

**VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 23, 2001**

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, January 23, 2001 at 8:12 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr., Trustee Elsa C. DeVita, Trustee Michael Holdstein (8:45 p.m.), Trustee David Walrath, Trustee Bruce Jennings, Village Manager Neil P. Hess, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto.

**CITIZENS:** Nine (9)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On MOTION of Trustee Walrath, SECONDED by Trustee DeVita with a voice vote of all in favor, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2001 were approved as presented.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

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

Multi-Fund No. 64-2000-01 \$ 36,378.85  
Multi-Fund No. 69-2000-01 \$110,289.40  
Multi-Fund No. 70-2000-01 \$ 68,454.86  
Multi-Fund No. 71-2000-01 \$214,756.88

**PRESENTATION - CON EDISON**

**Audrey Elliott, Con Edison:** I am here on behalf of Con Edison regarding the installation of a 6-inch low-pressure gas main and the replacement of an existing main. This is due to serious leak problems. We also have a water intrusion problem that could be associated with the matter, and we are requesting a permit to proceed with this job as soon as possible.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Do you have a time table?

**Ms. Elliott:** We estimate three to four weeks if we do it as a direct burial of the main. If there is another way that it can be done, we will explore that option. At this time the best method available to us may be direct burial. If we can move it into a grass area it may move a little faster, but based on the conditions that I see it looks as if three to four weeks is a good estimate.

**Mayor Kinnally:** What would the alternative be to a direct burial?

**Ms. Elliott:** The alternative to a direct burial may be, if possible, to directionally force something under the ground. But conditions would have to permit that, and without further examination of the conditions we would not have that information right away. We would have to know what other facilities are in the area and the condition. If it is a rocky area, then we will not be able to...

**Mayor Kinnally:** Certainly, you know what the subsurface is because you did a burial of a high-pressure line on the southerly end of this road about two or three years ago.

**Village Manager Hess:** In 1995.

**Ms. Elliott:** 1995 is what our records show. I will have to check into that to see if it would be possible. Right now, we are looking to do direct burial.

**Village Manager Hess:** We have three locations of leaks, from what I could see from the plans.

**Ms. Elliott:** Yes. The locations of the leaks were mostly at the top area around houses 65 and 69, and two serious leaks found around the area in front of about 50, 58. The main is in very poor condition, so to prevent this condition from occurring again, we would like to replace the main as quickly as possible.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Can you describe the scope of the job, where it would be?

**Ms. Elliott:** The main job would take place from Rosedale Avenue up to Wilson Place. The estimated footage is about 415 feet of main replacement. If conditions permit, we could try for a grassy area and the sidewalk. If conditions also permit, we may be able to do this using a trenchless technology, such as boring. If it is possible, we will certainly explore that option. But right now the best one available to us looks to be direct burial.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Where in the road are you looking to break through?

**Ms. Elliott:** The main is about 6-1/2 out from the curb on the even side of the street.

**Mayor Kinnally:** So that would be very close to where the high-pressure line is.

**Ms. Elliott:** It is on the same side of the road as this existing 6-inch low-pressure main.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Do you have a tentative start date?

**Ms. Elliott:** We could start within the next couple of weeks.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Do you have all your engineering work done?

**Ms. Elliott:** Yes.

**Mayor Kinnally:** What are you doing as far as minimizing traffic impacts and closing up trenches?

**Ms. Elliott:** We would like to find out if there are any concerns you have regarding traffic conditions which we could address.

**Mayor Kinnally:** There are serious concerns. Mount Hope leads up to the elementary school, so there are bus trips that start around 7:00 a.m. and continue through about 3:30 or 4:00 p.m. In addition, it is a heavily trafficked road for people going to the train station, to the high school, to the middle school, and to the downtown area.

**Ms. Elliott:** To minimize the traffic impact, would hours such as 9:00 to 2:30 be better?

**Mayor Kinnally:** Probably. What we have done in the past is have the construction and engineering people from Con Edison work with the police department. They should get in touch with the Superintendent of Schools to coordinate with the buses.

**Ms. Elliott:** We can do that.

**Village Manager Hess:** Can we maintain two lanes of traffic?

**Ms. Elliott:** It might be possible.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Where would material be stored?

**Ms. Elliott:** If there is an open area we will try to store the material there, as much out of the way as possible. It would not be stored in the roadway. The only equipment that would be on location would be the construction trucks, etc. The backhoe may be left on-site, and we would try to park it in an out-of-the-way area so it would not affect traffic.

**Mayor Kinnally:** You would have to be off-road.

**Ms. Elliott:** Okay.

**Mayor Kinnally:** If there is a snowstorm, how would we would plow it with plates in the road?

**Ms. Elliott:** Recessing the plates is a possibility, or they can be ramped, but recessing is probably easier.

**Mayor Kinnally:** I would suggest that you work with Mr. Hess and the Chief of Police, and we will be in touch with the school to discuss. We are going to have to see exactly where you are going to make the cuts so that we can re-route the traffic and deal with this.

**Ms. Elliott:** I represent the district. If you would like a meeting with the people who will be doing the excavating and the main installation work that can also be arranged.

**Mayor Kinnally:** I would say that would be necessary. Who would be doing the excavation?

**Ms. Elliott:** We have an excavating contractor, Hinkles & McCoy.

**Mayor Kinnally:** They worked on Washington.

**Village Manager Hess:** So they are aware of our requirements.

**Ms. Elliott:** Yes, they are. They have worked in the area before.

**Village Manager Hess:** Is there any possibility this could be held off till spring?

**Ms. Elliott:** I can discuss it and get back to you.

**Mayor Kinnally:** How wide will the cut be?

**Ms. Elliott:** Probably about 18 inches to 2 feet, no more than that, to install the main. And then there would be the service bits, which would be 4 by 4.

**Village Manager Hess:** We have had instances where Con Ed putting in lines has broken sewer lines to houses; residents were told to get the sewer line fixed, and had a terrible time getting reimbursement from Con Ed. We have required in the past that we are given a list of Con Ed plumbers. In case something happens, you could get your plumbers to do the work.

**Ms. Elliott:** I can get you that information.

**Mayor Kinnally:** We have also had requirements that notification be given to residents when the work is going to proceed so that they can make arrangements.

**Ms. Elliott:** It is our policy before doing main work to leave the customers notice a few days in advance that we will be doing the work. We also leave letters with them to schedule service replacement appointments. We notify them when the main replacement is going to be done because they may have to be taken out of service for a day or so.

**Village Manager Hess:** Whenever you want to set up the meeting, let me know.

**Trustee Walrath:** You said that you had the engineering prepared, but you mentioned an alternative location in the street.

**Ms. Elliott:** Engineering looked at the job, and engineered it to be direct-buried in the street. Sometimes field changes are made based on the conditions we find out there. If we find that a grass lane...

**Trustee Walrath:** I appreciate that. But it would be re-engineering to put it off on the side, in the grassy area. This street, by the way, if your dimensions here on the service connections...those little circles represent the shut-offs at the edge of the street?

**Ms. Elliott:** Yes.

**Trustee Walrath:** If you add those up, you have about a 60-foot right of way. I would think you would be able to maintain two lanes without a great deal of difficulty.

**Ms. Elliott:** Eyeing it up, it looks possible to me. But I do not want to...

**Trustee Walrath:** What would the decision to move to the grassy right-of-way depend on?

**Ms. Elliott:** It depends on the conditions that we find. We have to mark out the facilities in the area, and take a look at it.

**Trustee Walrath:** Certainly, it is preferable when it is a traffic impact. You mentioned "trenchless technology." Have you done a study to see if you could slip-line the 6-inch with the new 4-inch pipe and get enough flow through it?

**Ms. Elliott:** It would not be sufficient. That is why we want to go back with the same size.

**6:01 LIBRARY BOND INTENT TO AUTHORIZE**

**Mayor Kinnally:** We have had a number of meetings with the Library Board and there have been public sessions where this project has been discussed: the scope, the renovations to the existing building, the addition, the cost, the timing.

**Dan Frank, President - Library Board of Trustees:** We have had several public discussions, given reports through the Village newsletter, posted the plans at the library, and have had very good support from the Village. There is necessary work that will have to be done in the next three to five years in terms of construction and renovation. This is also a chance to look at a 35 year old building that is the center of a lot of community activity that can be enhanced and improved and made to serve the community even more effectively than it does now. We would urge you to consider this bond issue.

**Trustee Walrath:** I certainly am in favor of it. We have had good presentations, and the Manager has suggested that the amount gives us ample safety factors. I hope this number will cover all the contingencies we may find. I am in favor of going ahead.

**Trustee DeVita:** I, too, would like to see this move forward. It is very exciting. The library is a very important part of our Village and you have tremendous support from the residents.

**Trustee Jennings:** I also support it. I have been very impressed by the plans and the description of the process. It has been very thoughtful and careful. It is a very cost effective approach for the amount of money being proposed. They are really getting a tremendous improvement in the usability of the facility.

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

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees express their intent to authorize the issuance of \$1,500,000 in serial bonds for an addition and the reconstruction of the Hastings Public Library and hereby authorize the Library Board of Trustees to proceed with planning for the project.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Trustee Elsa C. DeVita	X	
Trustee Michael Holdstein	Absent	
Trustee David Walrath	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

**7:01 DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE - ACQUISITION OF MARINELLO COVE**

**Village Manager Hess:** The Board declared itself lead agency previously. We have received several no objections from interested agencies that received notice of the declaration. We have reviewed the full Environmental Assessment Form and after discussion with environmental counsel have determined that it is appropriate to issue a negative declaration or determination of non-significance.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Has notice been given to the owners of the property of this action?

**Village Manager Hess:** They were sent notice of lead agency designation by certified mail. After your action tonight they will be sent a copy of the determination of non-significance and the EAF also by certified mail.

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

**WHEREAS,** a full Environmental Assessment Form for Land Acquisition by the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson Pursuant to New York State Eminent Domain Procedures dated Dec. 7, 2000 has been filed with the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, and

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees has reviewed said Environmental Assessment Form and found that the action proposed does not constitute a Type I action as defined in 6NYCRR Section 617.12 of the SEQR regulations and will not have a significant effect upon the environment, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees hereby adopt the attached Determination of Non-Significance.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Trustee Elsa C. DeVita	X	
Trustee Michael Holdstein	Absent	
Trustee David Walrath	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

**Mayor Kinnally:** We have requested the opinion of and guidance from counsel on the steps necessary to move forward with the proposed acquisition of Marinello Cove. We have it and the Board will be reviewing it.

**8:01 SALE OF EXCESS VEHICLES**

**Mayor Kinnally:** Two items were pulled from consideration at the last meeting because the question arose of whether we would do better by selling the vehicles as scrap rather than surplus.

**Village Manager Hess:** We determined after talking with a scrap metal dealer that our net would be zero. Therefore we will sell the vehicles as surplus.

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

**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve for sale by sealed public bids received on December 18, 2000 the following excess Village vehicles:

Layton Track Paver	
L. Mog, New Hampton, NY	\$11.00
Galion Roller	
L. Mog, New Hampton, NY	\$11.00

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Trustee Elsa C. DeVita	X	
Trustee Michael Holdstein	Absent	
Trustee David Walrath	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

**9:01 UNITED WATER OF NEW ROCHELLE CONSORTIUM - COST MODIFICATION**

**Village Manager Hess:** The Board previously authorized the expenditure of \$4,300.00 for Phase IV and V. Since then Eastchester has pulled out of the consortium because their interest was the pump station, so our share increases by \$632.00. We continue to wish to participate because of the issues of water rate increases for our residents and the charge for fire hydrants.

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



**RESOLVED:** that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the additional expenditure of \$632.00 to participate in Phases IV and V and Independent Study of the consortium effort to oppose the rate increase proposed by United Water of New Rochelle.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>
Trustee Elsa C. DeVita	X	
Trustee Michael Holdstein	Absent	
Trustee David Walrath	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

## **BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS**

### **1. Department of Public Works - Snow Removal**

**Mayor Kinnally:** We are in receipt of a note from Richard Dosing, asking me to extend to DPW congratulations for a great job in the last two storms. I would like to add a second to that. These have been difficult times, and the DPW has responded admirably to two tough storms. The smaller storms may pose an even bigger challenge because they happen so quickly and they are a surprise. It defies belief how the plows get through some of the small streets and the hilly areas. It really is remarkable. And they do it regularly. At least three-quarters of the Village was down to bare pavement on Sunday night. I would call again for people to get their vehicles off the street when there is a storm coming and not to clear snow into the street. Again, congratulations to the DPW under trying circumstances.

**Village Manager Hess:** They did a wonderful job. It takes approximately a week and a half after a storm like this to get all the parking lots and downtown streets cleared up.

For those residents who live in the downtown area, I apologize but our snow removal efforts must begin around 4:00 a.m. because the alternate parking or no parking areas are from 3:00 to 6:00 a.m. We are required by law to keep the reverse beepers on the trucks. Some things that Mr. Gunther has recommended for this upcoming budget will be a vast improvement in our snow operations. We have all right angle solid plows, and he is recommending that we purchase over the next several years plows that can be adjusted. That would help us widen all streets and would improve plowing in the intersections.

## **VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Village Manager Hess:** Departments have turned in their requests for the 2001-2002 budget which will be presented to the Board at the end of February. We are making provision in the pool budget for temporary lighting for nighttime activities this summer, even though the renovations would not happen until later on. Our intention is that this is not permanent lighting that stays on all the time. It would be turned on for specific nighttime activities such as the Wednesday night YAP. When that is done, the lighting is turned off.

**Mayor Kinnally:** If Parks and Recreation is going to do that, I would suggest that they have a hearing and invite the people in the area and tell them about it.

**Trustee Holdstein:** Will the lights cast that much light?

**Village Manager Hess:** No, because the lighting is going to be low, probably halogen lights on poles that will be directed toward the pool. We are not putting in large cobra head street lights. The pool survey was in this past newsletter. Residents have until the end of February to get their surveys in. The final results will come to the Parks and Recreation Commission and they will present something to the Board over the next several months.

We will be opening the skate park in the spring. It is completed other than being painted. Signs have been ordered. Ray has been advertising for skate park supervisors. We hope to have a dedication.

## **BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS** (cont'd)

### **2. Update on the Waterfront**

**Mayor Kinnally:** I do not have anything on the waterfront this time.

### **3. Storms**

**Mayor Kinnally:** Let me continue talking about the storms. The fire department has had call to quarters in the last two storms. That means that the fire department and the ambulance corps manned the houses during the storms so there is not a delay of people getting from their homes to the stations. People have stayed overnight at the ready, and the fire department and the members of the ambulance corps are to be commended for that, and their families because it is a sacrifice for them. Also, on Sunday night we were trying to clear out Washington Avenue to allow the people to be able to park. We had someone on the desk going through the phone book, knowing who the people were that had cars on Washington, calling and asking them to move their cars. I do not know how many other municipalities would do that.

These are stories, large and small, in this community. And these are people who go the extra mile, not just during the storms, but all the time. Once again, they are to be commended.

#### 4. Other

**Trustee Walrath:** We have a report from our auditor and they offered to come in and go over it in detail. I would like to have a work session that they would attend and explain those various things and get moving on them.

The Historical River Towns of Westchester is having its meeting in Hastings this week. It is our last chance to tell them what we want signs for. This signage is to go along Route 9 and point out things that are of significance culturally and historically. Meg Walker and I have reviewed this and have selected a few features like Draper Park, the Cropsey Museum and the waterfront. If anybody feels strongly, please let me know between now and Thursday.

**Trustee Holdstein:** Once there is a final determination, will that be presented to us?

**Trustee Walrath:** Yes.

**Trustee Holdstein:** Is that something we vote on to authorize?

**Trustee Walrath:** I think we would. We have to come up with some money.

**Trustee Holdstein:** I would like to see the final plan.

**Trustee Walrath:** I wanted to ask Neil where we are on the jitney for commuters.

**Mayor Kinnally:** Neil had asked for suggestions of sites for park and ride. I do not know if all the Board members have given those suggestions to Neil.

**Trustee Walrath:** We started out with Zinsser, and I suggested the American Legion. I cannot think of any other places, and those are pretty well spread out.

**Village Manager Hess:** At time we first discussed it we had 16 people on the waiting list. The Board authorized the sale of 16 additional permits, which we did. Since that time, we have gotten three more residents on the waiting list. We have been telling people to park at the Zinsser Park parking lot and walk to the train station from there.

**Trustee Jennings:** About the pool questionnaires, in an effort to increase the number of returns, can the questionnaire be downloaded from the website?

**Village Manager Hess:** No. We want to make sure respondents are Hastings residents, and that people are not stuffing the ballot box. We have copies of the survey available here.

**Trustee Jennings:** On the website version you could require people to put their name and address.

**Village Manager Hess:** We will take a look at that survey. People can download it and send it to us. We will figure out some way to do it.

**Trustee Jennings:** My other comment to David is to make sure we get our share of these historical signs. I assume you are in touch with the Historical Society as part of this.

**Trustee Walrath:** We have asked for their input.

**Village Manager Hess:** Certainly, the Burke Estate.

**Mayor Kinnally:** There have been a number of inquiries from people who live on Maple Avenue near the Municipal Building about whether we can temper the new siren. The fire chief has indicated that the alarm company is going to wire up new controls. There will be a short horn blast, no siren. We have tried to reemphasize that the horn should not be utilized past 11:00 p.m., although there are certain emergencies that have to override that.

I have a letter from a gentleman who lives on Stanley Avenue who was in need of dialysis and because of the storm could not get out of his house to St. Joseph's in Yonkers. I have a letter of commendation from him to the *Herald Statesman*, with a copy to me, thanking Chief Schnibbe for going out of his way and getting up at the crack of dawn to pick him up at 6 o'clock on a Sunday morning to take him to the dialysis. Once again, small things but very large things in the universe of people in the community. Hats off to Bob, who is the leader of the fire department but certainly leads by example.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On MOTION of Trustee Jennings, SECONDED by Trustee Walrath with a voice vote of all in favor, the Board scheduled an Executive Session immediately following the Regular Meeting to discuss land acquisition, litigation, and personnel.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION of Trustee Holdstein, SECONDED by Trustee DeVita with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Kinnally adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:10 p.m.