

**Village of Suffern  
Village Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 4, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.**

A Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 4, 2019.

**Present:**       **Edward Markunas, Mayor**  
                  **Steve Alpert, Trustee**  
                  **Paul Girard, Trustee**  
                  **Frank Hagen, Trustee**  
                  **Moira Hertzman, Trustee**  
                  **Robert Magrino, Acting Village Attorney**  
                  **Amy Paffenroth, Village Clerk**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Markunas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., leading the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in honor of our service men and women.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

The Village Board Workshop will be held March 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees will be held April 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 42 OF 2019 - RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUFFERN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPRING STREET FAIR TO BE HELD SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019**

The Suffern Chamber of Commerce desires to hold the Spring Suffern Street Fair on Sunday April 14, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. along with use of John Suffern Park as a location for musical entertainment. The Suffern Chamber of Commerce agreed that no alcohol beverages will be served at John Suffern Park. The Board of Trustees approved the Event Permit Application for Suffern Chamber of Commerce to hold the Spring Street Fair on April 14, 2019, pending the receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the Village of Suffern as additional insured and review of all documents by the Village Attorney. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steve Alpert, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen and approved unanimously by the Board.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 43 OF 2019 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUFFERN FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR 2018**

In accordance with New York General Municipal Law Section 217, General Requirements of a Service Award Program, Daniel McInerney, Suffern Fire Department LOSAP Administrator, prepared a preliminary report detailing the service award points earned by the members of the Suffern Fire Department for the year 2018. The Board of Trustees reviewed the February 15, 2019 memo along with the attached list of service member award hours. The Board of Trustees, by Resolution, approved the 2018 Suffern Fire Department Service Award Program preliminary

report presented by Mr. McInerney. For a period of no less than 30-days commencing March 5, 2019, the Suffern Fire Department LOSAP Administrator shall cause to be conspicuously posted a copy of the preliminary report at each Village of Suffern Firehouse during which time a firefighter who is listed as having earned less than 50 points may file a written appeal to the Fire Department. Appeals not satisfactorily resolved by the Village of Suffern Fire Department during the posting period, must be submitted to the Village Board for investigation and resolution. If no appeals are filed during the posting period, the Mayor is authorized to sign the Village of Suffern Fire Department Service Award Program 2018 Final Report Sponsor Authorization Form. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Moira Hertzman, seconded by Trustee Paul Girard and approved unanimously by the Board.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT NEW MEMBERS:**

A motion to accept new member Ben Prices, over 18 member, to the Suffern Hose Company was made by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Moira Hertzman, and approved unanimously by the Board.

**MOTION TO ALLOW FIRETRUCKS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JULY 13:**

A motion to allow one firetruck from each Company to participate in a July 13<sup>th</sup> Parade was made by Trustee Paul Girard, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen, and approved unanimously by the Board.

**CULTURE AND RECREATION:**

Nutrition Workshop Tuesday, March 5 at 10:30 a.m.; DARE Dance Friday, March 8 from 7 to 9 p.m.; Connor School Pancake Breakfast Saturday, March 16 from 9 to 11 a.m.; Connor School Event at Village Hall Highlighting Project Based Learning Thursday, March 21; Middle School Pocketbook Bingo Friday, March 22; Kinky Boots Broadway Show Saturday, March 30; Nutrition Evening Workshop Wednesday, February 27 at 7 p.m.; Eagle Scout Ceremony for Marcin Ceglinski Sunday, March 31 at 2 p.m.; Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 13 at 11 a.m.; Spring Break scheduled events at Community Center during week of April 22 through 26; Keep Rockland Beautiful & Arbor Day Saturday, Apr 27 from 9 to 12 p.m.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 44 OF 2019 - AUTHORIZING THE NOMINATING CERTIFICATION OF MICHAEL MCPADDEN AS POLICE OFFICER PART-TIME**

The Board of Trustees certified the nomination of Michael McPadden, from the Rockland County Personnel approved candidate list, to the position of Police Officer Part-Time. This is a budgeted position to replace Michael Corletta. The nomination of Michael McPadden is pending final certification of qualifications by Rockland County Personnel as well as confirmation by the Treasurer that funds for this position were included in the 2018-2019 adopted budget. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Paul Girard and approved unanimously by the Board.

**GRANT WRITER:**

Fred Rella provided an update on recent grant activity including the Criminal Justice Grant, the CDBG Grant, and the Grant to pave Parking Lot B.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 45 OF 2019 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS NO. 1 TO VALENTINE ELECTRIC FOR THE SOUTH STREET EMERGENCY GENERATOR**

The Board of Trustees authorized Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$28,288.62 to Valentine Electric, 274 Greenbush Road, Blauvelt, New York. The AIA Document G702-1992 (Application and Certification for Payment) and the certified payroll have been reviewed by Charles Sawicki and have been deemed acceptable for payment. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Moira Hertzman, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 46 OF 2019 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR WATER DEPARTMENT CHEMICALS**

The Board of Trustees authorized Charles Sawicki to solicit bids for Water Department chemicals (Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite Solution, 25% Sodium Hydroxide, and Zinc Orthophosphate) for the period including June 1, 2019 thru May 31, 2020, with bids due March 21, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. subject to Charles Sawicki submitting all bid documents for review by Village Counsel. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steve Alpert, seconded by Trustee Moira Hertzman and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 47 OF 2019 - AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REQUEST PROPOSAL FROM PITINGARO & DOETSCH FOR CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION FOR THE PHASE 2 SANITARY SEWER ABATEMENT PROJECT**

The Board of Trustees consulted with the Charles Sawicki, Superintendent of Public Works, with respect to the proposal from Pitingaro & Doetsch to serve as Construction Administrator for the Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Abatement Project and the proposal from Pitingaro & Doetsch for Construction Administration for the Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Abatement Project is in the amount of \$8,670. The Board of Trustees accepted the proposal from Pitingaro & Doetsch for Construction Administration for the Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Abatement Project subject to Charles Sawicki submitting all bid documents, required insurance certificates, and the construction administration proposal document for review by Village Counsel. Upon review of all required documents by Village Counsel, Charles Sawicki is authorized to sign the Purchase Order on behalf of the Village of Suffern. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Paul Girard and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 48 OF 2019 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOW BID FOR THE PHASE 2 SANITARY SEWER ABATEMENT CONTRACT 1 PIPE REPLACEMENT TO TAM ENTERPRISES**

The Board of Trustees consulted with the Director of Public Works with respect to the awarding of the low bid for the Sewer Abatement Project Contract 1 Pipe Replacement and the low base bid is from Tam Enterprises, 114 Harley Avenue, Goshen, New York in the amount of \$259,689

with an add/alternate bid of \$137,147. The Village Board accepted the low base bid from Tam Enterprises, 114 Harley Avenue, Goshen, New York in the amount of \$259,689 with an add/alternate bid of \$137,147, subject to the procurement and receipt of all required documents and review of same by Village Counsel and the Mayor is authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the Village of Suffern. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Paul Girard and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 49 OF 2019 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOW BID FOR THE PHASE 2 SANITARY SEWER ABATEMENT CONTRACT 2 CURED-IN-PLACE PIPE TO NATIONAL WATER MAIN CLEANING COMPANY**

The Board of Trustees consulted with the Director of Public Works with respect to the awarding of the low bid for the Sewer Abatement Project Contract 2 Cured-In-Place Pipe and the low base bid is from National Water Main Cleaning Company, 1806 Kearney, New Jersey in the amount of \$233,520. The Village Board accepted the low base bid from National Water Main Cleaning Company, 1806 Kearney, New Jersey in the amount of \$233,520 subject to the procurement and receipt of all required documents and review of same by Village Counsel and the Mayor is authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the Village of Suffern. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Paul Girard, seconded by Trustee Moira Hertzman and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 50 OF 2019 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHARLES SAWICKI TO ATTEND THE 2019 ANNUAL NEW YORK STATE FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGERS ASSOCIATION MEETING IN SUFFERN, NEW YORK, APRIL 15-17, 2019**

The Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 27 of 2015 authorizing attendance at Municipal Conferences with prior approval by the Board. Charles Sawicki is authorized to attend the 2019 Annual New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association Meeting to be held April 15-17, 2019 in Suffern, New York, at a cost of \$415.00. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steve Alpert, seconded by Trustee Moira Hertzman and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 51 OF 2019 - RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF VICTOR SANCHEZ EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 15, 2019**

The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Victor Sanchez, Laborer, effective February 15, 2019, Nunc Pro Tunc. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Paul Girard, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen and approved unanimously by the Board.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Mathew Dileo, of 32 Maplewood Boulevard, inquired as to the progress made to protect and improve the safety of property, homeowners, and families on Maplewood Boulevard. Temporary reflectors have already been placed. Additional, safety improvements will include box guardrails with reflectors to be installed within the next few months, identifying an appropriate pole and submitting a request to Orange and Rockland to install a cobra-head LED light, continued increased police presence, and the possibility of an additional stop sign at Valley View Terrace.

Sarah Mondale, of 28 Hillsdale Avenue, has noticed the increased frequency of large mature shade trees throughout the Village being cut down. Ms. Mondale strongly feels qualified arborists, not only the DPW, should be involved in the decision process when deciding if a tree should be cut down or not. Her suggestion is to review and update the local law to include a qualified arborist and the Tree Committee to consider all factors including health, beauty, age, neighborhood character, and energy efficiency of a tree when deciding if that tree should be cut down. As we enter an era of climate change and global warming, Ms. Mondale believes the best way for a municipality to prepare for climate change is to maintain and plant. She also added that we must take better care of our trees to keep our village green. Mayor Markunas stated that the Village currently has a Tree Committee with a process in place for the removal of trees but added Ms. Mondale has valid points of having an arborist on the Tree Committee and to also consider the aesthetic value of the tree when deciding whether a tree should be removed. The Board will consider these suggestions and discuss it further with the Tree Committee.

Eric Cudworth, of 7 Clinton Place, is concerned that motorists use Clinton Place as a cut through. Although this concern was discussed with the Police Department, Clinton Place residents feel their concerns have not been addressed. Mr. Cudworth stated that the Indian Orthodox Church recently installed a security system that included LED lighting. Due to the LED lights intrusively shining on Mr. Cudworth's home, he contacted the Village Code Enforcement Officers to see if there were local laws and codes to refer to regarding this issue and currently there is no current regulations on the brightness of LED lighting. Mr. Cudworth requested that the local law or code be updated to include regulations of brightness of LED lighting on buildings. Mr. Cudworth stated that he spoke with the Church who is working with him to readjust their lights. Mr. Cudworth would also like the Village to consider planting shade trees on Clinton Place.

Gertrude Szyferblatt, of 87 Parkside Drive, Stonegate 1, has ongoing concerns with the buildup of trash in and around Stonegate's dumpsters, especially garbage corral near her unit. The suggested recommendations were to ask the Homeowners Association to enlarge the corral, have the carter increase the number of commingled bins, and replace the current dumpsters with larger capacity dumpsters with lids. Recycling is also of concern as the Village is losing revenue due to improper recycling. Improved signage, informational mailings, and educational programs hosted by the Village to increase awareness for the correct way to recycle will be explored by the Village. Both Charles Sawicki and Mayor Markunas thought it would be beneficial and more effective if the Village and the Stonegate Homeowners Association work together on these issues. Ms. Szyferblatt informed the Board the snow removal contractor stores his equipment on Stonegate's property. She also reported large ditches that have been left unfilled for months after Belgium blocks were replaced. Mayor Markunas will have Charles Sawicki investigate these matters to review them with the Building Inspector and Code Enforcer. Since excessive speed is an issue on the only Stonegate parking lot that does not have speed bumps, Ms. Szyferblatt asked if the Village could advise the Homeowners Association to install speed bumps. Village Attorney,

Eric Gordon, said the Village does not have the authority to advise or install speed bumps on private property.

Tim McInerney Commander of VFW Post, 8 Pavilion Road, reported the one project that remains unfinished is the renaming of Point Park. Mayor Markunas said it was on tonight's agenda to be discussed. Mr. McInerney asked the status of the dusk to dawn lighting on the flag pole on Memorial Drive. Charles Sawicki said the Village is waiting for a proposal from Orange and Rockland. Mayor Markunas appreciates Mr. McInerney's patience during this lengthy process. Mr. McInerney thanked the DPW for their excellent work on the recent snow and ice removal in the Village.

A resident from Ramapo Cirque addressed the fire alarm owned by the Tallman Fire District located in very close proximity to the homes at Ramapo Cirque. The horns intrusive sound and the health issues associated with the high decibel level are of serious concern to him and he is seeking assistance from the Village Board. Mayor Markunas stated he initiated dialogue and continues to correspond with the Tallman Fire Commissioner, the Tallman Fire District, and their attorneys regarding this matter and will share all correspondence with concerned Cirque residents. Additionally, the resident asked what, if any, steps are being taken by the Village to correct the drainage to prevent future flooding of Lake Antrim and Memorial Drive. Charles Sawicki reported that there are no available funds at this time to correct the drainage issues; however, the Village is seeking possible grants from the NYS Department of Homeland Security. The Village is also working with Congresswoman Lowey regarding the possibility of working with The Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a study of the watershed and the Mahwah and Ramapo Rivers. The resident further stated he is very concerned about Ramapo Cirque high property taxes and the difficulty of Cirque residents to sell their property. He stated Ramapo Cirque low property values are due to Ramapo Cirque being structured as a Planned Unit Development and taxed as a single home unlike condominiums and townhomes. Mayor Markunas will inquire what property tax relief can be given to Ramapo Cirque homeowners.

**TREASURER:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 52 OF 2019 - AMENDING 2018-2019 SEWER FUND BUDGET FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

On January 10, 2018 the Village Board adopted resolution number 15 of 2018 authorizing JCO, Inc. for the purposes of providing support, staffing, and oversight for Village of Suffern wastewater treatment operations to continuing through a period of departmental reorganization and staffing transitions and funding for the aforesaid services is available in the 2018-2019 adopted budget for the Sewer Fund in salaries, employee benefits and equipment. The Village Board of the Village of Suffern amended the 2018-2019 Sewer Fund budget as follows:

Decrease Appropriations – WWTP Personal Services	\$272,000
Decrease Appropriations – WWTP Employee Benefits	\$21,000
Decrease Appropriations – WWTP Equipment	\$25,000
Increase Appropriations – WWTP Contractual Services	\$318,000

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Moira Hertzman, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 53 OF 2019 - AMENDING 2018-2019 GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR LEGAL SERVICES RELATED TO GENERAL MUNICIPAL MATTERS**

On February 4, 2019, the Village Board of the Village of Suffern adopted a resolution to contract Keane & Beane, P.C. to serve as legal counsel for general municipal matters at the retained rate of \$6,600 per month in lieu of hiring a Village Attorney. The 2018-2019 adopted budgets for the General Fund, Water Fund and Sewer Fund provided funding for the Village Attorney’s salary in the ratio of 50% General Fund Village Attorney Personal Services, 25% Water Fund Administration Personal Services, and 25% Sewer Fund Administration Personal Services. Funding for the aforesaid retainer with Keane & Beane, P.C. from February 1 through May 31, 2019 is in the amount of \$26,400 and will be charged to Contractual – Legal Services in the ratio of 50% General Fund Village Attorney, 25% Water Fund Administration and 25% Sewer Fund Administration. The Village Board of the Village of Suffern amends the 2018-2019 General Fund budget as follows:

Decrease Appropriations – Village Attorney Personal Services	\$13,200
Increase Appropriations – Village Attorney Legal Services	\$13,200
Decrease Appropriations – Water Fund Administration Personal Services	\$6,600
Increase Appropriations – Water Fund Administration Legal Services	\$6,600
Decrease Appropriations – Sewer Fund Administration Personal Services	\$6,600
Increase Appropriations – Sewer Fund Administration Legal Services	\$6,600

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Moira Hertzman, seconded by Trustee Steve Alpert and approved unanimously by the Board.

**ATTORNEY:**

The resolution for on the agenda by the Attorney to discuss authorizing the settlement of litigation as it concerns Iliana Negron, Evelyn Negron, IMJ INC d/b/a Diamond Jim’s Billiards & Pub i/h/a IMJ INC. Diamond Jim’s Billiards & Pub, and SAHR LLC i/s/h/a Nyack Pour House, was withdrawn pending additional discussion during the Village Board Workshop Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

**MAYOR:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 54 OF 2019 - AUTHORIZING SUFFERN POINT PARK TO BE NAME IN HONOR OF DAVID CLIFFORD**

David Clifford was born in 1935 in Suffern and was a life-long resident of the Village. With dedication and commitment, David Clifford proudly served his country as a member of the United States Navy during the Korean War. Following completion of his military service, David Clifford joined the Suffern Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2973 in 1957; the post his father, John Clifford, a WWI Veteran, helped to establish in 1934. David Clifford’s love and passion for the

Village of Suffern was unsurpassed; he wanted the Village of Suffern to always look its best; he desired to preserve the history of our Village as well as keep the present alive; he volunteered his time to our community and set up for Village of Suffern events by loading his truck at the Village Hall with chairs, speakers, and podiums. David Clifford was actively involved in the Airmont Cemetery Project Team which resulted in the creation of pathways that provide greater accessibility to disabled and elderly veterans and those who are visiting the gravesites of their loved ones. He desired to improve, enhance, and beautify Suffern's local parks and veterans' monuments including as Memorial Drive Park, the Village of Suffern Soldiers Monument, and Point Park, but sadly passed away on August 30, 2018 before he could see his plans accomplished. Since his passing, the members of Suffern VFW Post 2973 have worked to keep his dreams alive including the September 2018 placement of plaques near the Suffern Football Field dedicated to two Suffern Graduates who died serving their country in Vietnam; improvements and repairs to the Soldiers Monument at Lafayette Avenue and Washington Avenue, including new sidewalks and repairs to the steps and stone walls; and, the installation of a new monument including benches and lights to illuminate the flag at Point Park to honor all veterans including those who are still serving in the Global War on Terrorism. In honor of David Clifford, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern named Point Park as the David Clifford Memorial Park in honor of David Clifford. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Steve Alpert and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 55 OF 2019 - RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF PATRICK MCKIERNAN, ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL MEMBER, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 26, 2019**

The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Patrick McKiernan, Zoning Board of Appeal Member, effective February 26, 2019, Nunc Pro Tunc. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Frank Hagen, seconded by Trustee Paul Girard and approved unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 56 OF 2019 - AUTHORIZING UNIVERSAL CABLE PRODUCTIONS, LLC TO CONDUCT FILMING ACTIVITIES FOR "MR. ROBOT SEASON 4" IN THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN MARCH 18 THROUGH MARCH 22, 2019**

The Board of Trustees authorized Universal Cable Productions, LLC, 268 Norman Avenue, Suite 2B, Brooklyn, New York, to conduct filming activities for "Mr. Robot, Season 4" in the Central Business District Monday, March 18 through Friday, March 22, 2019 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Village Clerk is authorized to sign the Permit Application authorizing Universal Cable Productions, LLC to conduct filming activities. The approval of this permit is subject to the submission of all required documentation and review of same by the Village Counsel, as well as payment of fees all as provided for in Local Law 4 of 2017. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steve Alpert, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen and approved unanimously by the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to close the meeting in honor and memory of Terrance Ryan, Village Justice from 1970 to 1982, was made by Trustee Moira Hertzman, seconded by Trustee Frank Hagen, and approved unanimously by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.