



**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.**

A meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at 61 Washington Avenue, Suffern, New York.

Present: Edward Markunas, Mayor  
Steven Alpert, Trustee  
Charles Barone, Trustee  
Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Trustee  
Fred Sauberman, Trustee  
Robert Magrino, Attorney  
Lisa-Ann DiMarsico-Smith, Village Clerk  
Kathy Van Sickle – Deputy Village Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Markunas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

A Workshop Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting was rescheduled due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**RESOLUTION NO. 86 OF 2021 – ACCEPTING NICK MATTERN AS NEW MEMBER, UNDER 18, IN HOOK & LADDER**

Chief Jeremy Kaufer asked the Board to accept Nick Mattern as a new member, under 18, in the Hook & Ladder. 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.

**UPDATE ON NEW FIRE TRUCK**

Chief Kaufer gave an update on the new fire truck. Due to the pandemic, there are serious delays and the estimated time of arrival is now September.

**RESOLUTION NO. 87 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING THE SUFFERN FIRE DEPARTMENT TO HOST THE RCVFA JUNE MEETING AT THE HOSE COMPANY**

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.

The Chief brought up that the Allendale Fire Department asked if the Suffern Fire Department would stand-by for them on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Magrino said we can discuss this further at the June 28 workshop.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Andrew Loughlin gave an update on the Police Department's activity during the month. There were 950 calls during the month and three separate traffic enforcement details.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 88 OF 2021 – ACCEPTING THE LETTER OF RETIREMENT FROM LOUIS VENTURINI**

The Chief thanked Lou for everything he did for the Police Department and for the Village. 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. 89 OF 2021 – ACCEPTING THE LETTER OF RETIREMENT FROM ANNE CAWLEY**

The Chief also thanked Anne for her many years of service to the Police Department and the Village. 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. 90 OF 2021 – APPOINTING CHASE CLASS TO THE POSITION OF POLICE OFFICER FULL-TIME**

The Chief asked the Board to appoint Chase Class to the position of Police Officer full-time. 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. 91 OF 2021 – ACCEPTING RESIGNATION LETTER FROM PART-TIME DISPATCHER SEAN ROBERTS**

The Chief asked the Board to accept the resignation of part-time Dispatcher Sean Roberts. 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. 92 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING THE SUFFERN HIGH SCHOOL'S GRADUATION PARADE WITH THE SUFFERN POLICE CARS AS ESCORT ON JUNE 22 AT 6 P.M., WITH A RAINDATE OF JUNE 23, 2021**

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.

### **CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Cathy Mills thanked the Board and gave an update on the Girl Scout drive that was held recently at the Leo Lydon building. She said if anyone needed clothing, they could contact the Recreation Department. She also gave an update on all the upcoming events that will be taking place during the summer months and mentioned that the Suffern pool will be opening on June 25, 2021.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 93 OF 2021 – APPROVAL OF CLIFFORD THEATER SUMMER PROGRAM**

Mrs. Mills asked the Board to approve the Clifford Theater summer program. The program will begin July 6 and end on August 4. There will be four different plays each week. 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.

### **GRANT PROGRAM**

Fred Rella welcomed the new Village Clerk, Lisa-Ann DiMarsico-Smith to the Village. He also said he was very impressed with how the pool looks and he then gave an update on the Wayne Avenue sidewalk project and the Parking Lot B project.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 94 OF 2021 – APPOINTMENTS TO THE 2021 PROGRAM YEAR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Rella asked the Board for approval of the 2021 Citizen Advisory Committee. 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. 95 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING FREDERICK J. RELLA TO PROVIDE GRANT APPLICATION SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

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.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Jim Giannettino thanked Lou Venturini and Anne Cawley for their years of service to the Suffern Police Department and to the Village and asked for a standing ovation for them.

Gertrude Szyferblatt asked if the labor attorney would not represent the Village if all were not in favor.

Joe Hunt welcomed Village Clerk Lisa-Ann and brought up some concerns about the union contract and how he would like to work on these concerns.

Scott Brown, a former employee, said he was happy to see everybody and glad that he was finally getting paid for previous issues after six years.

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Charles Sawicki said that this year we will be doing more roadway improvements. There will be a separate bid going out for the curbs and ADA ramps. O&R, CHIPS and unused funds from previous projects will be used, along with money from capital improvements.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 96 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR THE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PHASE II PROJECT**

Mr. Sawicki said bids would be returned June 24, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Jo Meegan-Corrigan and passed unanimously by the Board.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 97 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR THE RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPROVEMENT 2021 PROJECT**

Mr. Sawicki said bids would be returned June 24, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. 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. 98 OF 2021 – APPROVAL OF THE 2021 CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION STORMWATER II EDUCATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

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. 99 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE 2021 CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION STORMWATER II EDUCATION PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

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. 100 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING PAYMENT NO. 3 TO COVINO AND SONS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE WAYNE AVENUE SIDEWALK PROJECT**

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.

### **PRESENTATION BY HEDGING DESIGN GROUP OF VILLAGE HALL BUILDING ASSESSMENT**

A presentation was given by a representative of the Hedging Design Group. This group did an assessment of Village Hall and gave their report. He said there are a lot of issues with both the exterior and interior of the building and the total cost of upgrading the building would be approximately 8.5 million dollars.

## **TREASURER**

Treasurer Michael Genito said that the Village will be receiving 1.2 million dollars over the next two years as a result of the American Rescue Plan 2021. The first installment, \$600,000, should be received sometime in June. If the money is not used, it will go back. He suggested that a committee be set up to determine how to use the funds. It can be used for replacing police vehicles, fire chief cars, a new garbage truck. It can also be used, along with money from Altice, for network structure upgrades. These are some ideas.

The treasurer said we had a meeting with Delaware Engineering on the WWTP project and we will need additional funds for this project. Instead of 9 million dollars, the cost will be 12 million, which means we will need an additional \$750,000 in bonding authorization.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 101 OF 2021 – AMENDING CAPITAL PROJECTS 2017-001 AND 2019-001**

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. 102 OF 2021 – AMEND RESOLUTION 180 OF 2020 GOSR PROJECTS 2021-005 AND 2021-006**

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. 103 – BOND RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, NEW YORK, ADOPTED MARCH 5, 2018, AMENDED JUNE 12, 2018 AND FURTHER AMENDED JUNE 7, 2021, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$9,750,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$9,750,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION**

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.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 103a OF 2021 – AMENDING CAPITAL PROJECT 2019-007 2019 WWTP MODIFICATIONS**

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. 104 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING VILLAGE TREASURER TO ATTEND NYCOM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN BOLTON LANDING, NEW YORK, JUNE 9, 2021**

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone and passed unanimously by the Board.

## **ATTORNEY**

Attorney Rob Magrino said that on March 31, 2021 marijuana became legal in New York. Retail dispensaries can open and on-site consumption sites can take place. The law does allow municipalities to opt-out but they can only do it this year. If a municipality doesn't opt-out this year, they can never opt-out again. However, if a municipality does opt-out this year, they do have the option of opting-in at a later time. Mr. Magrino said he would like the Board to set a public hearing for a proposed local law, subject to permissive referendum, amending the Village Code to establish a new chapter 102, entitled "Cannabis," specifically codifying the Village Board's intent to opt-out from allowing cannabis retail dispensaries and on-site consumption sites within the Village, and requesting the Cannabis Control Board to prohibit such retail dispensaries and on-site consumption sites within the Village, as authorized by NYS Cannabis Law Articles 4 & 6. The public hearing will be held on Monday, July 12, at 7:05 p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO. 105 OF 2021 – SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW, SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, AMENDING THE VILLAGE CODE TO ESTABLISH A NEW CHAPTER 102 ENTITLED "CANNABIS," SPECIFICALLY CODIFYING THE VILLAGE BOARD'S INTENT TO OPT-OUT FROM ALLOWING CANNABIS RETAIL DISPENSARIES AND ON-SITE CONSUMPTION SITES WITHIN THE VILLAGE, AND REQUESTING THE CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD TO PROHIBIT SUCH RETAIL DISPENSARIES AND ON-SITE CONSUMPTION SITES WITHIN THE VILLAGE, AS AUTHORIZED BY NYS CANNABIS LAW ARTICLES 4 AND 6**

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. 106 OF 2021 – DECLARE VILLAGE BOARD LEAD AGENCY UNDER SEQRA IN CONNECTION WITH PROPOSED LOCAL LAW, AMENDING THE VILLAGE CODE TO ESTABLISH A NEW CHAPTER 102, ENTITLED "CANNABIS"**

Attorney Magrino asked the Board to declare itself as Lead Agency under SEQRA in connection with the proposed local law, amending the Village Code to establish a new chapter 102, entitled "Cannabis." A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Charles Barone, seconded by Trustee Steven Alpert and passed unanimously by the Board.

**VILLAGE CLERK**

The Village Clerk asked the Board to approve two Special Permits for live entertainment – one for Marcello's and one for Agave. These Special Permits would be subject to review and approval by the Building Department, Village Attorney and Police Chief.

**RESOLUTION NO. 107 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK TO ISSUE A SPECIAL PERMIT TO MARCELLO'S FOR LIVE ENTERTAINMENT SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT, VILLAGE ATTORNEY AND POLICE CHIEF**

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.

**RESOLUTION NO. 108 OF 2021 – AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK TO ISSUE A SPECIAL PERMIT TO AGAVE FOR LIVE ENTERTAINMENT SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT, VILLAGE ATTORNEY AND POLICE CHIEF**

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.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion to go into executive session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss pending litigation and personnel matters was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone and passed unanimously by the Board.

A motion to exit executive session at 11:11 p.m. was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone and passed unanimously by the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 11:11 p.m. was made by Trustee Steven Alpert, seconded by Trustee Charles Barone and passed unanimously by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa-Ann DiMarsico-Smith  
Village Clerk

Kathy Van Sickle  
Deputy Village Clerk