



VILLAGE OF SUFFERN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023
7:00 P.M.

Present: Michael F. Curley, Mayor
Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Deputy Mayor
Steven Alpert, Trustee
Frank Hagen, Trustee
Terry Rice, Village Attorney
Melissa B. Reimer, Village Clerk
Michael A. Genito, Village Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Curley called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in memory of Karen Spear the sister of Maria Duffy who works in our Treasurer's Office.

Mayor Curley announced that Trustee Fred Sauberman resigned as Trustee of the Village of Suffern. Mr. Sauberman and his wife, Lenore, had moved into a retirement home in New Jersey. Under the law he can no longer be a trustee for the Village of Suffern, even though he still owns property in the Village. He was on a list for the retirement community, and they were chosen sooner than expected. Mayor Curley thanked Mr. Sauberman for his service to the Village and people of Suffern. The Mayor mentioned that Mr. Sauberman had served on many boards during the years and that he had done so much for the community. The Mayor wished Mr. Sauberman health and happiness.

Mayor Curley also mentioned that under the law he, as Mayor, has the right to appoint a trustee. The Mayor stated that he has been discussing the trustee position with people and will be conducting interviews. Mayor Curley stated that he will make the appointment after he has spoken to all of those interested in the position; those who are qualified; and lastly, the individual who understands the best interests of this Village.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

A Regular Meeting, Monday, February 6, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

A Regular Meeting, Monday, March 6, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM 12/5/2022 VILLAGE OF SUFFERN REORGANIZATION BOARD MEETING.

A motion to approve the Board minutes was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM 12/5/2022 VILLAGE OF SUFFERN REGULAR BOARD MEETING.

A motion to approve the Board minutes was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

MOTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2023, AT 7:05 P.M., FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT.

A motion to approve the foregoing was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

MOTION TO APPROVE SENDING FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICER(S) TO LONG ISLAND FIRE EXPO AT THE NASSAU COLISEUM ON FEBRUARY 4, 2023. COSTS NOT TO EXCEED \$200.

A motion to approve the foregoing motion was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 001 OF 2023
DECLARING VARIOUS PROPERTY OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN TO BE SURPLUS**

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

WHEREAS, property owned by the Village of Suffern is no longer needed for any municipal purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees desires to declare the same to be surplus so that they may be properly sold or disposed of a) one UniMac Commercial Washer, Model #UW60S2OU10001, Serial #3120225192 and b) one Fire Research Corp. Dry Gear Pro, Model #DGP-3C, Serial #319.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees hereby declares that a) one UniMac Commercial Washer, Model #UW60S2OU10001, Serial #3120225192 and b) one Fire Research Corp. Dry Gear Pro, Model #DGP-3C, Serial #319, are no longer needed for any municipal purpose and are declared to be surplus; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the foregoing items of surplus property be posted for sale on GovDeals.com.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 002 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND ACCEPTING A CRIMINAL JUSTICE DISCOVERY GRANT AWARD**

WHEREAS, Rockland County, through the District Attorney's Office, in an effort to provide financial assistance to local law enforcement and make a disbursement of grant funds from the Criminal Justice Discovery Grant to the Village for reimbursement of expenditures by the Village Police Department to comply with recently adopted changes to the discovery laws in the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, the County of Rockland has authorized the County Executive to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement to reimburse the Village of Suffern in the amount of \$11,164.00 for expenses related to compliance with the Criminal Justice Discovery Act.

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law authorizes municipal governments to perform together that which each government is authorized to perform

individually and requires that any inter-municipal agreement be approved by each participating municipal corporation by a majority vote of its governing body, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board finds and determines that such agreement and reimbursement for efforts related to the new discovery law is in the best interests of the good and welfare of the Village in the operations of its governmental functions,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby approves entering into the Inter-municipal Agreement between the Village of Suffern and County of Rockland with respect to the reimbursement of the sum of \$11,164.00 for reimbursement of expenses related to the Criminal Justice Discovery Act and grant related thereto and authorizes the Mayor to execute the aforesaid Inter-municipal Agreement and any and all documents necessary to effectuate same.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 003 OF 2022
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 16 TO PITINGARO & DOETSCH
CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE BACKUP POWER
FOR CRITICAL FACILITIES PROJECT**

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 16 to Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. in the amount of \$860.52 for Project 2021-006 GOSR NYCR-0256 Backup Power for Critical Facilities is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 004 OF 2022
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 16 TO PITINGARO & DOETSCH
CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE HARDENING OF WATER TREATMENT
PLANT PROJECT**

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 16 to Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. in the amount of \$5,008.32 for Project 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255 Hardening of Water Treatment Plant is hereby authorized., subject to approval by the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 005 OF 2022
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 7 TO MEHL ELECTRIC
COMPANY FOR THE HARDENING OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT**

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 7 to Mehl Electric Company in the amount of

\$25,175.00 for Project 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255 Hardening of Water Treatment Plant is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and passed by the Board.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 006 OF 2022

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 9 TO TAM ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR THE HARDENING OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 9 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$114,285.00 for Project 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255 Hardening of Water Treatment Plant is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 007 OF 2022

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 10 TO TAM ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR THE HARDENING OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that payment of Application No. 10 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$137,037.50 for Project 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255 Hardening of Water Treatment Plant is hereby authorized, subject to approval by the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 008 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING CAPITAL PROJECT 2023-005 WEST MAPLE AVENUE SIDEWALKS

WHEREAS, the sidewalks on West Maple Avenue are in need of repair or replacement; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has determined that the total estimated cost of such repairs and replacement, including engineering costs, is \$350,000; and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2022, the Village of Suffern received the fully executed subrecipient agreements from the Rockland County Department of Community Development for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant award in the amount of \$100,000 and the 2021 Community Development Block Grant award in the amount of \$200,000, both of which can be used to finance a portion of the total costs; and

WHEREAS, the Village’s American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) account has a balance of \$506,453 of available funds, \$50,000 of which may be used to finance the remaining costs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board hereby establishes project 2023-005 West Maple Avenue Sidewalks (“Project”) in the estimated total Project cost of \$350,000 to be funded as follows:

2020 CDBG Grant \$100,000
2021 CDBG Grant \$200,000
ARPA Funds \$ 50,000

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that any unexpended ARPA funds remaining after all Project costs have been accounted for will be returned to the ARPA account being managed by the Village Treasurer.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, and passed by the board.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 009 OF 2023

TRANSFER FUNDS FROM CONTINGENT ACCOUNT TO FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Village Hall fire whistle has become inoperable and requires immediate repairs at a cost not to exceed \$11,000 (the “Repairs”); and

WHEREAS, the 2022-2023 General Fund budget for Fire Department Contractual (A.3410.4) has insufficient funds available to finance the cost of the Repairs; and

WHEREAS, the 2022-2023 General Fund Contingent Account (A.1990.4) has an available balance of \$200,000.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees authorizes the transfer of \$11,000 from General Fund Contingent Account to General Fund Fire Department Contractual.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

Adopted: January 9, 2023

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Jeremy Kaufer explained the items before the Board. Trustee Hagen asked if the surplus items will be sold or will be disposed. Mr. Kaufer told Trustee Hagen that the items will be sold on GovDeals.

GRANTS

Mr. Fred Rella commented that before Thanksgiving, approval was received by the Village for a \$235,000 grant from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (“DASNY”) for work to the boiler system for Village Hall. The paperwork was completed in December and was submitted to DASNY in Albany.

Trustee Alpert asked for the comparison of the cost to the grant.

Mr. Rella answered that the total cost was budgeted at \$335,000 and the grant was for \$235,000. The grant was a reimbursement grant; the Village must expend the funds and will be reimbursed later. In addition, \$100,000 will be paid by the Village without reimbursement.

Mr. Rella also spoke about the Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) public hearing that will be held on February 6, 2023, at 7:05 P.M. The public hearing will be regarding the project that the CDBG committee will be proposing this year. The CDBG committee is known as the “Citizen’s Advisory Committee” and is made up of Village of Suffern residents, employees, Trustees, as well as Mr. Rella.

Mr. Rella explained that this year, Rockland County Community Development only gave two weeks for the committee to meet twice, which is mandatory, and secure a project in a low to medium income area of the Village. Mr. Rella will be presenting the Board on February 6, 2023, with the project that the Committee has chosen.

Mr. Rella also explained that there are currently five CDBG funding awards partially funding three projects: two for parking Lot B, two for West Maple Avenue sidewalks, and one for parking Lot A.

He also mentioned that they are working on the reimbursement for the ATV vehicle and trailer for the Fire Department; this grant was for \$50,000. The actual cost was \$51,000.

Mayor Curley asked Mr. Rella to explain how the CDBG works in the low income areas of the Village. Mr. Rella explained that the CDBG monies can only be used to finance projects in low to moderate income areas, as determined by U.S. Census Bureau tracts. It was (federal) Housing and Urban Development money that gets funneled to Rockland County and then disbursed to the Village of Suffern.

In order for the Village to obtain this money, Rockland County looks at the U.S. Census data to identify the low to moderate income areas for each municipality. Mr. Rella explained that the Village of Suffern used to have two or three areas. He said that we only have one area now. This area is located in the West Ward, from West Maple Avenue going north through the athletic fields through parking Lot A, up Route 202 towards the pool and ending in the area of Chestnut Street.

Mr. Rella explained that low to moderate income for Suffern is different than low to moderate income in Hillburn, Spring Valley, and other communities. The County of Rockland looks at the U.S. Census for family income/household income in total. In Suffern, the average household income, Mr. Rella stated, was about \$90,000/year. Mr. Rella explained that 75% of the people in the low to moderate area means they earn \$75,000 or less.

Mayor Curley noted that it is important for the public should understand why we cannot apply for this type of grant for every area of the Village. It must be in that one specific area of the Village.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Loughlin presented the Police Department statistics for the month of December 2022.

Mayor Curley asked the Police Chief and the public to please look out for the homeless. If you see something, say something.

RECREATION

Ms. Cathy Mills explained that we are looking forward to 2023. Any ideas from the Board or the public, please get in touch with her.

PUBLIC COMMENT (limited to 4 minutes per speaker)

A motion to open the public comment was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

No comments.

A motion to close the public comment was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

TREASURER

Village Treasurer Michael Genito explained that the first resolution he was presenting involved the establishment of the West Maple Avenue paving project. The project has a total estimated cost of \$350,000 and would be financed with \$100,000 from a CDBG 2020 grant, \$200,000 from a CDBG 2021 grant, and the remaining \$50,000 was the Village's proportionate share. Mr. Genito recommended that the Village Board authorize the use of federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 grant funds to finance the Village's \$50,000 proportionate share.

The second resolution Mr. Genito was presenting involved a budget transfer of \$11,000 from the General Fund Contingent Account to Fire Department Contractual to fund repairs to the Village Hall fire whistle. The fire whistle has been atop Village Hall for several decades and recently went defective, and there were insufficient funds in the Fire Department budget to finance the unanticipated repairs.

TRUSTEES

No Comments

MAYOR

MOTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND CHAPTER 244 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING TAXATION FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2023, AT 7:15 P.M.

A motion to approve the foregoing was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Mayor Curley wished everyone a Happy New Year and said that he is proud to be here in this wonderful community. He stated that if anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact us. He thanked the audience.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 P.M. was made by Trustee Hagen, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Respectfully,

Melissa B. Reimer, CPA
Village Clerk