

**Village of Suffern
Village Board Meeting
Monday, April 3, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

Present: **Edward Markunas, Mayor**
 Frank Hagen, Trustee
 Moira Hertzman, Trustee
 Dan Kraushaar, Village Attorney
 Virginia Menschner, Village Clerk
 Joseph Russo, Trustee
 Henry Sussman, Trustee

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Markunas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Suffern Fire Department was recognized by the Board. The Pledge of Allegiance was preceded by a display of the colors presented by the Suffern Fire Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY:

The Mayor began the meeting by recognizing and thanking the Suffern Fire Department and its members for its outstanding service to the Village of Suffern. He thanked Chief John Solmon and the members of the fire department for attending.

Chief Solmon acknowledged the firefighters in the Village of Suffern for their hard work, time, and energy in keeping the Village of Suffern safe. The Suffern Fire Department is a volunteer organization and will be celebrating its 117-year anniversary July 2, 2017. The volunteers spend a lot of time volunteering for training, responding to calls, and numerous other events. This past year, 2016, the Fire Department responded to 370 incidents. Members took part in hundreds of hours of firefighter training. They also participated in the community teaching fire prevention at five different schools and attended many events including Keep Rockland Clean, Suffern Day, Keeping Fit Day at Connor School, Suffern Pep Rally, and the Challenger Game. These are just a few events that the members have taken part in.

The following members were recognized for their outstanding contribution to our community and their strong commitment to the Fire Department:

Chief John Salmon	Deputy Chief Michael Lepori	Battalion Chief Jeremy Kaufer
Captain Matthew Wilson	Captain Phillip Beers	1st Lieutenant Matthew Ellsworth
1st Lieutenant Ryan Ortiz	2nd Lieutenant James Hogan	2nd Lieutenant Joseph Bednarski
Ex-Chief Daniel Moran	Ex-Chief Glen Wilson	Ex-Chief John Wilson
Ex-Chief Bruce McClintock	Ex-Chief Donald Schreck	Ex-Chief Daniel McNerney
Ex-Chief Michael Stark	Ex-Captain William Barish	Ex-Captain Lloyd Beers
Ex-Captain Vincent Mastrullo	Ex-Captain Mark Rooney	Randy Ortiz - Fire Police
Firefighter Andrew Alvarado	Firefighter Michael Barish	Firefighter Greg Berkowitz

Firefighter Max Beutel	Firefighter Thomas Bowe	Firefighter Johny Cano
Firefighter Jose Chinchilla	Firefighter Kyle Conklin	Firefighter Daniel Dellatte
Firefighter Sergio Fica	Firefighter Mark Forcello	Firefighter Diane France
Firefighter Andrew Fredericks	Firefighter Charles Ford	Firefighter Michael Haas
Firefighter Alex Halper	Firefighter John Hogan	Firefighter Thomas Jackson
Firefighter Michael Jodice	Firefighter Jason Kaplan	Firefighter Dan Kinsley
Firefighter Warren Lenny	Firefighter Kyle Lynch	Firefighter Andrew Markunas
Firefighter Mike Mastronardi	Firefighter Woosler Mercier	Firefighter Mike Murphy
Firefighter Scott Oslacky	Firefighter Robert Rojas	Firefighter Jennifer Salomon
Firefighter Joshua Sheridan	Firefighter William Simmura	Firefighter Nick St. Jacques
Firefighter Brian Stark	Firefighter Julian Straughter	Firefighter Steven Taborda
Firefighter Jake Tamburro	Firefighter David Tarantino	
Firefighter Anthony Woodson-Powel		
Firefighter Jordan Tannenbaum		
Ex-Captain James A. Destefano		
Captain of Fire Police Richard DeStefano		

The Awards presentation ended with a standing ovation from the Board of Trustees and members of the audience.

Chief Solmon spoke about the January 29, 2017, structure fire in Suffern. He explained that January 29, 2017, at 3:00 a.m. the Suffern Fire Department responded to a structure fire at 60 Lonergan Drive. As the firefighters worked to extinguish the fire, First Lieutenant Matt Ellsworth entered the residence to rescue a person trapped inside. The building was engulfed in thick smoke creating zero visibility. Using thermal imaging equipment, Lt. Ellsworth located and rescued the resident on the second floor. Lieutenant Ellsworth was recognized by Chief Solmon for the excellent performance of his duties as a firefighter that evening rescuing the resident trapped in the fire.

The Mayor concluded the ceremony with thanking the Suffern Fire Department for keeping Suffern safe.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

The April workshop meeting was set for Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. and the next Village Board Meeting was set for Monday, May 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2017-2018 VILLAGE BUDGET:

A Motion to open the Public Hearing was requested by the Mayor at 7:20 p.m. The motion was moved by Trustee Henry Sussman, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen, and passed unanimously by the Board

Presentation of the Tentative Budget for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Ending May 31, 2018

Treasurer Michael Genito presented the following summary regarding the Tentative Budget:

Total Appropriations	\$ 13,396,529
Less: Estimated Revenues	<u>2,498,862</u>
Amount to Be Raised by Taxes	10,897,667

The Tentative Budget was prepared by Mr. Genito's office along with the assistance of the Department Heads. The Department Heads and the Board will continue to work on the budget until its adoption on April 30, 2017. Based on the figures presented above, the tax rate per \$1,000 Assessed Valuation would be \$80.02 would be a 6.9% increase over the previous year. However, the Tentative Budget is yet to be worked on by the Board of Trustees and this percentage may be decreased.

Public Comments:

A Suffern resident questioned the amount that was budgeted under contingency. Mr. Genito replied that the Contingency Fund is for unknown, unanticipated expenditures. Last year, \$200,000 was budgeted for contingencies in the general fund and \$200,000 for the water fund. There was no contingency budgeted for the sewer fund. Throughout the year the Village has not had a major event occur such as major disaster, storm, or other expenditures. The Village also did not have a major drop in revenue such as mortgage tax or sales tax. Those things could severely impact the budget after it is adopted. The Village is in the tenth month of the fiscal year. There are two months remaining that may impact the contingency fund. If nothing happens that impacts the contingency fund during the next two months, any amount that wasn't needed to address revenue shortfalls, would flow back into the fund balance. This is something the Village needs to do as recommended by Moody's and the NYS Comptroller's Office. This year's budget includes a \$100,000 contingency for the sewer fund. The Sewer Department is under consent decree from the DEC to make major changes to the infrastructure which are very expensive. These changes have to be done almost immediately. In addition, things can happen during the year which are unexpected and need to be immediately addressed. If these matters are not addressed, the Village can incur significant fines from DEC. Therefore, this budget includes a sewer fund contingency which is different from last year's budget. Contingency fund surpluses can be transferred to the fund balance in the event of a surplus beyond thirty percent in the contingency fund balances and can be used to offset taxes in the future with Board approval. However, we have a few years to go before this will be an option.

The Contingency Fund enables the Village to address unforeseen circumstances such as purchasing equipment in an emergency situation without borrowing funds and incurring debt. If the Village looks back when it was necessary to go into deficit financing, the funds were in deficit balances. There were no contingency fund balances. The Village financial situation was so poor it was unable to pay vendor bills or its employees. This Board took action and has been addressing the financial health of the Village over the past two years. The Board took the steps to address deficit financing. Now it is necessary to begin to raise fund balances. Doing so enables the Village to address unforeseen circumstances without raising debt to fund the situation such as purchasing equipment. Based on the Village's improved fiscal standing, Moody's has rated the

Village with BAA3 Rating, which is investment grade. The point of increasing contingency funds when the Village has a budget of \$12,000,000 is to avoid raising debt to fund operations. Fund balances in the general fund and water fund of \$200,000, and \$100,000 in the sewer fund are not significant balances based upon the Village's budget. Over time, it would be expected to build the balances up. This is what credit rating agencies look for when determining interest rates. The Village has a BAA3 rating with Moody's and we hope to increase that to an A rating, but it is going to take time. Moody's has rated us from a negative, to stable, to positive outlook. They look at how the Village develops its budgets and the results the Village has had.

A resident questioned the surplus amount in the budget. Mr. Genito explained that the government treats debt coming in as revenue. This revenue was used to address the previously mentioned deficits. The surplus was not an operational surplus rather it was deficit funding.

A resident questioned the increase in the Village Attorney budget. Mr. Genito explained that attorney expenses for special legal circumstances (outside counsel) was formerly budgeted for under the Board of Trustees predominately. These amounts were transferred to the Attorney's budget because it was a more logical place to put them.

A resident asked why there was a decrease in the budget for a municipal financial advisor. Mr. Genito explained that the Village has moved to the way most municipalities handle this matter by including the cost of managing the deficit financing into the amount of listed as deficit financing. Therefore, the costs associated with debt become part of the debt.

A resident asked about unallocated insurance. Mr. Genito explained that unallocated insurance is used for general liability and professional insurance that is needed for the Village. The resident also asked if money was spent from the contingency fund for expenses, would the Board have to reallocate those funds. Mr. Genito explained that if the Village wanted to spend contingency funds, the Board would have to be advised that the Village is short in a major expenditure or revenue, and in order to make up the difference, the Village would need to move the money from the contingency to another line. The Board would have to adopt a resolution amending the budget moving the contingency from one line to another.

A resident asked why the Village was increasing the overtime budget for the police department based on last year's budget being favorable. Village Attorney, Dan Kraushaar, explained that the budget presented at this meeting is tentative. It was presented to the Village Board of Trustees by the Village Clerk. This begins the process of having the Board review the budget and make changes based on the issues that have been raised tonight, including police overtime. The public hearing allows the public who are affected by the budget to raise questions and concerns as are being heard tonight to help the Board make changes to the budget before it is adopted. Using good accounting practices, we are estimating what the highest expenditures may be until the final numbers are provided at the end of fiscal year for 2016-2017. There will be provisions; State law requires that the Village cannot make revisions to the tentative budget that was presented to the Board until after the close of the Public Hearing. What the Village is engaging in right now is the intension that the State had when creating this law.

A resident asked what was LOSAP under the Fire Department Budget. Mr. Genito explained that New York State General Municipal Law (GML) Article 11-A, Section 217 states that one year of firefighting service must be credited under a service award program for each calendar year after establishment of the program in which an active volunteer firefighter service accumulates at least 50 points. Points must be granted for the performance of certain activities in accordance with a system adopted by the program sponsor. Annually each fire company must furnish a list to the fire re district or municipal governing board identifying all of their volunteer firefighters who earned 50 points during the preceding year. Upon approval of the list by the governing board, each volunteer on the list must be awarded a year of Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) service credit. An active volunteer whose name does not appear on the approved certified list shall have the right to appeal within thirty days of posting of this list. LOSAP is designed to incentivize firefighters to join volunteer fire departments.

A resident asked about the increase in headcount for Culture and Recreation. Mr. Genito explained that one part-time employee is planning to retire and the Village may replace that opening with a full-time position.

A resident asked if the drop in the estimated units of water from 588 to 449 was a result of the closing of Novartis. Mr. Genito replied that primarily the cause was the closing of Novartis. Novartis spoke of a multi-year plan to vacate their location. However, they accelerated their timeline so now there is no further activity in Novartis. The decrease began to be evident 2017. In the budget message, it was noted that last year Novartis received a \$5,000,000 taxable assessment decrease. This year Novartis received an additional \$3,000,000 taxable assessment decrease. This is a significant decrease for the Village.

Close of the Public Hearing:

The Mayor requested a motion be carried closing the public hear at 7:55 p.m. A motion to closed the Public Hearing was moved by Trustee Henry Sussman, seconded by Joseph Russo, and passed unanimously by the Board.

The meeting continued thereafter, with the following agenda items.

CULTURE AND RECREATION

The Train Museum is open Saturdays starting April 1, the Egg Hunt and Bagels with the Bunny is Saturday, April 8, Suffern Poetry in the community room is April 15, Clifford Theater auditions begin April 23, The Walking Path with the Mayor kick-off is Wednesday April 26, LEAD is April 28, and Keep Rockland Beautiful clean-up is April 29. Interviewing for Life Guards for the pool this summer has started and selections for the open position will be finalized.

The Mayor commented that he has been working in conjunction with Good Samaritan Hospital to establish walking paths to showcase downtown Suffern as well as Orange and Washington Avenues. With the hospital's help, the Mayor and Recreation developed a program promoting

wellness that will be positive for the Village which include marked walking paths. The Mayor thanked Recreation and DPW for their hard work to get this project accomplished.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

In March, there were 633 calls to the police regarding matters in the Village; since January there have been 98 arrests. Chief Osborn commented that there was a robbery last month. The suspect that was apprehended within 24 hours of the incident due to the excellent team work of the department. DARE Hockey will be starting later this month. There are 10 teams with approximately 120 players. Two officers will be going to Officer Survival Training this month which will help teach officers how to defend themselves in dangerous situations that could come up in the line of work. A new software program has been installed that integrates law enforcement agencies throughout Rockland County regarding license plate recognition technology in the State of New York. The software was installed by a representative of the Sheriff's department. Within fifteen minutes following the installation, using this technology, the Suffern Police Department was able to identify and recover a stolen vehicle in the Village.

VILLAGE CLERK

The Board approved the following meeting minutes presented by the Village Clerk:

- a) Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of November 9, 2016. Motion was made by Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Hagen. Motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.
- b) Minutes from the Special Board Meeting of December 2, 2016. Motion was made by Trustee Hertzman and seconded by Trustee Hagen. Motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.
- c) Minutes from the Organization Meeting of December 5, 2016. Motion was made by Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Hagen. Motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.
- d) Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of December 5, 2016. Motion was made by Trustee Hertzman and seconded by Trustee Russo. Motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.
- e) Minutes from the Special Board Meeting of December 14, 2016. Motion was made by Trustee Hertzman and seconded by Trustee Hagen. Motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.
- f) Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of January 9, 2017. Motion was made by Trustee Hagen and seconded by Trustee Sussman. Motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.

Permission was received to advertise for Concession Stand bids for the Suffern Memorial Pool to be returned by April 20, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

A resident requested that stumps be ground following tree removals near 65 Wayne Avenue. He also noted that there are excessive wood police barricades near the corner of Wayne and

Washington Avenues that should be removed. He also asked if there are any results with the DOT traffic study on Wayne Avenue. Chief Osborn responded they are working to put in a traffic speed indication device. Fred Rella indicated that HUD grants have been fully executed to receive funding for sidewalk improvements on the north side of Wayne Avenue. Rockland County Community Development has requested an environmental review since this matter involves a State road and will require HUD approval. The sidewalk projected is scheduled to be completed this year and its scope will depend on the level of funding received from HUD. Finally, the resident asked about the status of a delayed green light on the corner of Lafayette and Washington Avenue. Trustee Russo responded that he has not yet heard back from the DOT.

A resident asked if the Thruway overpass on Wayne and Chestnut will be painted with a special reflective paint. The Mayor said he and Charles Sawicki are looking into having the State Thruway Authority respond to this request.

A motion to close the Audience Participation portion of the meeting was made by Trustee Russo, seconded by Trustee Hagen, and passed with unanimous approval by the Board.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHARLES SAWICKI TO ATTEND THE NEW YORK FLOODPLAIN AND STORM WATER MANAGERS ASSOCIATION CFM TRAINING

The Board authorized Charles Sawicki to attend the New York Floodplain and Storm Water Managers Association CFM training in Binghamton, New York on June 12th through June 14th, 2017 at a cost of \$305 plus hotel for two (2) nights and meals. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Moira Hertzman, seconded by Trustee Joseph Russo, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOWEST COST PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROPOSAL FOR THE WWTP DIGESTER BOILER REPLACEMENT

Authorization was received to accept the lowest cost Professional Service proposal for the WWTP Digester Boiler Replacement from H2M Architects & Engineers, Suffern, New York in the amount of \$24,500. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Henry Sussman, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOWEST BID FOR ZINC ORTHOPHOSPHATE

The Board authorized the acceptance of the lowest bid for Zinc Orthophosphate at a cost of \$8.381 per gallon from George S. Coyne Chemical of Croydon, Pennsylvania. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Joseph Russo, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOWEST BID FOR 25% SODIUM HYDROXIDE SOLUTION

The Board authorized the acceptance of the lowest bid for 25% Sodium Hydroxide Solution at a cost of \$0.79 per gallon from New Haven Chlor-Alkali LLC of New Haven, Connecticut. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Moira Hertzman, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOWEST BID FOR LIQUID SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE SOLUTION

The Board authorized the acceptance of the lowest bid for Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite Solution at a cost of \$1.647 per gallon from Slack Chemical Company Inc. of Carthage, New York. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Henry Sussman, and passed unanimously by the Board.

The Mayor noted that all bids from the previous four resolutions came in lower than the previous year.

RESOLUTION FOR MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION IN NYSDEC CONTRACT C00386GG 'ROCKLAND COUNTY MS4 GRANT'

A NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement (WQIP) Round 12 grant in the approximate amount of \$12,500 has been issued through the Storm Water Consortium of Rockland County (SCRC) and Cornell Cooperative Extension, Rockland County (CCE). The NYSDEC CONTRACT C00386GG 'ROCKLAND COUNTY MS4 GRANT' promotes enhanced mapping of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The CCE has entered into a sub-contract with the Rockland County Soil & Water Conservation District to manage all components, absent of fiscal duties, of NYSDEC CONTRACT C00386GG 'ROCKLAND COUNTY MS4 GRANT'; and, the CCE will strive to enhance MS4 mapping components for jurisdictions within the Storm Water Consortium, who remain in good standing, who choose to participate in NYSDEC C00386GG 'ROCKLAND COUNTY MS4 GRANT' through incorporating business enterprises and other resources as required, available, and needed per grant requirements to assist with the collection of data. Jurisdictions may choose to participate with CCE to promote enhanced mapping of the MS4 system through grant monies provided with NYSDEC CONTRACT C00386GG 'ROCKLAND COUNTY MS4 GRANT' with the commitment to fund 25% of the grant amount with Village funds or in-kind services as obligated by the grant requirements; or, jurisdictions may opt out of participation and grant monies provided with NYSDEC CONTRACT C00386GG 'ROCKLAND COUNTY MS4 GRANT'.

The Board authorized the Mayor to sign the Agreement for jurisdictional participation and approved the Village to determine participation with CCE to promote enhanced mapping of the MS4 system through grant monies provided by NYSDEC C00386GG 'ROCKLAND COUNTY MS4 GRANT'.

A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Hertzman, seconded by Trustee Hagen, and passed unanimously by the Board.

Public Hearing Set for Annual NYSDEC MS4 Report

A motion was made by Trustee Sussman and seconded by Trustee Hagen to hold a Public hearing for Wednesday, May 10, 2017, at 7:05 p.m. to discuss the Annual NYSDEC MS4 Report. The motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.

Charles Sawicki recognized the outstanding dedicated service of Robert Conklin who will be retiring on April 14 after 42 years of service. Mr. Sawicki presented Mr. Conklin with a plaque and the Board of Trustees and the Mayor also recognized Mr. Conklin for his dedicated service.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

Michael Genito recognized the outstanding service of Barbara Cottiers who will also be retiring April 14. Mr. Genito commented that her hard work and dedication were imperative to the operation of the Finance Department. The Board of Trustees and the Mayor also recognized Mrs. Cottiers for his dedicated service.

Michael Genito explained that with some exceptions, the New York State's Property Tax Cap limits the amount local governments can increase property taxes to the lower of two percent of the prior year or the rate of inflation. Local governments must report to Office of the New York State Comptroller whether they plan to stay within the Tax Cap and adopt a Law to override the limit. In the tentative budget, the Village would exceed the Tax Cap Limit. However, the final budget to be adopted may not exceed the Tax Cap Limit based on proposals to be presented by the Mayor and the Board. It has been recommended by the NYS Conference of Mayors and others that the Village actually adopt a local law overriding the Tax Cap Limit. When the Village adopts the budget, and if the budget is below the Tax Cap Limit, the Village would complete the Tax Cap Limit Form and send it to the NYS Comptroller. If the Comptroller confirms that the Village is under the Tax Cap Limit, the Village can rescind within 30 days the law adopted.

Public Hearings for Local Law Amending Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste rates were set for April 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. A Public Hearing to amend the Local Law overriding the Tax Cap was also set for April 26, 2017. In addition, a Public Hearing to adopt the Water, Sewer, Solid Waste Rates and to Adopt of the 2017-2018 Budget was set for the April 26, 2017 meeting.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NORTHEAST ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS, LLC TO PERFORM ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS IN THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

Northeast Electrical Inspectors, LLC applied with the Village Clerk to be authorized to perform electrical inspections in the Village of Suffern; and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern referred this request to the Building Inspector for his review and comment. By memo dated March 8, 2017, Building Inspector Steve Conlee advised the Mayor that the paperwork submitted

by Northeast Electrical Inspectors, LLC demonstrates that they are licensed by the County and that their two inspectors are certified, as required by Suffern Village Code Chapter 96. The Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern hereby authorized Northeast Electrical Inspectors, LLC as an approved Electrical Inspector in the Village of Suffern. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Henry Sussman, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SALARY AND BENEFITS FOR DEPUTY TREASURER DAN MCINERNEY

The Mayor and Village Board appointed Dan McInerney effective March 23, 2017, as Deputy Village Treasurer with a term of office through the first Monday in December, 2017; and the Board needs to establish a salary and benefits for said position, Nunc Pro Tunc. The Board of Trustees established an annual salary for Deputy Treasurer of sixty thousand dollars per year; and that Mr. McInerney or any successor shall pay 18% of their health insurance benefits which shall be deducted from the paycheck. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Joseph Russo, seconded by Trustee Moira Hertzman, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMPLOYEE NO. 10546 TO RECEIVE THE SAME BENEFITS THAT A CSEA MEMBER RECEIVES

Village of Suffern employees (except police and dispatchers) entered into an agreement with the CSEA, Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO, effective June 1, 2005; and, it was determined by CSEA officials that the job performed by Employee Number 10546 was of a sensitive and confidential nature. The CSEA determined that Employee No. 10546 would not be allowed to join the union and former administrations of the Village of Suffern authorized that Employee No. 10546 would receive the same benefits that any CSEA member received. In keeping with the policy of former administrations, the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorized Employee No. 10546 to receive the same benefits that any CSEA member receives from the existing contract. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Joseph Russo, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYOUT OF COMP TIME AND VACATION TIME FOR BARBARA COTTIERS

The Village Board of the Village of Suffern authorizes the Payroll Department to issue a check for comp time and vacation time for Barbara Cottiers, who is retiring effective April 15, 2017 and whose last day of work is April 14, 2017. The amount of comp time to be paid is 536 hours at a sum of \$23,439.28 and that the vacation time to be paid is 14 days (98 hours) at a sum of \$4,285.54 and that said amount is to be appropriated from the 2016-2017 budget. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Henry Sussman, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYOUT OF SICK TIME AND VACATION TIME FOR ROBERT CONKLIN

The Village Board of the Village of Suffern authorizes the Payroll Department to issue a check for sick time and vacation time for Robert Conklin, who is retiring effective April 15, 2017 and whose last day of work is April 14, 2017. The amount of sick time to be paid is 90 days (720 hours) at a sum of \$35,992.80 and that the vacation time to be paid is 3 days (24 hours) at a sum of \$1,199.76 and that said amount is to be appropriated from the 2016-2017 budget. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Joseph Russo, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen, and passed unanimously by the Board.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYOUT OF COMP TIME FOR KATHY VAN SICKLE

The Village Board of the Village of Suffern authorizes the Payroll Department to issue a check for comp time for Kathy Van Sickle, who is retiring effective April 15, 2017 and whose last day of work is April 14, 2017. The amount of comp time to be paid is 100.5 hours at a sum of \$3,786.84 and that said amount is to be appropriated from the 2016-2017 budget. A motion to accept the foregoing resolution was moved by Trustee Joseph Russo, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen, and passed unanimously by the Board.

TRUSTEES:**Trustee Sussman:**

Trustee Henry Sussman made the following proclamation to the Board and the audience:

“Our Federal Government has recently passed a series of orders and referendums that place a great fear on the immigrant population of our nation. As a Trustee of our Village, I would like the immigrant population of Suffern to know that their local government, in the form of this Village Board, will ease those fears to the greatest extent possible.

There are people in this village who are executing Powers of Attorney and other legal documents to ensure the caring and safety of their children, not in the event of their demise as is something we all may do; but, rather, as a precaution against parents being swept up in an indiscriminate net resulting in their forced separation from teen, pre-teen and infant children that would be left behind without them.

There has been no incident in the village that has prompted me to say these things. I have been tuned in to our national news outlets and see stories about non-violent, contributing members of communities across this country being unceremoniously picked up and thrown out, regardless of the familial, business or any other situation here. So, as far as Suffern is concerned, I am making this statement preemptively, not responsively. I am not making this statement to issue an open door for people from across the area to consider our village a regional refuge. Nor am I saying Suffern should ignore anyone of any nationality committing crimes or lessening in any way the standard of living that village residents have come to expect. What I am saying is that our residents can be assured that given the current national policies and, more so, the fear of escalation of those policies, their anxieties can be buffered by their local government. Our immigrant population is not an aside to our wonderful village, but an integral part of it.

Our village and all of its agencies would remain required to follow all federal and all state laws at all times. All judicial warrants should be executed and all criminals dealt with to the fullest extent. But, as far as being made a partner in helping to displace our residents at the behest of a federal agency and the whim of a capricious Executive Order, I say no. A traffic summons or a village code violation should not and will not be a reason to contact a federal immigration agency and start the ball rolling on exiting a member of our community from our midst. All non-judicial requests for immigration status of our residents should not be complied with absent sufficient good cause shown. It is my firm belief that the Suffern Police Department already follows a policy of fair and impartial policing when it comes to our immigrant population. And nothing that might come down the road should change that.

These are Suffern people. Our children all go to school together and play with each other. We all work and reside amongst each other. These residents are citizens of the world and, as far as I'm concerned, citizens of Suffern. That they may have missed the intermediate step of being citizens of the US is not my issue. My issue is one of humanity and the easing of fear and anguish. Such fears should be allayed as much as possible by friends, neighbors, and local government.

I ask this board to join me in ensuring all the residents of Suffern that their life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness are matters of utmost importance and that we declare our support and acknowledge the need to keep them safe, especially the most vulnerable amongst us. Specifically, I ask that we pass a resolution that our village departments hold a federal immigration agency to the same level, legal requirements that they are held to, before assisting them locally, absent the presence of a court order or warrant. I firmly believe that the mere request for a "Professional Courtesy" in this instance is one that should be denied."

Trustee Hagen:

Trustee Frank Hagen advised the Board that a dear friend, Jack Rosenberg, passed away at the age of 91. Mr. Rosenberg was the President of the Village of Suffern Community Foundation and a Trustee for the Village of Suffern and Spring Valley for many years. Trustee Hagen requested that the meeting be adjourned in honor of Mr. Rosenberg.

MAYOR:

The Mayor made a statement in response to Trustee Sussman's Proclamation. He stated that the federal, state, local laws, and the Articles of the Constitution should be maintained; however, they should not be used to sweep up the immigration community. He also stated that the immigrant community in Suffern has the support of the Board of Trustees in this regard.

A motion was made by Trustee Hagen and seconded by Trustee Russo to accept Charles Barone's Resignation from the Tree Committee. The motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.

A motion was made by Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Hagen to appoint Fred Rella to the Tree Committee. The motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.

A motion was made by Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Hertzman to fill Charles Barone's unexpired term on the Tree Committee with Sheila Foster. The motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.

A motion was made by Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Hagen to fill Bruce Simon's unexpired term on the Tree Committee with Sandy Stead. The motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Hagen Adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. The motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board and the meeting was adjourned in honor of Jack Rosenberg.