

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF WARWICK
DECEMBER 19, 2022**

9462

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Warwick, NY. Present was: Mayor, Michael J. Newhard, Trustees: Barry Cheney, Carly Foster, William Lindberg and Thomas McKnight. Also, present was DPW Supervisor Mike Moser, Village Clerk Raina Abramson and Village Attorney Stephen Gaba. Others present: Town of Warwick Police Chief John Rader, Robert Kennedy, Christine Tyler and Scott Hollowell.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
The Village Clerk held the roll call.

Mayor Newhard made the following statement regarding the Village of Warwick Comprehensive Master Plan:

Tonight, on the agenda, we have a resolution adopting a new Comprehensive Master Plan. This was a year and a half process guided by our Planning Consultant Peter Fairweather as well as Alta Planning and Design for issues dealing with transportation and connectivity and mobility. I want to thank the committee because of just the diverse voices and who really worked through the process of creating this vision. I want to mention their names. The Committee included:

Barry Cheney, Committee Chairman
Judy Battista, Resident at Large, Community Cultural and Mental Health Advocate
Elizabeth Bourne, Resident at Large
Scot Brown, Village of Warwick Zoning Board of Appeals
Rosemary Cooper, Albert Wisner Library
Jack Ellis, The Warwick Valley Historical Society
Matthew Finn, Village of Warwick Architectural and Historic Review Board
Carly Foster, Community Together, Village of Warwick Trustee
Corine Iurato, Warwick Valley Chamber of Commerce
Robert M. Kennedy III, Resident at Large, Town of Warwick Planning Board
Tom McKnight, Village of Warwick Planning Board, and Village of Warwick Trustee
Susan Metzger, Resident at Large

I just want to make a couple of comments. The plan that we updated, one of the committee members was the late Roger Metzger, Susan's husband, so it was nice to have that sense of continuity. She is an extraordinary woman who brings a lot to the table.

I also want to mention Carly and Tom. I believe that the Comprehensive Plan Committee was really their intro Village 101 on some level and I'm hoping that was part of what piqued their interest in running as Trustees. I think it was definitely a fun committee to be on. We worked very hard, and I believe the outcome shows it. But I'm

very proud of this work that was accomplished and the vision that it presents. Out of this document will be the creation of tasks and other committees and this is an important piece because we want a living organic acting document, not something that sits on the shelf and that's what I think this presents. It presents clear goals with intended results and that is something I think that us as a Board, we have this wonderful working tool.

Some of the critical topics that the plan addressed are a sense of place and a sense of history, abundant and diverse economic opportunities, an inclusive community of economic, ethnic, and social diversity, strong residential neighborhoods, celebration of arts, culture, and civic life, sustainability, and resilience in the face of climate change, physical infrastructure to support and sustain Village life in an effective and affordable manner.

Along the way, there were many lessons that we learned, and skills gained. The silver lining of that year and a half experience, we were doing it in the midst of COVID, but we were able to use the tool of Zoom and it really worked because people could participate and it was less of a concern about schedules so that, I think, really worked. We gained that ability to really reach out, but outreach was something that was really key to the committee and key to the creation of this document. We did not just set up meetings and expect people to come. We reached out to different groups that sometimes might not be heard or might not have the ability to come to a meeting and so we created these forums, these listening forums, and I think that that was the greatest thing that we did because I think it taught us all how important it is to do that type of outreach, not just for a Comp Plan but for everything that we do as a Board. I know in this coming year we've been talking about having listening sessions of different groups throughout the community and I know that that is going to happen because it's very important for us to hear directly from the folks that live here whether it's residents in a neighborhood or business people, whatever they are coming from, if they are part of a group, we're going to try to do that outreach continually.

And again, I want to thank the committee and I want to thank Peter Fairweather. It was his leadership and his skill that really helped create this document. When I first met with Peter, I tasked him. I said, 'I don't want something that is like all the other Comprehensive Master Plans that sit on a shelf, and they get resurrected in ten years and people say, oh look what we didn't do.' So, he understood that, and I think also the committee understood that, to create a document that really challenges us to do things that are outlined in this plan. So, again, thank you to the committee. Thank you to Peter. It was definitely a great experience.

Trustee Foster thanked Mayor Newhard for providing the leadership. Mayor Newhard thanked Trustee Cheney as the Chairman of the Committee.

1. **Public Hearing on proposed Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2023 entitled: "A local law to amend the Village Code by revising the Table of Uses in the Zoning Code to add 'residential apartments above commercial space' as a permitted use in the Light Industrial ('LI') District conditional upon Planning Board approval".**

The Clerk read the public hearing notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village Board of the Village of Warwick will hold a public hearing on the 19th day of December, 2022, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., at Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Warwick, New York 10990 on a proposed local law entitled: "A local law to amend the Village Code by revising the Table of Uses in the Zoning Code to add 'residential apartments above commercial space' as a permitted use in the Light Industrial ('LI') District conditional upon Planning Board approval."

The purpose of this Local Law is to promote the public health, safety and welfare by amending Chapter 145 of the Village Code entitled "Zoning" to more fully conform to the provisions and tenets of the Village's Comprehensive Plan by allowing residential apartments over commercial space in LI zoning districts.

A copy of the proposed local law is on file in the office of the Village Clerk and available for inspection by interested persons during Village Clerk's business hours. The proposed local law has also been posted on the Village's website <https://villageofwarwick.org/>.

The Village Board will at the above date, time and place hear all persons interested in the subject matter hereof. Persons may appear in person or by agent. All written communications

addressed to the Village Board must be received by the Village Board at or prior to the public hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
VILLAGE OF WARWICK
RAINA ABRAMSON
VILLAGE CLERK

Dated: November 22, 2022

Mayor Newhard stated that in the shadow of the Comprehensive Master Plan, this is one of the tasks that was discussed and it's nice that it may become a reality once the Board votes on it but is a direction that is important to the growing Village.

Robert Kennedy said that it is a step in the right direction towards the middle housing component which is important and that further down the road it gets looked at a little harder to create zoning that allows that in more depth rather than just second or third story.

Close Public Hearing – Proposed Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2023

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Lindberg, and carried to close the public hearing on proposed Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2023 entitled: "A local law to amend the Village Code by revising the Table of Uses in the Zoning Code to add 'residential apartments above commercial space' as a permitted use in the Light Industrial ('LI') District conditional upon Planning Board approval".

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Acceptance of Reports

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Lindberg, and carried for the Acceptance of Reports – November 2022: Clerk's Office, Justice Department, Building Department, and Department of Public Works.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Acceptance of Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Lindberg, and carried for the Acceptance of Minutes: December 5, 2022, December 12, 2022 & December 14, 2022.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lindberg, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried for the Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims in the amount of \$179,967.00.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Police Report

Chief Rader wished everyone all the best in the holiday season and looks forward to working with everyone again next year.

Trustee Lindberg said that as a Village, we are very fortunate to have the volunteer fire department, the volunteer ambulance corp, and the police department. Trustee Lindberg stated that he lives right in the Village and feels very safe all the time with the police and very comfortable with the staff and the Chief. Trustee Lindberg explained that he is a driver for the ambulance and that most of the time, the police are there before the ambulance gets there to open the door and give a description of the situation. A few weeks ago, Trustee Lindberg was on a cardiac arrest call in the Village and four officers beat the ambulance there. The officers were all trained in the AED machine and started compressions. Trustee Lindberg said he was very impressed with the four officers that came and wanted to say how important they are to the ambulance calls; how very helpful they are and how they know what to do. Trustee Lindberg stated what a great partnership it is and thanked Chief Rader for that.

Chief Rader said that it's what they signed up for but definitely in a community like Warwick, it's more personal too because they're our neighbors as well. Chief Rader stated that it's their pleasure to serve with the other organizations and try to make a difference.

Announcements

1. 2022 Village of Warwick Christmas Eve Sing-along & Apple Eve Event.

Trustee Foster read the announcement. Mayor Newhard explained that the sing-along will be inside the Old School Baptist Meeting this year.

2. Village of Warwick Christmas Tree Pickup.

Trustee Cheney read the announcement.

Correspondence

1. Orange County Department of Planning comments on the review of proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 to amend the Table of Use Regulations in the Village of Warwick Zoning Code to allow upper story dwellings in the Light Industrial District.
2. Village of Warwick Planning Board comments on the review of proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 to amend the Table of Use Regulations in the Village of Warwick Zoning Code to allow upper story dwellings in the Light Industrial District.

Privilege of the Floor

Please limit your comments to **three (3)** minutes. If reading a document, please submit a copy to the Clerk. Please note all remarks must be addressed to the Board as a body and not to individual Board members. Please state your name clearly before speaking. These rules are taken from the Handbook for Village Officials – New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials.

No comments were made.

MOTIONS

RESOLUTION ADOPTING NEGATIVE DECLARATION UNDER SEQRA

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has before it a draft local law

entitled "A local law to amend the Village Code by revising the Table of Uses in the Zoning Code to add 'residential apartments above commercial space' as a permitted use in the Light Industrial ("LI") District conditional upon Planning Board approval"; and

WHEREAS, this is an action subject to SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board as Lead Agency in an uncoordinated review (i.e., as the sole involved agency) has prepared and approved an Environmental Assessment Form ("EAF") and has caused to be prepared an EAF Part II and Part III: and

WHEREAS, following due notice the Village Board has conducted a public hearing on the said proposed local law and heard all persons interested in the subject matter thereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board adopts Part II and Part III of the EAF and authorizes the Mayor to sign the same, and
2. That after considering all of the information presented to it including the EAF, the Village Board adopts the Negative Declaration attached hereto.

Trustee Cheney presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Lindberg,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting Aye

Carly Foster, Trustee, voting Aye

Thomas McKnight, Trustee voting Aye

William Lindberg, Trustee, voting Aye

Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting Aye

RESOLUTION ADOPTING VILLAGE OF WARWICK
LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2023

WHEREAS, the Village Board has before it a proposed local law entitled "A local law to amend the Village Code by revising the Table of Uses in the Zoning Code to add 'residential apartments above commercial space' as a permitted use in the Light Industrial ('LI') District conditional upon Planning Board approval"; and

WHEREAS, following due notice the Village Board held a public hearing on the proposed local law; and

WHEREAS, SEQRA review on the proposed local law has been completed and the said local law was duly referred to the County Planning Department under General Municipal Law §239-m and to the Village Planning Board under the Village Code;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board hereby adopts the said proposed local law; and
2. That the said local law shall be effective upon publishing, posting and filing of the same in the Office of the Secretary of State in Albany.

Trustee Cheney presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Lindberg,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting Aye

Carly Foster, Trustee, voting Aye

Thomas McKnight, Trustee voting Aye

William Lindberg, Trustee, voting Aye

Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting Aye

Discussion

Trustee Cheney inquired why it was Local Law 1 of 2023.

Village Attorney, Stephen Gaba explained that it seems when filing a Local Law with the Secretary of State and it gets there after the end of the year, they insist on calling it Number 1 of 2023 instead of 2022. It's possible it will get there before the end of the year and if that's the case, then it will be a local law of 2022 but it was anticipated that it wouldn't.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING NEGATIVE DECLARATION UNDER SEQRA

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has before it a draft update to the Village's Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS, this is an action subject to SEQRA, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board as Lead Agency in an uncoordinated review (i.e., as the sole involved agency) has prepared and approved a Full Environmental Assessment Form ("FEAF") and has caused to be prepared an FEAF Part II and Part III,

WHEREAS, following due notice the Village Board has conducted a public hearing on the draft update to the Village's Comprehensive Plan update and heard all persons interested in the subject matter thereof,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board adopts Part II and Part III of the FEAF and authorizes the Mayor to sign the same, and
2. That after considering all of the information presented to it including the FEAF the Village Board adopts the Negative Declaration attached hereto.

Trustee Cheney presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee McKnight,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Carly Foster, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Thomas McKnight, Trustee voting	<u>Aye</u>
William Lindberg, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting	<u>Aye</u>

RESOLUTION ADOPTING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has prepared a draft Comprehensive Plan Update pursuant to Village Law § 7-722; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has held a duly noticed public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan Update and received comments from the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has referred the draft Comprehensive Plan Update to the Orange County Department of Planning ("OCPD") as required by General Municipal Law Section 239-m and has received comments back from OCPD; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board as Lead Agency in the SEQRA review has adopted a Negative Declaration; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board finds that it is in the best interest of the Village of Warwick to adopt the Comprehensive Plan Update;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board hereby adopts the Comprehensive Plan Update; and
2. That the Village Board hereby directs the Village Clerk to file the Comprehensive Plan Update in her office; and
3. That the Village Board hereby directs that a "Report of Final Action" pursuant to GML §239-m together with a copy of the Comprehensive Plan Update shall be filed with OCPD.

Trustee Cheney presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Lindberg,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: **APPROVED**

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Carly Foster, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Thomas McKnight, Trustee voting	<u>Aye</u>
William Lindberg, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting	<u>Aye</u>

Payment #2 – Skyward Electric Co., Hilltop Pump Station Generator Installation

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Lindberg, and carried to authorize payment #2 to Skyward Electric Co. in the amount of \$10,973.25 for the Hilltop Pump Station Generator Installation for work that includes the balance of the contract work (less 10% retainage) as certified by Village Electrical Engineer, Matthew Blake of Blake Engineering, PLLC. Funds are appropriated in budget code F.8320.2 in the 2022-23 budget.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Payment #3 – Skyward Electric Co., Hilltop Pump Station Generator Installation

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Lindberg, and carried to authorize payment #3 to Skyward Electric Co. in the amount of \$6,997.50 for the Hilltop Pump Station Generator Installation for the release of the required 10% retainage withheld from all previous payment applications. The project is 100% complete and has been inspected and approved as certified by Village Electrical Engineer, Matthew Blake of Blake Engineering, PLLC. Funds are appropriated in budget code F.8320.2 in the 2022-23 budget.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING REDUCTION
IN SPEED LIMITS ON CERTAIN ROADWAYS
IN THE VILLAGE OF WARWICK**

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick is concerned over traffic safety on Route 94/Maple Avenue, Route 94/Oakland Avenue, and Route 17A/Galloway Road within the Village of Warwick; and

WHEREAS, in order to improve traffic safety on the said roadways the Village Board proposes that the following changes should be made in regard to the said roadways:

- Route 94/Maple Ave. - Replace the passing lines with solid double yellow lines that do not allow for passing
- Route 94/Maple Ave. – Reduce the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph
- Route 94/Main Street - Reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph
- Route 94/Oakland Ave. – Reduce the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph

- Route 17A/Galloway Road - Reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph; and
WHEREAS, the said roadways are under the jurisdiction of the New York State Department of Transportation ("DOT") and, therefore, in order for the said changes to be made it is necessary to obtain approval from the DOT;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the Village Board of the Village of Warwick does hereby request that the Orange County Department of Public Works and the New York State DOT approve and allow the aforementioned changes to be made to the said roadways in the Village of Warwick; and
2. That the Mayor is authorized to prepare and sign such documents as are necessary to request that the said changes be made.

Trustee Cheney presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Lindberg,

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

APPROVED

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Carly Foster, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
William Lindberg,, Trustee, voting	<u>Aye</u>
Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting	<u>Aye</u>

Discussion

Trustee Foster explained that as part of a work session with the NYS DOT the Village expressed concerns about the speed limit on their roadways, in addition to other concerns. The NYS DOT informed the Village that to reduce speed limits on State roads within Village limits, the Village needed to submit a written request for NYSDOT to review.

Road Closure – Railroad Ave., Village of Warwick Apple Eve Event

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to close Railroad Avenue for the benefit of the Village of Warwick Apple Eve Event on Saturday, December 31, 2022, from 9:00 p.m. to Sunday, January 1, 2023, at 12:30 a.m. Village of Warwick DPW to place ‘No Parking’ bags on the meters beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Facility Use Request – Stanley-Deming Park, Children’s Book Festival

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to grant permission to the Albert Wisner Public Library to use the east side of Stanley-Deming Park to hold the Children’s Book Festival on Saturday, October 7, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as per their letter dated November 17, 2022. Permission to include: three (3) food trucks to be parked on the grass between the creek and the handball courts on the west side of the park; additional 6-8 garbage cans placed near the food trucks and festival tents; a 3’ x 14’ banner to be hung on the fence to the right of the main entrance of Stanley-Deming Park facing the intersection of South Street and Parkway, from Sunday, September 24, 2023 through Saturday, October 7, 2023; Festival tents to be set up beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 6, 2023 and removed by 12:00 p.m. Sunday, October 8, 2023; use of Stanley-Deming restrooms; Uncle Brothers Band to perform a children’s concert under the bandstand from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. during the event; in coordination with DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser, use of designated parking in the large section of the grass behind the basketball courts and additional temporary accessible parking spaces designated by the Village on Parkway, close to the entrances of Stanley-Deming Park. Approval contingent upon providing the Village of Warwick with certificates of insurance naming the Village as an additional insured from all food truck vendors at least 30 days prior to the event and obtaining permission of the Warwick Valley Central School District to use the Park Avenue School for parking and providing such documentation 60 days prior to the event.

Completed facility use permit, proof of insurance, and security deposit have been received.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Trustee McKnight said that he attended last year's event, and it was a great event with a high quality of authors. Trustee McKnight stated that he noticed the parking on the lawn wasn't very clear and asked DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser for his suggestions. Mike Moser explained that it was a trial but feels there needs to be more signage and that the library probably needs to get more volunteers to direct people where to park. Mr. Moser said that starting off, the parking lot was going to be used mostly for the authors and then the rollover from the people.

Trustee McKnight asked Mr. Moser if his crew was ok with the extra trash barrels. Mr. Moser said yes.

Trustee McKnight stated that this is a great event for the Village.

Mayor Newhard said that it's well attended, and he likes that it brings the arts and literature to our kids.

Trustee Foster said that she feels it works really well at Stanley-Deming Park from a space perspective.

2023 Special Village Election – Location & Polling Hours

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lindberg, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to conduct a Special Village Election to fill an unexpired term due to a vacancy at the Goodwill Hook & Ladder Company, 25 Church Street Extension, on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. The polls will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Seasonal Recreation Staff – Savanna DeLucia

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lindberg, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to hire Savanna DeLucia as part of the FY 2022-23 special event staff at a rate of \$15.00 per hour for the Christmas Eve Sing-along and Easter Egg Hunt per the recommendation of Village of Warwick Recreation Director, Ron Introini.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Part-Time Court Clerk – Sara Sullivan

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lindberg, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to hire Sara Sullivan to the position of Part-Time Court Clerk at a rate of \$20.00 per hour with a start date of December 27, 2022, per the recommendation of Village Justice, Jeanine Garritano Wadeson, and confirmation of pre-approval from Orange County Civil Service.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Acceptance of Proposal – Hudson Valley Engineering Associates

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Lindberg, and carried to accept the proposal for engineering services from Hudson Valley Engineering Associates dated December 15, 2022, to provide Grant Application Services for the BridgeNY program for the Wheeler Ave and Memorial Park Drive culverts and authorize the Mayor to enter into an Agreement with HVE at a cost not to exceed amount of \$2,500.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Reports

Trustee Cheney's Report:

Trustee Cheney stated that the reservoirs have been depleted due to a lack of precipitation and the Village Water Department has been watching and reporting on that status since early August of this year. Voluntary water restrictions were imposed upon the residents of the Village and the Village also began producing more water from the microfiltration plant and Well #2 to avoid using up the resource the Village had in the reservoir. The available capacity in reservoirs was at it's lowest in mid-November. Trustee Cheney said that he was pleased to report that the precipitation over the past weeks has resulted in a very strong recovery to the point where all the reservoirs could be at full capacity within the next couple of weeks. The Village was watching it very closely and is thankful they didn't have to go to greater restrictions than were imposed.

Trustee Foster's Report:

Trustee Foster reported that on December 7th she met with students from Mr. Ottochian's Youth and Government class at Warwick Valley High School to talk about their perspectives on how local government can better engage the public, how they feel youth could be engaged in local government as well as to get some feedback on the Memorial Park master planning process. There were about twenty-five kids, ranging from 9th – 12th grade. They talked about their favorite outdoor activities which mostly included walking and talking with friends, hiking, running, biking, horseback riding, kayaking, paddleboarding, crew, sledding, and lacrosse. Trustee Foster said that they shared some really good feedback about different ways that they might like to be engaged that she will share with the Board. Trustee Foster shared some highlights stating that the students liked the idea of coming to the Board meetings, a newsletter, internships, a student board, more connectivity to community volunteering and charity events.

Trustee Foster added that the second meeting of the Memorial Park Master Plan Committee took place on December 12th. Trustee Foster said that the group provided some really good feedback about the things that have been suggested for the park and that she sent out a survey for a deeper follow up, with twelve responses received so far.

Mayor Newhard said that Trustee Foster has been doing a remarkable job with the committee and ability to keep the large committee on task.

Trustee Lindberg's Report:

No report.

Trustee McKnight's Report:

Trustee McKnight expressed that the Village Planning Board did a great job with their participation in the Comprehensive Plan review and that some of the feedback that the committee took action on was from the Planning Board. Trustee McKnight also thanked the Planning Board for their role in preparing the SEQRA to ensure that there are no adverse environmental impacts.

Trustee McKnight reported that the library will close for the holidays on Saturday and will reopen on Tuesday.

Trustee McKnight also reported that the Village met with Orange and Rockland because Orange and Rockland wanted to look at some of the Village's wastewater treatment facilities and waterworks facilities to try to identify any areas the Village could potentially reduce the energy consumption and therefore reduce costs. For Orange and Rockland, it would help lower the peak demand so they can service customers. For the Village of Warwick, it's potentially a good thing because the Village may be able to get some assistance in terms of finding some energy efficiencies at no cost to the Village.

Trustee Foster added that as the Village is identifying energy efficiencies, the Inflation Reduction Act just came out with list of different programs with many related to energy efficiency. Trustee McKnight added that Orange and Rockland have their own targets to meet. For example, at one of the facilities, they are proposing to replace all the lights with LEDs and then there are more involved items such as potentially replacing some portions of the equipment that are a big draw on energy.

Trustee McKnight said that the Climate Smart Communities Task Force had another meeting and with the approval of the Comprehensive Plan that includes sustainability elements, the Village is far beyond where it needs to be to earn the first level of certification. The deadline to submit to the State is January 6th which will include as part of the documentation, the Comprehensive Plan and meeting minutes. Trustee McKnight explained that the Village is partnering with the Hudson Valley Regional Council who have been extremely helpful in their guidance about where the Village can submit for certain actions. Trustee McKnight is anticipating hearing back mid-February if the Village has achieved bronze certification, which would make the Village of Warwick the first municipality in Orange County, besides the County, to do so and that it would be great to lead by example.

Mayor Newhard stated that he was looking at the map online of all the municipalities and communities that are Climate Smart Communities and within Orange County and it was shocking. In Westchester there were plenty of bubbles.

Trustee McKnight explained that this would put the Village in the top 7% of municipalities in New York State.

Trustee Foster asked Trustee McKnight to explain the benefits of achieving certification.

Trustee McKnight explained that Climate Smart Communities is a point-based program sponsored by New York State where points are earned by completing actions. The more actions that are completed, you become eligible for grants and assistance. Trustee McKnight said that the Village is trying to build some of that momentum. The program also overlaps with another New York State program called the Clean Energies Community, which the Village is one of the designated communities, so certain actions the Village takes, such as replacing the streetlights with LED which Trustee Cheney has been working on, now it's about documenting it and seeing if the Village can get more assistance from the State or County.

Mayor Newhard inquired about Trustee McKnight's outreach to the schools. Trustee McKnight said that it is certainly a possibility, but he hasn't spoken to them yet. He explained that they've identified a couple of actions, such as a Climate Vulnerability Assessment for example, that if the students were interested in participating, they could use their help, and it would be good for the students to have that experience and good for the Village because they can be involved and get after more of the actions.

Trustee Foster added that during the Youth and Government meeting, the students asked if the Village would be willing to come in and provide a monthly update to inform the students of opportunities to get involved.

Trustee McKnight said that he will submit the application as soon as he receives the documentation following tonight's meeting. He added that the Village needs 120 points to qualify, and the Village has around 200 points already. Trustee McKnight said that there is no gold certification, just bronze or silver and that silver needs 300 points and if the Village gets there, it would be in the top half of 1% in the state in terms of municipalities. Trustee McKnight said that the Village has a really good task force with people who work in the field and bring a lot to the table, but the Village is looking for more people that are interested.

Mayor Newhard's Report:

Mayor Newhard said that on behalf of the Village Board, the entire staff, and DPW, he wishes our Jewish friends and neighbors a Happy Hannukah and a very Merry Christmas to all our Christian residents and to all a very Happy New Year.

Final Comments from the Floor

Christine Taylor stated that she's been a resident for 20 years and expressed that she has an ongoing hardship and will be addressing the Board at a future time.

Scott Hollowell said that he shares the same situation and wishes the best for everybody.

Final Comments from the Board

No comments were made.

Adjournment

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Lindberg, and carried to adjourn the regular meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

The vote on the foregoing **motion** was as follows: **APPROVED**

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Lindberg Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Village Clerk, Raina M. Abramson