

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF CHESTNUT RIDGE
JULY 19, 2018**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Chestnut Ridge convened in regular session on July 19, 2018 at the Village Hall, located at 277 Old Nyack Turnpike, Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977.

PRESENT:

ROSARIO PRESTI, JR.	-	MAYOR
JOAN BROCK	-	DEPUTY MAYOR BROCK
HOWARD COHEN	-	TRUSTEE
GRANT VALENTINE	-	TRUSTEE

ABSENT:

RICHARD MILLER	-	TRUSTEE
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PRESENT:

WALTER SEVASTIAN	-	VILLAGE ATTORNEY
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PRESENT:

FLORENCE A. MANDEL	-	VILLAGE CLERK
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1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Mayor's report.

- Presentation of plans for new Rockland County Highway Department Facility.

Mayor Presti: Introduced our guests for the evening.

We have a special guest, Skip Vezzetti from Rockland County Highway Department together with some associates that are here too; to explain what's going on with the new Highway Department which we will have in the not too distant future, hopefully

Skip Vezzetti – Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department.

- Skip Vezzetti introduced Andy Connors who is our Engineer on this project and Steven Grogg who represents McLaren Engineering Group and who has been our consultant on the project.
- We are going to relocate the Highway Department out of New City to a better location. The facility we have is 80 years old and has never been improved. All our materials are outside. We went through the process of designing this facility, and in 2007 we went to bid. Because of the downturn, it wasn't affordable at that time.
- Ed Day came on Board and we removed all projects, and said, we have to get this done.
- We did a study looking for the geographic center of our service area. We could review our operation because it's the closest to the rest of the County; Thruway, parkway, Pascack Rd., Rt. 59 so it's a splendid location. This location was available, owned by State, it's called Rt. 59 or Spring Valley by-pass. They made it available to us. It's 24 acres and that's why it's here. Essentially, we have an Administrative office building which is located up on Scotland Hill Rd.

Andy Connors, Deputy Superintendent- Rockland County Highway Dept.

- Plan for our new Highway County Building. We are in the design phase now. Some of these drawings are exactly what you saw 1-1/2 years ago. With the help McLaren Engineering, who is the lead engineer on the project; they are doing the bulk of the work. We haven't changed our layout as we presented it approximately 1-1/2 year ago.
- Described the drawing; showing Scotland Hill Rd., this is the overpass over the Thruway, Garden State extension, Old Nyack Turnpike, that's a sharp turn, and then it goes up to Pipetown Hill Rd. and then it goes to Pascack Rd. so everyone gets an idea of where it is.
- We are planning to have an office building on the upper portion of that lot. Backside of the lot, it drops off almost thirty feet which we are going to take advantage We will have an office building with a parking lot to park cars by our office. The only people accessing Scotland Hill Rd will be cars. As you move down from the western portion to the eastern portion we are proposing to have a large vehicle storage for our trucks, (enclosed), a repair facility. The way this is laid out there will be a building configuration. We are proposing a truck wash, then our fuel pumps our salt shed and a place where we can put everything else inside, no equipment will be left outside., We like to keep our equipment dry. It lasts a lot longer and performs much better. In essence, we almost duplicate the old; went across the lot and made an S turn. All the trucks will exit out Pascack Rd., for their daily activities; for snow events as well.
- Showed the type of structure they are going to build. They call it an Adirondack style; something similar like you see Bear Mountain, a lot of stone, a peak roof, the windows let a lot of light into the office; we insist on that. Two chimneys, not a fireplace, for the

heating element, but we want it to look like that. One chimney located down at the other end of the building. The design was created in 2007. The new building will be a smaller version of that but in the same style. This footprint had a different design perimeter. The fact that we can build the site now, we call slab on crater. It allows us to shrink the footprint on some of these building, a more efficient and economical structure, but not changing the style.

- We are looking at the various design elements as far as the materials we are putting in these structures; utility installations, bringing water in, power in. This should be a self-sufficient operation.
- Should the power go out, we will have emergency generators so we can operate twenty-four seven, for seven to ten days, so we can service the County; full operation mode.

Deputy Mayor Brock:

- The only thing that will be located in Chestnut Ridge is the office building.
- The only vehicles that will travel the roads in Chestnut Ridge will be only cars. So that we don't have to worry about all kinds of commercial traffic.

Steve Grogg – McLaren Engineering Group.

- The Highway Department looked at this very closely.
- The parking lot will hold 90 cars, verses 120 cars.
- Some of the impact up Scotland Hill Rd. will be less.

Jerry Liebelson – 31 Midway Rd., Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977:

- How far down Pascack Rd., will the trucks actually go?
- The exit ramp where it goes down, where will it be?

Steve Grogg – McLaren Engineering Group

- If you are on Pascack Rd. heading for the tunnel, Old Nyack Turnpike, where the gas station is, there is a pool company, that's where our trucks will be coming out of Pascack Rd. The exit coming off the Thruway. We are on the North side of the bridge overpass; the traffic light is on the South side.

Lee March Grayson – 52 Wilshire Drive, Chestnut Ridge, NY 1097

- Should we as residents be happy about this?
- Should we feel we are getting something?

Andy Connors– Deputy Superintendent - Rockland County Highway Department

- One of the concerns we had was the number of trucks, is it noise generated?
- Most of our people are out on the road. Total of 16 vehicles, maybe 5 or 6 work trucks might go out.
- We can put two trucks out and still carry the same amount of people.
- The truck that plows Pascack Rd. and Old Nyack Turnpike, now comes from the City; it will come from here in one minute, verses ½ hour. From an operational standpoint, more so in weather events the county roads will be plowed in a more-timely fashion. It will be very important that we maintain the access in and around this area.
- It will bring a bump to the local economy; people need to buy lunch.

Trustee Cohen:

- Will there be any salt storage?

Andy Connors – Deputy Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department

- We are proposing a 10,000 lb. facility.
- The County needs 6,000 tons of salt.
- What we are looking to do is to make available to the surrounding municipalities 4,000 tons of a reserve capacity.
- With the current facilities, there is not an adequate amount.
- This will allow us to store a one-year supply of salt which is recommended. Nobody has that yet.
- We would allow the other municipalities to store to meet that requirements here.
- It's good budget wise because you can buy salt on a larger scale.
- A mild winter, salt doesn't go bad you can keep it and then if you need it the following winter it's there.
- The salt is in an indoor facility will be completely dry, not exposed to the rain.
- We are planning to have a roof over where we have the salt stored. When the truck is loaded, that's the only time you will see the effects of moisture.

Skip Vezzetti – Superintendent, Rockland County Highway Department

- We comply with all State, Federal requirements.
- It's an impervious surface with a 10 ft. concrete wall.
- There will be drainage installed around it.
- We are planning to have the discharges be designed to go into a large pit or well.
- Should any salt spill out in the area that we load it, it will go into this catch basin which we can pump it back out and we could use it.

Norman Cohen – 11 Aberdeen Avenue, Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977:

- How new are the trucks; are they relatively environmentally clean?

Andy Connors – Deputy Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department

- The oldest truck in the fleet is 2007. You can use a non-corrosive salt too.
- We have been actively improving our fleet and buying them with the new EPA standards.
- You're supposed to be able to breath the exhaust on the new systems. I wouldn't recommend that.

Skip Vezzetti – Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department:

- With potassium chloride you have to use 3x as much to get the same effect. That wouldn't be environmentally correct. We use a corrosion inhibited liquid, magnesium chloride which activates the salt, so we are able to put down less salt. We've reduced the use of salt by 15%.
- We have been actively improving our fleet and buying equipment with the new EPA standards. You're supposed to be able to breath the exhaust on the new systems. I wouldn't recommend that.
- It's an anomia mixture that you add with your fuel so it burns cleaner and hotter.
- We've been replacing our fleet which is not used on a regular basis.

Andy Connors – Deputy Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department

- When we did the study it's ½ mile from this sight.
- The benefit to that is when we go out to salt we access the County system.
- The big deal to that is when you are out fighting snow storms the application of salt is critical in the early stages.
- A few minutes verses an hour, there is a huge environmental benefit as far as the salt usage.

Skip Vezzetti – Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department

- The five towns other **Rockland County municipalities**, for example, Ramapo, Clarkstown, Stony Point, Haverstraw, Orangetown would all have the ability to store some of their salt.
- If they stored 2,000 tons which they would probably only need at the end of the winter if they ran out.
- Once you get into January, if it is a bad winter, the salt people can't deliver it to you.
- We want to make sure our people want to have safe, black streets.

Trustee Cohen:

- Why don't you tell them the roads you do, so they will know?
- Pascack Rd., Old Nyack Turnpike, Convent Rd.,

Lee March Grayson – 52 Wilshire Drive, Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977:

- You guys paved it and haven't put the stripes down from Grandview to all way to Scotland Hill Rd.

Andy Connors – Deputy Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department

- Our resurfacing program, Convent Rd., being one of them, we did a hot in place treatment first. surface first. We are in the process of putting the final surface down. Once that's put that down, we will put the double lines down in the next two weeks.

Norman Cohen – 11 Aberdeen Avenue, Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977:

- In many areas the roads may be smaller and you may not to get to them.

Deputy Mayor Brock:

- Whoever owns the road is responsible for the road.
- They are responsible for the County Rd.
The State is responsible for Rt. 45.
- The Town of Ramapo is responsible for all our local roads.
- We have in Chestnut Ridge alone 35 miles of roads; they are not all owned by the County nor the State, most of them are owned by the Town or the Village.
- They are not responsible for those roads.
- They are talking about getting the salt out on the small roads in Chestnut Ridge.

Mayor Presti:

- County Highway is only going to be taking care of County Highways.
There will be the ability for other villages and towns to co-op; they have a storage facility so they're not stuck regarding storage.

Carole Goodman –964 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977

- Complained that what they dug up that was a State project.
- They not only dug up Chestnut Ridge Rd. in front of her home but also her driveway, put a patch and left it that way? They never corrected it.

Resident:

- Is another light required on Pascack for trucks to get out?

Skip Vezzetti– Superintendent Rockland County Highway Department:

- We don't think that will be necessary.
- The other point is if you have a light on the North side and one on the South side, if you put another light you'll never get through there.
- There are a few trucks that we actually generally have operating 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- The guys that do the real work operate from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. So, if they arrive at 7:00 a.m., no later than 7:30 a.m. they are out on the road,
- Generally, they are not supposed to be back until 3:15 p.m. so then they can wash up and go home. There is not a lot of traffic.

Mayor Presti:

Thanked the gentlemen and stated.

“We look forward to having them as part of the community.

Mayor's Presti's Report -: issues from Village Board Meeting of June 21, 2018:

2 Samuel Rd. – Exterior is finished. Rear deck is built. Sheet rock in and the crew is working on the floors. No landscaping has been done. There is no garage on the building as was the case with the original building. No indications of violation. Keeping an eye on it.

10 Lillian Dr. – Rear deck is built; lawn is in and the crew is starting to landscape. Believe floors are in. The dwelling has one garage as the original house. A painter has been there a couple of times. No violation as to what's going on there.

312 N. Highland Avenue - The first owner of the house appeared in court on 07/11/2018. He plead guilty to Construction without a permit and paid the fee stipulated by the Village Attorney who is also our Prosecutor. We will close the complaints against him and focus on violations with the current owners for use of the property and parking issues.

45 Grotke Rd – The property has been cleaned up. The basement excavation has been filled. The plot has been leveled out; it looks o.k. Owner spoken to. No plans to build on the site at present time. 0 violations at this time. The Building Permit for the demolition is still posted.

3 Perth Avenue – Pool was reported overflowing. Code Enforcer visited the property. The yard is fenced in. People are living in the house but no one answered the door. There were signs in the year that indicated a mosquito control company had visited the property. Code Enforcer will be keeping that on his radar.

21 Lancaster Lane - The fill has been removed. They are still in violation. Martin Spence, our Village Engineer, keeping an eye on it. The rear yard has been terraced and seeded. The Stop Work Order had been lifted only to allow the removal of the illegal fill. Process going on now for filing a new Court summons at Justice Court.

1 Karow Ct. - None of the stockpile fill has been removed. They are still in violation. Martin Spence, our Village Engineer still has them in violation. The Stop Work Order had been lifted to allow only the removal of the illegal fill. Serving a new Court summons; on its way to Justice Court.

- **Continuation of Public Hearing on the proposed Zoning for the House of Worship –**
- E-mails have been sent out.
- Location has changed from the Chestnut Ridge Middle School to Spring Valley High School.
- Meeting date is the same – October 4, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.
- We are told the auditorium holds 800 people, so there shouldn't be a problem accommodating everyone.

3. Open Floor: Public discussion of Agenda Items Only.

- No one from the public wished to speak.

MOTION: Trustee Cohen

SECOND: Trustee Valentine

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Close the Open Floor Public Discussion.

4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting, June 21, 2018.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Brock

SECOND: Trustee Cohen

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve the Village Board Minutes of June 21, 2108.

5. Resolution No. 2018-60: Resolution to authorize the renewal of the Village's Insurance coverage with Traveler's Insurance.

WHEREAS, the Village of Chestnut Ridge current maintains it municipal insurance coverage through Traveler's Insurance Company; and

WHEREAS, the renewal terms offered by Travelers for the coverage maintained by the Village reflect the lowest responsible comparative cost for the coverage required by the Village; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Village of Chestnut Ridge renews it insurance coverage with Traveler's Insurance Company for a one -year period.

MOTION: Trustee Valentine

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Brock

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to approve Resolution No. 2018-60.

6. Resolution No. 2018-61:

RESOLVED that the following property owners be refunded the referenced amounts overpaid on property tax bills:

Graves, Shirley
520 Pascaek
63.18-1-50

<p>\$12.50</p> <p>Lereta LLC (Attn. Refund Dept)</p> <p>10 Menocker Road</p> <p>62.11-1-15</p> <p>\$305.32</p> <p>Lereta LLC (Attn. Refund Dept)</p> <p>4 Jean Lane</p> <p>62.19-2-58</p> <p>\$183.32</p> <p>Kaplan, Israel</p> <p>19 Fox Hill Road</p> <p>67.12-1-45</p> <p>\$102.32</p>
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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Brock

SECOND: Trustee Valentine

The Board was polled and voted **5-0** to refund overpayment of taxes; total amount \$603.46.

- Resolution No. 2018-62:** Resolution authorizing the refund of the property taxes resulting from duplicate payment of taxes.

RESOLVED that the following property owners be refunded the referenced amounts property tax bills which paid twice:

CoreLogic	18 Hearthstone La	62-19-2-21	\$545.97	06282018I
CoreLogic Centralized Refunds	29 Keith Dr	62-7-1-8	\$791.56	06282018I
PO Box 9202	155 Hungry Hollow Rd	62-12-1-5	\$577.06	06282018I

Coppell, TX 75019-9760	18 Kennedy Parkway	62-15-1-21	\$734.70	062820181
JCW Management LLC	40 Midway Rd	67-8-1-44	\$503.92	
PO Box 293	50 Hungry Hollow Rd	56-20-1-35	\$1,059.13	
Monsey, NY 10952				
First Commerce Bank	12 Ullman Ter	62-20-1-4	\$785.98	
530 Piermont Rd				
Closter, NJ 07624				

MOTION: Trustee Valentine

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Brock

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve Resolution No. 2018-62.

7. Resolution No. 2018-63: Resolution to surplus (equipment) for recycling.

RESOLVED, that the following equipment owned by the Village of Chestnut Ridge is hereby declared surplus:

- HP Laser Jet 4200 – Fax machine
- 1 Box of Keyboards and wires
- 4 Disc Drives
- Brother 2800 – Fax Machine
- 11 Boxes toner
- 1 Xerox copier machine

MOTION: Trustee Cohen

SECOND: Trustee Valentine:

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to Approve Resolution No. 2018-63.

8. Resolution No. 2018-64:

RESOLVED, that General Fund Claims set forth on pages 1 through 3 in the aggregate amount of \$375,698.71 as set forth on Abstract No. 2018-7 dated July 19, 2018 as submitted by the Village Treasurer, are hereby approved.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Brock

SECOND: Trustee Cohen

The Board was polled and voted 5-0 to approve the Abstract of audited claims.

9. Open Floor Public Discussion:

Jerry Liebelson – 31 Midway Rd., Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977:

- Submitted a detailed statement regarding 2 Samuel Rd. and 10 Lillian Drive; the issue of a two-car garage.

- Cited the Village code, extensive construction that was there was not allowed by the code.
- Stated you can't do that kind of extensive construction grandfathered and non-conforming building.
- Stated there are two reasons; you are making it conforming or are under some sort of court order.
- How are those buildings not in violation?

Attorney Sevastian

- If you had a property before the 2006 date you do not need to have something that wasn't there.
- There is nothing in the Code that says if you re-construct those buildings you have to put the garage there.
- You have to keep what you have; that's the simply statement.
- You could say if you knock the thing basically down to the ground, you might as well put the garages in, but that is not what the code says.
- The garage requirement has nothing to do with conformity.
- You can't read that kind of stuff into the code.
- There is nothing that says the consent of construction triggers the code.
- The code is what the code is.
- I wouldn't use the term non-conforming.
- That's a requirement for a structure constructed after that date in the code and if you didn't have it before, you don't have to have it.

Jerry Liebelson – 31 Midway Rd., Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977

- 312 N. Highland Avenue; fine of \$3,500.
- How is this fine calculated given the fact that this was 6 months of no show and the impact on the neighborhood with all this parking which continues today.

Mayor Presti:

- That was determined in the interest of that the fine would be fair.
- We do not have to give you any details of any type of matter that was litigated in the Justice Court and. taken place in the Court.
- If you were there, you would have seen why it was done and how it was done.
- Thirty Fire Hundred dollars was paid by the individual.
- Camp Shalom – I am thinking they were there this summer because of the construction on the Middle school.
- Was the Village given any say in this matter that allowed them to do this?

Deputy Mayor Brock:

- It is a school district matter.
- They have to approve it.

Mayor Presti:

- The only thing they need to follow up on is if they have a pool,
- They have to make sure the pool is approved by the County Dept. of Health, even if it is temporary.

Linda Amenn: 311 N. Highland Avenue, Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977:

- What direction are we are going with 312 N. Highland Avenue?
- I gave your paperwork two months ago.

Attorney Sevastian:

- The code needs to be enforced as to the **USE** of the permit.
- New owner as to maintaining the building came into the building; work was done without a permit.

Mayor Presti:

- I meant to bring this up in my Mayor's Report.
- As you are aware, we are really down to just a part time Code Enforcement official.
- We were in the process of hiring a full time and part time Code Enforcement official.
- We are in the process of helping and trying to get their applications through County Personnel.
- Until that time comes, while we try to stay on top of the various violations in the Village there is a little difficulty in having only a part time code enforcement.

Attorney Sevastian:

- You did need to do observations and charges brought into Court.
- I read your correspondence saying this is going on a long time and ought to be on top of the list; everybody feels the same way.

Mayor Presti:

- Not only does he have to do Code Enforcement, he has to be in the office too. Foils, etc. Everything takes time and the number of hours he has.
- I am not saying you are wrong.
- We are at a point and it is my hope we will be able to get through his current challenge right now and hire these two gentlemen.
- As the Village Attorney has said, a lot of it has to do with having to have surveillance.
- We need to have our own surveillance there and to get this done.
- While your paperwork is thorough and it gives us an indication of what's going on, we need to have our own people there.

Linda Amenn – 311 N. Highland Avenue, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977

- They were out of compliance for 169 days.
- The Village has the ability to fine him \$1,500.00 a day, \$253,500.00 so \$3,500.00 is nothing, it's a slap on the hand; it just is encouraging other people to do the same thing.
- I am not asking you to go after little old ladies that didn't get their paperwork in, but this guy has done everything possible to thumb his nose at the Village Boards.

Mayor Presti:

- Ms. Amenn, that is your opinion.
- The fines, levied in Court, when there is a minimum and a maximum, it is a carrot in a stick.
- It is rare, while it always available, whether it be Village Justice Court, State Supreme Court, Superior Court., will max out people for violations.

- What ends up happening is when the Village or a municipality looks for a maximum fine, the Judge may end up coming back with a fine that is way more inadequate than what the Village could have at least recommended. and guaranteed to get.
- You have your right to Appeal, and the individual can Appeal and this thing can go on for another year, maybe two.
- So. an individual admitted his guilt, wrote a check for \$3,500.00.
- While it may not seem a lot of money to some, it is still \$3,500.00 and was a substantial fine.
- You may have your opinion that it's insufficient, but it was a substantial fine.

Linda Ammen - 311 N. Highland Avenue, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- Felt fine being only \$3,500 would encourage other people.

Trustee Cohen:

- In addition, once they come back and because they have a record, the fine could be higher the next time because of a return offender.
- So, we take what we can get from the Judge and take it from there.

Mayor Presti:

- The fine doesn't encourage anyone.

Lee March Grayson – 52 Wilshire Drive, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- Margiotta property at De Salvo Ct. and Schoolhouse Rd.
- There has been a lot of activity on the property; more trees came down, looks like a road is being built, a lot of cars, trucks.
- I don't see any farm equipment, on the property.
- Wants to know what the status is?
- Heard the Village was being sued.
- Wanted a confirmation whether or not that it was not true.
- Looks like he's building a road onto De Salvo Ct. from the back of the property.

Walter Sevastian- Village Attorney:

- You were at the hearings; the Zoning Board, the nature of the application was for him to certify a pre-existing non-conforming use.
- The Zoning Board came up with a map showed where there was pre-existing non-conforming storage of trucks.
- They issued a decision that laid that area out.
- Said he couldn't rent anything to the guy with the plants that normally had been there.
- They sued the village to overturn condition in the Zoning Board.
- It is filed in Rockland County, opposed by Village, we won the law suit.
- They then appealed that decision to the Appellate Division which is in Brooklyn and have until October 26th to file the briefs to see if they could get it overturned to a higher court.
- There is some photographic evidence that is helpful to us that we have.
- Until we know whether the appeals perfected, there is a stay on the prosecution.
- We are following through with the system but now we have to wait.
- We are working on a stay on the construction.

- Not aware of a road being built, but would talk to the Building Inspector.
- I talked to the Building Inspector in general terms about that.

Lee March Grayson – 52 Wilshire Drive, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- We never opposed the farm use, we oppose the use of storing all the vehicles; sometimes there are fumes coming from the property.
- There is actually a second gate that the Village may not be aware of; but if you look down they have done everything, except pave it.
- There is actually a gate so that large vehicles can come on the property.
- That is a concern because it is a residential neighborhood.

Mayor Presti:

- The Corridor Study in the midst of the draft is being forwarded from the Planner.
- The Trustees are given an opportunity to review the draft.
- We will be speaking with the Planner with any suggestions with regard to what the draft currently has in it.
- The Planners will then finalize the document.
- Then we will be setting up a Public Hearing and it will be available for everyone to look at in a reasonable amount of time.
- We are not going to spring it on you on Monday, and have the hearing on Thursday.

Lee March Grayson – 52 Wilshire Drive, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- Questioned about having a tree ordinance to limit the number of trees a property owner can remove from their property.
- They cut down a forest and literally did change the character and area of Wilshire Drive.
- Are there any discussions to apply for a permit if an owner wants to remove more than a certain number of trees?

Mayor Presti:

- This is an issue that has been brought up a number of times.
- Six people have one opinion, another six people have another opinion.
- There still are a lot of folks who want to be able to do what they wish to do with their property.
- When subdivisions come in and they go before the Planning Board and they have to propose a tree plan; the developer doesn't necessarily come in and clear cut.
- Once you're in your property, it's your prerogative as a property owner to take down the trees if you don't want to have it there any longer.
- Tree damage has been a very big issue in the Village with the storms we have been having.
- I know the flip side is we need more trees, they are good for the environment, things of that nature; I am not deft to that.
- You can do as you wish with your property.
- We still talk about it; we are not at a point where we feel as though we would like to come up with a tree ordinance because a lot of owners would feel it's unfair and we are telling them how they should protect their property.

- If we had a bad storm, the Village could possibly have some liability if a homeowner said, “you know, you told us we couldn’t take this tree down; and I don’t want to take that down for the Village.
- Right now, a tree ordinance is not on the radar.

Lee March Grayson – 52 Wilshire Drive, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- A light ordinance for the night time?
- Noticed ½ year ago, some new neighbors moving in, there are lights on at night that are so bright they illuminate the inside of a home.
- No exaggeration, there are three houses near mine that have these very bright lights that is a nuisance.
- Is there an ordinance for the illumination a homeowner can have on the home?

Mayor Presti:

- Normally it’s more general nuisance; if the spillage is coming over the property line that shouldn’t be.
- What we have done in the past; with the addresses in hand, we knocked on doors and said, “you need to at least angle down the lights.
- Eighty, ninety percent of the folks have done that.
- Rather than coming up with a law; that says,” thou shall not have light go into some home owners living room; that becomes a civil matter as it is a civil nuisance.
- Give us the address and we will make every effort to ask the neighbor to please have a little consideration for your neighbor and put the lighting onto your property
- It’s worthy of additional discussion.

Carol Goodman – 964 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- Has a wooded property.
- Some of the trees are on her neighbor’s border and leaning and dropping dead branches on my property.
- Who is responsible for those trees?

Mayor Presti:

- If there is a tree hanging over your property, you can trim it.
- You may run the risk with a neighbor that you killed their tree.
- Politely knock on your neighbor’s door, or send them a Certified Letter if you need to, and say, please realize your tree is a danger to my home in a severe storm and that I request you address it accordingly”.
- Then if there is a problem and something bad happens you have a record that your neighbor should address it
- Then the insurance company becomes an insurance question, and the insurance company can seek the neighbor for ignoring your notice.

Hal Sherman - 8 Pine Knoll Court, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- Wanted to thank Mr. O’Donnell and Mr. Gliniecki for acting timely and promptly.
- A stop work order was issued for 44 Haller Crescent.
- The Site Plan didn’t allow it to that point.
- He had to restore the property to its’ original condition.

- He was asking them to remove the large RV.
- I talked to Mr. O'Donnell in March about this vehicle.
- Last Friday, he ran this vehicle for over ninety minutes; the fumes were all over.
- There is no law against running a diesel vehicle for any extended period of time.
- I was told again by the Building Inspector that he can't park it on the property; but he can park it in front of his house for the months that we don't have snow restrictions.
- There is an easement where they did some construction.
- Maybe Mr. Spence can review the work that was done there.
- He had a front-end loader in there and some dump trucks.
- I know he got stuck on the lawn; had to get a tow truck.
- I know there is a pipe down there that is not too much below the surface.
- He already has a 10 x 20 shed, which has been there for a number of years.
- When they did the construction, they removed that and then put it back.
- Over the years I know the accumulation of debris gets in there as the easement does.
- Gave a State Map that shows where the easement ease.

Mayor Presti:

- You can park any vehicle on a public street.
- If it's a certain size vehicle, I'm not sure if it's a double axel.
- My understanding is that the RV has been removed; I received an e-mail.
- Any further work that he needs to be done, he needs to apply to the Board for an extended site plan.
- While we may not have a Village Law that prohibits it; it's a State Law.
- You can call Ramapo P.D., say, "it's six minutes, do something".
- As far as parking a large vehicle on a public street, I will have to do some research.
- If it's considered a commercial vehicle they cannot.
- My take on the recreational vehicle is they cannot because of the size.
- Ramapo P.D. can address that.
- We will give the map to Martin Spence.

Jonathan Corbin – 6 Aberdeen Lane, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- The house on the corner with Brookview Blvd. had a garage in 2006.

Attorney Sevastian:

- I am saying if they had a two-car garage they have to replace it with a two-car garage.

Jonathan Corbin – 6 Aberdeen Lane, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- But there is no garage.
- What is our rule about Pods?
- Has a neighbor that has two giant pods.
- Number 3 Aberdeen Rd.
- Wanted to address 312; things are moving along very slowly, very frustrating.
- The other night we had 45 cars parked all the way down from Grotke Rd. to Renfew Rd. and now they are on Aberdeen Avenue.

- Every night of the week, parked on both sides of Perth Avenue, and very little place to drive through.
- There was a pretty good altercation the other night between the homeowners and the Orthodox about the cars.
- The homeowner couldn't back her car out of her garage.
- We called the Police and they came.
- Wanted an estimate of time how much longer this is going to take?

Mayor Presti:

- A traffic safety problem you need to call the Ramapo Police.
- Our hope is when we have more Code Enforcement we will be able to document that time.
- We will move with deliberate speed as Justice Powell once said.
- We cannot put Mr. O'Donnell out on the street for five, six hours a day for him doing just that.
- By way of history approximately five, six years ago we did not have a Building Inspector.
- We were in dire straits.
- We had to rely on Ramapo for shared services.
- We had to rely on their Building Inspector and Code Inspector.
- We were met with a lot of push back from the County.
- They had been sending us lists of candidates that had no business sending them.
- I fought with the County and I am fighting again.
- I am saying that with a little tongue and cheek.
- They do try, but they are a bureaucracy and unfortunately, they do not move with the swiftest of speed.
- Now I have to hire a Full time and Part time person that I feel they should interpret a different way.
- Just so you understand, the Village is really trying.
- We are having a hard time maintaining the Code Enforcement office that is being consistent.
- We need more people.
- There were suggestion coming from you folks to hire more staff, and we are trying to do that.
- We are trying to get the right folks in there.
- That is going to be my hope.
- I am telling you flat out what we are going through every day.
- Your calls are not unheeded, but our hands are a little tied.
- Wanted an estimate of time how much longer this is going to take?

Trustee Cohen:

- It can be on your driveway.
- If cars are parked on both sides of the street and you can't get through, call the Police.
- We don't want to have signs up restricting parking on one side; we have done that.

- We can look into that; that's a last resort as the homeowners will be impacted as well.
- If you see where an emergency vehicle can't get through, that's a Police matter.

Norman Cohen – 11 Aberdeen Avenue, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- Pod Issue
- From an environmental standpoint it's an eyesore.
- Asked about the Village Code regarding how late you can have noise?

Mayor Presti:

- We will look into it.

Norman Cohen – 11 Aberdeen Avenue, Chestnut ridge, New York 10977:

- Very confusing is Stop signs on certain streets.
- How can you have No Parking, and one says, "No Parking, Buses"; very confusing signs.
- My understanding is that any vehicle can park and why on only a few streets do we have No Parking signs?
- Complained, also, about school buses driving very fast.
- We don't have a speed limit.

Mayor Presti:

- In your neighborhood, your neighbors were saying buses are parking and staying parked on the street.
- In speaking with the Village Engineer we came up with the "NO Parking; Buses", which means no buses can park there.
- Now you are telling me, sounds like, "you don't care."
- We did it for you and now it seems our good deed is going punished.
- We did not add any additional no parking signs.
- Just means buses can't park there.
- State Law is that Village roads are 30 m.p.h. unless posted otherwise.
- So, you don't need a speed sign all over the streets.
- Ramapo P.D. provides us with speed trailers.
- The Village cannot enforce how many vehicles can park on a public street.
- The Village Codes says up until 11 p.m.
- After that, you have to bring the party inside.
- You cannot have noise that is going to disturb your neighbor.
- I've seen the Ramapo Police do it; they knock on the door, either tone down the D.J. or close up shop
- Religious services are different.

Marc Levine – 14 Lancaster Lane, Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- Lancaster Ln, we had problems because of all the camps; we had No Parking signs put up; it solved our problem until about three weeks ago.
- Both sides of the street were covered with cars; 100% of the cars were from New Jersey, it was a sea of New Jersey license plates.

- I tried to get back up Lancaster Lane; Ramapo Police must have told people to move their cars.
- People walked up the street; some people decided to have picnics on the front lawns of the houses.
- It looked like an urban area decided to come to the Country.

Mayor Presti:

- Ramapo allows out of town folks to join the pool.
- They allow out of town folks to join it to increase the membership.
- After they left, the garbage remained.
- We can do what we can do on our side of the road.

Jerry Liebelson – 31 Midway Rd., Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- I brought up the idea of more Code Enforcement.
- Claimed Mayor scoffed at the idea.
- You had in Everette Bierker an experienced and knowable Code Enforcement officier.

Mayor Presti:

- Mr. Bierker took a job closer to his home.
- He is a fireman in Nanuet.
- You are speculating as to why I did not ask Mr. Bierker to stay; ask him yourself.
- Please don't make assumptions.
- If Mr. Bierker had approached me, I would have said, "let's talk"

Deputy Mayor Brock:

- When you take the test, you don't have to be qualified for anything.
- A woman took the test and did better than her husband and son.
- We had to interview her as she was on the list.

Mayor Presti:

- You are correct when I said, that I could have a bevy of Code Enforcement individuals and there would still be Code Enforcement issues.
- At that time, I believed that was not the way to go.
- Upon listening to folks in the Village, we went into interviews and we were ready to hire one full-time and one part-time individual.
- I will admit, perhaps I underestimated what was going on in this office.
- I said, "you know what folks, let's increase the staff"
- It was a good suggestion.

Jerry Liebelson – 31 Midway Rd., Chestnut Ridge, New York 10977:

- You have photographic evidence that 26 Pascack Rd., and 1 Karow Ct., have completely converted their garage to full-time religious use; we are not talking about a garage being used occasionally for a meeting; it is not being used as a garage.
- The garage door openers are covered up.
- Demonstrated I hope soon with 312 N. Highland.

- There is probably going to be more and more, so my questions are if 3 Spring Hill Terrace, when it was converted to a Mikveh, they were required to build a two-car garage.
- Why is 1 Karow and 26 Pascack Rd. not required to do the same?

Mayor Presti:

- The Village Attorney is working on it; 1 Karow Ct., and 26 Pascack Rd.
- We are going to follow up on it the way we need to follow up on it.

Attorney Sevastian:

- These issues are what Code is focusing on right now; Change of Use Issues.

Motion to Close the Public portion of the Meeting.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Brock

SECOND: Trustee Cohen

The Board was polled and voted 4-0 to Close the Public Portion of the Meeting.

Move to Adjourn the Meeting:

MOTION: Trustee Cohen

SECOND: Deputy Mayor Brock

The Board was polled and voted 4-0 to Adjourn the Meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence A. Mandel

Village Clerk

Recording Secretary

