



**VILLAGE OF SUFFERN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Michael F. Curley, Mayor
Jo Meegan-Corrigan, Deputy 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

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 military, all over the world, fighting for our freedoms.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.
A Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 3, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION To Approve February 29, 2024, Board of Trustees Special Meeting Minutes was moved by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

MOTION To Approve March 4, 2024, Board of Trustees Special Meeting Minutes was moved by Trustee Osborn, seconded by Trustee Hogan, with all in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 051 OF 2024

**APPROVING THE SUFFERN FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM
REPORT FOR 2023**

WHEREAS, in accordance with New York General Municipal Law Section 217, General Requirements of a Service Award Program, Daniel McInerney, Suffern Fire Department LOSAP Administrator, prepared a preliminary report detailing the service award points earned by the members of the Suffern Fire Department for the year 2023; and

WHEREAS, for a period of no less than 30-days commencing March 7, 2024, the Suffern Fire Department LOSAP Administrator caused to be conspicuously posted a copy of the preliminary report at each Village of Suffern Firehouse during which time a firefighter may file a written appeal to the service point information contained in the report to the Fire Department.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts the Service Award Program Report for 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor is authorized to sign the Village of Suffern Fire Department Service Award Program 2023 Final Report Sponsor Authorization Form.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 052 OF 2024

ACCEPTING DANIEL KENNY AS A NEW MEMBER IN HOOK & LADDER, CO. 1

RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Daniel Kenny as a new member of the Hook & Ladder, Co. 1.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 053 OF 2024

ACCEPTING MICHAEL SPATARO AS A NEW MEMBER IN HOOK & LADDER, CO. 1

RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Michael Spataro as a new member of the Hook & Ladder, Co. 1.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 054 OF 2024

ACCEPTING QUINCY HARRIS AS A NEW MEMBER IN HOOK & LADDER, CO. 1

RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees accepts Quincy Harris as a new member of the Hook & Ladder, Co. 1.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 055 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN ADDENDUM TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN AND THE SUFFERN POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 1, 2021, TO MAY 31, 2025, AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF A FLOATING SERGEANT

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees desires to authorize the appointment of one additional Sergeant, the position to be a "floating Sergeant" position; and

WHEREAS, said floating Sergeant will provide flexibility in scheduling, enhance the ability of the Police Department to perform its essential functions and result in a cost saving to Village taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, upon a supervisory position within the department becoming vacant through retirement or for any other reason, the agreement will terminate, and the Police

Department will revert to the staffing level in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, that is, six (6) Sergeants; and

WHEREAS, in order to incorporate the terms of such a floating Sergeant, an addendum to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village and the Suffern Policemen's Benevolent Association is necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Mayor is authorized to execute an addendum to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village and the Suffern Policemen's Benevolent Association authorizing appointment of the aforementioned floating Sergeant and incorporating therein the terms and conditions of the same.

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

Adopted: April 1, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 056 OF 2024

APPOINTING MICHAEL CARESWELL TO SERGEANT EFFECTIVE APRIL 19, 2024

WHEREAS, on or about February 5, 2024, the position of Sergeant in the Village's Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Michael Careswell is eligible to be appointed Sergeant from the Rockland County Civil Service Promotional List 70-860/21034 (PROM).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Michael Careswell is hereby appointed to the rank of Sergeant, effective April 19, 2024, and his compensation and benefits shall be in accordance with the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Suffern Policemen's Benevolent Association, Inc.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 057 OF 2024

APPOINTING ANDREW YORKE TO FLOATING SERGEANT EFFECTIVE APRIL 19, 2024

WHEREAS, Andrew Yorke is eligible to be appointed Floating Sergeant from the Rockland County Civil Service Promotional List 70-860/21034 (PROM).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Andrew Yorke is hereby appointed to the rank of Floating Sergeant, effective April 19, 2024, and his compensation and benefits shall be in accordance with the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Suffern Policemen's Benevolent Association, Inc.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Rice explained the reason for the public hearing. He stated that discrepancies in the local law in that the permit required for parking for two hours or more in various lots and a couple of lots that were not listed in the local law as not being subject to the parking regulations.

MOTION – To Open the Public Hearing to Consider a local law to amend Chapter 254 Section 254-29 of the Code of the Village of Suffern regulating Parking Permits Required in the Village of Suffern, was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

Mr. Giannettino, 2 Memorial Drive – “Is the list long that you are adding?”

Mr. Rice answered that the list was not long. That it was just Lot H and the Rail lot.

Mr. Giannettino asked, “Is that it, Terry?”

The answer was affirmative.

Mr. Giannettino said that he just wanted to know what it included.

MOTION – To Close the Public Hearing to Consider a Local Law to Amend Chapter 254 Section 254-29 of the Code of the Village of Suffern regulating Parking Permits Required in the Village of Suffern, was moved by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Osborn, with all in favor.

Treasurer Michael Genito was called to the podium. Treasurer Genito said that he is respectfully presenting, tonight April 15, 2024, a summary of the June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, tentative budget for tonight’s public hearing on that budget. The Tentative Budget was submitted by the Mayor to the Village Clerk. The Village Clerk gave the budget to the Village Board. The Budget was then posted on the Village’s website on March 4th, 2024.

The General Fund finances the services provided by the Village other than those associated with water and sanitary sewer operations. The tentative general fund budget provides for a zero percent tax increase. General fund appropriations will increase approximately \$607 thousand or 3.8% over the current year’s adopted budget. Increases in retirement costs, health costs, and other employee benefits account for about one half of that increase. The other half of that increase can be attributed to the 2% cost of living increase provided under the PBA contract that was successfully negotiated this year to replace the contract that expired May 31, 2021.

It should be noted that the adopted budget for the current and the prior two fiscal years did not reflect those PBA costs of salary increases.

The real property taxes will increase approximately \$205 thousand or 5.1% over the current year’s adopted budget. The Village included a very conservative estimate of \$150 thousand for interest earnings. This is based on the high level of interest rates and the amounts we can keep on deposit.

This budget also includes, for the first of four annual, \$127 thousand “Post Community Benefit” payments to the Village from Regeneron.

The Village taxable assessed valuation will actually rise by \$4.9 million or 3.3%. Normally it rises only by a portion of a percentage. This is due to the former Avon properties going back on the tax rolls as of April 2023, when their PILOT was terminated.

All of these factors together with appropriations and estimated revenues, allowed us to remain the same tax rate of \$91.09 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed valuation.

The Water Fund finances the cost of operating and maintaining the Village's water treatment plant and distribution system. Water bills are issued in November and May of each fiscal year. The Water Fund appropriations are going to rise \$72 thousand or 3.2%. Primarily due to the increases in salaries and contractual costs. Contractual costs are those associated with materials, supplies, and services needed to maintain standards that are set by the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Health. Estimated usage of water is based on the recommendation of the Office of the State Comptroller will be reduced and as a result the water rates will increase approximately \$2.16 per month per the average household.

The Sewer Fund finances the cost of operating and maintaining the Village's sanitary sewer and collection system. The Sewer Fund appropriations will rise \$318 thousand or 10.8%. Approximately \$197 thousand is from an increase in principal and interest due on a \$11.2 million Bond Anticipation Note from the New York State Environmental Facility Corporation. The note was renewed on March 7, 2024, through December 31, 2025, at an interest rate of 3.2%. Originally, the two-year note that preceded it had an interest rate of 0.32%. That cost going from 0.32% to 3.2% is \$197 thousand. The other \$116 thousand can be attributed to the cost of sewer treatment chemicals, utilities, repairs, and maintenance. Estimated revenues remain approximately the same, other than the sewer rents themselves. The sewer rents are estimated to increase \$8.67 per month for the average household.

The Debt Service Fund provides for the payment of principal and interest on the Village's serial bonds and is funded from transfers from other funds and available Debt Service Fund Balance. The total appropriations of \$1.88 million remain relatively the same as the current year's adopted budget. This will be funded by the General, Water, and Sewer Funds (\$815 thousand). The Debt Service Fund will provide, through the appropriated fund balance, \$273 thousand.

We also list in our budget the proposed capital projects. These capital projects total \$3.8 million. This is strictly for informational purposes only. Before any capital project is actually undertaken, resolutions of the Village Board must be adopted to approve the project and authorize the project's appropriations and source of financing. This may include the adoption of bond resolutions in addition to other resolutions.

Also included in the budget are other schedules that provide additional details on salaries and wages, short and long-term debt, and budgetary limitations set by the state.

Every year we have a budget review by the Office of the State Comptroller. On March 31, 2016, the Village issued \$3.8 million of deficit financing bonds that will mature on March 15, 2026. The Village is required to submit its Tentative Budget to the Office of the State Comptroller ("OSC") for review. The OSC publishes a report on its findings and is deemed appropriate its recommendations. On March 10, 2024, the OSC began its review of this tentative budget and on April 12, 2024, published a document entitled, "Village of Suffern Budget Review B24-6-3." That report that was posted on the OSC and Village websites on that date, April 12, 2024, noted, "Based on the results of our review, we found that the significant revenue and expenditure projections contained in the tentative budget were reasonable." They also stated, "The Village's tentative budget includes a tax levy of \$12,533,658, which is within the limit established by law."

Additional information following tonight's public hearing on the tentative budget, the Village Board may make additional adjustments to the Appropriations, Estimated Revenues, Taxable Assessed Valuation, or other items in the budget document as deemed necessary and appropriate. The adoption of the 2024-2025 is scheduled for our meeting of April 29, 2024.

MOTION – To Open the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget, was moved by Trustee Meegan- Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

Mr. Giannettino, 2 Memorial Drive – Said that there are good and bad in the budget. He stated that each one of the trustees has full-time employment.

Trustee Hogue answered that she does not have full-time employment.

Mayor Curley stated that he works more than full-time in the Village.

Mr. Giannettino said that he made \$25 thousand (his term was up in 2005) when he was Mayor. He brought it up because Mayor Curley knew what the salary was when he ran. He stated that the trustees except for Trustee Hogue have full-time employment. He asked, "Why do you need a \$3 thousand raise in your stipend? You do not work full-time, you are not here five days a week, you are not here three days a week..." He asked Trustee Alpert why he was not upset with the budget.

Trustee Alpert said that he was comfortable with the budget with zero percent tax increases over the last three years. He fought budgets when there were increases in taxes.

As far as raises, the last time trustees received a raise was in 2008 and it's not an unreasonable amount.

Mr. Giannettino asked Trustee Meegan-Corrigan. The Trustee stated that she has been on this Board a very long time. Trustee Meegan-Corrigan reminded him that the Trustee salaries had been decreased and never brought back up. Mr. Giannettino was wrong, he stated that it was brought back up, but it was not.

Trustee Meegan-Corrigan also let Mr. Giannettino know that she works many hours for the Village. She spends quite a number of hours on Village business. She stated that he has no idea what she does and when she does it for the Village.

He asked if she worked for the Village full-time. She said no, nor would the little amount of raise allow her to live in the Village if that were her only source of income.

He said that was a good point that he was glad she brought up.

He stated that he was not going to ask any questions of Trustee Hogue or Trustee Osborn because they are new to the Board.

Mayor Curley asked him a question, "You mentioned inflation, it has not been adjusted for years and years. Before 2008, there were no salary adjustments for years and years. As you noted you did not know that the salaries were taken down and never brought back up.

Mayor Curley stated that he was making \$27 thousand, and the Mayor of Chestnut Ridge is earning \$90 thousand with an assistant. Mayor Curley stated that he has done corrections for this Village and has spent 60 to 70 hours a week in the Village office. This does not include Village events. He put this Village in a very good position with the help of the Board, Department Heads, and especially Mike Genito. The Village is strong, and it is in good shape. It is not only a raise for me, but also for the next person to come along. There are more issues going on and you need a qualified person. There are more situations than you ever had.

Mr. Giannettino did not believe the mayor. He stated that they had a pension increase back in the early 2000's.

Trustee Meegan-Corrigan stated that she has told every mayor that she has worked under that they need to raise the salary for mayor in order to attract good people to be mayor. They cannot afford to have a thriving business and be able to be mayor. The Village needs to offer more money. She said to Jim Giannettino, "I am not sure, Jim what you are accusing us of."

Mr. Giannettino stated that he was not accusing the Board of anything. The only thing he said he was saying was that it is okay to get a 3% increase every year...

Trustee Meegan-Corrigan stated that they do not get a 3% increase every year.

Mr. Giannettino said that he cannot speak about what happened five years ago but starting from now. Put yourself in for 3% and next year put yourself in for 3%....

Trustee Meegan-Corrigan stated that the Board had no intention of doing that. She said that if Mr. Giannettino does not see the changes, then she does not know what to tell him.

He stated that he does see the changes. Then he said from 2005, the Village has not changed that drastically.

Mayor Curley asked if he had any more comments.

He said he had a lot of comments.

He asked the Mayor if he thinks it's a crime to raise his salary.

Mayor Curley said that it was not a crime, but a necessary thing. The time, energy, and what he has done for the Village. These are things, he said, that Mr. Giannettino would never have done. Mayor Curley stated that he has sacrificed for this Village and will continue to do so. He had been coming to meetings for over 30 years and the things that he recommended he is putting into effect. Mayor Curley said that he believes that he is doing a good job, and the raise is necessary for him and the next person. He said that he answers to the voters and the voters spoke loud and clear during the last election.

Mr. Giannettino continued and was negotiating the CSEA contract. He was making a speech directed at the audience and not the Board.

Mr. Giannettino asked the Board about the increase in Revenues of 4.5%. He said that he never disputes Mr. Genito's figures (**PLEASE NOTE: THIS DOES NOT EXIST IN THESE MINUTES AS MR. GIANNETTINO STATES**). He then asked the Mayor; did you count in the \$650 thousand that Brookfield paid to demo Novartis? Is that in that figure?

Mayor Curley said that he did not know where that number came from. He stated that he did not have that number.

Mr. Genito stated that he was not aware that the Building Department had issued a permit and was going to be collecting \$650 thousand.

Mayor Curley said that there is no such thing in this Village.

Mr. Giannettino said that he was correct. He said that he sits at meetings, and he knows what he heard. \$650 thousand.

Mayor Curley said that he was 100% wrong. If the job is \$650 thousand, the Village collects a percentage of the cost of the job, not the entire amount.

Mr. Giannettino was screaming that that was the fee they were told that they had to pay.

Mayor Curley said that Mr. Giannettino was incorrect, and he is giving misinformation to the public. He asked Mr. Giannettino where the \$650 thousand was in the budget.

Mr. Giannettino said that it was not in the budget. That is why he was asking.

The Mayor asked what was he accusing him or Mr. Genito of?

Mr. Giannettino said that he was not accusing them of anything.

Mr. Genito stated that he is not aware of any \$650 thousand contract with Village was going to collect this amount. This, he said, was a problem with the budgeting in the past. They may have thought that there was revenue coming in, budgeted for it and it never came in.

Mr. Giannettino said that the Mayor is not on top of everything, and he needs to prove that there is no \$650 thousand demolition permit.

Mayor Curley said that he is "on top of everything" and he doesn't have to prove an imaginary fact.

Mr. Giannettino started to list inflation on food items.

Trustee Alpert stated that forget that the Trustee salaries went down in 2015. Just take it from 2008, that is 16% for 16 years. That is a 1% raise for each year. It's actually less than 16%, but say it is 16%.

Mr. Giannettino said that he would have had no problem getting incremental raises. He has a problem getting it all at once.

Trustee Alpert said that there have not been incremental raises. He stated that there is no one running as opposition for trustee. He believes that is because the job does not pay well.

Mr. Giannettino again started to negotiate the CSEA contract.

Katie Bolger – Told Mr. Giannettino that he was a hard act to follow. Believes that it is a disgrace to give yourself a raise. She was yelling and insulting the Board. She was addressing the audience and not the Board.

Joe Hunt – CSEA President – Thanked the three Board members for a zero percent tax increase. He said that he believes it was on the backs of the CSEA. He said that they have been without a contract for two years. He said that he was not going to try to negotiate with Terry here because that is not fair. He said that some of the CSEA must move out of the Village because they cannot afford to live here. He asked Terry Rice to keep that in mind the next time negotiations took place, and he thanked Steve for his comment. “AMEN.”

Trustee Alpert said that he thinks that the CSEA does an amazing job.

Mayor Curley stated that they are in negotiations with Terry Rice. Negotiations are still going on with the union. They have not been going on for two years. You waited, Mayor Curley stated to Joe Hunt, until May 2023 to start negotiations. You wanted to wait until the PBA contract was settled.

Joe Hunt stated that the contract before this one he jumped everybody - they got 13% and he got 8%. So, he felt that they were done first, and he waited to be second. Mr. Hunt said that 2% is not justifiable for them.

Mayor Curley repeated that the Union chose to wait until the PBA finished negotiations, after May 2023. So, it is not two years on the Mayor's or the Board's part.

Mr. Hunt instructed the CSEA members to leave the meeting.

Member of the audience approached the podium and commented that the Public Service Department has helped him. They deserve a two to three percent raise.

Dagan LaCorte, taxpayer, loves those three years in a row there has been a zero percent tax increase. No other municipality has done that. Has known the Mayor a very long time. The mayor has done a phenomenal job at a very critical point in the Village. Avon left and it could have posed a huge issue with an empty commercial building, when there is not a big demand for commercial space. Regeneron, a multi-billion-dollar company, is moving into that space is growing and committing many more jobs to the Village of Suffern. The Novartis was the same thing. The fact is that you have a developer committing several hundred million dollars to that facility. There will be significant tax dollars and jobs will be huge. On top of that you have two residential redevelopment buildings downtown. He said when he was mayor, he was a big proponent of that.

Mayor LaCorte spoke of the Mayor's raise and said that he has no problem with the raise. It is not an easy job. He said that he has confidence that the Board will negotiate a contract with

CSEA. He believes that they are the backbone of the Village. He thanked the Board for their service.

Sarah Horn 23 Yorkshire Drive thanked the Board for their service and thanked them for the zero percent tax increase over the last few years. Her suggestion was that everyone deserves a raise every year.

Maddie McBain, 72 Lonergan Drive – CSEA deserves a raise. She was not in favor of the raises for the Board and Mayor.

Susanne Joyce, Oakdale Manor – Water bill was going up again. She said that her water bill was very high at 35 Oakdale Manor.

Mayor Curley said that they will send the Water Department to check her meter.

MOTION – To Close the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of the 2024-2025 Tentative Budget, was moved by Trustee Osborn, seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

MOTION – To Open the Public Hearing to Consider a local law to Establish Sewer Rents and Water Rates for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, was moved by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

Treasurer Genito explained the reason for the public hearing. He stated that Water bills are issued in November and May of each fiscal year. This is to establish the rates for June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, period of time. The rates that the Village charges for Water and Sewer start with a basic rate. For water, there is a minimum amount which is 10 units. This pays for the service to the house and the meter itself; which is maintained by the Water Department. This is primarily for residential homes. The rates are then tiered 10-70 units (covers most single- and two-family homes in the Village); over 70 units (higher rate due to a much higher usage of water). Over 70 units are usually commercial users.

Sewer rates are based on the water usage on the May bill. The May bill covers the winter months where people do not use water for their lawns, etc. They have one rate for people that live within the Village limits and other rates for the people that live outside the Village limits (there are only a very small number of those that purchase the water or use the sewer service).

As mentioned above the water rates will increase approximately \$2.16 per month per the average household. The sewer rents are estimated to increase \$8.67 per month for the average household.

The Water Department provides clean potable water and is under regulations of the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Health. Likewise for the Sewer Department. They have to follow a number of rules that are established by the DEC, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Health. If they do not operate properly and within the limits prescribed by the laws and regulations of those agencies, then they can be subject to significant fines. The biggest issues that the Village has with the aquifer are the chlorides. There are some chemicals in the water that we treat and bring into acceptable limits for distribution. The forever chemicals are PFOA, PFOS, and PFAS. These were found in Teflon. They call them forever because they get into your system, and they never leave your system. They don't know

what the long-term effects are. The Village of Suffern has detected a very small percentage of PFOA and PFOS in our system. It is below the limits that are currently considered unhealthy.

In the 1980's the Village had another contamination, trichloroethylene. The Village had to build a very expensive carbon filtration system and succeeded in removing all of the contaminants. We are going to use those same filters for the PFOA/PFOS removal system. The Village is doing a \$1.5 million project to rebuild those carbon filters. The Village also received grant money from EFC to do this project.

Mayor Curley added that we are at four parts per trillion and we will end at zero parts per trillion. We will be better than before. Our water was safer than Viola water. They had a waiver not to be safe; we had no waiver. Our Water Department, under the guidance of Charles Sawicki, is doing a great job.

The audience member asked if all municipalities could chip in money to build a plant in each state.

MOTION – To Close the Public Hearing to Consider a Local Law to Establish Sewer Rents and Water Rates for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, was moved by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 058 OF 2024
ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2024 AMENDING § 254-29 OF THE CODE OF
THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN REGARDING MUNICIPAL PARKING AREAS IN THE
VILLAGE OF SUFFERN**

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

WHEREAS, a public hearing on a local law amending § 254-29 of the code of the Village of Suffern regarding Municipal Parking Areas in the Village of Suffern; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on April 15, 2024, on said local law, the public had an opportunity to comment thereon, and the public hearing was closed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that Local Law No. XX of 2024, amending § 254-29 of the code of the Village of Suffern regarding Municipal Parking Areas in the Village of Suffern hereby adopted and the Village Clerk is instructed to file the same with the Secretary of State.

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

Adopted April 15, 2024

**RESOLUTION NO. 059 OF 2024
AWARDING THE BIDS FOR WATER DEPARTMENT AND WASTEWATER
CHEMICALS**

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 various chemicals for use by the Department of Public Works, that is, for liquid sodium hypochlorite, 25% sodium solution, zinc hydroxide orthophosphate, light soda hydroxide orthophosphate, soda hydroxide, and 50% sodium carbonate; and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on March 25, 2024; and

WHEREAS, various bids were submitted by nine providers; 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 liquid sodium hypochlorite is awarded to Wechsler Pool & Supply, P.O. Box 333, Thompsonville, New York 12784 in the amount of \$3.79 per gallon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bid for 25% sodium solution is awarded to JCI Jones Chemical, 1765, Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida 34236 in the amount of \$1.59 per gallon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bid for zinc hydroxide orthophosphate is awarded to Coyne Chemical, 3015 State Road, Croydon, PA 19021 in the amount of \$10.4136 per gallon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bid for Light Soda Hydroxide is awarded to Surpass Chemical Corp, 602 Jeffers Circle, Exton, PA in the amount of \$6.64 per gallon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bid for 50% Sodium Carbonate is awarded to Slack Chemical Co., 465 So Clinton Street, Carthage, NY 13619 in the amount of \$.514 per pound.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 060 OF 2024

AWARDING REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION CONTAINER SERVICE TO DONATO MARANGI, INC.

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 the provision of Refuse and Recycling Collection Container Service; and

WHEREAS, the bids were returnable on March 25, 2024; and

WHEREAS, one bid was submitted; 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 Refuse and Recycling Collection Container Service is awarded to Donato Marangi, Inc. PO Box 495 Valley Cottage, NY 10989 in the amount of \$20.64 per unit, subject to approval a contract by the Village Attorney.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 061 OF 2024

AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE BON AIRE PUMPING STATION AND MOTOR REPLACEMENT TO LONGO ELECTIRCAL MECHANICAL, INC.

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 the Bon Aire Pumping Station and Motor Replacement project; and

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

WHEREAS, one bid was submitted; 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 contract for the Bon Aire Pumping Station and Motor Replacement project is

awarded to Longo Electrical Mechanical, Inc., 1 Harry Shupe Blvd. Warton, NJ 07885 in the amount of \$42,500, subject to approval a contract by the Village Attorney.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 062 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION FOR THE 2024 STORMWATER II EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension for provision of the 2024 Stormwater II education program for the sum of \$ \$2,537.41, subject to approval of the agreement by the Village Attorney.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 063 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING CHARLES SAWICKI TO ATTEND THE NEW YORK STATE FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGERS ASSOCIATION (NYSFSMA) 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN GLEN FALLS, NY ON MAY 7-9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, Charles Sawicki is authorized to attend the New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (NYSFSMA) 2024 Annual Conference on May 7-9, 2024, in Glen Falls, New York at a cost of \$320.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Suffern will pay as well as the actual and necessary expenses for travel and meals not already included and in accordance with the Village's policy of reimbursement for such expenses.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 063 OF 2024

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH PITINGARO & DOETSCH CONSULTING ENGINEERS, P.C. FOR THE UPDATED DESIGN OF AN EMERGENCY BACKUP GENERATOR FOR WELLS 1, 2 AND THE BON AIRE PUMP STATION

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

WHEREAS, the Village of Suffern owns and operates a community water system (CWS) that provides potable water to the residents of the Village and others; and

WHEREAS, the water is sourced from a series of groundwater wells, that is, Wells 1, 2 and 4, located along the Ramapo River within the Village which wells are located in a floodplain and subject to periodic flooding; and

WHEREAS, the Village is currently completing a project which will harden the well infrastructure by raising the well heads and well houses which will provide partial protection and will improve resiliency but could still leave these important water system components without the power needed to operate the wells; and

WHEREAS, the Bon Aire Pump Station provides pressurization for the upper pressure zone.

WHEREAS, the Village intends to install an emergency generator to provide backup power and construction of a raised platform to elevate the generator above the flood elevation, including all ancillary electrical components such as an automatic transfer switch, disconnect and wiring to the existing facilities; and

WHEREAS, Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. previously has assessed the existing electrical equipment, conduits and all appurtenances associated with the wells for condition and potential usability and to size and design the generator, transfer switch and other components to adequately serve the current well operation scheme and to prepare plans, specifications, contracts, and all necessary documents for the bidding of the project; and

WHEREAS, the project entails the installation of emergency generators to provide backup power at both locations and construction of a raised platform to elevate the well generator above the flood elevation and all ancillary electrical components such as automatic transfer switches, disconnects and wiring to the existing facilities would be included in the project; and

WHEREAS, Pitingaro & Doetsch will update all previous engineering completed for these generator locations, obtain an updated approval to include the Bon Aire Pump Station from the Department of Health, and complete final plans and specifications along with contract documents for the combined projects that will include the existing electrical equipment, conduits and all appurtenances associated with the sites for condition and potential usability. The project includes sizing the generator, transfer switch and other components to adequately serve the current operation schemes at each location.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is desirous of entering into a contract with Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. as aforementioned.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers, P.C. as aforementioned, in accordance with its proposal dated February 14, 2024, subject to approval by the Village Attorney, in the amount of \$32,800.00.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

**RESOLUTION NO. 064 OF 2024
AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF FORMAL BIDS FOR THE WASTEWATER
TREATMENT PLANT UV REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern that the solicitation of formal bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant UV Replacement Project is hereby authorized, with bids to be returnable on May 21, 2024, at 3:00 P.M.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

**RESOLUTION NO. 065 OF 2024
AUTHORIZING CHARLES SAWICKI TO ATTEND THE NEW YORK STATE
FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGERS ASSOCIATION (NYSFSMA) 2024
ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN GLEN FALLS, NY ON MAY 7-9, 2024**

BE IT RESOLVED, Charles Sawicki is authorized to attend the New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (NYSFSMA) 2024 Annual Conference on May 7-9, 2024, in Glen Falls, New York at a cost of \$320.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Suffern will pay as well as the actual and necessary expenses for travel and meals not already included and in accordance with the Village’s policy of reimbursement for such expenses.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

EXTRACT OF MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
of the Village of Suffern,
in the County of Rockland, New York
April 15, 2024

* * *

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 April 15, 2024.

There were present: Hon. Michael F Curley, Mayor; and

Trustees: Jo Meegan-Corrigan
Steven Alpert
Angela Denis-Hogue
Clarke Osborn

There were absent: None

Also present: Melissa Reimer, Village Clerk

* * *

Mayor Michael F. Curley offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 066 OF 2024

RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, NEW YORK, ADOPTED APRIL 15, 2024, AMENDING THE BOND RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 25, 2021, RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF A PFAS REMOVAL SYSTEM FOR THE VILLAGE WATER SYSTEM

Recitals

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Suffern, in the County of Rockland, New York, has heretofore duly authorized the acquisition and installation of a PFAS removal system for the Village water system, at the estimated maximum cost of \$550,000 pursuant to the bond resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees on October 25, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of said project has now been determined to be \$950,000, and it is necessary and in the public interest to increase the amount appropriated for said project by \$400,000 and to amend said bond resolution to increase the principal amount of bonds authorized from \$550,000 to \$950,000;

Now, therefore, be it

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

Section (A) The bond resolution of the Village of Suffern duly adopted by the Board of Trustees on October 25, 2021, entitled:

“Bond Resolution of the Village of Suffern, New York, adopted October 25, 2021, authorizing the issuance of bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$550,000 to finance the acquisition and installation of a PFAS removal system for the Village water system, stating the estimated maximum cost thereof is \$550,000 and appropriating said amount for such purpose,”

is hereby amended to read as follows:

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF SUFFERN, NEW YORK, ADOPTED OCTOBER 25, 2021, AND AMENDED APRIL 15, 2024, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$950,000 TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF A PFAS REMOVAL SYSTEM FOR THE VILLAGE WATER SYSTEM, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$950,000 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 \$950,000 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 acquisition and installation of a PFAS removal system for the Village water system. Any funds received from grants and/or other sources are hereby authorized to be applied toward the cost of said project or redemption of the Village’s bonds or notes issued therefor, or to be budgeted as an offset to the taxes to be collected for the payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds or notes. All or part of the cost of the project may be financed through the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) State Revolving Fund (SRF) and/or a Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grant, and any authorized officer of the Village is hereby authorized to submit an application and perform any other acts necessary to arrange for such financing.

Section 2. The estimated maximum cost thereof, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, is \$950,000 and said amount is hereby appropriated for such a purpose. The plan of financing includes the issuance of bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$950,000 to finance said appropriation, the collection of water rates and/or 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. 1 of the Law, is forty (40) 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.

* * *

Section (B) The amendment of the bond resolution as set forth in Section (A) of this resolution shall in no way affect the validity of any liabilities incurred, obligations issued, or action taken pursuant to said bond resolution prior to amendment, and all such liabilities incurred,

obligations issued, or action taken shall be deemed to have been incurred, issued or taken pursuant to said bond resolution, as amended.

Section (C) Said bond resolution, as amended, is subject to a permissive referendum as therein provided. In the event that a valid petition protesting against said bond resolution and requesting that it be submitted to the electors of said Village for their approval or disapproval is filed and the Proposition submitted therefor is defeated, the validity of the bond resolution adopted on October 25, 2021, shall not be in any way affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

* * *

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows: Moved by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Hogue, followed by a roll-call vote as follows:

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

The resolution was declared adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 067 OF 2024

AMEND PROJECT 2021-007 ARPA CLFRF

RESOLVED, that Project 2021-007 ARPA CLFRF is amended as follows:

Decrease Vital Records Imaging	\$0.44
Decrease Police Cars FYE 2024	\$2,254.36
Decrease Fire Vehicles	\$7,842.53
Decrease Building Department Software	\$3,500.00
Increase Police Cars FYE 2025	\$13,597.33

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 068 OF 2024

CLOSE PROJECT 2020-003 PARKING LOT B REPAVING

WHEREAS Project 2020-003 Parking Lot B Repaving (“Project”) has been completed at a total cost of \$350,771.68; and

WHEREAS the original Project budget of \$470,250 was financed with \$170,250 of Community Development Block Grant funds, \$180,000 of the Village’s 2021 Serial Bond proceeds, and transfers in the amount of \$120,000 from the General Fund in the form of bond anticipation notes redeemed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board authorizes the Village Treasurer to close the Project and transfer back to the General Fund \$119,478.32 representing the portion of bond anticipation notes originally used, but ultimately determined to not be required, to finance the Project.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 069 OF 2024

AMEND PROJECT 2022-005 WATER PFAS REMOVAL SYSTEM

RESOLVED, that the Village Treasurer is authorized to amend the budget for Project 2022-005 Water PFAS Removal System (“Project”), increasing total Project Appropriations and Project Estimated Revenues - Debt, each in the amount of \$386,050.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 070 OF 2024

AMENDING PROJECT 2023-005 WEST MAPLE AVENUE SIDEWALKS

WHEREAS, on January 9, 2023, the Village Board adopted Resolution No. 008 of 2023, establishing Project 2023-005 West Maple Avenue Sidewalks (“Project”) for the repair or replacement of said sidewalks; and

WHEREAS the total estimated cost of said Project was \$350,000; and

WHEREAS the Project financing was to consist of \$100,000 from 2020 Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) funds; \$200,000 from 2021 CDBG funds, and \$50,000 from American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) funds; and

WHEREAS, the actual total Project costs to complete were \$243,376, which were financed with \$100,000 of 2020 CDBG funds; \$120,038 of 2021 CDBG funds, and \$23,338 of ARPA funds.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board hereby amends the Project to decrease Project Estimated Revenue and decrease Project Appropriations, each in the amount of \$106,624; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the unexpended ARPA funds totaling \$26,662 be returned to the ARPA account being managed by the Village Treasurer and allocated as follows:

Vital Records Imaging	\$10,259.33
Police Cars FYE 2025	\$16,402.67

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 071 OF 2024

AMENDING PROJECT 2024-003 VILLAGE HALL BOILER

WHEREAS, Project 2024-003 Village Hall Boiler (“Project”) has been completed; and

WHEREAS to complete the Project, \$7,554.37 exceeding the original Project budget was required to complete the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that \$7,554.37 of the General Fund Contingent Account be used to transfer \$7,554.37 from the General Fund to the Project; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023-2024 General Fund budget and Project budget be amended to reflect the aforesaid transfer of funds.

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

Adopted: April 15, 2024

GRANTS

Grant Writer Mr. Fred Rella explained that we applied to the Environment Facilities Corp. to re-commission our filtration system for the Water Plant . That grant was for \$320 thousand.

Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) – final application submitted on April 8, 2024, for paving of West Maple Avenue. The grant is for \$134,000 and the project costs \$150,000. We will find out in July if we are approved. If we get it, it will be a project for Spring 2025.

Ed Fagen Drive (road to Little League fields) is also a CDBG grant project- \$150 thousand total cost, but the grant is in the amount of \$140 thousand. The grant was approved. The road has not been re-surfaced in well over 15 years. It is in very bad shape.

CDBG is based on the census and income of the area. The Village has a very small area that qualifies for these CDBG grants.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The LOSAP is the retirement plan that the fire fighters have with the Village for the great service that they perform.

Fire Chief Kaufer presented the Board resolutions for the Fire Department. He thanked the Village Board for the past four years as his term of Chief is over. This was his last Board meeting as Chief.

Mayor Curley spoke about how Chief Kaufer held the Chief position longer than most Chiefs. He helped fulfill some duties for the Fire Department. Mayor Curley said that he was honored to work with Chief Kaufer, and he thanked him. The Mayor and Board wished Fire Chief Kaufer the best of luck and thanked him for being Chief and doing a fantastic job.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Loughlin presented the Police Department statistics for the month of March 2024. He said that he had three agenda items.

RECREATION

Ms. Cathy Mills reported the following:

Sunday, April 21 – Suffern Street Fair – 10-5

Saturday, April 27 – Keep Rockland Beautiful – Arbor Day Ceremony 9am -12pm

(Rain date Sunday, April 28)

May 10 – Lifeline Screening at Community Center

Monday, May 27 – Memorial Day Parade, Ceremony, BBQ - Parade begins at 11am

June – Monday Evenings - Yoga in the Park- 6:30pm

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 Alpert and seconded by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan, with all in favor.

Matthew DiLeo, 32 Maplewood Blvd. – Thanked the Board for coming to an agreement with the Little League.

Two days before Thanksgiving there was an accident on Maplewood Blvd. Someone crashed into the guardrail. He is waiting for the repair. Mayor Curley and Charles Sawicki have been in communication with the Company. Mayor Curley said that they ordered a better, stronger re-enforced rail for safety. The Company did not dig with the winter with the frost. They will do the work by the end of April. Mayor Curley said that the trees will also be planted after the rail is installed.

On Maplewood Blvd. every other light pole has a Cobra Head LED light head on it except on the bend in the road, where the accident took place, there is no light. Mr. DiLeo asked if a light could be installed. The Mayor asked Mr. Sawicki and Chief Loughlin to check into it. The neighbor called about this the other day.

He said that 34 Maplewood Blvd. has a sump pump, and it runs a lot. It is eroding his backyard. Mr. DiLeo went to the Building Dept. about a year ago to ask for some help, but nothing was done.

Mayor Curley asked if they had come to look at it.

Mr. DiLeo had said that they did. He said that they spoke to the homeowner and made suggestions to the homeowner. Mr. DiLeo said that the Building Department told him that if nothing was done, they would take the homeowner to court.

Mayor Curley asked if he had gotten in touch with the Building Department after that.

Mr. DiLeo said that he had not.

Mayor Curley asked Mr. Sawicki to visit 34 Maplewood Blvd. and see what was going on.

Mr. DiLeo said that he has an easement in his backyard, a very large manhole cover, for the Water Department. That, he said, gets filled over with dirt from the erosion in his yard. He stated that it did not look like this when he moved in, and he put in fencing and the dirt is up against the fence. It is pushing on the fence and will damage the fence.

Sarah Horn – 23 Yorkshire – asked about the grant for paving for Ed Fagen Drive and wanted to know when the work will be done.

Mayor Curley said that the County is slow with the paperwork, but he would not interfere with the baseball/softball season. It will be this summer or early fall.

Ms. Horn wanted to know what was going on with her neighbor and if they applied for a permit. Mayor Curley told Ms. Horn that he and Mr. Sawicki went to 19 Yorkshire, and he was very helpful. He is getting estimates to install a drywell.

Mayor Curley said that when he was there, he found out that 17 Yorkshire has a line also. He will get in touch with them, so that it doesn't go into the road. He said that the Salvation Army owns that house.

Charles Sawicki agreed with the Mayor.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Charles Sawicki presented the board resolutions.

Mayor Curley spoke about the geese problem and how the Village of Suffern was going to work with the US Department of Agriculture. There are three locations that are problems in the Village: Foxwood Pond, Little League Fields, and Memorial by the pool. They are waiting for Congress to finish their budget.

Mr. Sawicki added that it is a USDA program, and that the Village will enter into an agreement with the USDA. The USDA has a proven management program.

TREASURER

Treasurer Genito addressed the Board. He told the Board that the first resolution was amending the bond for the PFAS project and required a roll-call vote. Originally, we required \$550 thousand to finance the project, but the project is more expensive than originally proposed and it will be \$950 thousand. This is increasing the debt authorization from \$550 thousand to \$950 thousand.

Treasurer Genito explained to the Board that part of the American Rescue Act of 2021, the funds were provided to us by the US Treasury. The Village of Suffern received over \$1.1 million. This was allocated to various projects. One of the requirements under that was that the Village had to report back to the US Treasury by the end of March, everything that was done for the prior year through March 31 and a status of the projects. The Village Treasurer's Office filed the report on April 1, 2024. We received certification that the US Treasury received the report. If we did not file the report or file on time, we would have had to return all the money.

The Mayor and the Board thanked Treasurer Genito for his professionalism and his fine work. Mayor Curley said that it shows when New York State comes to Village of Suffern and spends weeks here doing a review. They come back and say that you are better than A-OK! Mayor Curley said that he appreciates all the hard work and the experience you bring to the Village. You help all these Board members.

All the Board members thanked Mr. Genito.

Treasurer Genito thanked them and said it was a pleasure.

TRUSTEES

Trustee Alpert asked about Memorial Drive and its opening.

Mayor Curley said that he was on the phone with the Drainage Agency. We have a \$1 million grant, and we are waiting to hear from FEMA. The money we have is not enough for the project. Unless, we close it off and make it a park.

Trustee Alpert asked about Village Hall and the ceiling condition in the auditorium.

Mayor Curley said that Fred Rella, Grant Writer is looking into some grants. We can set up a committee and we can start looking for grants. Congressman Lawler was going to help the Village of Suffern as much as he can.

Trustee Osborn thanked the Mayor for his help and guidance with the budget

MOTION – Set a public hearing for April 29, 2024, at 7:05 p.m., redefining the Village employees authorized to issue tickets for parking violations, was moved by Trustee Meegan-Corrigan and seconded by Trustee Alpert, with all in favor.

MOTION - Set a public hearing for April 29, 2024, at 7:08 p.m., Adopt a Local Law #XX of 2024, under home rule authority to be able to advertise and conduct events that will promote our Village, was moved by Trustee Osborn, and seconded by Trustee Hogue, with all in favor.

Mayor Curley explained that he wants ways to push or promote our downtown area as well as the entire Village through different events. This will be all legal and the Village will have the right to do so. We will be able to hold events and advertise.

MAYOR

I worked with Mr. Genito and met with every department. We kept every department strong. We met with Mr. Fred Rella and discussed different grants. We came forth with a strong budget. Mayor Curley said that he is very proud of the Board, and they asked a lot of questions about the budget to him and Mr. Genito. This Village is in a good financial position.

He discussed the Rental Registry Letter that went out to all property owners in the Village. If you are the homeowner, you live there and, you don't rent out your home, then you don't need to fill it out. He said that being a Bronx firefighter he has seen a lot of places that were not kept in shape and right. There were dangerous situations for the people that may not know what our laws are. It is important to educate people. We are looking for compliance and not punishment. We have a responsibility to protect our firefighters and all of our first responders.

This letter went out and he said that he had never seen a response like this, as Mayor or any other time before. People are happy with it, asking questions, and people are sending in their applications. We are not going to get everyone to follow the rules, but at that point we are going to exercise what the law says we can do or not do. It is for the safety of residents, safety of

firefighters/first responders, and quality of life in our Village. He told the public that it was the Village Clerk, Melissa Reimer, that is in charge of it. It is a lot of work, and we cannot do it without the community's help. That is why we sent the Landlord Registration Statement to every property owner in the Village of Suffern. It may not apply to you, but every property owner received the letter.

Mayor Curley stated that since he has been on the Board, he has settled two contracts. The Police or PBA and the Teamsters Union with the dispatchers. The Board is still in negotiations with the CSEA. The Board is being fair, the Mayor said that the Board is operating fairly, and they will continue as long as the CSEA wants to continue talking. Mayor Curley stated that the Board does not negotiate in public.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 P.M. was made by Trustee Alpert, seconded by Trustee Osborn, with all in favor.

Respectfully,

Melissa B. Reimer, CPA
Village Clerk