this and was one of the impractical ideas. But things shift over time, and it is possible that something that was not possible two years ago is now it more possible.

Trustee Walker: This ties in very nicely to Susan's report tonight because we are talking about preventing stormwater runoff. That does go directly into the river. And as Tim was pointing out, you need to have some biofiltration so when the snow is melting the water is being filtered before it gets into any tributaries.

Deputy Mayor Apel: I do not think the land on the waterfront is filterable type land that the state would be discussing. The history of the waterfront was that there was a lot of stuff dumped there. So God only knows what is underneath that.

Mr. Downey: The strategy with snow is not to move it any further than you have to. This piece of equipment I am going to show you, for example along Maple Avenue here, if you can get the cooperation of the development here, we could lob it onto the grass. Instead of piling it, handling it, making snowballs and bringing it all the way up there, you just simply, with this massive machine that goes on the front of a payloader, a huge snow thrower, you can go down the street here by the library and just lob it up onto to hill. The machine would cut the volume way down, your speed would go way up.

On the issue of the parks, if we did a simple signage: if we could make up a half-dozen signs, the parks department, "this project is going to have a project," and you post it there. You would be doing your due diligence in informing people so they are not surprised when hearing a chainsaw zipping down a tree on a Saturday morning. A sign so there is some dialogue. It would build trust, and also you might get some great creative ideas from this pool of people.

Trustee Walker: I think that is a good idea.

Elaine Donald, 15 Fraser Place: My grandfather bought my house in 1946, and the Zinssers still lived there. So you can imagine I have seen a great change. The lower portion where the playground is, when it rains it is a swamp. And it is going to be a lake unless this is replanted for roots to suck up all the water. It is going to be terrible there.

Deputy Mayor Apel: Apropos of what you are putting in this report, I would hope that, in a sense, there is a committee between yourself and Mike and a few other people, and that we could expect a report with some of these creative ideas we have heard from Tim and others to think about. If we could talk about it over the summer that would be great, before we get back into snow season and Mike is finished getting rid of his chips.

Trustee Walker: And maybe some people from the community.

Deputy Mayor Apel: Yes, some of the people in the community should be included in that discussion. That would be great.

Ms. Arment: I want to agree with Tim about the sign. That would have been so helpful. Even when the park was closed for the tree me and a couple other moms just went under the fence because it did not say "closed." Nothing said anything, so everyone is like, what do we do? I just did it to be a rebel. So that would help.

Also, you had mentioned that the town has a diligent replanting of the trees. Another large tree in the same park fell during Sandy. It has been two years and that still has not been replanted. So the replanting of trees, we would like to see that. A neighbor of mine donated trees to the Village and they were let to die; they were not maintained, they were not taken care of. Brand-new trees, donated from a citizen who wanted to help trees at Reynolds. So the maintenance of park trees, to keep them healthy instead of just waiting for them to decay and fall, is important. It is good that we are all discussing this and that the word is getting out. We do want to make this park beautiful because it has felt like it has been pillaged in the past year or so. Even a small thing, starting with the replacement of the little bridge that was

over the stream. It was this cute little wooden bridge the kids rode on because it was nice and wide and low and great. All of a sudden the bridge is ripped up and replaced with some piece of concrete that now is a little dangerous. It is skinny. The kids are still playing there just like they were, but is different now. That is where we felt it has been a downfall and the transparency just is not there, the signage is not there. We get a lot of form letters when we write to the town to ask what is happening. We get kind of like a form letter response. So we look forward to working with everyone and trying to fix this.

Deputy Mayor Apel: We look forward to working with you.

Trustee Walker: When the Tree Board did the tree inventory that was just street trees; it was not park trees. Maybe the next step is to do a tree inventory in our parks with volunteers.

Village Manager Frobel: Our protocol is that when we either identify ourselves or someone brings to our attention a tree that appears to be compromised we turn heavily to our Tree Board. We are fortunate in that we have always been able to attract professionals to serve on that board. Kendra and Mike turn to them frequently to do an analysis. If they feel they are not qualified to go into real in-depth analyses of the condition of the tree, then we turn to outside arborists. We do not take lightly the concern about taking down a tree. Hastings has been a Tree City member for a number of years. We look at that with pride and treat it very seriously. Obviously, and you can hear from the Village Attorney, when we are notified that a tree is known to be compromised and is in danger of falling the last thing any of us would do is delay taking that tree down.

Trustee Armacost: The Tree Board was unanimous in feeling the tree had to come down, and because of the feelings of the neighbors, additional arborists were called in. That is what happened in this particular case. Is that correct?

Village Manager Frobel: Yes. I was referring more to a generic approach, where the level of sophistication of testing, or I could say a questionable judgment call, I will call in an outside arborist to make that determination.

Trustee Armacost: I wanted to make clear that in this case I do not think it was controversial. Everyone was unanimous. In terms of the material I read, there was unqualified by agreement by both our Tree Board, which is a volunteer board, as well as outside paid arborists here.

Village Manager Frobel: Ms. Garrison is here this evening, the director of Parks and Rec, and Mike Gunther. I asked both of them to be here so they could hear first-hand these comments. We have had this conversation so nothing said here this evening is a surprise.

Kendra will now need to go back to her commission and let them know we have a neighborhood group that wants to be an active participant in that park and hear what the plans are. I should say, the plans and the changes you have seen at that park did not occur just administratively. They are in close consultation with the members of the commission. But again, not everyone would know what is on the agenda to be discussed that evening unless there was some notification to everyone that, yes, we are talking about Zinsser Park, we are talking playground apparatus or improvements to the gardens. In fact, I am not sure there was an outreach to the degree that maybe was necessary with the dugout installation. These things do happen, they evolve. They do not happen quickly, but when suddenly someone sees it coming up and they did not see any advance notice then it did happen overnight. We will work on that. We are hearing there is some room for improvement as to how we communicate. So thank you.

Ms. Ryberg: When you are considering options for Zinsser and for the snow it might be helpful if you could include the cost of the current snow removal operations. Do we feel it is working for the areas that you are trying to remove snow from? I am also a commuter, although I walk and do not drive. But if it is really bad people give me rides. I have been into the Zinsser commuter lot right after snowfall or a couple of days after. This past winter was difficult, and it was very full of snow even in the roadways. It is a lot of work and you guys are working extremely hard. But for people to lift all the snow and put it into a dump truck seems like a lot of handling that could be very expensive and time consuming. I question whether it is possible to keep up with snow. The way we have had it is not working. It is not working that well for me in Zinsser Park, it might not be working that well in the commuter lot. Just the cost of what we are currently doing and how effective it is might also be worth considering when we look at different options.

Deputy Mayor Apel: Thank you, everybody, for your suggestions and ideas. If you would like you could give Sue your e-mail address or number, she would be able to contact you if you wish to be part of the committee. If you give her that information we would be glad to have it, and we would love to hear from you again.

3. Stormwater Annual Report

Village Manager Frobel: This is our annual accounting of what improvements and work we have done over the intervening 12 months to keep ourselves in compliance with the permit the county has for the discharge of water into the clean water bodies.

Village Clerk Maggiotto: Well, I am here as I have been for many first meetings in May. The stormwater management annual report for the past year, 2015, is now available. It was sent to you electronically, it is available to the public on our website, in hard copy in the

library, in my office. If anyone wants a copy please let me know. It is open for comments until June 1, when we must send it to the state.

We are under federal and state regulations to manage our stormwater runoff: rain or melted snow that flows down our impervious surfaces carrying pollutants with it like pesticides, fertilizers, bacteria from animal waste, oil and grease, sediment from construction and litter into our storm basins and out into our bodies of water: the Hudson River, the Saw Mill River. It is an open system; the water that goes into the basins on the street is not treated, unlike your sanitary system, which goes through pipes and is treated. So anything that goes in there goes into the bodies of water untreated. We are under these directives to do everything we can to get it at the source. And the source is what you and I and builders and everyone else can handle, or not contribute to it.

The report follows six separate categories of things we have to attend to. Building Inspector Minozzi who is our public contact. He takes care of any construction and post construction responsibilities. DPW head Mike Gunther tracks the outfalls and the discharges and looks into how we handle stormwater from our municipal property and our storm drains. My part has mostly been public education. Let us continue our efforts. If there are any comments, please forward them to me and I will incorporate them into the report.

Trustee Walker: Do you know if we still have any combined sewers in Hastings? Ten years ago or so I think we had some CDBG money or money from a grant to do some work to rectify some of that. But do you know if we still have any?

Village Manager Frobel: Nothing has been identified, at least in working with the consultants, that I am aware of.

Trustee Walker: But how would they know?

Village Manager Frobel: In interviewing Mike and working with Mike because he works closely with them.

Trustee Lemons: Are those public you are referring to, or private?

Trustee Walker: Yes, public. So what happens is, in older cities, and you will find this throughout New York City, the stormwater pours into the sanitary sewers. Then it overloads the waste treatment plants, and that is when you get these terrible discharges of unfiltered, untreated water, or sewage, into the river. That is why you cannot fish and should not be in the river right after a storm like that. The sound used to have a lot of that.

Village Attorney Whitehead: The sound still has a lot, and Westchester County has been working with the sound shore communities on inflow and infiltration programs. We are involved in it in some of the communities we represent over there. So both the state and the county have been very active on still trying to locate those problem areas where there is stormwater. And sometimes, it is not even combined connections anymore, it is inflow and infiltration where water is getting into the sanitary system, even laterals from people's homes where it leaking. Groundwater is getting in, and that is hurting the treatment plants because it is overflowing. With stormwater, it is the opposite problem. You want to make sure the sewage is not getting into your stormwater. So you want to make sure that people's laterals are not leaking or sewers are not leaking so that sewage ultimately ends up in your stormwater.

Trustee Walker: One thing people can do both to reduce the pollutants and to reduce the quantities of stormwater is to ensure that the leaders and downspouts are not going into their sanitary sewers and are not going into the sump pumps, and not going into the street. They need to create drainage or retention or drywell on their property to deal with the water so it is not the Village's problem. It should be the property owner's. When anything is built now, that is required to be dealt with on-site. But in a lot of our older homes we do not do that. It is something homeowners could do.

Village Clerk Maggiotto: Yes, they certainly could. You are supposed to maintain your stormwater on your property. Sometimes is small fixes, but it is making people aware that they might make an effort in that direction.

Trustee Armacost: Particularly in autumn, we have talked about making sure you clean the drains near your property of leaves. Otherwise, that is all going down and clogging up the sewers. That is a very simple, easy thing people can do right around their own property.

4. Proposed Local Law for Street Opening Restoration

Village Manager Frobel: I have given the Board a revised copy of the road opening permit process. It captures what we heard at your last work session, shortening the length of the cut that would trigger this curb to curb or edge of pavement to edge of pavement paving, and to make clear that the cost for the required police officer if, in fact, in the Chief's judgment, when it is required, is paid for by the contractor. I would like to have the Village Attorney prepare it for you. I would like to move this along. We are getting into the heavy construction season, and this would be a wonderful addition to our code. I think it is fair, it is something that should be in place today. But let us do it as fast as we can, in some measure, to get this in as a requirement.

Deputy Mayor Apel: I think it is a good idea. You made the corrections we had discussed before, so you could just bring it up at the next meeting.

Village Attorney Whitehead: We will have it for you at the next meeting.

5. Grant Opportunities for the Waterfront

Trustee Walker: Dan and I have attended a couple of Hudson River summits in the last few months and learned about some grant programs. There is a grant program that has been announced that perhaps we should be thinking about. This is part of the Hudson River estuary program. It is called local stewardship planning, and there is one category that is called the design of shoreline stabilization projects that address ongoing or anticipated erosion issues, while maintaining or enhancing ecological function. One of our next steps on the waterfront, now that the Infrastructure Committee has made their recommendations, is to look in more detail at the design of our shoreline and where we need or want bulkhead. The DEC is promoting the idea of a soft shoreline, a sloped shoreline, whether it is vegetated or armored. But we would like bulkhead in some places, I think, for river access and different types of water-related uses like boats and ships and kayaks. We need to figure out where those go.

The other piece is the shoreline that is anticipated to be either vegetated or be armored in some way. It would be great if we could retain a consultant to work with us to figure out what kind of landscape that will be. We have a lot of options. I think BP will put in place, and it is going to have to be negotiated, a shoreline we are interested in, whether it is a trail, boardwalk, or other opportunities for river access perhaps in the soft shoreline, fishing, that kind of thing. They can put that in place during the remediation.

The grant application is due June 15 so we do not have much time. I am proposing we go after it. We may be able to use as matching funds some funds from our different pots of money, as the Mayor has explained. Perhaps we can use our environmental trust fund or other monies from BP to pay for part of the consulting cost.

Trustee Lemons: How extensive is the proposal?

Trustee Walker: It is anywhere between \$5,000 and \$50,000.

Trustee Armacost: Do we have a grant writer?

Village Manager Frobel: I have two people I rely on. I will contact them tomorrow. Fiona Hodgson helped write the feasibility study, helped me do the efficiency plans. So she is very

competent. Then Margaret Moulton I have used in the past to help me. I would turn to Fiona. Let us find out a little bit about this. Is this department of state or DEC?

Trustee Walker: This is DEC. It is separate from that other grant program that is becoming available shortly, where last year or two years ago we got the grant for Quarry Park. That is a separate grant program. But we do have register right away.

Village Manager Frobel: That will be fine, and I will contact them.

Trustee Walker: I called Betsy Blair who heads up the estuary program and told her where we are in this process. They are very interested in talking to us. We can reach out to them right away and get some technical assistance, get some advice. We can go after the grants, as well. But we have an important waterfront on the Hudson River.

Village Manager Frobel: They have consulting services available?

Trustee Walker: Technical assistance, yes. They can be of help, and they are interested in what we are doing next with our shoreline. We could be a pilot project for other communities.

Village Manager Frobel: And she is with the DEC?

Trustee Walker: Yes. She said to pick a time, and I wanted to involve either Dan or the Mayor in the call. But I wanted to make sure the Board was on board with that.

Deputy Mayor Apel: Yes, I think so.

Village Manager Frobel: I have not yet heard from the EPA, the federal agency that we applied to for that grant. I thought we would hear any day. That was a technical grant, as well, to help us just on this issue. I have not yet heard back.

Trustee Walker: Those should be out now. Can you check on that?

Village Manager Frobel: I will. That was on my list to check.

Trustee Walker: That is important to know about if we are going after this other grant. We can also engage our engineer from Berger. They have a marine engineer. They could be perhaps of help, as well, just in getting the language right.

Deputy Mayor Apel: I think you should pursue that.

6. Department of Public Works Consolidation Study

Deputy Mayor Apel: We had mentioned this, and it was recommended we set up a work session. I think we have to wait until Peter is back.

Village Manager Frobel: We will look at our summer schedule.

Trustee Lemons: You definitely do not want it to go too long. It is fresh.

Deputy Mayor Apel: We will do that as soon as we can, and I am sure there are lots of other topics that we are going to have.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

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