

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF WARWICK
MARCH 18, 2024**

10,039

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. in Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Warwick, NY. Present was: Mayor, Michael J. Newhard. Trustees: Barry Cheney, Carly Foster, Thomas McKnight, and Mary Collura. Also, present was Deputy Village Clerk, Jennifer Mante and Village Attorney, Stephen Gaba. Absent was DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser. Others present, Gail Hoffer-Loibl, Carl Short, Colleen Daly, Christy Mills, Nicole Hixon, Melissa Shaw-Smith, Glenn Weinberg, Town Councilman, Tom Mattingly, and Police Chief, John Rader.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
A moment of silence was held for Lou Marquet.
The Deputy Village Clerk held the roll call.

Acceptance of Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to approve the Acceptance of Minutes: March 4, 2024.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Acceptance of Reports

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried for the Acceptance of Reports – February 2024: Clerk’s Office, Justice Department, Planning 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 Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried for the Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims in the amount of \$292,023.46.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Police Report.

Chief Rader thanked the Board for approving National Night Out as well as thanked Deputy Clerk, Jennifer Mante for aiding with the application process.

Mayor Newhard thanked Chief Rader and the police department for their assistance with the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Presentation

1. Joule Community Power - Community Choice Aggregation

Trustee McKnight provided an update on the Community Choice Aggregation progress, noting that the Village had completed the initial step by enacting Local Law Number One of 2024.

Glenn Weinberg, representing Joule Community Power for Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), began by providing insights into their mission and services. They specialize in supporting communities, like the Village of Warwick, in achieving sustainability objectives. Specifically, CCA is highlighted as a potent tool in driving these goals forward. In addition to CCA, Mr. Weinberg mentioned other initiatives Joule Community Power supports, such as high impact action grants and community solar campaigns. Mr. Weinberg underscored the vision of Joule Community Power, which revolves around transitioning to clean energy while ensuring affordability and universal access. This vision aligns with the mandates set by New York State law. Highlighting their extensive experience, Mr. Weinberg mentioned that Joule Community Power represents 58 municipal clients throughout New York State, covering over 800,000 New Yorkers. Additionally, their programs have played a significant role in avoiding over 150,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions. By participating in CCA, the Village of Warwick has the opportunity to join a larger group of municipalities in the Hudson Valley region. This larger coalition will collectively go out for bid for electricity supply later in the year. Notably, CCA now constitutes more than 30% of the competitive renewable market in New York State, despite being only about eight years old.

Addressing Trustee Cheney's question regarding voluntary markets, Mr. Weinberg provided an overview of renewable energy markets, distinguishing between compliance and voluntary markets. In compliance markets like New York, utilities must meet renewable portfolio standards, while voluntary markets involve customers choosing renewable options above the standard. He then explained Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), a state-regulated program allowing municipalities to select the source of electricity supply for residents and small businesses. New York promotes CCA for affordability, advancing clean energy goals, and consumer protection. Through CCA, municipalities gain control over electricity contracts, ensuring consumer-friendly terms. Mr. Weinberg emphasized local control and consumer choice, highlighting that individuals can opt in or out of the program easily and without penalties. While CCA doesn't always guarantee lower rates than utility prices, it consistently offers competitive rates compared to individual consumer options.

Trustee Cheney inquired about the different options available to residents.

Mr. Weinberg explained the options typically offered through CCA, which include up to three choices based on consumer preferences. The first option is a stabilized conventional product, providing a stable rate similar to traditional fossil fuel sources. The second option is a 50% New York State renewable product, and the third option is a 100% state renewable product. While most client contracts default to either 50% or 100% renewable energy, individual consumers retain the freedom to select and switch between these options as desired.

Trustee Foster provided background information for those unfamiliar with the process, explaining that currently, electric bills feature variable rates. However, through CCA, the Village combines its purchasing power with other entities to solicit bids from power providers. This process allows for negotiation and the establishment of a stabilized rate for the contract period. At the end of the contract, the Village can decide whether to maintain the existing configuration or make adjustments. This includes the possibility of other municipalities joining or leaving the aggregation, prompting a renegotiation process to secure competitive rates.

Mr. Weinberg presented a graph illustrating the monthly variability in electricity rates from November 2020 to the end of 2023. He explained that the global energy market, particularly impacted by events like the Russian invasion of Ukraine, has led to fluctuations where rates can drastically rise or fall within a short period. In New York State, there is no future visibility into utility rates, making it challenging for consumers to plan. However, CCA offers stabilized rates, represented by the fixed lines on the graph. The red line indicates the

monthly Orange and Rockland Utilities (ORU) rate, while the dashed lines represent different CCA product options. Mr. Weinberg noted that the ORU rate was generally above the CCA rate, especially towards the end of the contract term. Despite recent fluctuations where the ORU rate temporarily fell below the CCA rate due to milder winters, customers who have been part of the CCA program since its inception still benefited from savings compared to the variable ORU rate.

Trustee Cheney questioned how the lower ORU rates affected customers opting out of the program.

Mr. Weinberg explained that when the program demonstrates savings, more individuals tend to join, whereas if savings are minimal or non-existent, participants may choose to leave. This dynamic reflects the essence of CCA, providing an alternative option for consumers without imposing any obligation to remain in the program. Participants have the liberty to return to the utility or switch to another supplier if they believe they can secure a better deal elsewhere.

Trustee McKnight asked for clarification on the opting out process.

Mr. Weinberg explained the ease of opting out of the program, outlining three simple methods that participants can use, each taking approximately two minutes. Firstly, individuals can opt out via phone, accessing a dedicated, Joule owned Customer Care Center staffed by trained personnel during regular business hours. Customers need only to provide the name and the account number on their utility bill. Joule then completes the rest of the process and takes the customer off CCA and back onto the utility provider. Depending on when the consumer opts out, it could take up to one billing cycle. Secondly, they can opt out through an online web form, providing a convenient digital option for participants. The third option involves a prepaid postcard included with the program notification sent to every eligible customer in the Village before the program commences. Participants can simply send back this prepaid postcard with their information loaded in to opt out of the program.

Mr. Weinberg provided insights into the progress of CCA programs in New York State, highlighting their role in advancing renewable energy goals set by the state. He discussed the steady growth of CCA programs in various regions, emphasizing their ability to increase renewable energy content, reduce carbon footprint, enhance customer value and protections, and empower communities to achieve sustainability objectives. Additionally, he outlined the next steps for the Village of Warwick in implementing CCA, starting with the selection of a CCA administrator, followed by a mandated public outreach and education period of at

least 60 days. During this period, various outreach activities, including events, information sessions, social media, ads, and posters, will be conducted to inform residents about the program. After the outreach period, the Village will proceed with the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to select electricity suppliers, with recommendations presented to the Board for discussion and decision-making.

Trustee Foster inquired about additional services provided by the CCA administrator, particularly regarding support for pursuing opportunities such as elective pay and exploring solar options for Village buildings. She sought clarification on how the administrator could assist in introducing energy and cost savings initiatives.

Mr. Weinberg explained that while the focus of the discussion was on the CCA electricity supply procurement, the CCA administrator also provides additional services. These include community solar services, project origination services for solar and battery storage, electric vehicle charging solutions, and assistance in accessing available grants, including federal tax credits and state grants for development. He highlighted that the state offers up to \$200,000 to support the pre-development of projects.

Trustee Foster mentioned additional programs offered by NYSERDA, including pilot programs for investigating geothermal energy and generating electricity based on the thermal production of facilities such as the wastewater treatment facility and the hospital. She noted that NYSERDA provides funding to support these investigations.

Mr. Weinberg highlighted NYSERDA's role in program development, particularly in innovative energy efficiency and new generation initiatives like storage. He emphasized how NYSERDA provides funding and guidance through programs like Clean Energy Communities, which incentivize municipalities to undertake impactful actions by assigning quantifiable points. These points can lead to financial rewards based on the accumulated points, offering concrete guidance to municipalities across the state.

In answering Trustee Foster's question regarding compensation, Mr. Weinberg explained that Joule never collects consulting fees from municipalities for any services. Instead, they are paid by a third party. For electricity supply, the selected supplier pays them, and if the agreement doesn't proceed, no payment is due. Similarly, for solar development or other services, Joule is paid an origination fee after being awarded the project.

Trustee Foster sought and received clarification about compliance with federal

procurement requirements, particularly referencing the two CFR Part 200 regulations, in the context of potential projects like elective pay and solar farm development, as well as on how Joule's involvement, from designing programs to developing RFPs and receiving payment, aligns with these regulations. Trustee Foster emphasized the importance of ensuring compliance with competitive procurement standards, highlighting that any activities involving grants must adhere to these regulations.

Mr. Weinberg said he would provide additional information at a separate date to walk the Board through that process.

Mr. Weinberg highlighted the comprehensive nature of the initial 60-day outreach campaign, which includes community meetings and engagement through local media. He emphasized ongoing program support provided by their call center staff, who are highly knowledgeable and adept at assisting participants. Additionally, Mr. Weinberg mentioned the provision of community updates and events to keep participants informed about program developments. Lastly, he noted the availability of additional advisory services to accommodate the Village's evolving preferences.

Mr. Weinberg outlined the RFP process, emphasizing its flexibility and the absence of predetermined outcomes. The RFP allows suppliers to compete based on various factors such as price, terms, and product offerings, while also being evaluated on their expertise. The primary goals of the RFP are to stabilize prices, maximize renewable content, and ensure affordability for participants.

Trustee McKnight inquired about the duration of the contract term.

Mr. Weinberg provided information regarding the contract term, stating that suppliers can bid for contract durations ranging from 12 to 60 months, with the optimal duration typically being around 24 months. He also highlighted the benefits of synchronizing with a larger group of municipalities for bidding purposes, emphasizing increased competition among suppliers and potentially lower prices and higher renewable content. Additionally, he mentioned the timeline for starting the public outreach and education process, suggesting April to align with other municipalities going out for bid in May.

Trustee McKnight inquired about Joule's incentives to maintain customer engagement in the program. He raised a scenario where a significant portion of households withdraw from the program shortly after negotiation with a third-party supplier, which is crucial for Joule's compensation. He sought clarification on how Joule handles such situations.

Mr. Weinberg explained that Joule's compensation is tied to the program's size, incentivizing them to maintain high participation rates. However, he emphasized that there's no pressure on participants to stay. Regarding the third-party supplier, they sign a firm full requirements power supply contract, obligating them to provide power at the agreed price regardless of fluctuations in participation. This means the supplier bears the risk if a significant number of participants drop out.

The Board discussed whether it was possible to complete the steps required in order to take part in the next bidding process in May; this would include the largest group of municipalities from Orange and Rockland Counties.

Trustee Foster asked where the Town of Warwick stood with their CCA. Trustee McKnight had a conversation with the Town during a work session with the previous administration, but there had been no further progression. Mr. Weinberg confirmed that Joule had not spoken to the Town in this type of capacity, but he would be happy to do so.

The Board discussed their options with Mr. Weinberg in regard to participating in the Orange and Rockland counties contract negotiation, but the timeline seemed unlikely. In the event of missing this year's deadline, it was agreed that the surplus time would be dedicated to thorough public outreach and readiness efforts, ensuring the Village would be ready to act when opportunity arrives.

The Village Attorney, Stephen Gaba, was asked by the Board to weigh in on the situation. Mr. Gaba remarked that while there might be minor adjustments to the RFP specific to the municipality, the overall process is quite standard. He noted that there were a few reputable options available, including Joule, which is well-regarded in the field. Despite the unfortunate timeline, he suggested taking the necessary time to carefully consider the RFP for consultants, which is likely to follow a boilerplate format.

Mayor Newhard stated that he was concerned about the earlier timeline, pointing out that the opt out period would fall in the middle of the summer when many residents were away.

Mr. Gaba emphasizes the importance of addressing concerns and educating residents during the implementation of the program. He notes that the most significant challenge lies in communicating effectively with residents who may fear being trapped or unable to opt out of the program. He suggests that having a robust education period will be essential in addressing questions and concerns from residents, anticipating that there will be phone calls and letters. He agrees

that a longer education period would be beneficial in ensuring residents understand the program and feel comfortable with it.

Announcement

1. The Village of Warwick General Election will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at the Goodwill Hook and Ladder Co., 25 Church Street Extension, Warwick, NY. The polls will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
2. Village of Warwick Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 30, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park.
3. Village of Warwick Hydrant Flushing beginning April 15, 2024, from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.
4. Village of Warwick Brush Pile opening Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., April 1 – November 30, excepted holidays and Applefest Sunday.

Trustee Cheney explained that the brush pile would be open every weekend in July, August, and September, extending its operational period from two weekends compared to previous years.

5. Orange County Department of Motor Vehicles mobile office will be in Warwick at the CVS parking lot on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with a lunch break from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Correspondence

1. Letter from President and CEO of Bon Secours Charity Health System, Mary P. Leahy, MD, MHA, informing the Village of Warwick of the relocation of The Sleep Institute from 74 North Main Street in Florida, NY to St. Anthony Community Hospital.
2. Letter from Warwick Meadows Property Office Manager, Colleen Daly.

The letter requests for the Village to run the street sweeper through their property. Mayor Newhard said this would be a discussion for a later date.

3. Letter from the New York State Department of Transportation regarding the Route 17A/94 Pavement Resurfacing and Improvements.

Trustee McKnight asked what the next steps were in response to the denials from the NYSDOT.

Mayor Newhard said the Village will respond to the letter.

4. Letter from Village residents regarding 16 Elm Street.

Discussion

1. Village Code Article XI, 'Cross Connection Control' Revisions.
<https://ecode360.com/11148624>

Trustee Cheney provided a concise overview, highlighting that the Village code is stricter than the state code regarding backflow prevention devices. The Orange County Health Department suggested aligning the Village code with current New York State Department of Health policies. Specifically, Trustee Cheney proposed revising the code to remove the requirement for RPZ (Reduced Pressure Zone) units in residential properties, replacing them with double check valves, which are deemed appropriate by the state. He sought the Board's consensus before proceeding with edits to the cross-connection control regulations.

Trustee Foster asked about potential technical or risk implications associated with this changeover.

Trustee Cheney stated that the county health department does not seem to perceive any technical or risk implications concerning the shift from RPZ units to double check valves in compliance with state health laws.

A discussion ensued revolving around the current requirements for backflow prevention devices, particularly focusing on the shift from RPZ units to double check valves. Technical implications, risk factors, and the reasoning behind the existing standards were also discussed. Trustee Cheney explained the challenges faced by residents in complying with the RPZ unit requirement, highlighting the need for drainage infrastructure. The Trustees ponder over whether the Village's stricter standards were necessary or inadvertently adopted without a full understanding of the implications. Ultimately, they concluded that double check valves offer sufficient protection without the added complexity of drainage requirements associated with RPZ units. The consensus was for Trustee Cheney to proceed with moving forward.

Public Comment - Agenda Items Only

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The public may speak only during the meeting's Public Comment period and at any other time a majority of the Board allows. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer, step to the front of the room/microphone, give their name, residency, and organization, if any. Speakers must limit their remarks to three minutes (this time limit may be changed to accommodate the number of speakers) and may not yield any remaining time they may have to another speaker. Board members may, with the permission of the mayor, interrupt a speaker during their remarks, but only for the purpose of clarification or information. The Village Board is not required to accept or respond to questions from the public at meetings but may request that inquiries be submitted in writing to be responded to at a later date. All remarks must be addressed to the Board as a body and not to individual Board members. Interested parties or their representatives may also address the Board by written communications.

Colleen Daly, the property manager for Warwick Meadows, discussed the letter she had written to the Board. She expressed her enthusiasm for collaborating with the Village and encouraging residents of Warwick Meadows to actively participate in community affairs. Ms. Daly emphasized the desire for Warwick Meadows to feel integrated into the broader village community and expressed hope for mutual support between the two entities. She highlighted the responsibility of the HOA to seek assistance from the Village when necessary, particularly regarding infrastructure.

Mayor Newhard thanked Ms. Daly for attending the meeting and assured her that the Board would review the letter. He suggested placing it on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. The Mayor expressed gratitude for Ms. Daly's efforts to engage the residents of Warwick Meadows and emphasized their integral role in the Village community.

Advertise for Bid – Well #3

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to advertise and receive bids to construct the Water Treatment System for Well #3.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Mayor Newhard announced that the project is expected to be primarily funded by a community project grant from Congressman Pat Ryan's office. The initial allocation was \$1.6 million; later reduced to \$959,000 during the congressional process. Mayor Newhard expressed gratitude for the grant and despite the reduction, was confident it would be sufficient to fund most, if not all, of the total project cost. Mayor Newhard emphasized its importance for essential infrastructure improvements in the Village.

DPW Training - Bucket Truck Certification

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to grant permission to DPW Employees Matthew Santiago, Andrew D'Allesandro, and Matt Hann to attend Bucket Truck Certification Training on April 25, 2024, at Maybrook Senior Center, Maybrook, NY. from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at a cost of \$175 per person. Training is provided by Lee Drake DBA Safe Lee Done. The Village Bucket Truck will be taken to the training. Funds are appropriated in budget code A5110.4750.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Seasonal Department of Public Works Laborer – Stephen Burger

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to hire Stephen Burger to the position of Seasonal Department of Public Works Laborer to perform the duties of Brush Pile Attendant at Veterans Memorial Park at a rate of \$16.50 per hour for the period of April – November 2024 during designated brush pile operation dates and times. Start date to be determined by the DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Seasonal Recreation Staff – FY 2023-24

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to hire Sydney Introini, Francis Keneally, and Alyssa Nealon as part of the FY 2023-24 special event staff at a rate of \$15.00 per hour for the 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 Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Taxicab License – Warwick Taxi, LLC – John Knowles

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried to grant a Village of Warwick Taxicab License to John Knowles, owner of Warwick Taxi, LLC through May 31, 2024, per Village Code Chapter 126. Proof of NYS Department of Motor Vehicles driver's license, New York State livery registration, and Village of Warwick background check and license fees have been received. Warwick Police Department background check has been completed and approved.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

The Board questioned if the year was correct. Deputy Clerk, Jennifer Mante, confirmed there was a lapse in the license and the applicant would have to apply again for the following fiscal year.

Facility Use Request - Veteran's Memorial Park, Warwick Adult Kickball League

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to grant permission to the Warwick Adult Kickball League to use the football field and Over 35 field in Veterans Memorial Park from May 10, 2024, through July 19, 2024, on Friday nights from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., except during the Fireman's Carnival. Request includes use of Memorial Park Football/Over 35 Field Lights, use of speakers, electricity, and restrooms. Request also

includes permission for (1) one food truck to be parked on the pavement in proximity to the Over 35 Field during the allotted games. All events must be in coordination with other organizations who regularly use the park for practice and games. Completed park permit, proof of insurance, security deposit, and fees have been received. Pending proper insurance requirements from participating food truck.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Carl Short, organizer of the Warwick Adult Kickball League, clarified that the proposed "food truck" is not a traditional food truck for cooking, but instead a mobile shed or shack used for storage of supplies during the week. In the evenings, two individuals are planning a pilot program to offer packaged goods as concessions, with proceeds benefiting their sports program. This setup doesn't involve cooking or food preparation. The primary purpose is to manage storage, with occasional sales of packaged goods or sodas during specific times to support the sports program.

Facility Use Request – South Street Parking Lot, Famers’ Market

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to grant permission to The Warwick Valley Chamber to hold the Warwick Valley Famers’ Market in the South Street parking lot on Sundays from May 12, 2024, through November 24, 2024, with the exclusion of Applefest Sunday. The parking lot will be used from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with the event open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Request includes an additional Earth Day Market on Sunday, April 21, 2024. 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 Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Trustee Cheney received confirmation that there were no changes to the setup from last year.

There was some confusion if the Easter Holiday Market would occur in the Kuiken parking lot, as the organization was not asking permission to hold the event at the South Street lot.

Questions about the additional Earth Day Market were brought up.

Road Closure – Warwick Valley Farmers’ Market, Bank Street

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to close Bank Street on Sunday, July 14, 2024, from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the benefit of the Warwick Valley Farmers’ Market 30th Anniversary Celebration.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Trustee Cheney questioned the need for closing the street.

Mayor Newhard answered that it would be the Market’s 30th Anniversary and the idea was to expand the area for tables and food tasting. He also mentioned that he had already contacted Peck’s Liquor and received confirmation that they had no objections to closing the street for the event.

Facility Use Request – Stanley Deming, Too Good to Toss

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to grant permission to Wickham Works to use the east side of Stanley Deming Park, from 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 31, 2024, through Monday, June 3, 2024, for the 2024 Too Good to Toss event. Request includes use of the basketball court and lawn area around the handball court, use of restrooms and water fountains, the set-up of tents and tables for the duration of the event. Request also includes 18 (eighteen) parking spaces near the entrance of the basketball court to be reserved for drop-off and pick-ups only. Request also includes 1 (one) food truck to be parked on the grass between the creek and the handball court on the west side of the park. Village of Warwick DPW to provide 15+ orange parking cones, reflective vests for parking volunteers, 10 (ten) to 12 (twelve) garbage cans/recycling bins to be placed in the basketball court and around the food truck, designated parking in the grass behind the basketball courts; in coordination with DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser, and the pickup of leftover items on Monday, June 3, 2024, by the

Village of Warwick DPW. Village of Warwick to contribute one half the total cost of the event, approximately \$1,768.69. Completed park permit, proof of insurance, and security deposit have been received. Pending proper insurance requirements from participating food truck.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Mayor Newhard stated he believed the amount the Village was contributing was half the cost of the tent, not the event itself.

Trustee Cheney asked Milissa Shaw-Smith of Wickham Works if there were plans to attempt to get an organization to come on Monday to pick up anything leftover.

Ms. Shaw-Smith said the person responsible for Monday's pickup had been looking into various organizations who could use the leftover items, as the intention was always to have zero waste. Unfortunately, the organizations change from year to year, and she had not heard of any updates as to any possible organizations.

Trustee Cheney expressed gratitude for the ongoing efforts to facilitate the pickup. He acknowledged the challenges, particularly with scheduling and obtaining services at a reasonable rate with a timely response. However, he conveyed appreciation for the current efforts and expressed satisfaction with the progress.

Facility Use Request – Warwick Pride Parade

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to grant permission to the Warwick Valley Community Center to hold the Warwick Pride Parade on Sunday, June 9, 2024. The parade will step off at 1:30 p.m., with lineup beginning at the Community Center as per their letter received on February 23, 2024. The parade route will be as follows: Hamilton Avenue to Orchard Street, left onto Oakland Avenue/Main Street, proceed up Main Street, right on South Street, left on High Street, right onto Forester, arriving at Veteran's Memorial Park Pavilion at approximately 2:30 p.m. for the Warwick Pride Celebration event. Completed facility use permit, security deposit, and proof of insurance have been received. The parade route has been approved by the Town of Warwick Police Department. The Warwick Fire Department and EMS have been notified of the event.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Facility Use Request - Veteran's Memorial Park, Warwick Pride Celebration

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to grant permission to The Warwick Valley Community Center to use Veterans Memorial Park for a Warwick Pride Celebration event on Sunday, June 9, 2024. Event set-up to begin at 10:00 a.m., with the event taking place between 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Clean-up to be completed by 6:30 p.m. Request includes use of the Memorial Park Pavilion, restrooms, electricity, set-up of a pop-up tent, portable tables and chairs, temporary decorations, use of the McFarland Drive parking lot, use of the large grassy area to the right of the Over 35 Field and use of the adjacent parking lot. DPW to provide 4 (four) garbage cans, 100 (one hundred) chairs, and 4 (four) large tables. Completed facility use permit, security deposit, and proof of insurance have been received.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Trustee McKnight questioned if the requested bathrooms were the ones near the pavilion.

Mayor Newhard verified the restroom location and mentioned plans to upgrade the locks to automatic ones similar to those installed at Stanley Deming Park.

Facility Use Request - Veteran's Memorial Park, Warwick Youth Football and Cheerleading

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried to grant permission to Warwick Youth Football and Cheerleading to use the Veterans Memorial Park football field and the area between the Over 35 field and parking lot for practices and games from April 1, 2024, to November 20, 2024. Request includes use of field lights for the season and in the event of rain, use of the Veterans Memorial Park Pavilion for the cheer teams. It is the responsibility of Warwick Youth Football and Cheerleading to enforce that parking is in the designated parking lot and not in the grass on the entrance roads. The event is in coordination with other organizations that regularly use the park for practice and games. Completed facility

use permit, proof of insurance, security deposit and Memorial Park Football/Over 35 Field Light fee have been received.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Trustee Cheney expressed concern about ongoing parking issues along the entrance road from Memorial Park to DPW. He suggested that there should be a plan in place to address this issue, emphasizing the need for assistance from the relevant parties to direct parking appropriately.

Mayor Newhard proposed having something written in the facility use application to address this concern.

Trustee Cheney suggested that it might be necessary to have specific requirements outlined for their use of the area, ensuring that there is a tangible plan in place for managing parking. This approach would provide a basis for accountability and evaluation, enabling the Village to address any discrepancies between agreed-upon measures and actual implementation.

Trustee Foster added that people routinely park in the handicap parking spots without permits.

Mayor Newhard clarified that while the motion outlined the responsibility of Warwick Youth Football and Cheerleading to enforce parking in designated areas rather than on the grass, Trustee Cheney's suggestion implied the need for a detailed plan from them regarding how they intend to fulfill this obligation effectively.

Trustee Cheney proposed revisiting Warwick Youth Football and Cheerleading to request a detailed plan for managing parking, emphasizing the importance of having a thought-out strategy to effectively direct traffic to designated areas. While acknowledging the resolution's clarity on their responsibility, Trustee Cheney stressed the need for assurance through a comprehensive plan from their end.

It was agreed to draft a letter addressed to the organization, formally requesting a detailed parking plan.

Facility Use Request -Railroad Green, Community Health Fair

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried to grant permission to the Union A.M.E. Church Missionary Society to use Railroad Green on Saturday, June 8, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with a rain date of Saturday, June 15, 2024, for a Community Health Fair. 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 Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Road Closure –Community Health Fair, Railroad Avenue

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried to close Railroad Avenue on Saturday, June 8, 2024, with a rain date of Saturday, June 15, 2024, from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the benefit of the Union A.M.E. Church Community Health Fair.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

There was some confusion over the street closure as the request was on the application but not mentioned in the cover letter.

Attorney to the Village of Warwick Planning Board – Elizabeth Cassidy

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to appoint counsel Elizabeth Cassidy as Attorney to the Village of Warwick Planning Board.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Full-Time Provisional Billing Control Clerk - Sandra Alfonzo

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to hire Sandra Alfonzo to the position of Full-Time Provisional Billing Control Clerk in accordance with Civil Service requirements with a start date of April 2, 2024.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Alternate Attorney to the Village of Warwick Planning Board – Naughton & Torre, LLP

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee McKnight, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to appoint counsel from Naughton & Torre, LLP as Alternate Attorney to the Village of Warwick Planning Board.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Discussion

Trustee Cheney pointed out that the backup information provided did not include an inventory application or response to the request for appointment to the Planning Board. They questioned whether the Planning Board attorney had been contacted regarding this matter.

Mayor Newhard stated that he had a verbal conversation with Ashley today and they were good and very appreciative.

Trustee Cheney inquired whether the fee for the Planning Board would mirror that of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

Mayor Newhard confirmed that it would.

Public Comment – *Non-Agenda Items*

No comments.

Reports

Trustee Cheney’s Report:

Trustee Cheney reiterated that the Mobile DMV Unit would be in the CVS parking lot on Tuesday, March 26, 2024.

Trustee Foster’s Report:

No report at this time.

Trustee Collura’s Report:

Trustee Collura announced an upcoming event hosted by the Warwick Historical Society. The Tavern Night will take place on Thursday, March 28, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Ferris Tavern, located at 103 Main Street. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the museum rooms on the upper floors and in the attic of the tavern. Tickets are currently available for purchase, priced at \$45.00 for Warwick Historical Society members and \$55.00 for non-members. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling 845-986-3236 or at the door.

Trustee McKnight’s Report:

Trustee McKnight reminded everyone about tomorrow's Village general election; with two trustee spots up for election. The polling will take place at the Church Street Firehouse from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. tomorrow.

Mayor Newhard’s Report:

No report at this time.

Executive Session

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to enter into Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matter leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation and to seek confidential advice of counsel.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

In Executive Session: Michael Newhard, Mayor, and Trustees Barry Cheney, Mary Collura, Carly Foster, Tom McKnight, and Stephen Gaba.

Adjournment of Executive/Adjournment

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to exit Executive Session, resume the regular Village Board meeting, and adjourn the regular meeting at approximately 10:00 p.m.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Deputy Village Clerk, Jennifer Mante