



**VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Michael F. Curley, Mayor  
Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Deputy Mayor – entered the meeting at 7:16 P.M.  
Steven Alpert, Trustee  
Angela Hogue, Trustee  
Frank Hagen, Trustee  
Melissa B. Reimer, Village Clerk  
Michael A. Genito, Village Treasurer

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Curley called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for all those who have been killed due to conflicts and wars all over the world.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

A Re-Organization Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 4, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.  
A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 4, 2023, at 7:30 P.M.  
A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** To Approve October 2, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor Curley read both public hearing notices into the record.

**MOTION** to Open Public Hearing to Consider the adoption of Local Law amending Chapter 205 and 215 of the Code of the Village of Suffern, was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

Mayor Curley explained that the Rental Registry will be an application that is done through the Village Clerk with the help of the Building Department. The change in these local laws makes it consistent.

No Comments.

**MOTION** To Close Public Hearing to Consider the adoption of Local Law amending Chapter 205 and 215 of the Code of the Village of Suffern Regulating Rental Properties in the Village of Suffern, was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

**RESOLUTION NO. 161 OF 2023  
ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 9 OF 2023, AMENDING CHAPTER 215 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, REVISING ADMINISTRATION OF CHAPTER 215 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees recently enacted various amendments to Chapter 215 of the Village Code to strengthen the Chapter to ensure the protection of renters and compliance with all laws; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 205 of the Code of the Village of Suffern contains additional property maintenance standards applicable to all properties in the Village of Suffern; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees desires that the administration of Chapters 215 and 205 be consistent and that both Chapters be administered by the Village Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of the public hearing on said local to be held on November 20, 2023, was timely published in the Journal News on November 8, 2023, and posted in six public places; and

**WHEREAS**, the action is a Type II action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on November 20, 2023, at which time the public had an opportunity to comment on the proposed local law and the hearing was closed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Board of Trustees hereby declares itself to be lead agency and determines that that the adoption of the proposed local law is a Type II action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees finds that all procedural requirements for the adoption of said local law have been satisfied; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that it is in the overall public interest of the Village of Suffern to adopt said local law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Local Law No. 9 of 2023, “A Local Law Amending Chapter 215 of the Code of the Village of Suffern Regulating Rental Properties in the Village of Suffern is hereby adopted.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 162 OF 2023  
ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 10 OF 2023, AMENDING CHAPTER 205 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, REVISING ADMINISTRATION OF CHAPTER 205 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees recently enacted various amendments to Chapter 215 of the Village Code to strengthen the Chapter to ensure the protection of renters and compliance with all laws; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 205 of the Code of the Village of Suffern contains additional property maintenance standards applicable to all properties in the Village of Suffern; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees desires that the administration of Chapters 215 and 205 be consistent and that both Chapters be administered by the Village Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of the public hearing on said local to be held on November 20, 2023, was timely published in the Journal News on November 8, 2023, and posted in six public places; and

**WHEREAS**, the action is a Type II action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on November 20, 2023, at which time the public had an opportunity to comment on the proposed local law and the hearing was closed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Board of Trustees hereby declares itself to be lead agency and determines that that the adoption of the proposed local law is a Type II action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees finds that all procedural requirements for the adoption of said local law have been satisfied; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that it is in the overall public interest of the Village of Suffern to adopt said local law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Local Law No. 10 of 2023, “A Local Law Amending Chapter 205 of the Code of the Village of Suffern Regarding Property Maintenance in the Village of Suffern is hereby adopted.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

### **RESOLUTION NO. 163 OF 2023**

#### **ACCEPTING AMY BATES AS NEW MEMBER IN HOOK & LADDER, CO. 1**

**RESOLVED**, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Amy Bates, as a new member in the Hook and Ladder, Co. 1.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

### **RESOLUTION NO. 164 OF 2023**

#### **ACCEPTING YISROEL WALDMAN AS NEW MEMBER IN VOLUNTEER HOSE, CO. 1**

**RESOLVED**, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Yisroel Waldman, as a new member in the Volunteer Hose, Co. 1.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

### **RESOLUTION NO. 165 OF 2023**

#### **ACCEPTING JAMES KEENE AS NEW MEMBER IN VOLUNTEER HOSE, CO. 1**

**RESOLVED**, the Village Board of Trustees accepts James Keene, as a new member in the Volunteer Hose, Co. 1.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 166 OF 2023  
ACCEPTING EUGENE JANG AS NEW MEMBER IN VOLUNTEER HOSE,  
CO. 1**

**RESOLVED**, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Eugene Jang, as a (16–17-year-old) new member in the Volunteer Hose, Co. 1.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 167 OF 2023  
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 16 TO MEHL ELECTRIC  
COMPANY FOR THE HARDENING OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 16 to Mehl Electric Company in the amount of \$12,255.00 for Project 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255 Hardening of Water Treatment Plant is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hogue and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 168 OF 2023  
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 17 TO MEHL ELECTRIC  
COMPANY FOR THE HARDENING OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 17 to Mehl Electric Company in the amount of \$5,225.00 for Project 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255 Hardening of Water Treatment Plant is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hogue and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 169 OF 2023  
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 6 TO HUSH ELECTRICAL  
COMPANY FOR THE BACKUP POWER FOR CRITICAL FACILITIES PROJECT**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 6 to Hush Electrical Corp. in the amount of \$21,764.58

for Project 2021-006 GOSR NYCR-0256 Backup Power for Critical Facilities Project is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hogue and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 170 OF 2023**

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 7 TO HUSH ELECTRICAL COMPANY FOR THE BACKUP POWER FOR CRITICAL FACILITIES PROJECT**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 7 to Hush Electrical Corp. in the amount of \$15,295.50 (FINAL PAYMENT) for Project 2021-006 GOSR NYCR-0256 Backup Power for Critical Facilities Project is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hogue and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 171 OF 2023**

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO MEHL ELECTRICAL COMPANY FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN WWTP IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT CONTRACT 2E**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that Change Order No. 1 reducing the contract price by \$8,396.00, for a revised contract price of \$337,938.00, is hereby authorized.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 172 OF 2023**

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO MFD QUALITY CONSTRUCTION FOR THE 2023 RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$1,865.49 for the 2023 Right-of-Way Improvement Project, for a revised contract in the amount of \$57,290.49, is hereby authorized.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hogue, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 173 OF 2023**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR THE PFOS/PFOA TREATMENT SYSTEM PROJECT**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the solicitation of formal bids for the PFOS/PFOA Treatment System Project is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable by January 3, 2024, at 3:00 P.M.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 174 OF 2023  
LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY SERVICES AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS** the United States Environmental Protection Agency enacted the Federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), which require every federally defined community and non-transient, non-community water system to develop a Service Line Inventory by October 16, 2024; and

**WHEREAS** the LCRR applies to the Village of Suffern water system; and

**WHEREAS** the Village of Suffern Water Department is in the process of reviewing existing service line archives, identifying areas that may have a greater concern, and participating in meetings with the Rockland County Department of Health; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village has applied for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Grant for Lead Service Line Inventory (Grant) in the amount of \$662,545; and

**WHEREAS** the Grant has specific procurement requirements that include the solicitation and selection of professional services to assist in the development of a Service Line Inventory; and

**WHEREAS** the Village issued and advertised a request for qualifications for the aforesaid professional services; and

**WHEREAS** a Committee consisting of the Village Superintendent of Public Works, the Village Water Plant Chief Operator, the Village Treasurer, and others, reviewed the responses from various firms to the aforesaid request for qualifications; and

**WHEREAS** the Committee has recommended that the Village Board accept the proposal offered by H2M Architects & Engineers, with offices at 2 Executive Boulevard, Suite 401, Suffern, NY 10901 at a cost to be determined through negotiations with H2M.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a Lead Service Line Inventory engineering services agreement with H2M, subject to approval as to form and content by the Village Attorney.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 175 OF 2023  
ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF CHRISTOPHER HARTFIELD, JR.**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees hereby accepts the resignation of Christopher Hartfield, Jr., Laborer, effective October 20, 2023.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 176 OF 2023  
APPOINTING TYLER M. CLERY-MORGAN AS LABORER**



**RESOLVED**, Mayor Michael F. Curley hereby appoints Tyler M. Clery-Morgan to the vacant position of Laborer in the Street and Refuse Department, effective November 27, 2023, at a pay rate of \$18.85 per hour and said appointment is hereby confirmed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 177 OF 2023  
APPOINTING LEOPOLDO J. MILIO AS LABORER**

**RESOLVED**, Mayor Michael F. Curley hereby appoints, Leopoldo J. Milio to the vacant position of Seasonal Laborer in the Street and Refuse Department, effective November 27, 2023, at a pay rate of \$18.85 per hour and said appointment is hereby confirmed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 178 OF 2023  
AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH APPROVED ENERGY**

**WHEREAS** JMI Consultants LLC, with offices located at 5672 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221 has performed a study of the Village of Suffern's electricity usage and sought competitive bids on behalf of the Village for the supply of electricity; and

**WHEREAS** Approved Energy, with offices located at 6717 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11220 submitted the lowest price for a period of twelve months from the first available meter read on or after November 1, 2023.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor is hereby authorized to sign an electricity sales agreement with Approved Energy for the period of one year, beginning with the first available meter read on or after November 1, 2023, subject to review and approval as to form and substance by the Village Attorney.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 179 OF 2023  
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER CANCER BENEFIT PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS** Section 205-CC of the General Municipal Law requires that the Village of Suffern shall provide and maintain an enhanced cancer disability benefit insurance program for each eligible volunteer firefighter; and

**WHEREAS** the Village is currently insured in compliance with §205-CC of the General Municipal Law with the New York State Volunteer Firefighter Cancer Benefit Program Enhanced Plan, underwritten by Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company ("Plan"); and

**WHEREAS** the Plan can be renewed for an additional year beginning January 1, 2024, at the cost of \$14,494.18.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village will renew the New York State Volunteer Firefighter Cancer Benefit Program Enhanced Plan for an additional year beginning January 1, 2024.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 180 OF 2023  
PROJECT 2024-003 VILLAGE HALL BOILERS**

**WHEREAS** on October 3, 2022, the Village Board adopted Resolution 198 of 2022 estimating the cost of the purchase and installation of Village Hall boilers (“Project”) to be \$600,000 and to apply for a grant from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (“DASNY”) in the amount of \$235,000, with the remaining \$365,000 of cost to be financed with debt; and

**WHEREAS** on October 7, 2022, the Village and DASNY executed a Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology Program (“CREST”) Grant Disbursement Agreement for the Project in the amount of \$235,000; and

**WHEREAS** on October 2, 2023, the Village Board adopted resolution no. 155 of 2023, awarding a contract for the Project to Joe Lombardo Plumbing & Heating of Rockland, Inc. in the amount of \$249,967.43; and

**WHEREAS** the General Fund Contingent Account has an unexpended and unencumbered available balance of \$200,000.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village Board of the Village of Suffern establishes Project 2024-003 Village Hall Boilers in the amount of \$250,000 to be financed with \$235,000 from the DASNY CREST and \$15,000 transferred from the General Fund Contingent Account.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 181 OF 2023**

**TRANSFER FUNDS TO CAPITAL PROJECT FOR VITAL RECORDS IMAGING**

**WHEREAS** on July 17, 2023, the Village Board adopted Resolution 113 of 2023, awarding a contract for the imaging of vital records to SecureScan; and

**WHEREAS** the Village Clerk budget for records management has an available balance of \$20,000 for the imaging of vital records, which together with ARPA 21 funds will be used to finance the imaging of vital records.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Village Treasurer is hereby authorized to transfer \$20,000 from the Village Clerk’s contractual budget to Project 2024-005 Vital Records Imaging.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**Adopted:** November 20, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 182 OF 2023**

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN FIRE DEPARTMENT TELEPHONE SYSTEM AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS** the current telephone systems used by the two Village firehouses are outdated and in need of replacement; and

**WHEREAS** four vendors of telephone systems were asked to provide demonstrations and pricing of their systems to the Fire Chief, Village Treasurer, and a volunteer firefighter (the “Committee”) that would include features and functions needed or desired by the Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS** RingSquared, with offices located at 14 Industrial Avenue, Suite 4, Mahwah, New Jersey 07430 (“RingSquared”) has offered a new telephone system lease to include all installation, setup, training, hardware, software, services, and support for a two-year period at a cost not to exceed \$824.50 per month; and



**WHEREAS**, it is the determination of the Committee, after viewing the demonstrations and reviewing the pricing, that the RingSquared telephone system lease offers the best combination of features, services, support, and pricing.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into a lease agreement with RingSquared, subject to review and approval as to form and content by the Village Attorney.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

**Adopted** November 20, 2023

## **GRANT PROGRAM**

Mr. Fred Rella advised the Board about the Environmental Facilities Corporation (“EFC”) intended use plan for 2024, in which we applied to get some special financing. These are loans that are at lower interest rates than what the Village can get on the open market. The rates could be as low as 0%. that the Village was awarded.

The Village was approved for the PFAS Removal project, the Water Meter Replacement project, and the Backup Generators for Bon Aire.

Mr. Rella confirmed to the Board that there were a number of grants (over \$5 million) that the Village applied for from the EFC and the Village will hear back in December and January. These include Bon Aire Pump Station, Backup Generators (\$940 Thousand), the New Well (\$2.1 Million), Meter Reading project (\$2.3 Million), Lead Pipe Inventory Replacement (\$662 Thousand).

Mayor Curley said that the Health Department is requiring that the lead piping is replaced from the street to the property.

Mr. Rella mentioned the Village Hall Boiler project and how nice and warm the building is now. He told the Board that the Village received a grant of \$235 Thousand for that use. The Village is going to order some new parts and Mr. Rella will submit reimbursement from DASNY (Dormitory Authority of the State of New York).

Lastly, Mr. Rella spoke about the next meeting and that there will be a public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant proposed projects for 2024. Mr. Rella will be discussing the application for the coming year.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Curley thanked the Village Fire Department for the hard work done at the Parkside fire that just happened the other day. He said that they were all professional and did a great job. He thanked the firefighters for keeping us all safe.

**MOTION** – Permission to Attend Totowa/West Paterson/Little Falls Fire Department Holiday Parade on November 25<sup>th</sup>, was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

**MOTION** – Permission to Attend Orangeburg Fire Department Holiday Parade on December 9<sup>th</sup>, was made by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Loughlin presented the Police Department statistics for the month of October 2023. The Holiday Parade is scheduled for December 2, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. The Police Department is collecting unwrapped toys for their annual DARE Holiday Toy Drive. The public is invited to the Toy Sorting on Friday, December 15, 2023.

The Police Department is continuing the patrols of the Downtown Business District. They are making arrests and giving out summonses. Due to bail reform, the violators are released for a future court date. There is no bail. They are seeing a large number of these violators not showing up for court. The Court has to issue warrants.

Mayor Curley agreed with the Police Chief. He said that the intention was nice, but they have gone too far. With the number of calls that Suffern has, we are appreciative of the work the police department does for us.

### **RECREATION**

Ms. Cathy Mills reported the following:

#### **December Events**

- December 1 – Christmas Tree Lighting 6pm
- December 2 – Holiday Parade 6:30pm
- December 7 – Menorah Lighting 6pm

Trustee Alpert's brother will be leading the service.

- December 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance 7pm

### **PUBLIC COMMENT** (limited to 4 minutes per speaker)

A **MOTION** to open the public comment period was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

Jim Giannettino – he asked for people to vote against those who voted for Bail Reform.

A **MOTION** to close the public comment was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. Charles Sawicki introduced all of the resolutions for the DPW. Mayor Curley explained that PFOS and PFOA's are a result of the Teflon (non-stick pans) and other household items, landscape chemicals, etc. that got into water supplies. This is to keep our water supply and water wells safe. The Mayor explained that there are changing standards in New York State all the time and the Village is staying ahead of the curve. Safe water for our community is the Boards priority.

Mayor Curley mentioned that the Village had a nice reply from qualified applicants in this round. The last few rounds were not so successful. This is what they were waiting for, and it seems it was worth the wait.

## **TREASURY**

Treasurer Genito wished congratulations to Mayor Curley, Deputy Mayor Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee Hogue, and Trustee-elect Osborn. Treasurer Genito thanked Trustee Hagen for his many years of service as a trustee, as a veteran, and as a resident.

Trustee Hagen thanked Mr. Genito.

Treasurer Genito presented the resolutions for his department.

## **TRUSTEES**

Trustee Hagen said, “Thank you to Treasurer Genito for his kind words.”

Trustee Alpert spoke about the Board of Education and their plan to change the fabric of the school system. Trustee Alpert said that he is very disappointed with their vote. He said that he hopes that we as a Village can do something to help, maybe get them to rethink this and re-vote. He is worried that it will lead Suffern to a big change for the worse.

## **MAYOR**

A MOTION to grant a permit for the Sacred Heart Church to hold Parade on December 10, 2023, from 3:15 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. to utilize the left lane of Lafayette Avenue from the corner of Orange Avenue to Sacred Heart Church was moved by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Mayor Curley agreed with Trustee Alpert regarding the Suffern School Board decision. The Mayor stated at the next Board meeting they will decide if they as a Board will write a letter representing the Village of Suffern and the whole Board. Mayor Curley said that he doesn't believe that the School Board will change their minds as is. Mayor Curley said that he looked at it on a legal basis to see if you could do a referendum and you cannot.

The Mayor said that sometimes that only way to change things is the power of the people and the power to vote. The only way to change it was a coalition ticket between Suffern, Sloatsburg, and maybe other municipalities where people ran for the school board and changed things. People would have to have the time and the desire to do it. The Mayor believes that it is wrong what they are doing. He believes that everything that the Board is doing to make it a community, the School Board, has just gone against that fact. The School district, the Mayor explained that, they used that partial Princeton project. They didn't have the factors that exist in Suffern. People move here because we have great Recreation, Police, Fire Department, great local schools where a parent can let two or three children off at the same time. People may not choose to buy a house in Suffern, and worse, some parents may choose to move out of Suffern. People sometimes give up because they don't think people are fighting for them.

Mayor Curley believes that the School Board made a predetermined decision. One person voted no to it because they did not feel it was time. That person would have to be held accountable and hold their vote because there are three votes that are up in the school board. That would make four votes and that would change the outcome of this vote...four out of seven. Mayor Curley said that there are opportunities – if people have the drive and the desire. The question was not if you had to close a school or not, it was if you had to separate those kids in those schools – that's the question. There are more non-benefits than benefits. The Mayor believes that there would actually be harm to the community, to the children, and harm to the entire school district.

Mayor Curley thanked Mr. Hagen for all of his years of service to the Village – for being a trustee and working well with us. The Mayor wished him well.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 P.M. was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Respectfully,

Melissa B. Reimer, CPA  
Village Clerk