



**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held on Monday, January 4, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting was held by teleconference.

Present: Edward Markunas, Mayor  
Steven Alpert, Trustee  
Charles Barone, Trustee  
Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee  
Fred Sauberman, Trustee  
Robert Magrino, Attorney  
Richard Glickel, Attorney  
Amy Paffenroth, Village Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Markunas called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

A Joint Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees and the Suffern Planning Board is scheduled for January 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss development plans for the Quarry property. A Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. A Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees will be held Monday, February 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 01 OF 2021 - AUTHORIZING THE SUFFERN FIRE DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT TRAINING AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL**

The Suffern Fire Department was authorized to conduct training at the Sacred Heart School between January 11, 2021 and June 30, 2021. Mayor Markunas was authorized to sign the Agreement with Sacred Heart Church authorizing training to take place upon review and approval of all required documents by the Village Attorney. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Fred Sauberman, seconded by Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**CULTURE AND RECREATION:**

Cathy Mills provided the Board with an update of scheduled recreation activities for the upcoming month that included new ideas for recreational activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

The Police Department responded to 602 calls for service. The call types ranged from alarms, civil matters, community policing incidents, criminal mischiefs, custodial interference, death investigations, disorderly persons, domestic disputes, DWI, emotionally disturbed persons, fights, fires, fraud investigations, hazardous conditions, larcenies, motor vehicle accidents, medical calls, noise complaints, sex offenses, suspicious persons and incidents, warrant investigations, as well as a variety of other routine calls for service. The Police made several arrests, charging multiple individuals with driving while intoxicated, assault, criminal mischief, Harassment, criminal contempt, unlawful imprisonment, and multiple traffic arrests.

Despite the challenges in running such a large toy drive posed by COVID-19, the Police Department was able to provide approximately 300 local families, and over well over 600 children with holiday toys. Many of these children would not have received any gifts this holiday season if not for the toy drive. Chief Loughlin thanked Sergeant Giannettino, and Sergeant Kiernan who ran the toy drive, both really stepping up to do a fantastic job of organizing the drive and making it a huge success. Chief Loughlin thanked the Recreation Department and DPW for helping with the large-scale event and recognized the Police Department volunteers and their families for assisting with the drive. The toy drive could not be done without the help and support of the community, and despite the challenges that COVID presented this year, the residents stepped up, as always, and made many children very happy this holiday season.

**RESOLUTION NO. 02 OF 2021 - APPOINTING PETER BARBA DISPATCHER PART TIME**

Rockland County Department of Personnel certified Peter Barba for the position of Dispatcher Part Time effective December 11, 2020. The Board of Trustees appointed Peter Barba to the position of Dispatcher Part Time at a starting pay rate of \$20.60 per hour. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 03 OF 2021 - AUTHORIZING THE NOMINATION OF MATTHEW IMPERIO TO THE POSITION OF POLICE OFFICER PART TIME**

The Board of Trustees nominated Matthew Imperio to the position of Police Officer Part Time, pending final certification of qualifications by Rockland County Personnel. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Jo Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 04 OF 2021 - NOMINATING AND APPOINTING MICHAEL BARRY TO THE POSITION OF POLICE OFFICER FULL TIME**

The Board of Trustees nominated and appointed Michael Barry to the position of Police Officer Full Time at a starting pay rate of \$28.48 per hour, pending final certification of qualifications by Rockland County Personnel. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Charles Barone, seconded by Trustee Steven Alpert, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**TREASURER:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 05 OF 2021 - AUTHORIZING 2020 SEWER RENT APPEALS THROUGH MARCH 1, 2021**

Due to the potential impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on the submittal of 2020 Sewer Grievances by the filing deadline of August 15, 2020, the Board of Trustees authorized the continuation of Appeals of the May 2020 Water Bill to be filed in the office of the Village Clerk through March 1, 2021. The Sewer Grievance Board was authorized to convene following the March 1, 2021 filing deadline in order to determine if only a percentage of the volume of water delivered shall be used to calculate the user's sewer rent. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Jo Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Fred Sauberman, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 06 OF 2021 - AUTHORIZING GOSR CAPITAL PROJECTS 2021-005 AND 2021-006**

September 8, 2020, the Board of Trustees adopted resolution 156, authorizing the Mayor to enter into a subrecipient agreement ("Agreement") with the Housing Trust Fund Corporation for the following projects, to be funded completely with Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery ("CDBG-DR") funds: NYCR 0255 Hardening of the Water Wells #2 and #4 in the amount of \$2,020,190.70, and NYCR 0256 Backup Power for Critical Facilities in the amount of \$691,227.79. The Agreement was fully executed by both parties on October 20, 2020. The Board of Trustees established the following projects, to be financed by CDBG-DR grant funds, effective October 20, 2020: 2021-005 GOSR NYCR0255 Hardening of Water Wells 2021-006 GOSR NYCR0256 Backup Power. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Fred Sauberman, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 07 OF 2021 - AMENDING THE WATER FUND BUDGET FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A WATER TELEMTRY SYSTEM**

The current wire copper-based leased lines that monitor the Village's water filter plant, storage tanks and pump stations ("Leased Lines") have recurring failures that are difficult to repair due to the outdated technology of wire copper-based systems. The Superintendent of Public Works has determined that the Leased Lines can be replaced with a networked cellular monitor and

control system (“Telemetry System”) in an amount not to exceed \$32,000. The Water Fund Contingent Account currently has an available balance of \$200,000. The Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Treasurer amend the 2020-2021 Water Fund budget by transferring \$32,000 from Water Fund Contingent Account to F8320.2 Source of Supply Equipment and Capital Outlay. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Charles Barone, seconded by Trustee Steven Alpert, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 08 OF 2021 - AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A WATER TELEMTRY SYSTEM**

The Superintendent of Public Works is in receipt of Quotation WM20030027 dated March 16, 2020 from NSI Neal Systems, Inc. of Newton, Pennsylvania (“Contractor”) in the amount of \$29,300 for purchase and installation of a networked cellular monitor and control system for the Village’s water filter plant, storage tanks and pump stations (“Telemetry System”). The planning, design and installation of the Telemetry System requires expert engineering services, and as such, is exempt from competitive bidding. The Board of Trustees authorized the Mayor or Village Treasurer as his designee to sign a contract with the Contractor for the purchase and installation of the Telemetry System, subject to the review and approval as to form by the Village Attorney. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Charles Barone, seconded by Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 09 OF 2021 - AUTHORIZING PAYMENT NO. 1 TO COVINO AND SONS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE WAYNE AVENUE SIDEWALK PROJECT**

The Board of Trustees authorized Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$85,500.00 to Covino and Sons Construction Company for the Wayne Avenue Sidewalk Project. 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 Jo Meegan Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10 OF 2021 - APPOINTING GREGORY TRIVAL AS LABORER EFFECTIVE JANUARY 19, 2021**

Gregory Trival is hereby appointed to the vacant position of Laborer in the Street and Refuse Department, effective January 19, 2021, at a pay rate of \$18.39 per hour. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Fred Sauberman.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Gertrude Szyferblatt asked Mayor Markunas to make a statement about the payment for services paid to Attorney Richard Glickel as it related to the Board's vote to retain Attorney Glickel. Mayor responded that even though he voted No to retain Attorney Glickel, the Village Board voted in favor of retaining Attorney Glickel's services.

Lance Weinstein asked to be provided with the amount paid in the final cash payment to former employee, Clarke Osborn as per Resolution to 167 of 2020. The Village Attorney stated that he believed that the payment had not been made yet but will follow up as to the status of the payment so that the information could be provided to Mr. Weinstein.

Joe Hunt stated he is looking forward to the upcoming year with better communication between the Board and CSEA.

Bruce Simon spoke about the Community Foundation's Suffern Marathon and the new website that has been posted for those who were interested in participating.

**ATTORNEY:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 11 OF 2021 - AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 1, 2021 TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 254 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN ENTITLED VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC**

The Board of Trustees authorized holding a Public Hearing on February 1, 2021 to be held at 7:05 p.m. to consider amendments to Chapter 254 of the Code of the Village of Suffern, entitled Vehicles and Traffic. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Fred Sauberman, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**MAYOR:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12 OF 2021 - ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION LETTER OF MIKE STARK EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 28, 2020**

The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of letter of Michael Stark as Fire Inspector Part Time, effective December 28, 2020. 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. 13 OF 2021 - REAPPOINTING MIKE STARK AS CODE ENFORCER PART TIME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 5, 2021**

Mike Stark was reappointed to the position of Code Enforcer Part Time, at his previous hourly rate of \$24.11, effective January 5, 2021. 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.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:55 p.m. Mayor Markunas requested a motion for the Board to enter into Executive Session to receive legal counsel regarding pending claims. A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Charles Barone, seconded by Fred Sauberman, and passed unanimously by the Board. A motion to close the Executive Session and return the regular meeting was made at 8:50 p.m. by Jo Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Steven Alpert, and passed unanimously by the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Frank Sauberman, and passed unanimously by the Board.