



**VILLAGE OF SUFFERN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Michael F. Curley, Mayor
Steven Alpert, Trustee
Clarke Osborn, Trustee
Angela Denis-Hogue, Trustee
Terry Rice, Village Attorney
Melissa B. Reimer, Village Clerk
Michael A. Genito, Village Treasurer

Absent: Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Deputy Mayor

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Curley called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for all the veterans all over the world protecting our freedoms and giving us the things we have today.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 15, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION To Approve February 5, 2024, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes was moved by Trustee Osborn, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 027 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PROMOTE SGT. WILLIAM SIMURRA TO THE RANK OF DETECTIVE SERGEANT

RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorizes the Mayor to promote Sgt. William Simurra to the rank of Detective Sergeant effective March 5, 2024.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

SET PUBLIC HEARINGS

RESOLUTION NO. 028 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 254, SECTION 254-29 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF

SUFFERN REGULATING PARKING PERMITS REQUIRED IN THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes a Public Hearing to be held on April 15, 2024, at 7:03 P.M., to consider a local law amending Chapter 254, Section 254-29 of the Code of the Village of Suffern regulating Parking Permits Required in the Village of Suffern.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 029 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH SEWER RENTS AND WATER RATES FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR

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 a public hearing is hereby scheduled for April 15, 2024, at 7:05 P.M. on a proposed a Local Law amending section 220-44 of the Code of the Village of Suffern to establish sewer rents for the 2024-25 fiscal year and amending section 261-15 of the Code of the Village of Suffern to establish water rates for the 2024-2025 physical year.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 030 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE 2024-2025 TENTATIVE BUDGET

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Village Law Section 5-508 (3), a public hearing will be held on April 15, 2024, at 7:10 P.M., by the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees at Village Hall, located at 61 Washington Avenue, Suffern, New York, to consider the adoption of the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget for the Village of Suffern for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2024, and ending May 31, 2025.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

MOTION – To Open the Public Hearing to Consider a local law to amend the Village Code by enacting a new Chapter entitled “Procurement: Best Value Bid Awards” was moved by Trustee Hogue, seconded by Trustee Osborn with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Rice explained the reason for the public hearing. He stated that general municipal law requires when purchase or service contracts exceed a certain amount of money, they have to be bid on and awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. There is an option to this in which bids can be evaluated under the “Best Value Method.” One of the biggest sources for purchasing equipment and varies other materials is a company called Sourcewell. Sourcewell is actually a division of the State of Minnesota. Municipalities are allowed to purchase through other bids made by other municipal or State entities, if they comply with the New York State bidding statutes. Sourcewell does not award

the lowest responsible bidder, but they evaluate bids based on the Best Value Method. They get good prices because they bid nationally. To take advantage of the bids from Sourcewell or any other entity, not at the lowest responsible bidder, but also based on analysis of the various factors that constitute “Best Value,” the Village needs to adopt a local law. The Village would have the option of lowest responsible bidder or best value. It opens an array of other sources to make purchases from.

No comments were made by the public.

MOTION – To Close the Public Hearing to Consider a local law to amend the Village Code by enacting a new Chapter entitled “Procurement: Best Value Bid Awards” was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

**RESOLUTION NO. 031 OF 2024
ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2024, AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES TO AWARD PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND CONTRACTS FOR
SERVICES SUBJECT TO COMPETITIVE BIDDING PURSUANT TO GENERAL
MUNICIPAL LAW § 103 ON THE BASIS OF EITHER THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE
BIDDER OR THE BEST VALUE STANDARD**

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

WHEREAS, § 103 of the General Municipal Law authorizes municipalities to adopt a local law which would provide authority for the Board of Trustees, in its discretion, to award certain purchase contracts and contracts for services that are subject to competitive bidding under General Municipal Law §103 based on the "lowest responsible bidder" or "best value" as defined in New York State Finance Law §163; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees finds that such authorization will enable the Village to make purchases and award service contracts in a manner that will best serve the interests of the taxpayers and residents of the Village of Suffern.; and

WHEREAS, a notice of the public hearing on said local to be held on March 4, 2024, was timely published in the Journal News on February 29, 2024, and posted in six public places; and

WHEREAS, the action is a Type II action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on March 4, 2024, at which time the public had an opportunity to comment on the proposed local law and the hearing was closed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees finds that all procedural requirements for the adoption of said local law have been satisfied; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is in the overall public interest of the Village of Suffern to adopt said local law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Local Law No. 1 of 2024, “authorizing the Board of Trustees to award purchase contracts and contracts for services subject to competitive bidding pursuant to General Municipal Law § 103 on the basis of either the lowers responsible bidder or the best value standard” is hereby adopted.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

**RESOLUTION NO. 032 of 2024
AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK TO ISSUE ADMINISTRATIVE PERMITS
FOR OUTDOOR DINING ON VILLAGE SIDEWALKS AND ON PARKING AREAS
LOCATED ON OR ADJACENT TO A FULL-SERVICE RESTAURANT IN THE
VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

WHEREAS, § 235-7 of the Village Code prohibits the owners and/or occupants of property located within the Village from placing any encumbrances and/or obstructions on sidewalks adjoining their properties and

WHEREAS, § 266-60 of the Zoning Law requires site plan approval for, among other things, “A change in the off-street parking standards for a use as specified in § 266-22, Schedule of General Use Requirements”, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has had requests from certain full-service restaurant operators within the Village to permit the placement of tables and chairs outside of their establishments, as well as seasonal outdoor planters and containers, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board finds that the use of the Village sidewalks adjacent to and in front of such full-service restaurants by the owners/operators of existing full service restaurants and the use of existing parking areas located on the property or adjacent to that of the owner/operator of an existing full service restaurant for the placement of tables and chairs, and/or seasonal outdoor planters and containers, would be in the interests of the residents of the Village and visitors to the Village to enhance their dining experience and the overall appearance of the Village, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board is desirous of permitting the placement of such items under certain conditions and pursuant to a permit to be issued by the Village Clerk, and

WHEREAS, the Village Clerk’s Office has prepared a proposed permit application for persons or businesses interested in applying for a permit for the placement of such items on the sidewalk under certain conditions.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Village of Suffern hereby authorizes the Village Clerk to issue Administrative permits for Outdoor Tables and Chairs, and Outdoor Planters and Containers, on Village sidewalks in front of and adjacent to existing full service restaurants and on existing parking areas located on the property or adjacent to that of the owner/operator of an existing full service restaurant based upon the application for permit and the rules as set forth therein, in the form annexed hereto and incorporated by reference herein, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for sidewalk seating, the building in which the permitted business operates must share a common boundary line with a public sidewalk in the business district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the outdoor table and chair seating area shall allow a minimum five (5) foot wide unobstructed pedestrian corridor at all times, and a minimum clearance of five (5) feet must be maintained between the outdoor table and chair seating area in use and the edge of driveways, alleys, and handicapped ramps; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the occupancy of an outdoor sidewalk table and chair seating area will be considered on a case-by-case basis but shall not exceed eight (8) people. Upon the written request of the applicant, however, seating exceeding eight (8) people may be permitted upon the written request of the Applicant with the approval of the Village Board of Trustees following evaluation and recommendations of the Building Department. The maximum occupancy permitted in the outdoor table and chair seating area shall be posted on the exterior of the building in a conspicuous place. The permit holder shall

ensure that the number of occupants in the outdoor sidewalk table and chair seating area does not exceed the posted limit at any time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the maximum number of tables and seats authorized on a permitted parking area shall be determined by the Village Clerk upon consultation with the Building Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing may be permanently affixed to a sidewalk or to other public property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the applicant for a permit shall not be required to provide a formal site plan application to the Planning Board but must provide a sketch plan for its proposed use of the sidewalk or existing parking areas located on the property or adjacent to that of the owner/operator for Outdoor Tables and Chairs, and/or Outdoor Planters and Containers, subject to review and approval by the Village Department of Public Works and the Village Building Department, which sketch plan, upon approval by the Village Clerk and issuance of the permit, shall be followed by the applicant, otherwise being subject to revocation of any permit issued based thereon, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if located on a parking lot on adjacent property, the applicant will provide a lease, license agreement or written authorization signed by the owner of such adjacent property authorizing such use for the period in question, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the permit holder shall agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Village, and provide insurance coverage to the Village of Suffern in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, and provide proof that the Village of Suffern is a named but non-contributory insured under the permit holder's policy of insurance, proof of same to be required and provided to the Village prior to the issuance of any permit, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all permit holders are required to comply with all applicable State, County and Village laws and regulations, including but not limited to those of the State Liquor Authority and New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, and that any permit issued hereunder is subject to immediate revocation for any violation of the same, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any person or entity who otherwise places tables, chairs, planters, containers or any other object on or in the sidewalk or on existing parking areas located on the property or adjacent to that of the owner/operator shall be subject to the provisions of Village Code Section 235, without a permit, or after having a permit revoked, shall be subject to the enforcement and penalty provisions of Village Code Section 235, and any other remedy and sanction available to the Village, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any permits issued pursuant hereto, shall be revocable at the discretion of the Village Board, upon a finding that the permit holder has violated the terms of its permit, or that the placement or use of Outdoor Tables and Chairs and/or Outdoor Planters/Containers at a particular location are a nuisance or disturbance, or otherwise negatively impact upon the health, safety and welfare of the community, and that upon such revocation, the applicant and any other interested parties may be given an opportunity to be heard by the Village Board in an effort to have such permit reinstated upon such conditions as the Village Board shall deem just and appropriate under the circumstances, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall authorize the issuance of Permits by the Village Clerk for a period of one term, from March 15 through October 31 of each year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all of the terms and conditions of the permit application and permit annexed hereto are incorporated by reference herein and shall be enforceable by the Village with respect to the issuance of said permits.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Alpert and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Mayor Curley abstained, and Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

Adopted: March 4, 2024

Mayor Curley explained that there was a two-family house and now they would like to put a garage there with three bays. The Board of Trustees is sending it to the Planning and Zoning Boards for their due diligence. The Village Planner will also be reviewing the project and giving input.

RESOLUTION NO. 033 OF 2024

REQUIRING AN ESCROW DEPOSIT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 267 OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN FOR REVIEW OF THE ROUTE 202 AUTO BODY APPLICATION

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

WHEREAS, an application has been received by the Board of Trustees for a special permit for Route 202 Auto Body, 14 Wayne Avenue, to operate an auto repair facility; and

WHEREAS, issues exist with respect to parking, planning concerns and compliance with the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code with respect to the application; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 267 of the Code of the Village of Suffern provides a mechanism whereby the Village of Suffern is reimbursed for the reasonable and customary cost of reasonably required professional review and consultation services in the review of zoning and planning applications; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees deems it advisable to utilize the services of its planning/engineering consultants, Nelson Pope and Nelson Pope Voohris for review of such issues; and

WHEREAS, § 267-3(B) of the Village Code requires that the Board obtain a written estimate for an initial deposit of escrow fees for such review and the Board has received such an initial estimate in the amount of \$2,500; and

WHEREAS § 266-27(B) of the Zoning Law requires that application for special permits be referred to the Village of Suffern Planning Board for its review and recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees desires that all proceedings relating to the State Environmental Quality Review Act be undertaken by the Planning Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Board of Trustees determines that the Applicant shall pay to the Village of Suffern \$2,500 to be held in escrow and to be used to pay the reasonable fees of Nelson Pope and Nelson Pope Voohris for review of the subject application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no further review or consideration of the application will be undertaken until such escrow funds are received by the Village Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the application is referred to the Village of Suffern Planning Board for its review and recommendation with respect to the special permit and for any proceedings pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

Mr. Rice explained that Danina’s Restaurant is asking for increased seating in the parking lot next to their restaurant. When a restaurant is establishing additional seats there is a parking requirement under the zoning law. In order to satisfy that is, one option is for the applicant to make an application to the Board of Trustees to accept money in lieu of the parking requirement. The theory being that the Village can collect money from people that cannot meet the parking requirement and at some point, there would be enough money to create additional parking opportunities. In this instance they applied to the Board of Trustees to set a money amount in lieu of parking, but the planning consultant needs to review the various aspects of this application. The Board needs to set an escrow of \$2,500 to review the application.

**RESOLUTION NO. 034 OF 2024
REQUIRING AN ESCROW DEPOSIT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 267 OF THE CODE
OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN FOR REVIEW OF THE DANINA RESTAURANT
APPLICATION**

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

WHEREAS, an application has been received by the Board of Trustees requesting that the Board of Trustees determine a fee in-lieu of providing required parking for Danina Restaurant, 1 Lafayette Avenue, pursuant to 266-38B of the Zoning Law; and

WHEREAS, issues exist with respect to parking, planning concerns and compliance with the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code with respect to the application; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 267 of the Code of the Village of Suffern provides a mechanism whereby the Village of Suffern is reimbursed for the reasonable and customary cost of reasonably required professional review and consultation services in the review of zoning and planning applications; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees deems it advisable to utilize the services of its planning/engineering consultants, Nelson Pope and Nelson Pope Voohris for review of such issues; and

WHEREAS, § 267-3(B) of the Village Code requires that the Board obtain a written estimate for an initial deposit of escrow fees for such review and the Board has received such an initial estimate in the amount of \$2,500.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Board of Trustees determines that the Applicant shall pay to the Village of Suffern \$2,500 to be held in escrow and to be used to pay the reasonable fees of Nelson Pope and Nelson Pope Voohris for review of the subject application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no further review or consideration of the application will be undertaken until such escrow funds are received by the Village Clerk.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

**RESOLUTION NO. 035 OF 2024
A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND COVERAGE UNDER THE NYS VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTERS BENEFIT LAW TO AUTHORIZE VILLAGE FIREFIGHTERS WHO
PARTICIPATE IN ROCKLAND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, members of the Suffern Fire Department serve as members of Rockland County Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Suffern desires to extend Volunteer Firefighter Benefits to active-duty Volunteer Firefighters while participating in Rockland County Emergency Services.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board hereby extends coverage to Frank Trumbetti as a member of the Hazardous Materials Team for Rockland County and under the NYS Volunteer Firefighters Benefit Law is authorized as an active volunteer Village firefighter when such firefighter participates in Rockland County Emergency Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Suffern Fire Chief is authorized to sign the letter from the Office of Fire and Emergency Services authorizing Frank Trumbetti to participate in Rockland County Emergency Services activities.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Osborn, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.
Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 036 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF APPLICATION NO. 18 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. 18 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$47,992.00 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 Osborn and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.
Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 037 OF 2024

AWARDING THE BID FOR A NEW FORD F350 REGULAR CAB 4X4 PICKUP TRUCK WITH ATTACHED UTILITY BODY TO RC LACY, INC.

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees authorized the submission of competitive bids for a new Ford F350 Regular Cab 4x4 Pickup Truck with Utility Body; and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on February 15, 2024; and

WHEREAS, RC Lacy, Inc. submitted the lowest bid of \$63,600.00; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has investigated the qualifications, capacity, capability, and history of RC Lacy, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the bid for a new Ford F350 Regular Cab 4x4 Pickup Truck with Utility Body is awarded to RC Lacy, Inc., 25 Maple Avenue, Catskill, NY 12414 in the amount of \$63,600.00, subject to entering into a contract acceptable to the Village Attorney in form and substance.

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Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 038 OF 2024

AWARDING THE BID FOR A NEW FORD F600 REGULAR CAB 4X4 DUMP BODY TO RC LACY, INC.

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees authorized the submission of competitive bids for a new Ford F600 Regular Cab 4x4 Dump Body; and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on February 15, 2024; and

WHEREAS, RC Lacy, Inc. submitted the lowest bid of \$73,385.00; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has investigated the qualifications, capacity, capability, and history of RC Lacy, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the bid for a new Ford F600 Regular Cab 4x4 Dump Body is awarded to RC Lacy, Inc., 25 Maple Avenue, Catskill, NY 12414 in the amount of \$73,385.00, subject to entering into a contract acceptable to the Village Attorney in form and substance.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 039 OF 2024

AWARDING THE BID FOR A NEW SUB COMPACT TRACTOR WITH SNOW BLOWER, BLADE, MOWER DECK, CAB HEATER PACKAGE AND REAR WHEEL WEIGHTS TO ARGENTO & SONS, INC.

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees authorized the submission of competitive bids for a new Sub Compact Tractor with Snow Blower, Blade, Mower Deck, Cab Heater Package and Rear Wheel Weights; and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on February 15, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Argento & Sons, Inc. submitted the lowest bid of \$30,306.07; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has investigated the qualifications, capacity, capability, and history of Argento & Sons, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the bid for a new Sub Compact Tractor with Snow Blower, Blade, Mower Deck, Cab Heater Package and Rear Wheel Weights is awarded to Argento & Sons, Inc., 1 Prospect Avenue, White Plains, NY 10607 in the amount of \$30,306.07, subject to entering into a contract acceptable to the Village Attorney in form and substance.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 040 OF 2024

AWARDING THE BID FOR THE GAC FILTRATION REHABILITATION PROJECT TO TAM ENTERPRISES

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees authorized the submission of competitive bids for the GAC Filtration Rehabilitation Project; and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on February 27, 2024; and

WHEREAS, TAM Enterprises submitted the lowest bid of \$680,102.00; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Public Works has investigated the qualifications, capacity, capability, and history of TAM Enterprises.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the bid for the GAC Filtration Rehabilitation Project is awarded to TAM

Enterprises, 114 Hartley Road, Goshen NY 10924 in the amount of \$680,102.00, subject to entering into a contract acceptable to the Village Attorney in form and substance.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 041 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR WATER AND WWTP DEPARTMENT CHEMICALS

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 the solicitation of formal bids for Water and WWTP Department Chemicals is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable on March 25, 2024, at 2:30 P.M.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 042 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR VILLAGE OF SUFFERN REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION CONTAINER DISTRICT AREA

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes Charles Sawicki to solicit formal bids for the refuse and recycling collection container district area with bids due March 25, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., subject to the review of all required documents by the Village Attorney.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 043 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN BON AIRE PUMP STATION PUMP AND MOTOR REPLACEMENT

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 the solicitation of formal bids for the Bon Aire Pump Station Pump and Motor Replacement is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable on March 27, 2024, at 3:00 P.M.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 044 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING JOSEPH HUNT TO ATTEND THE CSEA CONFERENCE FOR PEER TRAINER REFRESHER COURSE ON MARCH 25-28, 2024, IN SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Suffern Board of Trustees hereby authorizes Joseph Hunt to attend the CSEA Conference for Peer Trainer Refresher Course, March 25-28, 2024, in Saratoga Springs, NY at no cost to the Village.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 045 OF 2024

APPOINTING WILLIAM CONKLIN AS LABORER

RESOLVED, Mayor Michael F. Curley hereby appoints, William Conklin to the vacant position of Laborer in the Street and Refuse Department, effective March 6, 2024, at a pay rate of \$18.85 per hour and said appointment is hereby confirmed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 046 OF 2024

APPOINTING VITO DEJESUS AS LABORER

RESOLVED, Mayor Michael F. Curley hereby appoints, Vito DeJesus to the vacant position of Laborer in the Street and Refuse Department, effective March 6, 2024, at a pay rate of \$18.85 per hour and said appointment is hereby confirmed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 047 OF 2024

AMEND 2023-2024 FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

RESOLVED, that the Village Treasurer is authorized to amend the 2023-2024 General Fund Budget by transferring \$2,000 from Fire Department Contractual Costs A3410.4 to Fire Department Equipment A3410.2 for the purchase of a Positive Pressure Ventilation Fan.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 048 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN NETWORK WIRING AGREEMENT

WHEREAS the current telephone and computer network wiring in Village Hall is outdated and in need of replacement; and

WHEREAS the nature of the work to be performed is that of professional services requiring specialized skills, training, and experience; and

WHEREAS Acuative, with offices located at 8237 Dow Circle, Strongsville, Ohio 44136 (“Acuative”) has submitted a proposal to provide and install all the materials necessary to complete the installation of new telephone and computer network wiring in Village Hall at an estimated cost of \$40,628; and

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2021, the Village Board adopted Resolution 214 of 2021, establishing ARPA 21 Project Network Upgrades for Village Buildings to finance the cost of this project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Acuative, subject to review and approval as to form and content by the Village Attorney.

A motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Trustee Hogue and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.
Adopted March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 049 OF 2024
AMEND 2023-2024 BUDGET FOR PUMP STATION REPAIRS

WHEREAS the Superintendent of Public Works has advised that the Bon Aire Water System Pump Station is over 50 years old and is in immediate need of a new pump and motor at an estimated cost of \$65,000; and

WHEREAS there is \$135,000 currently available in the 2023-2024 Water Fund Contingent Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Suffern Village Board authorizes the transfer of \$65,000 from the Water Fund Contingent Account to Water Fund Source of Supply Contractual.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 050 OF 2024
AMEND 2023-2024 BUDGET FOR SEWER PLANT CHEMICALS

WHEREAS the cost of wastewater treatment plant chemicals for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2024, significantly exceeds the estimated costs developed for the 2023-2024 Sewer Fund Wastewater Treatment Plant budget by approximately \$45,000; and

WHEREAS there is \$150,000 currently available in the 2023-2024 Sewer Fund Contingent Account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Suffern Village Board authorizes the transfer of \$45,000 from the Sewer Fund Contingent Account to Sewer Fund Wastewater Treatment Plant Contractual.

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

Adopted: March 4, 2023

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Loughlin presented the Police Department statistics for the month of February 2024. The Police Department has been engaged in an initiative in the downtown area in order to curtail double parking and illegal U-turns. These both contribute to potentially dangerous traffic conditions. The PD has been assigning more officers to the enforcement of this area and the officers have been concentrating on these types of violations. The police have issued numerous warnings and citations to violators and will continue to do so. The Chief has met with DPW Charles Sawicki and Joe Hunt for changing signage in the area at the Mayor's request.

GRANTS

Mayor Curley introduced Fred Rella the Village Grant Writer and explained what Mr. Rella does for the Village.

Mr. Fred Rella congratulated Detective Sgt. William Simurra.

Applied for an Assistance to Firefighter Grant, which is a federal FEMA grant. This grant is a national grant, and we are competing nationally for the grant money. The Village applied for self-contained breathing apparatuses. These are face masks, harnesses, and two cylinders that lay on the firefighters' back. It allows the firefighter to breathe in an environment that is detrimental. The cost of 33 of these pieces of equipment is estimated at \$396 thousand.

2023 Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") – Ed Fagen Drive Project – paving of Ed Fagen Drive. This is the road that leads into the Suffern Ballfields all the way to the Department of Public Works. The project has a cost of \$150 thousand and \$10 thousand will be the Village portion. \$140 thousand will be from the CDBG.

2024 CDBG – initial application was accepted for the paving of West Park Place and West Meadow to West Maple Avenue. Mr. Rella said that they required an initial application, which they just approved. Now he has to submit the application for the grant.

The Archival Grant that is being prepared is through the New York State Archives. We are applying for a grant for approximately \$80,000 for the Village birth and death records from 1896 – 1975 and 2023. These records are in paper form. The Village has already digitized the birth and death records from 1976-2022.

Mayor Curley asked Fred Rella to explain how the CDBG grants work and how they are limited to certain areas of the Village.

Mr. Rella explained how the CDBG goes by income low to moderate income in the Village. So, it must be applied for and spent in a certain area of the village every year. The income is according to the US Census (every 10 years). Only one area in the Village that qualifies for the CDBG grant and that is in the West Ward. A low to moderate income in the Village of Suffern is about \$90,000 a year.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Curley thanked Fire Chief Kaufer for his service as chief and waking up as we all sleep to keep us safe and protected.

Fire Chief Kaufer presented the one agenda item.

RECREATION

Ms. Cathy Mills reported the following:

- **DARE Dance** – Friday, March 8th – 7-9pm – Community Center
- **Not Just Battery Saturday** – Saturday, March 9th – 10am- 1pm – Village Hall
- **Egg Hunt** – Saturday, March 23rd – 11am – Gazebo Lawn

Concert Dates: (Time is 7pm at the Gazebo. Rain or shine)

- Friday, June 7 – Reflections, The Big Band
- Friday, June 28 – Seeing Red
- Thursday, July 11 – 8th Grade Science

- Thursday, July 18 – Kurt Gallagher – Kids Concert
- Thursday, July 25 – Reflections, The Big Band

PUBLIC COMMENT (limited to 4 minutes per speaker)

A MOTION to open the public comment period was made by Trustee Osborn and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

Lois Tschudy – 558 Kensico Court – Said that she was told that the Mayor was aware about what was going on Prairie Avenue “right next door to Billy Conklin’s house.” She stated that there is a house there that has a lot of people coming in and out. She said that there is a “new Suffern website” that is out there that something was said about people living there putting up with residents from that house urinating, public urination. She said, “She told me that you know about it. I want to know if you know about it and what you are going to do about it.”

Mayor Curley answered, “Just so that I understand this...who told you I know about what?”

Ms. Tschudy did not remember the woman’s name, but the website is the “New and Improved Suffern” website. She said, “She put it up today and...I asked her to come tonight...I forget what her name is, but she said that her house...you know where Billy Conkin’s house is?”

Mayor Curley answered that he did.

Ms. Tschudy said that it was the house right next door.

Mayor Curley said that he knows the house and it was sold.

Ms. Tschudy said that the house was sold and that there are people coming in and out all the time...different people. Ms. Tschudy said, “Her kids can’t go in the backyard. The residents are catcalling her children, there are beer cans, public urination this week.”

Mayor Curley asked Ms. Tschudy if she knows if the woman called the police about this matter.

She said that she did not know if she called the police. She said that she just spoke to her on Facebook and commented and “Told her she should come to the meeting tonight and she said that she couldn’t make the meeting.”

The Mayor said that he believes the house in question is the house on the other side of the one Ms. Tschudy mentioned. He spoke to Ms. Bosack of 43 Prairie Avenue and so did Trustee Osborn. Mayor Curley said that the code enforcers went there a while ago and they were building a faux wall. They gave them a violation and they cured the violation. Mayor Curley never heard from Ms. Bosack again. He said, “I never heard about anyone urinating on trees or not.”

Ms. Tschudy interrupted and said that she put it up on that website today.

Mayor Curley said that he is not arguing that didn’t happen. They must call the police then. He said that he begs people to call the police and they will come.

Ms. Tschudy said that she agreed.

Ms. Tschudy said that according to Ms. Bosack and other people living on the block, people are in and out all the time. She claims that it is very transient, and rooms are being rented.

Mayor Curley said that he does not know that. Code enforcers have gone there today, and code enforcers have gone there before. The Mayor told Ms. Tschudy that if she drove by right now, there would be nothing there.

Mayor Curley said that he actually sent two people there today. He sent Joe Hunt to visit the property, 45 Prairie Avenue, and then later in the day sent the code enforcer to visit the property. The code enforcer tried to gain entry by knocking on the door, but no one was home. Both saw nothing wrong from the outside. He said, "We must see it."

Mayor Curley said that if someone sees someone urinating, it's not good. No one wants to see that. We must call the police. Even if it wasn't right then, if they call the police, we have a shot of finding out who it was.

The Mayor called Chief Loughlin to the podium. Chief Loughlin was aware of the Bosack post on Facebook. He said that she has never called the police. There have been zero police reports from this area regarding this. Chief Loughlin said that Facebook and social media are great ways to get the word out to everyone, but that is not helping enforce the law.

We need people to see something, say something. Call the police. Get a description of the person, get the direction of where the person went, all of that is helpful to the police. The response time of the Suffern Police is less than two minutes. An officer will be there.

Ms. Tschudy interrupted and said to the Chief, "You saw what she put up."

Chief Loughlin responded, "I saw what she put up, but she never reported it to the Police Department. Unfortunately, we can't be everywhere all the time. We rely on people to call when they are seeing these things."

Mayor Curley said that we want her to call. This is a constant fight, and we want people to call.

Ms. Tschudy said that she would tell her.

Mayor Curley said that we recognized that double parking was an issue and the Chief recognized that we needed to walk downtown. The Mayor said that just the night before he watched Sgt. Adams and Office Dunn walk all around downtown and stated that this cannot be done every time, but if you call the police will be there. The Chief has put out a standing operation for the downtown area. He said that they cannot stop every "knucklehead" or selfish person.

That is why he is very careful with parking with businesses in the Village. He believes that the Village made drastic mistakes over many years, and he is trying to hold off and correct those mistakes now. It is not easy.

Mayor Curley said that someone came and approached him and Mr. Rice with an apartment building within the Village. Mr. Rice and the Mayor told the developers, that they must supply two spots per unit or nothing. Another building on Orange Avenue was developed with 1.25 spots per unit. It is ridiculous and we cannot let anyone come into Suffern to make their business without a cost or supply parking. Mayor Curley stated that there should be thousands, if not millions of dollars in the account to create more parking for the Village. We should have gotten “Money in Lieu of Parking.” This Board has changed that law now and we are holding ourselves responsible to ensure we get those monies.

We need strong enforcement. We all make mistakes, because we are human. Mayor Curley said that he goes out to neighborhoods at all times and talks to residents about what they see in their neighborhoods and looks are things himself. He said that he is not afraid to talk to people or go out into the Village to look at things. He and Mr. Crotty, at 6:30 am, picked up garbage together.

Ms. Tschudy said that she would tell Ms. Bosack to reach out to the Mayor and call the Police. She said that she had invited her to come to the meeting tonight.

Mayor Curley said again for Ms. Bosack to call the Police if she sees something. Going on Facebook is fine, but calling the Police is more important. We cannot help you if you don't call us.

The Mayor explained that the law defines group homes a certain way. You don't have to be related and you can live in a home as a family. As long as they pay their bills together, as long as they eat dinner together every once in a while, then, by law, they are a family. There was an appellate division decision. There is nothing we can do about it.

The Rental Registry is going to be going out. We will require every person who has a rental to inform us. If not, there will be fines, penalties, and possibly jail time. It is not easy with the courts these days.

The Chief of Police, the Lieutenants, and every Police Officer is hampered because they go and arrest someone and then by law, they can't give them bail and they are right back out. The Chief of Police now gives tickets for public intoxication. Bail reform must be changed 100%. The spirit of bail reform, in the Mayor's opinion, was to not have someone sit in jail for a year because they did not have \$300 for bail. On the other hand, if you are going to punch my mother one day, get out of jail to punch someone else's mother the next day, that is not right and that does not work. We are hampered and our hands are tied.

We issued our first arrest warrant for someone who did not come to court for house violations. Mayor Curley said that he will treat every single person in this Village the same. That is what will keep us out of trouble and that is the right thing to do. Everyone gets treated the same and the law applies to everyone equally.

Ms. Tschudy thanked the Mayor.

Sarah Horn – 23 Yorkshire Drive – Thank the Board for coming to a resolution with Little League. She said that she is looking forward to opening day.

Mayor Curley interrupted Ms. Horn and said that he knew why she was here and told her that Charles Sawicki was working on the water problem on her street.

Ms. Horn said yes, but that she did have another question before that. She asked about the “grant for the parks.” She said that there was a park on Yorkshire Drive, it is not the Dare Park, but another park. She said that it is another park, up the road on the other side of the street. She said that it was in complete disarray. There are no lights there and she is not sure if it is on the Village’s list to be worked on.

Mayor Curley asked Cathy Mills if that park was in the Village or Ramapo.

Cathy Mills said that it was within the Town of Ramapo.

Ms. Horn asked if it was indeed within the Town of Ramapo.

Mr. Joe Hunt was talking from the audience and Mayor Curley asked him to come up to the microphone. Mr. Hunt said that it was indeed the Village of Suffern’s park. The park is on Yorkshire halfway up to the parking lot where the Town of Ramapo park starts.

Mayor Curley said that he knows which park Cathy Mills thought it was and that one was in the Town.

Mr. Hunt said that this park is not in great shape and does not have lights. The Mayor asked if Mr. Hunt ever discussed this with Cathy Mills. Mr. Hunt said that they did not.

Ms. Horn said that there are a number of children in the area of that park, but the park is inhabitable (sic). She was hoping that it would be part of the “grant” process of the parks that were going to get fixed up.

Mayor Curley said that they will have Cathy Mills go over there and review it.

Ms. Horn asked about the water issue. Mayor Curley said that Charles Sawicki is working on it with her neighbor. Ms. Horn mentioned that in code 261-18, it states that Public Works has the ability to discontinue the water service if it is an excessive amount of wastewater that is happening. Ms. Horn admitted that she doesn’t know all the codes, rules, and laws, but Public Works has the ability to turn off the water service.

Mayor Curley asked if it was water from their house or was it ground water.

Ms. Horn said that it was coming from their house therefore we should shut the water off.

Mayor Curley asked if it was public water or is it something else.

Ms. Horn said that she wasn’t sure.

Mr. Charles Sawicki was called up to speak at the microphone. This property, Mr. Sawicki stated that, has a sump pump in their basement. It is essentially stormwater or groundwater that the property owner is pumping out of his basement. Mr. Sawicki said that he was there the other

day, and no water was coming out of the pump. There was no running water and there was no standing water.

Spoke to the property owner and he is in the midst of talking to contractors and spoke to the Building Inspector regarding permits. He plans on putting in a drywell to accumulate or store that water and eliminate any issue from his sump pump.

The slope of the block is so that 19 Yorkshire is higher than 21 and that is higher than 23. Part of the problem, Mr. Sawicki stated that, could be his sump pump, but also the amount of rain and the ground is saturated. In either case, the property owner is going to take the proper action and put in a drywell and do all the work in April.

Trustee Osborn asked Mr. Sawicki if they could install the piping from the sump pump away from the houses. Mr. Sawicki answered that the homeowner did relocate his pipe that discharged into the middle or upper portion of his property. He was trying to get it to infiltrate into the soil before it made it down to the roadway and the other properties. Mr. Sawicki repeated that everything is so saturated right now.

Mayor Curley repeated that the property owner has agreed to install a drywell in, well should, April. The gentleman is willing to do something, and Charles is willing to stay on him to chat with him.

Jim Giannettino – 2 Memorial Drive – claims that Memorial Drive floods because of the way they paved Memorial Drive 12 years ago. He said that he has been asking for them to pave Memorial Drive and angle it towards the lake, then it would not flood. “One inch of rain and you get a puddle from here halfway to the chairs and it gets this deep.”

Mayor Curley said that he did not remember his asking for this for the past 12 years. He said that he will have Mr. Sawicki look at it.

Herschel Lansinger - 21 Yorkshire Drive – For four years nothing was done, and he spoke to the previous owner of his property. They had to put in thousands of dollars to fix the pool because of the water damage. In the last four months, he has not changed the direction of the pipe. Mr. Lansinger said that he has video from February 26 and there is standing water. He said that there is a terrible mosquito infestation. He said that he has health concerns besides the water. He said that you cannot walk on his property because you can sink.

He said that the neighbor planted trees and dug a hole 6-7 feet deep and now it is completely worse.

Mayor Curley asked Mr. Lansinger if he ever talked to the neighbor himself.

He said that he did, and he offered to help partially pay for something to be done.

Mayor Curley asked Mr. Sawicki that the neighbor committed to doing this work in April and Mr. Sawicki agreed. Mayor Curley said that we should give him a chance to do the work. He said that this becomes a legal question. The Mayor said that several of the neighbors have sump pumps, and it may become a civil problem between you and your neighbor. We are trying to prevent that. Let's see if we can work this out together.

Ms. Horn returned to the microphone and stated that when she asked about this a couple of years ago, there was a pipe in the front of the neighbor's yard. It could be dry, but the street would be wet. He plugged up that hole in his front lawn. So now instead of going out his front lawn, it is going out his backyard which then floods Herchel's and her property. He did address it and move it, but he did not fix the problem.

Ms. Horn said that if you say the man is going to put a drywell in April, then we have to give the man a chance and see what happens.

They thanked the Board, and the Board thanked them.

Ann Marie Uhrig - 39 West Maple Avenue – Thanked the Board for allowing her to be here and thanked them for the sidewalks on West Maple Avenue. She said that they are beautiful.

Mr. Uhrig said that there is garbage all over the ground. Her ideas are to educate the homeowners or renters in the proper way of disposing of garbage on the street. They should put lids on garbage cans; that is the most important thing. She repeated that there is garbage everywhere and if you go there, you will see it. She said that it is not healthy. It brings rats, rodents...."We have to hold these people accountable, and I don't know how we would do that, but I could help in a way...I offer to you...Mayor Curley was nice enough to come to my house last year and I offered, we need to do something."

Ms. Uhrig also commented about the entrance of the West Ward. When you drive there on Chestnut Street, it looks like, she stated that, you are going into Harlem. The train trestle/bridge looks dirty and needs to be painted. Both walls on both sides need to be painted. The stairways smell of urine and she stated that she knows that all of this is owned by New Jersey Transit, and it is their responsibility, but we need to make them accountable too.

Mayor Curley stated that New Jersey Transit came last year, cleaned, and painted the stairwells. He stated that he put out a post and pictures of them doing the work.

Ms. Uhrig asked about the front of the bridge.

Mayor Curley said that he is having an issue with that part of the project, and he may just do it with volunteers.

Ms. Uhrig volunteered to supervise. Mayor Curley said that he did not need supervisors, he needed workers. He said that we will find something for you. "You can serve coffee to the painters!" Ms. Uhrig answered happily that she would do that. Mayor Curley explained that it is New Jersey Transit and Metro North. They both denied ownership. Through Rockland County, the Village was asked if we would like to participate in a study of the station to get it remodeled, making it handicap accessible and fixing it up. Mayor Curley said that Ms. Uhrig was 100% right, and something will be done. Hopefully this will be done by May.

Ms. Uhrig asked if it could be a mural. Mayor Curley said that whenever you talk about murals, you get into fights and lawsuits. He said that he wants a nice Suffern blue.

Mayor Curley said that the bridge was supposed to be painted when the Sheldon Building was done. Then the Sheldon came back and said that the Village did not own it. The Sheldon was not allowed to touch it.

Mayor Curley said, “The only thing we can’t do is the thing we don’t try to do.”

Ms. Uhrig asked about who polices that area. She wanted to know if someone urinates there....

Mayor Curley answered that if someone sees something just call the police.

Trustee Osborn answered that Metro North and Village of Suffern can answer. Just call Suffern PD.

Ms. Uhrig asked if there was anyone patrolling the area.

Mayor Curley answered that yes, they patrol, and they have zones. Suffern made arrests on the trains recently. One police officer was hurt during that arrest.

Ms. Uhrig asked, “So what are we going to do about the garbage?”

Mayor Curley said that we must be diligent in working on it and picking it up. Downtown the Mayor changed the way the Village does business. They walk the streets, and they empty garbage. We also have the rental registry going out and another letter to all the residents to all the different rules (i.e., size of garbage cans, how we are going to do things). The other day, he stated that, it was very windy.

Ms. Uhrig stated that she knows who the culprits are all the time. She said that you cannot walk down the street because there are chicken bones on the ground.

Mayor Curley stated, with a laugh, that the chicken bones are coming from Diddy’s and not Curley’s. He said to Ms. Uhrig that if she sees something dirty, just call us and we will come out and pick it up.

Ms. Uhrig said, “Besides me calling, what are we going to do?”

Mayor Curley said that he will send a letter informing people, but that still will not teach people....

Ms. Uhrig asked if we can hold them accountable. Knock on their door and say, “Hey clean it up!”

Mayor Curley asked Ms. Uhrig, “Ok, there is garbage in front of your house tomorrow morning. Do I give you a fine for that?”

Ms. Uhrig said, “You know....”

Mayor Curley said, “I am not saying that you put it there, but if it is there, what am I supposed to always do?” The DPW will come there. Mayor Curley again told Ms. Uhrig, just like he said about calling the Police. “You see something dirty, just call us up.”

Ms. Uhrig thanked Mayor Curley.

Lance Weinstein – 4 Valley View Terrace – Mr. Weinstein asked Mayor Curley about a meeting in September 2023 regarding a summons for illegal construction.

Mr. Weinstein said that he sent numerous emails asking about the rental registry. He asked who enters the information into the rental registry? Who can access the rental registry as far as Village employees? Is it true or not true that code enforcement officers and the fire inspector cannot access those records?

Mayor Curley answered that we will sit down with employees and explain exactly how it works. We set up a law and the law explain that the Village Clerk will be the Administrator of the Rental Registry and works with the Building Department. You will get a letter at your house when the letters go out.

Mr. Weinstein asked if the code enforcement officers, and the fire inspector would have access to those records.

Mayor Curley said that absolutely they would have access to the information. No one was ever told that they could not have access to the information. It would be ridiculous for them not to have access. The Police will have access to the registry as well for emergency situations. When we had one of the swatting incidents, someone had just bought the house. Under the advice of counsel, it is being done in a certain and proper way.

Mr. Weinstein asked Mayor Curley if he paid his water and sewer bills.

Mayor Curley answered that it is his business how he pays his bills. The Mayor told Mr. Weinstein that he would not accept his personal attacks. Mayor Curley said that he received an e-mail from Mr. Weinstein in which he called Trustee Osborn the devil; he said that he has no respect for Mr. Weinstein.

Mr. Weinstein refused to answer the Mayor’s questions. Mr. Weinstein then turned to Trustee Osborn and asked him a question. Trustee Osborn said that Mr. Weinstein has attacked his family, his friends and he is not answering him. Mayor Curley again stated that Mr. Weinstein called Trustee Osborn the devil. Mr. Weinstein was cautioning that he is not a public official, and he is not subject to scrutiny.

Mr. Weinstein then spoke about 141 Lafayette Avenue. He FOIL’d for the permit and application. Mr. Weinstein stated that there was no response after five days, so he appealed against it. He did not agree with the reason for not issuing the permit.

A MOTION to close the public comment was made by Trustee Osborn and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

Mayor Curley said that certain work in this Village requires permits and certain things that don't. For that job, we did not require a permit and that is why one was not requested according to our codes. That is why there was no permit for 141 Lafayette Avenue. Mayor Curley had already investigated it. He said, "I like getting permits and I like getting fees."

TRUSTEES

Trustee Alpert asked if the public hearing for the 2024-2025 budget could be changed to an earlier or later date. He will be out of the country on April 1, 2024, and would like to be there.

Mayor Curley asked if April 15, 2024, would work for everyone. The trustees agreed. Mayor Curley asked Michael Genito if that would work for him. Michael Genito said that April 15, 2024, is the deadline date for the public hearing from New York State. Mayor Curley, Terry Rice and the Board agreed to have the public hearing on April 15th.

MOTION that all three public hearings that were previously scheduled for April 1, 2024, will be held instead on April 15, 2024, was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

MAYOR

Mayor Curley stated that he presented the Tentative Budget to the Village Clerk and now she will present it to the Village Board.

Village Clerk presented the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget to the Board of Trustees.

Mayor Curley announced that it is another Zero percent tax increase for the residents of the Village of Suffern. He said that we will have a public hearing on April 15, 2024, and the Board will vote on the budget on April 29, 2024. The Board has to vote, by law, on the 29th of April. Mayor Curley said that people need hope, and he believes that he and the Board offer hope.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M. was made by Trustee Osborn, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor, except Trustee Meegan-Corrigan was absent.

Respectfully,

Melissa B. Reimer, CPA
Village Clerk