



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

Present: Michael F. Curley, Mayor
Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Deputy Mayor
Steven Alpert, Trustee
Angela Denis-Hogue, 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 7:13 P.M. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our veterans looking out for us and always taking care of us.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.
A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 2, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION To Approve July 17, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Denis-Hogue, with all in favor.

REGULATING RENTAL PROPERTIES

Mayor Curley explained that all rental properties (including single, two family and above) will be registered with the Village. The Village wants a record of the owner(s), tenant(s), and will have the ability to do building and fire safety inspections upon notification to the owner(s). The Village will hold the landlord responsible and accountable if they do not comply.

We have a new code enforcer, who will oversee this task. The Village Clerk will be working on this project. We may shift employees of other departments to help with this as well, as time permits.

**RESOLUTION NO. 116 OF 2023
SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023, AT 7:02 P.M., TO
CONSIDER A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 215 OF THE CODE OF THE
VILLAGE OF SUFFERN REGULATING RENTAL PROPERTIES IN THE VILLAGE
OF SUFFERN**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes a Public Hearing to be held on September 5, 2023, at 7:02 P.M., to consider a local law amending Chapter 215 of the Code of the Village of Suffern regulating rental properties in the Village of Suffern.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

A MOTION to grant Permit for Suffern Chamber of Commerce to hold Suffern Street Fair, Downtown Suffern on October 15, 2023, from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

30 SAGAMORE AVENUE

Mayor Curley explained that 30 Sagamore Avenue is where the Village found about 25 people living in one residence. The Code Enforcers represent that the owner is working with them, and he does have a Village Court date tomorrow. This Village Board does not want to lose the opportunity to pursue legal action in case the landlord does not comply with the scheduled Village Court date. On Wednesday, if necessary, we will file an action in the New York State Supreme Court.

RESOLUTION NO. 117 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO INSTITUTE LITIGATION FOR INJUNCTIVE AND OTHER RELIEF AGAINST THE OWNER AND OCCUPANTS OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 30 SAGAMORE AVENUE

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

WHEREAS, the real property located at 30 Sagamore Avenue (“subject premises”) in the Village of Suffern is owned by Ahron Weiser; and

WHEREAS, officials of the Village of Suffern Building Department caused the subject premises to be inspected on July 17, 2023; and

WHEREAS, based on said inspection, Ahron Weiser has leased or otherwise permitted Franklin Perez and others to reside at the subject premises; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Weiser and/or Mr. Perez have leased or allowed and permitted approximately 25 other individuals to reside at the subject premises, including in the basement of the subject premises; and

WHEREAS, numerous additional violations of the Zoning Law, Housing Standards Chapter, other provisions of the Village Code and of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code were observed; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer deem that the foregoing constitutes a danger to the inhabitants of the subject property and immediate neighborhood and a threat to the safety of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Village Attorney is hereby authorized to institute an action for injunctive relief on behalf of the Village of Suffern and such additional relief as the Village Attorney deems appropriate against Ahron Weiser, Franklin Perez, all occupants of the subject premises and any other persons or entities that the Village Attorney deems advisable.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

PARKING IMPROVEMENT FUND

Mayor Curley explained that there is an issue with parking in the Village of Suffern. When commercial properties were developed in the Village, there should have been monies collected and saved in a bank account. This way the Village could buy or lease other parking. This resolution will allow the Village Board instead of the Planning Board to establish the fees for parking when someone changes the use of their property for commercial purposes. This way the Village can buy more parking. The Planner came back with recommendations and this resolution is based on those recommendations.

RESOLUTION NO. 118 OF 2023

ESTABLISHING THE AMOUNT OF CASH PAYMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN PARKING IMPROVEMENT FUND THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY DECIDE TO ACCEPT IN LIEU OF PROVIDING SOME OR ALL OF REQUIRED PARKING IN THE CB DISTRICT

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 266-38(B) of the Village of Suffern Zoning Law, In the CB District, when any change or increase in the intensity of use or any increase in the amount of gross floor area would require the provision of additional off-street parking spaces in accordance with the standards set forth in this section, the applicant for such change or addition may request permission to make a cash payment to the Village of Suffern Parking Improvement Fund in lieu of providing some or all of such parking. The Board of Trustees, in its discretion, may elect to accept such payment on behalf of the Village. The amount of the cash payment per parking space required in such cases shall be established, and may from time to time be amended, by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall submit any application for a cash payment to the Planning Board for its review and recommendation; and

WHEREAS, a report prepared by the Village's Planning Consultant, Nelson Pope Voorhis, dated August 3, 2023, analyzed the existing parking capacity, noted the existing and increasing demand and deficiency of parking at appropriate locations in the business district, analyzed the cost of construction of a parking garage on the existing B Lot property and estimated the appropriate money-in-lieu of parking payment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is in agreement with the analysis contained in said report and with the need to create a sufficient parking improvement fund to finance such construction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the amount of cash payment for money-in-lieu of parking charged by the Board of Trustees pursuant to § 266-38(B) of the Village of Suffern Zoning Law, should it desire in any particular instance to grant a request to make a cash payment to the Village of Suffern Parking Improvement Fund in lieu of providing some or all of required parking, shall be as follows:

New Development: \$20,000 per parking space

Existing Development

(Change/Expansion of Use): \$10,000 per parking space

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 119 OF 2023
ACCEPTING BRIAN BLOCK AS NEW MEMBER IN HOOK & LADDER CO. 1**

RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Brian Block as a new member in the Hook and Ladder Co. 1.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 120 OF 2023
ACCEPTING MADISON BLOCK AS NEW MEMBER IN HOOK & LADDER CO. 1**

RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Madison Block, as a new member in the Hook and Ladder Co. 1.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 121 OF 2023
ACCEPTING MATTHEW BLOCK AS NEW MEMBER IN HOOK & LADDER CO. 1**

RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Matthew Block, as a new member in the Hook and Ladder Co. 1.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 122 OF 2022
DECLARING POLICE K9 VEHICLE AS SURPLUS**

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

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has advised that Police Department K9 Vehicle Ford Expedition VIN #1FMJU1G50EEF26831 (“Vehicle”), is no longer needed for any municipal purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby declares the Vehicle to be surplus and authorizes the Village Treasurer to sell or dispose of the Vehicles as he deems in the best interests of the Village.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 123 OF 2023
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 22 TO PITINGARO & DOETSCH
CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE GOSR 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. 22 to Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. in the amount of \$3,338.88 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 Denis-Hogue, and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 124 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 15 TO TAM ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR THE GOSR 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. 15 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$48,806.25 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 Denis-Hogue, and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 125 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR THE RIGHT OF WAY IMPROVEMENTS 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 Right of Way Improvements Project with a due date of August 30, 2023, at 2:30 P.M.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 126 OF 2023

AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR THE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 13 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 Roadway Improvements Phase 13 Project with a due date of August 30, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 127 OF 2023

AWARDING THE BID FOR SODIUM HYDROXIDE TO SLACK CHEMICAL

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

WHEREAS, the Village authorized the submission of competitive bids for 50% sodium hydroxide for use by the Department of Public Works, and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on August 3, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the prices submitted have been reviewed for their reasonableness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the bid for 50% sodium hydroxide is awarded to, the lowest bidder, Slack Chemical

Co., Inc., PO Box 30, 465 South Clinton Street, Carthage, NY 13619 in the amount of \$7.34 per gallon.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 128 OF 2023

AWARDING THE BID FOR LIGHT SODA CARBONATE TO SLACK CHEMICAL

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

WHEREAS, the Village authorized the submission of competitive bids for light soda carbonate for use by the Department of Public Works, and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on August 3, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the prices submitted have been reviewed for their reasonableness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the bid for light soda carbonate is awarded to, the lowest bidder, Slack Chemical Co., Inc., PO Box 30, 465 South Clinton Street, Carthage, NY 13619 in the amount of \$0.514 per pound.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 129 OF 2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR THE DASNY GRANT VILLAGE HALL BOILER REPLACEMENT 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 Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (“DASNY”) Grant Village Hall Boiler Replacement Project is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable by August 15, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 130 OF 2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE REQUEST FOR BID (RFB), FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE REQUIRED BID PACKAGE FOR THE CDBG GRANT MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT "A" PAVEMENT RESURFACING 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 a Professional Service Request for Bid (RFB), for the preparation of the required Bid Package for the Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) Municipal Parking Lot "A" Pavement Resurfacing Project. is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable by August 29, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 131 OF 2023

AMEND 2023-2024 BUDGET FOR SUFFERN MEMORIAL POOL FURNITURE

WHEREAS, from July 12, 2023, through July 16, 2023, the Village of Suffern hosted the Mayor Curley Cup baseball tournament (the “Event”); and

WHEREAS, the Village received donations totaling \$7,495 for the Event; and

WHEREAS, the Suffern Memorial Pool was in need of pool furniture for the Summer 2023 season at a cost of approximately \$2,200; and

WHEREAS, the 2023-2024 Adopted General Fund Budget did not include the aforesaid estimated revenues or appropriations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023-2024 General Fund budget is amended by increasing Estimated Revenues – Miscellaneous Donations and increasing Appropriations - Recreation Contractual, each in the amount of \$2,200.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 132 OF 2023

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern, in the County of Rockland, New York, was held at the Village Hall, 61 Washington Avenue, Suffern, New York, on August 7, 2023.

There were present: Hon. Michael F. Curley, Mayor; and
Trustees: Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Steven Alpert, Angela Denis-Hogue, and
Frank Hagen
There were absent: None
Also present: Melissa B. Reimer, Village Clerk
* * *

Mayor Curley offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, NEW YORK, ADOPTED AUGUST 7, 2023, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000 TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$500,000 AND APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT FOR SUCH PURPOSE

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, IN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND, NEW YORK, HEREBY RESOLVES (by the favorable vote of not less than two-thirds of all the members of said Board of Trustees) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Village of Suffern, in the County of Rockland, New York (herein called the “Village”), is hereby authorized to issue bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$500,000 pursuant to the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York (herein called the “Law”), to finance the construction of road improvements.

Section 2. The estimated maximum cost thereof, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, is \$500,000 and said amount is hereby appropriated for such purpose. The plan of financing includes the issuance of bonds in a

principal amount not to exceed \$500,000 to finance said appropriation, the levy and collection of taxes on all the taxable real property in the Village to pay the principal of said bonds and the interest thereon as the same shall become due and payable.

Section 3. The following additional matters are hereby determined and declared:

(a) The period of probable usefulness of the object or purpose for which said bonds are authorized to be issued, within the limitations of Section 11.00 a. 20 (c) of the Law, is fifteen (15) years.

(b) The proceeds of the bonds herein authorized, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of said bonds, may be applied to reimburse the Village for expenditures made after the effective date of this resolution for the purpose for which said bonds are authorized. The foregoing statement of intent with respect to reimbursement is made in conformity with Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 of the United States Treasury Department.

(c) The proposed maturity of the bonds authorized by this resolution will exceed five (5) years.

Section 4. Each of the bonds authorized by this resolution and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of said bonds shall contain the recital of validity as prescribed by Section 52.00 of the Law and said bonds, and any notes issued in anticipation of said bonds, shall be general obligations of the Village, payable as to both principal and interest by general tax upon all the taxable real property within the Village. The faith and credit of the Village are hereby irrevocably pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, and any notes issued in anticipation of the sale of said bonds, and provision shall be made annually in the budget of the Village by appropriation for (a) the amortization and redemption of the bonds and any notes in anticipation thereof to mature in such year and (b) the payment of interest to be due and payable in such year.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of this resolution and of the Law and pursuant to the provisions of Section 21.00 of the Law relative to the authorization of the issuance of bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, Section 30.00 relative to the authorization of the issuance of bond anticipation notes and Section 50.00 and Sections 56.00 to 60.00 and 168.00 of the Law, the powers and duties of the Board of Trustees relative to authorizing bond anticipation notes and prescribing the terms, form and contents and as to the sale and issuance of the bonds herein authorized, and of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of said bonds, and the renewals of said bond anticipation notes, and as to the execution of agreements for credit enhancements, are hereby delegated to the Village Treasurer, the chief fiscal officer of the Village.

Section 6. The validity of the bonds authorized by this resolution, and of any notes issued in anticipation of the sale of said bonds, may be contested only if:

(a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village is not authorized to expend money, or

(b) the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of the publication of such resolution are not substantially complied with,

and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

(c) such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Section 7. This bond resolution is subject to a permissive referendum and the Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed, within ten (10) days after the adoption of this resolution, to publish or cause to be published, in full, in the official newspaper of the Village, having a general circulation within said Village, and posted in at least six (6) public places and in

each polling place in the Village, a Notice in substantially the form appearing in Exhibit A hereto.

Section 8. The Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed, after said bond resolution shall take effect, to cause said bond resolution to be published, in summary, in the official newspaper of the Village, having a general circulation within said Village, together with a Notice in substantially the form as provided by Section 81.00 of the Law.

* * *

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

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

The resolution was declared adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 133 OF 2023

CAPITAL PROJECT 2024-001 CONSTRUCTION OF NEW WATER WELL

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has recommended a capital project for the construction and development of a new potable water well (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the Project is estimated to be \$2,100,000 (the “Cost”); and

WHEREAS the Village Board intends to finance the Cost with debt.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Suffern hereby establishes Project 2024-001 Water Well No. 5 in the amount of \$2,100,000 to be financed with debt.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 134 OF 2023

CAPITAL PROJECT 2024-002 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 13

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has recommended a capital project for the construction/reconstruction of various roads and appurtenances thereto (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the Project is estimated to be \$904,131 (the “Cost”); and

WHEREAS the Village Board intends to finance the Cost as follows:

Contribution from Orange & Rockland Utilities	\$144,984
State Aid 2023-2024 CHIPS	163,237
State Aid 2023-2024 PAVE NY	38,500
State Aid 2023-2024 EWR	31,743

State Aid 2023-2024 POP	25,667
Debt	500,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Suffern hereby establishes Project 2024-002 Road Improvements Phase 13 in the amount of \$904,131.

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

Adopted: August 7, 2023

GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Fred Rella advised the Board that the CDBG project for the West Maple Avenue installation of sidewalks and curbs would begin at the last meeting. The budget was \$300 thousand, but it will be under budget. It looks beautiful. It should be done by the end of the week.

Parking Lot A has a \$200 thousand budget. It is going out for bid this month. The project should be done by the end of the year.

The Village Hall Heating System Upgrade Project – the Village Hall was purchased in the 1970’s. The heating system has been patched through the years. The Village received a grant of \$235 thousand. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$335 thousand. The Village is bidding on that project this month.

We had an order in for a Garbage truck for some time now. We received a grant for \$200 thousand and the cost is estimated at \$250 thousand. There have been supply chain issues. We plan on taking delivery of the truck during the first half of 2024.

There are three (3) Environmental Facilities Corporation grants – 1) New well, 2) Backup generators for the water well fields and the Bon Aire pump station, and 3) an Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system and replacement of all water meters in the Village. The applications are due August 11th. We should know by November – December 2023 if we are awarded any of these grants.

Mayor Curley added that a new water meter reading system will help us identify leaks in the system and to alert residents of high usage that may result in a high water bill.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

A MOTION for permission to attend the Rockland County Volunteer Firefighter’s Association Parade on September 9, 2023, in West Haverstraw, New York was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

A MOTION for permission to provide mutual aid to the Cronomer Valley Fire Department (Town of Newburgh) with one engine while they attend the Orange County Volunteer Firefighter’s Association Parade on September 23, 2023, from 9:00 A.M. until 9:00 P.M. In turn, they will provide coverage to the Village of Suffern while the Suffern Fire Department attends the Rockland County Volunteer Firefighter’s Parade on September 9, 2023, was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Loughlin presented the Police Department statistics for the month of June and July 2023. The Police Chief discussed the change to the patrol and staffing of the Police in the downtown area. Chief Loughlin described the “swatting” incidents that occurred during the last week and the work with other Police Departments, FBI, and SWAT Team. “Swatting” is a form of harassment in which attackers try to trick police forces into sending a heavily armed strike force, often a Special Weapons And Tactics (“SWAT”) team, to a victim’s home or business. They identified a 15-year-old person from Florida who was responsible for the first swatting incident. The State of Florida will be prosecuting the teen for the swatting incident and our Village Attorney is looking into going after the family of the teen to recoup some of the funds that were spent because of this situation. The second incident is being investigated by the FBI.

Mayor Curley noted that funds raised from DARE over the past 10-15 years were used to purchase the new K-9 vehicle for Officer Ingui and his canine partner Thorn.

RECREATION

Ms. Cathy Mills reported the following:

- Thursday, August 17 – Movie in the Park – Mario Brothers
- Thursday, August 24 – Senior Picnic – Community Center – 11:30-2pm
- Monday, September 4 – Labor Day – Pool Closes for the season
- Saturday, September 9 – Mayor Fun Day at the Pool
- Monday, September 11 – 9-11 Ceremony – 7pm
- Saturday, September 30 – Suffern Day

PUBLIC COMMENT (limited to 4 minutes per speaker)

A MOTION to open the public comment period was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Denis-Hogue, with all in favor.

Patsy Wooters – 19 Mansfield Place – Class of 1963 Suffern High School is having their 60th High School Reunion and thanked the Mayor and Board for allowing them to use the Village Hall auditorium to watch a film. The Village Historian, Craig Long, will show the 1928 slide show of Suffern and the Construction of the Thruway. She invited all to join them in enjoying the film.

She asked that the Village consider getting pavement that has a high solar reflective index when re-paving the Village roads and parking lots, as high reflective pavement reduces heat and is good for the environment. We should also encourage people to use pale colored shingles on their homes using materials with a high reflective index. Mayor Curley said that he will discuss it with Charles Sawicki.

Brad Trusawicz – 16 Utopian - Complained about downtown traffic (i.e., double parking, traffic, etc.) and the traffic backups on Orange Avenue, Lafayette Avenue, and Route 202 on Friday afternoons and evenings. He also asked if there was an ordinance regarding bicycles riding on the sidewalks. He said that it is a public safety issue. The bicyclists are adults not children. He also mentioned that there are only four (4) handicap spaces in the whole downtown area.

Mayor Curley answered that there is little the Village can do about the Friday afternoon/evening traffic. It is caused by people going upstate for the weekend, many of which are directed by their

Global Positioning Service (GPS) devices to take the Village roads. It is also caused by the more complicated traffic lights with various timings for signaling left and right turns or going straight. For every signal to turn, drivers are required to wait while the signal changes. It comes down to a matter of safer crossroads and intersections vs time in traffic.

Mayor Curley noted that it is illegal to ride a bicycle on a sidewalk. Bicycles should only be ridden on streets following the laws and regulations. The Mayor added that the police will take action if they witness someone riding a bike on a sidewalk, but it comes down to a matter of timing to catch the person. Also, bail reform changed how police can fight crime, and those who are directed to go to court often ignore the summons.

Mr. Giannettino – 2 Memorial Drive – Asked about the timing of lights.

Mayor Curley agreed with Mr. Giannettino that the timing of the lights needs to change. He has been in touch with the NYS Department of Transportation.

Mr. Giannettino mentioned that the rental law includes yearly fire inspection for any rental property. The Village must maintain constant control of information.

The Mayor told Mr. Giannettino that that is indeed the case. The inspection is a must. He told him to please come to the public hearing since he was on the Planning Board for so many years.

Mr. Giannettino asked about the list of roads to be paved. He asked about Memorial Drive. He said that has not been paved in years.

Mayor Curley stated that the County of Rockland has promised a \$1 million grant for Memorial Drive. That is not enough. He said that FEMA has been to Memorial Drive but the federal government takes a very long time. The Mayor noted that a decision will have to be made to reconstruct and open the road, or close the road and make it a park.

A MOTION to close the public comment was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

TREASURER

Treasurer Michael Genito explained that there was a need for pool furniture. As a result of the Mayor Curley Cup Baseball Tournament, which raised over \$7 thousand, the Village was able to purchase pool furniture for a total cost of approximately \$2,200. This is a resolution to amend the budget to purchase the furniture and recognize the revenue.

Mayor Curley said that he wants to purchase more garbage cans with the other money collected from the Mayor Curley Cup Funds.

The next resolution is a bond resolution. Mr. Genito explained that the Village authorizes bonds in an amount that is estimated to be needed, but only issues bonds for the amount actually needed to finance the project or purpose.

The last two resolutions are establishing capital projects for 1) Water Well and 2) Road Improvements for 2024.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR A PERSONNEL MATTER - POLICE

A motion to enter executive session for a personnel matter - Police was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

Mayor Curley announced that there will be no further resolutions passed and no votes will be cast after the executive session.

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

TRUSTEES

Mr. Hagen – Asked if it was possible to get reimbursed for the swatting incidents by suing the family for the approximately \$90,000 cost.

Mayor Curley said that he already addressed this earlier in the meeting. We have not calculated the cost for either swatting incident. As noted earlier in the meeting, the Village will try to get Family Court in Orange County, Florida to impose some reimbursement for cost of this incident, and Village Attorney Terry Rice is looking into it and filing an action for Emergency Service since it was a malicious intent.

Mr. Hagen also mention that today was “Purple Heart Day.” Please recognize all people who have earned Purple Hearts since the Civil War.

Mayor Curley agreed with Mr. Hagen. He thanked all Purple Heart recipients for their sacrifice for all of us to have the freedoms that we all have today.

MAYOR

Mayor Curley thanked the Chief for his leadership and all the men and women of the Suffern Police Department. We hope that these swatting events do not continue. As we heard, bicycles are a concern on our sidewalks. We are working on quality of life. The Chief has put more part-time officers downtown walking, shifted a Lieutenant to work nights, changed detective hours to include Saturdays.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 P.M. was made by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hagen, with all in favor.

Respectfully,

Melissa B. Reimer, CPA
Village Clerk