



**Village of Suffern**  
**Special Village Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 2020 7:00 p.m.**

A special meeting via teleconference of the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees was held Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. by Teleconference

Present:       Edward Markunas, Mayor  
                  Steven Alpert, Trustee  
                  Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee  
                  Charles Barone, Trustee  
                  Paul Girard, Trustee  
                  Amy Paffenroth, Village Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Markunas called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO. 78 OF 2020 - AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD APRIL 23, 2020 TO CONSIDER THE 2020-2021 SEWER AND WATER RATES**

The Board of Trustees authorized holding a Public Hearing on April 23, 2020 to be held at 7:10 p.m. to consider the 2020-2021 Sewer and Water Rates. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Steven Alpert and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 79 OF 2020 - AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD APRIL 23, 2020 TO CONSIDER A PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 3-C**

The Board of Trustees authorized holding a Public Hearing on April 23, 2020 to be held at 7:15 p.m. to consider a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-C. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 80 OF 2020 - AMENDING 2019-2020 BUDGET FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT GRANT**

The Village of Suffern Chief of Police has advised that an upgrade to certain computer equipment is required by the State of New York. The estimated cost of the upgrade is \$20,500. The New York State Division of Criminal Justice has awarded a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the purchase

of the aforesaid upgrade. The remaining required funds of \$10,500 for the purchase of the aforesaid equipment are available in the General Fund Police Contractual object of expenditure. The Village Board authorized the Village Treasurer to amend the 2019-2020 General Fund adopted budget by increasing Estimated Revenues – Public Safety State Aid and increasing Police Contractual Expenditures, each in the amount of \$10,000. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Steven Alpert and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 81 OF 2020 - AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF LEGAL FEES TO KEANE & BEANE, P.C. FOR LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN AS VILLAGE ATTORNEY AND LABOR COUNSEL**

By resolution, dated February 1, 2019, the Village Board of Trustees (“Board of Trustees”) of the Village of Suffern (the “Village”), approved a Retainer Agreement with Keane & Beane, P.C., dated February 1, 2019 for legal services to the Village as Village Attorney from February 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (the “Retainer Agreement”). Edward Markunas, Mayor of the Village, instituted litigation in his official capacity and on behalf of the Village, against Paul Girard, Charles Barone, Jo Meegan-Corrigan and Terry Rice, Esq. in *Markunas v. Girard, et al.*, Index No. 1570/2019, challenging a motion adopted by the Board of Trustees on December 2, 2019 appointing Terry Rice, Esq. as Village Attorney (the “Motion”). In *Markunas v. Girard, et al.*, the Mayor sought to invalidate the Motion based upon the Board of Trustee’s violation of N.Y. Village Law § 4-400(1)(c)(i) by usurping the Mayor’s authority to appoint the Village Attorney. The Supreme Court, Rockland County, issued a Final Judgment and Order, entered March 16, 2020 (the “Order”), granting the relief requested by the Mayor and invalidating the Motion as unlawful. The Order extended the Retainer Agreement through the entry of the Order, March 16, 2020. The Order further authorized the Village Treasurer to make payments to Keane & Beane, P.C. for its legal services as Village Attorney through the entry of the Order, March 16, 2020, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees. Pursuant to the Retainer Agreement for legal services as Village Attorney, Keane & Beane, P.C. has submitted legal bills covering the period of February 1, 2019 through March 16, 2020 to the Village for payment totaling Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty (\$16,880.00) Dollars, which are due and owing. The Board of Trustees acknowledges that such sum is due and owing to Keane & Beane, P.C. and desires to make payment for invoices submitted through February 29, 2020. The Village Board of Trustees authorized the payment as Village Attorney and Labor Counsel between December 1, 2019 and February 29, 2020 to Keane & Beane, P.C. for legal services as Village Attorney and Labor Counsel between December 1, 2019 and February 29, 2020. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone and passed unanimously by the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.