



**VILLAGE OF SUFFERN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 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 for all of our veterans and all those who lost their lives fighting for the freedoms we have today.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

A Regular Meeting, Monday, April 3, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 9, 2023, VILLAGE OF SUFFERN BOARD MEETING.

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

PRESENTATION OF AWARD

Mayor Curley presented an award to Michael Ludwig, Eagle Scout for the five benches he erected and for beautifying the area of Brooklands Park.

FEEES FOR ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION

Mayor Curley explained that the Village Board wants to establish fees for residents who start doing construction on their homes without getting the necessary permits. These fees would be in addition to requiring the property owner to get the correct permits for construction. When work is done illegally, it is unfair to those who comply with the law, requires more work for the Village to inspect, and endangers the health and safety of our community.

MOTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 6, 2023, AT 7:10 P.M., FOR AMENDMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN STANDARD SCHEDULE OF FEES WITH RESPECT TO PARKING RATES AND VIOLATION SEARCH/INSPECTION FEES AND ESTABLISHING A FEE FOR BUILDING PERMITS SOUGHT AFTER WORK COMMENCES WITHOUT A BUILDING PERMIT

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

MOTION TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING 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 Alpert, with all in favor.

Mr. Fred Rella explained the process of the Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”). CDBG is an annual grant which is funded by federal funds and has been funneled to the County of Rockland. The Village of Suffern has to apply to the County of Rockland Office of Community Development with a particular project. The project has to be located in a low to moderate income area of the Village. The income areas are based on the 2020 US Census data. The Village of Suffern only has one low to moderate income area. That means that the average income for that area is 80% of the average income of the Village. The average income for the Village is \$89,000. In this area it is \$69,000 (51% of the people earn \$69K or less) per year.

The next step is to brainstorm to find a project to submit for the grant. There is a Citizen Advisory Committee. The Committee, a requirement of the grant, has recommended the repaving of Ed Fagan Drive, which goes from Ramapo Avenue, through the athletic fields to the DPW garage. The estimated cost to repave this road is \$150,000. The CDBG is looking for the Village to contribute \$10,000 or 7%.

No comments from the public.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, 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.

**RESOLUTION NO. 010 OF 2023
ACCEPTING THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION FOR THE 2023 CDBG GRANT APPLICATION TO BE
SUBMITTED FOR THE ED FAGAN DRIVE REPAVING PROJECT**

RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of the Village of Suffern Citizen Advisory Committee to seek Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the Repaving of Ed Fagan Drive and authorizes the Mayor or his authorized designee to sign and submit the 2023 CDBG application for the said project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDBG application will state that the Ed Fagan Drive Repaving Project estimated cost is \$150,000. Of this total, \$140,000 will be contributed from the Community Development Block Grant and \$10,000 (approximately 7% of project estimated cost) will be contributed from the Village of Suffern. If a lesser amount of CDBG funds are awarded to the Village of Suffern, the Village contribution shall remain constant at no more than 7% of any such CDBG award unless the Village deems otherwise (i.e. a \$50,000 award will equate to a \$3,500 Village of Suffern contribution); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, additionally, that the Village of Suffern contribution can be the cost of a "project coordinator" and/or Village labor (soft) expenses for the development, implementation, and oversight of the Ed Fagan Drive Repaving Project.

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

Adopted: February 6, 2023

MOTION TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:15 P.M., TO AMEND CHAPTER 244 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING TAXATION.

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

Mr. Giannettino, 2 Memorial Drive, asked which taxes were being proposed to amend.

Mayor Curley explained that there was an old taxation code in the Village. The history of the code had to do with the threat of Avon leaving Suffern and moving to Rella Blvd. Right now, if a business moves into the Village and undertakes capital improvements such as construction or reconstruction of facilities, that business could receive a significant real property tax exemption for up to ten years.

Mr. Giannettino asked if that was the main purpose of the change.

Mayor Curley said that there were two other reasons for the tax code changes.

Mr. Giannettino mentioned the PILOT with Avon. Mayor Curley answered that these tax code changes have nothing to do with Avon's PILOT. Mayor Curley repeated that it had to do with the law that is on the books and that needs to be changed. The real property tax burden should not be shifted from commercial entities and put on the homeowners.

The Mayor also mentioned that there were two other tax codes that need to be changed. The Board was adopting the tax code change for the New York State Senior Citizen exemption and the New York State Volunteer Firefighter exemption.

Mr. Giannettino commented that both of those were good causes and he stated that the Governor took a long time, but at least it was signed.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND CHAPTER 244 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING TAXATION.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 011 OF 2023
NEGATIVE DECLARATION RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Suffern Board of Trustees has reviewed the proposed local law amending Chapter 244, Taxation, of the Village of Suffern Code, and the Short Form EAF Part 1 and 2.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Suffern Village Board of Trustees duly considered the record, together with the action, and having analyzed each of the potential areas of environmental concern in accordance with procedures set forth at 6 NYCRR Part 617 and the criteria set forth at 6 NYCRR Part 617.7 pursuant to the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York, the Village Board adopts this Negative Declaration, finding that adoption of the proposed local law will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.
2. That this resolution shall be deemed a Notice of Determination of Non-significance issued

pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617 and Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, and the Village Clerk is hereby directed to file and circulate this Notice in accordance with the requirements of Part 617.

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

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**Village of Suffern Board of Trustees
SEQRA RESOLUTION AND
NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Determination: Please take notice that, in accordance with the provisions of NYCRR, Part 617.7, and specifically 617.7(c), the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees, as Lead Agency, having reviewed and considered a Short Environmental Assessment Form, Parts 1 and 2, and other studies and data submitted for the referenced project, evaluated the proposed action, and has determined that the action as described below will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and the Planning Board has therefore adopted this Negative Declaration.

Lead Agency: Village of Suffern Board of Trustees

Contact Person: Melissa Reimer, Village Clerk
Village of Suffern
61 Washington Avenue
Suffern, New York 10901
(845) 357-2600

Name of Project: Adoption of Local Law Amending Chapter 244, Taxation, of the Village of Suffern Code

Location: Village Suffern, Rockland County, NY

SEQRA: Unlisted Action

Proposed Action: Adoption of a Local Law Amending Chapter 244, Taxation, of the Village of Suffern Code to amend Section 244-15 to include an exemption of zero percent (0%).

Project Description, Background and Reasons Supporting the Negative Declaration:

The proposed action involves a legislative decision by the Village Board of Trustees to amend Chapter 244, Taxation, of the Code of the Village of Suffern. Said amendment would reduce the exemption set forth in Section 244-15 to zero percent (0%). In this manner, all commercial properties are taxed equally, whether existing or new construction. The Village Board has found that with the loss and/or significant downsizing of commercial properties in the Village, including the former Novartis property, Avon Products, and Tilcon Quarry among others, that it must ensure that it promotes fiscal policies that do not shift the burden of the cost of municipal services for new development onto existing development.

A short Environmental Assessment Form, Parts 1 and 2, have been prepared. The Part 2 has

evaluated the potential impacts of the action on the environment. As set forth in the Part 2, it is not anticipated that the proposed action will have any significant adverse impact on the environment.

**RESOLUTION NO. 012 OF 2023
ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2023 DETERMINING THAT THE REAL
PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO § 485-b(2)(a) OF THE REAL
PROPERTY TAX LAW BE 0%**

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

WHEREAS, Chapter 244, Article II of the Code of the Village of Suffern, “Business Investment Exemption” was adopted in 1979 pursuant to Chapter 165 of the Laws of 1988; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 165 of the Laws of 1988 was superseded and rendered ineffective by Real Property Tax Law § 485-b (except for Business Investment Exemptions then in effect); and

WHEREAS, the Village is required to act with respect to the present version of Real Property Tax Law § 485-b to determine the applicable exemption pursuant thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Village desires to determine the applicable exemption to be 0%; and

WHEREAS, the proposed local law was duly notice for a public hearing to be held on February 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on February 6, 2023, the public had an opportunity to comment thereon, and the public hearing was closed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that Local Law No. 1, determining the Business Investment Exemption pursuant to Tax Law § 485-b to be 0% is hereby adopted and the Clerk is instructed to file the same with the Secretary of State.

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

	YES	NO	ABSENT
Trustee Alpert	X		
Trustee Hagen	X		
Trustee Meegan-Corrigan	X		
Mayor Curley	X		

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 013 OF 2023
ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2023 RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAX
EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS IN THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

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

WHEREAS, by Local Law No. 4 of 2000, the Village adopted the available exemption for firefighters pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 466-a; and

WHEREAS, that provision of the Real Property Tax law has been superseded by a new version of Real Property Tax Law § 466-a; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees wishes to accord the exemption provided by Real Property Tax Law § 466-a to qualifying firefighters pursuant to the requirements of Real Property Tax Law § 466-a; and

WHEREAS, the proposed local law was duly notice for a public hearing to be held on February 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on February 6, 2023, the public had an opportunity to comment thereon and the public hearing was closed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that Local law No. 2 of 2023, providing a real property tax exemption for Volunteer Firefighters pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 466-a is hereby adopted and the Clerk is instructed to file the same with the Secretary of State.

	YES	NO	ABSENT
Trustee Alpert	X		
Trustee Hagen	X		
Trustee Meegan-Corrigan	X		
Mayor Curley	X		

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 014 OF 2023
ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2023 RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAX
EXEMPTION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

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

WHEREAS, by Local Law No. 4 of 2007, the Village adopted the available exemption for senior citizens pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 467; and

WHEREAS, that provision of the Real Property Tax law has been superseded by a new version of Real Property Tax Law § 467 which increases the maximum income level for various senior citizen exemptions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees wishes to accord the exemption provided by Real Property Tax Law § 467 to qualifying senior citizens pursuant to the requirements of Real Property Tax Law § 467; and

WHEREAS, the proposed local law was duly notice for a public hearing to be held on February 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on February 6, 2023, the public had an opportunity to comment thereon and the public hearing was closed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that Local Law No. 3 of 2023, providing a real property tax exemption for senior citizens pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 467 is hereby adopted and the Clerk is instructed to file the same with the Secretary of State.

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

	YES	NO	ABSENT
Trustee Alpert	X		
Trustee Hagen	X		
Trustee Meegan-Corrigan	X		
Mayor Curley	X		

Adopted: February 6, 2023

ZONE CHANGE PETITION FROM EXTELL

Mr. Terry Rice explained that the Village Board received a zone change petition from Extell, which is seeking to obtain a zoning amendment to create multi-family housing on Washington Avenue. The proposal requires a lot of additional work before it is ready to be presented in a

public hearing. A proposal of this magnitude it is subject to State Environment Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) and will involve many local and state agencies. Since only one agency can be the lead agency under SEQRA, (for instance, the lead agency determines if an Environment Impact Statement is necessary, etc.), it is most advisable for the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees to be the lead agency.

In order for the Board to make itself lead agency, it simply adopts a notice of intent to be lead agency and sends a notice to all the other involved agencies that have permitting authority. The other agencies have 30 days in which to object. If you do not hear back from any of the other agencies, the Board will adopt another resolution confirming its status as lead agency.

The Village Planner and Mr. Rice both reviewed the zone change papers. The Planner wants some more particulars before the notice of intent to be lead agency is sent out. Mr. Rice suggested that the Board pass a resolution that it so desires to be lead agency on this project, but the notice of intent not be sent out until the planner is satisfied with respect to all of the documents required from the applicant.

**RESOLUTION NO. 015 OF 2023
DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO BECOME LEAD
AGENCY FOR THE SUFFERN WA LLC, MULTIFAMILY APARTMENT BUILDING
APPLICATION INCLUDING THE TDD ZONE PETITION, SITE PLAN
APPLICATION AND ALL OTHER PERMITS AND APPROVALS**

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has received a petition and accompanying documents seeking a zoning amendment to rezone the property of Suffern WA LLC located at 37 Washington Avenue in the Village of Suffern (Section 54.6, Block 1, Lot 6) to a TDD designation in order to construct a 5-story residential building comprised of four (4) residential stories above a ground level garage with 106 residential apartment dwellings consisting of 36 - 1-bedroom, 42 - 2-bedroom and 28 - 3-bedroom units with 212 off street parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, should the zoning amendment be approved, it will need various other land use approvals and approvals from various other agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees desires to act as lead agency for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that, in accordance with the provisions of 6 NYCRR § 617.6, the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees declares its intent to act as Lead Agency for the purposes of SEQRA review of the aforementioned proposed action and shall assume SEQRA Lead Agency status if it does not receive notice of an objection from any Involved Agency within 30 calendar days of the date of this Notice of Intent.

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

Adopted: February 6, 2023

Mr. Rice also explained that the Village also has a local law for applicants to deposit sums in escrow so the planner and any other professional consultants that the Village needs to engage, does not come from Village taxpayers. The Planner has recommended an escrow deposit of \$10,000 for the Extell project.

MOTION TO ESTABLISH A \$10,000 ESCROW ACCOUNT FOR CONSULTANT FEES IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXTELL PROJECT

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 016 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING THE POSTING OF THE PRELIMINARY SUFFERN FIRE DEPARTMENT LOSAP FOR 2022**

WHEREAS, in accordance with New York General Municipal Law Section 217, General Requirements of a Service Award Program, Daniel McNerney, Suffern Fire Department LOSAP (Length of Service Award Program) Administrator prepared a preliminary report detailing the LOSAP points earned by the members of the Suffern Fire Department for the year 2022.

NOW, HEREBY BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the 2022 Suffern Fire Department LOSAP preliminary report presented by Mr. McNerney; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Suffern Fire Department LOSAP Administrator to conspicuously post a copy of the preliminary report at each Village of Suffern Firehouse for a period of no less than 30-days commencing March 8, 2023, during which time a firefighter could file a written appeal to the service point information contained in the report to the Fire Department.

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

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 017 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING DETECTIVE MICHAEL CORLETTA TO ATTEND THE NEW YORK STATE POLICE SEX CRIMES SEMINAR ON MARCH 8-9, 2023, AT THE NYSP ACADEMY IN ALBANY, NEW YORK**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees hereby authorizes Detective Michael Corletta to attend the New York State Police Sex Crimes Seminar, March 8 - 9, 2023 in Albany, New York, at no cost to the Village for the training. Conference lodging cost, not to exceed, \$125 per night, as well as the actual and necessary expenses for travel and meals not already included and in accordance with the Village's policy of reimbursement for such expenses are also hereby authorized.

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

Adopted: February 6, 2023

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR CURLEY TO SIGN AGREEMENT FOR CLIFFORD THEATER PRODUCTION

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 018 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR THE WEST MAPLE AVENUE SIDEWALK AND CURB 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 the solicitation of formal bids for the West Maple Avenue Sidewalk and Curb Project is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable by February 28, 2023, at 3:00 P.M. A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 019 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR WATER DEPARTMENT
CHEMICALS**

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 the solicitation of formal bids for Water Department Chemicals is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable by March 15, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 020 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH CORNELL
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION FOR THE 2023 STORMWATER II EDUCATION
PROGRAM**

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 the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension for provision of the 2023 Stormwater II education program for the sum of \$3,277.27, subject to approval of the agreement by the Village Attorney.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 021 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 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:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$11,910.20 for Project 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255, Hardening of Water Treatment Plant Project, is hereby authorized, subject to and contingent upon approval by Governor's Office Storm Recovery.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hagen, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 022 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 17 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. 17 to Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. in the amount of \$430.26 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, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 023 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 17 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. 17 to Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. in the amount of \$13,355.52 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, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 024 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 9 TO DEWBERRY ENGINEERS FOR THE BACKUP POWER FOR CRITICAL FACILITIES PROJECTS

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 Dewberry Engineers in the amount of \$4,170.20 for the Backup Power for Critical Facilities Project 2021-006 GOSR NYCR-0256 Project 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, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 025 OF 2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 9 TO DEWBERRY 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. 9 to Dewberry Engineers in the amount of \$2,739.15 for the Hardening of Water Treatment Plant 2021-005 GOSR NYCR-0255. Project 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, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 026 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 8 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. 8 to Mehl Electric Company in the amount of \$65,075.00 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, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 027 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 11 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. 11 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$289,947.01 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, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Adopted: February 6, 2023

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Curley thanked Fire Chief Jeremy Kaufer and all of the Fire Department personnel for taking care of the Village of Suffern residents no matter the weather conditions outside. The Mayor stated, "We all appreciate the service the Fire Department is doing."

Chief Kaufer thanked the Mayor and the Board.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Loughlin presented the Police Department statistics for the month of January 2023. The Chief briefed the Board regarding an investigation that recently occurred within the Village of Suffern. A search warrant was executed at a local business Thursday, February 2, 2023, at the Zava Smoke Shop. The Police Department was receiving information that the Zava Smoke Shop, located at 28 Lafayette Avenue, was engaged in selling marijuana to both adults and juveniles.

The Suffern Detective Bureau initiated an investigation and confirmed this information. Suffern worked in conjunction with the Rockland County Intelligence Unit and the Rockland County Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Several undercover operations were conducted, resulting in several sales of THC to minors.

A search warrant was executed by Suffern and other agencies on February 2, 2023, which resulted in the recovery of thousands of dollars' worth of THC products, hallucinogenic mushrooms, and other evidence being seized. Two suspects were arrested and charged with criminal sale of marijuana to both adults and juveniles. The investigation is ongoing, and it is expected that there will be additional charges.

The Chief thanked the other agencies and the detectives that worked on the investigation.

Mayor Curley thanked the Chief and said that he appreciated the good police work of getting out there and doing the job.

RECREATION

Ms. Cathy Mills thanked the Board for giving the award to Michael Ludwig. Ms. Mills recommend that the Board see the work that Mr. Ludwig did at Brooklands Park.

Ms. Mills spoke about the Clifford Theater show that will be performed. The production will be July 28 and 29, 2023.

Ms. Mills also spoke about upcoming events in the Village of Suffern for the Recreation Department. Valentine for Veterans was setup by the Gazebo area. Please drop off your cards for the veterans.

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.

- Ms. Patsy Wooters, 19 Mansfield Place advised the Board that she had the opportunity to go to the New York State Arborist Convention held at the Crowne Plaza. She will be coming back to talk about the economics of trees. She also mentioned that Mr. John Wickes was the President of the New York State Arborist and that he ran the convention.

Mayor Curley thanked her and told her to please keep the Village Board informed.

- Jim Giannettino asked if the Village will be maintaining the same threshold for the senior exemption as the Town of Ramapo.

Mr. Rice and Mayor Curley answered, “Yes.” Mayor Curley added that the Village is giving the seniors the maximum.

- Mr. Giannettino asked, “What change in zone is Extell looking for?”

Mayor Curley said that Extell first came to the Village before he was Mayor asking for, he believes, 171 units. Then Extell went before the Planning Board with, he believes, 141 units. When Mayor Curley met with the developer, he told them that they must have two (2) parking spots for each unit. They came back with 212 parking spots for 106 units, but complained that they could not build a financially successful project with only 106 units. Mayor Curley said that they should go back to Avon and get a better price for the property. That is what Extell did.

Mr. Giannettino said that he used to say to applicants when he was on the Planning Board, that he was here to protect the Village not to make the applicant money.

The Mayor answered that he is here to protect the Village, but the applicants will not build unless they make money. So, if he can do both, that is what he will do. The applicants pay taxes; the Village of Suffern needs the tax money.

Mr. Giannettino asked to please put more information on the agendas.

Mayor Curley said that he would.

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

TRUSTEES

- Trustee Alpert recommended discounted permit fees for people who are looking to go green (i.e., Energy Star windows, etc.).

Mayor Curley said that the attorney will research that idea and see if it is legal. He believed that it is a great idea for the Village residents who want to conserve energy.

- Trustee Hagen agreed with Former Mayor Giannettino regarding the agendas. He said we should share information.

Mayor Curley added that he always shares information with the public. He mentioned that every day he answers emails and questions.

MAYOR

Mayor Curley said that before the meeting, Trustee Hagen said that people have commented about the construction in Montebello. There is a 200 bed senior care facility with a memory care unit being constructed in the Village of Montebello (not the Village of Suffern) on Route 59 across from the Good Samaritan Hospital.

A project on Route 59 across from the Oakdale Manor Apartments and next to the Esther Gitlow building will be a 48-unit apartment building. We will increase our real property tax base and have more people walking downtown.

Another project located in the Village of Suffern is the Recon project on Washington Avenue. That will be a 60-unit apartment building.

Extell is looking to do a 106-unit apartment building. The Village of Suffern would have to do a zone change, but that would be after public hearings. The Mayor stated that he is changing the course in this Village by how much parking you have to have in order to build. He believes that was a mistake prior to his term of office. In the Mayor's opinion you cannot build without at least two parking spots per unit.

The Mayor believes that we are in need of more apartments and condos downtown. This increases our real property tax base, providing some relief to all property owners, and generates more people walking downtown and uplifting the Village.

Mayor Curley said that he has gone to illegal construction jobs with the Village Building Inspector and stopped the jobs. The Mayor said it was important to do. He feels he needs to know firsthand what is happening in the Village of Suffern.

MOTION TO GRANT PERMIT FOR THE SUFFERN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HOLD THE SUFFERN STREET FAIR ON MAY 7, 2023, FROM 10 A. M. UNTIL 5 P.M. SUBJECT TO ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE VILLAGE ACCEPTABLE TO THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY AS TO THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE AND SUBJECT TO THE SUFFERN FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZING A CAR SHOW ON THE SAME DAY.

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

MOTION TO APPROVE NOT JUST BATTERY SATURDAY ON MARCH 11, 2023, FROM 10 A. M. UNTIL 1 P.M., AT SUFFERN VILLAGE HALL PARKING LOT, 61 WASHINGTON AVENUE, SUFFERN, NY 10901

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

If there is inclement weather, “Not Just Battery Saturday” will be postponed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 P.M. was made by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

Respectfully,

Melissa B. Reimer, CPA
Village Clerk