

The Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees met in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 with public viewing through video streaming on YouTube and in person.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pontieri with Deputy Mayor Krieger and Trustees Ferb, Keyes, McHeffey, Village Attorney Egan, and Deputy Village Clerk Braile present. Village Treasurer Krawczyk and Trustee Brinkman were absent. Trustee Carillo arrived late.

The flag salute was made and the safety message was given.

Village Clerk Devlin asked the Board to approve Board Meeting minutes from September 26, 2022.

Upon a motion by Trustee McHeffey, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Board Meeting minutes from September 26, 2022.

Village Clerk Devlin stated the total bills for the period ending October 11, 2022 were \$ 407,978.29. The five largest bills were as follows: VHB Engineering \$26,240.74 for Living Shoreline, Quennell Rothchild \$21,235.00 for engineering-Shorefront Park design, Tech Clean \$18,356.00 for mold removal at 380 Bay, Edmunds Gov Tech \$14,850.00 for software for the Building Department, Total Technology Solutions \$13,549.61 for laptop/monthly fee/ time block.

General	319,599.42 \$
Trust & Agency	117.32 \$
Cap Projects	47,475.74 \$
Sewer Fund	32,772.82 \$
B.I.D. Fund	2,819.60 \$
Housing Fund	\$
CDA Fund	5,093.39 \$
General Bills	100.00 \$
Totals	407,978.29\$

Upon a motion by Trustee Ferb, seconded by Trustee Keyes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of the bills as presented.

Mayor Pontieri asked the Board to approve a budget transfer of \$126,750.00 from surplus to purchase two (2) Ford trucks with plows to replace Hwy 1 and 3.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pontieri, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the budget transfer as presented.

Mayor Pontieri asked the Board the approve a budget transfer of \$120,000.00 from surplus to resurface the basketball courts at Rider Ave Park

Upon a motion by Mayor Pontieri, seconded by Trustee Keyes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the budget transfer as presented.

Mayor Pontieri asked the Board to approve a budget transfer of \$11,500.00 from sewer surplus to fund the expenses over revenue during the 2022 fiscal year.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pontieri, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the budget transfer as presented.

Village Clerk Devlin asked the Board to adjourn a scheduled public hearing.

Upon a motion by Trustee Ferb, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to adjourn the public hearing scheduled for October 11, 2022 to amend Sections 238 and 435-48 through 435-53 of the Village Code to add criteria and regulations to use trailer units as temporary housing where a principal dwelling is being reconstructed or renovated until October 24, 2022.

Trustee Carillo arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Mayor Pontieri asked the Board to approve the dates for the 2023 Great South Bay Music Festival.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pontieri, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and carried by majority with Trustee Keyes abstaining and all others in favor, the Board granted approval to hold the 2023 Great South Bay Music Festival on July 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd.

Trustee Keyes noted that the Village was contractually obligated to hold the festival, and the previous action had approved the dates for the 2023 event. However, as Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, he expressed concern about the effects that the event had on the park. He was also concerned about the drain on Village resources that this event had, including the use of Highway Department and other staff for up to two weeks prior to the festival to prep for the event as well as the extensive amount of time required afterwards to clean everything up. There was also a loss of revenue from unavailability of the softball fields prior to and during the event which were normally regularly used by a league which paid the Village to use the fields. This league utilized other fields during the Music Festival, and he was always concerned that they would get comfortable going elsewhere. Mayor Pontieri stated that these issues would be taken under consideration when contracts for the event were reviewed.

Don Wachsmuth stepped forward to review the Annual Report of Accomplishments of the Patchogue Community Development Agency. He introduced the office staff and CDA Board members. Mr. Wachsmuth then reviewed when the Community Development Agency was formed, where its funding came from, and its purpose. HUD funds were forwarded to the Village's CDA through Brookhaven Town. Typically, the CDA received approximately \$150,000 in community block grants and \$2.2 million in Section 8 funding. An example of a usual project funded by the CDA was sidewalk improvements.

Toni Dean, CDA Board member, stepped forward to review the various projects completed by the CDA, in partnership with other community organizations, in recent years. She noted that the Shorefront Park Bandshell interior mural had been created in partnership with Patchogue-Medford Schools' Art Department; the mural on South Ocean Avenue in conjunction with the Patchogue Arts Council; and the Promenade of the Arts Walkway with the assistance of the Patchogue Arts Council. Ms. Dean also indicated that the CDA had improved several sidewalks and improved handicapped accessibility throughout the Village including along Division Street, the Long Island Railroad intersection, other streets, and at Village Hall. Landscaping improvements had also been made at the East Main Street parking lot. The Theatre walkway, the Roe Walkway, and Staudinger Walkway arches had been improved as well. Ms. Dean continued by noting that the CDA had also partnered with the Patchogue Arts Council to provide arts classes for children attending Head Start and had worked with the Patchogue-Medford Library to create an art show for their work. Other projects were in the works at the present time. She then thanked the Board for their support and for the privilege of serving on the CDA Board. Trustee Keyes inquired as to how long she had served on the CDA Board. Ms. Dean stated that it was more than ten years.

Marion Russo, CDA Director, indicated that many of the projects mentioned by Ms. Dean had been partially funded by Suffolk County Downtown Redevelopment Grants. She expressed her appreciation for the assistance of Dennis Smith with obtaining those funds and for the Village's support as well. Ms. Russo then proceeded to review the Section 8 program. She noted that there had been 300 people on the wait list in 2015 when it was opened. Last year, twenty applicants had been contacted with four receiving vouchers, no response from fifteen of the others, and one declining assistance. They were now down to the last ten on the wait list, so the list was being opened and new applications being accepted from November 4th through November 10th. Ms. Russo indicated that only 300 would be accepted onto the list as it had taken seven years to get through the last list. She noted that HUD judged the program based on its utilization rate, and this rate was at 88% for the number of vouchers that were out there. As Mr. Wachsmuth had mentioned, the Village received \$2.2 million to pay out for 177 vouchers to landlords. Ms. Russo continued by noting that, as part of the Section 8 program, the CDA was required to perform housing quality standard inspections annually as part of each participant's recertification process.

The Housing Inspector Frank Franco who performs the inspections stepped forward and noted that his primary focus was life and health safety. He insured that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors were present and working and that houses were not over-occupied. In addition, he was able to assist with residents who often had issues understanding English and increase communication with

them so that they would understand how to come into compliance. Ms. Russo stated that the relationship he established with all participants was extremely important as he was the one who entered their homes. She was also grateful for the help of her office staff in their work with the paperwork and communications with landlords and tenants. Oftentimes, they were able to refer those in need to other services they could utilize. Their office did a fine job in meeting not only the needs of their participants, but also others in the community.

Ms. Russo then noted that the CDA was a Class C Public Authority in New York State and had to comply with all public authority rules and regulations. Several reports had to be filed every year including this annual report. The Village Board was the authority to which the CDA reported. Mayor Pontieri noted that the CDA had helped to accomplish many projects in the Village over the years without impacting taxpayers including the bandshell and arches on Main Street. This cooperative relationship was very important to the community.

Trustee Carillo stated that she was glad that the CDA had an inspector to ensure that the properties in questions were maintained and safe, and the right people were utilizing the facilities.

Mr. Wachsmuth indicated that the CDA also had a Governance Committee headed by Kaetlyn Jackson. Ms. Jackson had also been working on the CDA's charter. She stepped forward and noted that the Governance Committee's purpose was to promote accountability and transparency, both internally as a Board and externally to the public that was being served. The Committee met twice a year to ensure that policies and training were up to date. Another tool that was used was the charter which was the document that contained the CDA's mission, goals, and policies. This was reviewed once a year and signed by the Board members. Mayor Pontieri expressed his appreciation for her work.

Mr. Wachsmuth then noted that Trustee McHeffey served as the chair of the CDA's Audit Committee. Trustee McHeffey indicated that there had been no findings from the previous year's audit. This was a huge deal as the CDA had put in a lot of effort to update all of their systems to digitize records and create a policy handbook. This year's audit had been quite in depth, and it was a great accomplishment to show no findings.

Mr. Wachsmuth indicated that a long range plan was being worked on, in conjunction with Brookhaven Town, with regard to how the community development grant funds would be utilized. Several meetings had been held with various groups to obtain some suggestions. Another work session would be held following the November 3rd CDA meeting. Developing a plan in conjunction with the Town would make future approvals a bit easier.

Trustee McHeffey noted that the CDA Board consisted of all volunteers who oversaw millions of dollars. He expressed his appreciation to the efforts of all of them and the office staff. Mayor Pontieri noted that most of the Board members had worked with the CDA in the past. The CDA was a major part of the success of the community. He also thanked all of the CDA Board and staff for their hard work.

Mayor Pontieri then asked for approval of several budget transfers.

Upon a motion by Trustee Ferb seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the budget transfers as presented.

Dennis Smith reviewed the BID and Special Projects report. He offered his congratulations to Ms. Russo and the CDA Board and staff for all of the hard work they did and all of the accomplishments they had achieved. Mr. Smith indicated that the BID would be holding its annual Installation Dinner the following evening. He noted that the BID was being honored by the Chamber this year for its 30th Anniversary, and he thanked them for it. Mr. Smith continued by noting that he had asked for the hanging baskets to be taken down today as they had exceeded their usefulness for the season. Normally, they were taken down at the end of October, but they had not held up as long as usual this year. All of the plantings had been removed from the Waverly Avenue circle, and new ones would be installed. He thanked Paula Murphy for taking the lead on this project. The new plantings would be low growth, low maintenance types of plants, but clarification was needed from Suffolk County on what was permitted to be put there. Mr. Smith noted that there were three weeks left in the Sunday Market with some Halloween events and a pet parade planned. Phase I of the Johnson Controls project was also close to being finished. Streetlights would be

maintained by Johnson Controls for a one year period after installation as had been established two months ago. Any issues that had occurred within the last month should be repaired this upcoming week. Language was being finalized on the Commercial Dumpster policy that had been adopted by the Board to establish the proper permit application process. Everything should be finalized by the beginning of November, so permits would be able to be issued by the first of the year. Mr. Smith indicated that the engineer for the Splash Pad project was ready to seek bids. There were some questions that had been raised by the Suffolk County Health Department that still needed answers. He noted that the original budget for the project had been approximately \$700,000 as of this past February. If costs were increased much beyond that, further review of the feasibility of the project would be needed.

Deputy Mayor Krieger noted that a number of special events held by businesses in the Village often resulted in calls complaining about noise and traffic. He asked the Board to consider limiting the number of special events that a business could hold to four within a year. Aside from the problems he had already mentioned, there were also parking issues related to events. Trustee Ferb inquired if these events were held on private property. Deputy Mayor Krieger stated that they were. Mayor Pontieri noted that requests for these events often included use of public spaces for parking. Trustee Ferb asked for confirmation that a venue such as Blue Point Brewery would be limited to four events a year. Village Clerk Devlin indicated that they were already limited to four events. Deputy Mayor Krieger indicated that this was one example, but there were other businesses that held events as well. Village Clerk Devlin noted that from the Village Clerk's office viewpoint, some businesses who are limited in their uses based on their Planning Board approval seemed to be using the special event process to circumvent these limitations by regularly submitting for special events. She suggested that consideration needed to be given to these types of situations, so that everyone was on the same page. Trustee Carillo expressed concern about limiting events to four without more details concerning the number of people and types of events being discussed. For example, churches held various events as fundraisers throughout the year, and she would not like to see them penalized. Mayor Pontieri stated that this was part of the Special Events permit application process. Churches and houses of worship tended to have events centered around their holidays, so he did not believe that this was as problematic as a business holding events on a regular basis. Even the Chamber of Commerce held their regular events throughout the year on a predictable schedule. Mayor Pontieri indicated that the issue that needed to be addressed was the businesses holding special events on a regular basis which resulted in overtaxing public resources, such as public safety and the Highway Department. While organizers of large festivals such as the Great South Bay Music Festival agreed to reimburse the Village for these services, most of the smaller events did not do so. Mayor Pontieri indicated that the Board needed to consider some type of limitation so that there was not a constant barrage of events occurring every weekend. Further discussions with the Village Attorney were needed to come up with some type of resolution to address this issue. He also suggested that this information could be added to the Special Event permit application. Deputy Mayor Krieger indicated that this was a quality of life issue as well for residents who lived near areas where these events were being held. Sound traveled, especially in the summer.

Deputy Mayor Krieger noted that the Theatre was up and running. He indicated that there was a recent story in Newsday that had highlighted the difficulty theatres were having in bringing people back in for shows. Deputy Mayor Krieger stressed that he wanted to see people come in and see shows in the Patchogue Theatre. Trustee Carillo indicated that she had attended a show this weekend that had been packed that had featured a type of salsa music that was fun for all ages. Deputy Mayor Krieger noted that the Theatre also brought people onto Main Street and into the restaurants and stores. He asked everyone to check out the schedule of upcoming events on the Theatre's web site.

Deputy Mayor Krieger indicated that the Highway Department was in the process of obtaining a solar powered sign that displayed the speed that a vehicle was traveling as well as a hard wired sign. Trustee Keyes noted that he believed that one would be put in a permanent location while the other would be mobile and placed in different locations as needed. Deputy Mayor Krieger stated that he felt that these types of signs were effective in getting people to slow down and were needed on various streets in the Village, especially near schools. He noted that he and Trustee Keyes had been discussing other methods to calm traffic as well which included striping on the roads. He asked that everyone please slow down and respect the posted speed limits. Trustee Keyes indicated that he felt that the Village was trying to do all they could to address this situation. He noted that he was a firm believer in visual deterrents. Deputy Mayor Krieger concurred and

noted that he had seen big striped signs stating “slow” in the middle of the road in an area in which he was traveling and this had caught his attention. Trustee Keyes indicated that this type of sign should be painted in the road on West Avenue near the new coffee shop to state that there was no left turn permitted in exiting there. There was a sign stating this, but people ignored it every day and caused traffic to back up.

Mr. Siegel, from the audience, also expressed concern that people made illegal U-turns on Main Street all day long. He suggested that an officer be stationed there to write tickets. Deputy Mayor Krieger indicated that this would be a job for the Suffolk County Police. Village Attorney Egan concurred and noted that there were many traffic issues near his office as well.

Deputy Mayor Krieger asked the Board to approve amendments to Section 435 of the Village Code. Village Attorney Egan stated that this was a resolution dealing with the previous public hearing concerning D-1 height restrictions. That public hearing had been closed a few meetings ago, and the Suffolk County Planning Commission had decided that this was a matter of local determination. Deputy Mayor Krieger asked for confirmation that this just concerned D-1 properties on Waverly Avenue and Route 112. Village Attorney Egan stated that this was correct.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Krieger, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to amend section 435-20(A) and 435-21(A) of the Village Code to add criteria and regulations for mixed-use multi-family developments.

Deputy Mayor Krieger asked the Board to set a public hearing. Village Attorney Egan indicated that this was a revision to previously adopted language for Commercial Carting Licenses. As Mr. Smith had indicated earlier, this fine tuning would continue to be done as new processes were put into place. Mayor Pontieri indicated that this concerned the dumpsters located on Church Street and Terry Street in order to get those areas cleaned up and under control by making the commercial carters more accountable. Deputy Mayor Krieger noted that Mr. Siegel of Blums had been a proponent of this type of action for a while and indicated that Blums had their own dumpster which was kept neat and clean. Mr. Siegel noted business owners had to keep on top of the carters as well.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Krieger, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to set a Public Hearing for November 14th to amend section 365-23 of the Village Code to specify application standards for Commercial Carting Licenses, to allow for recourse against users of garbage containers for unsatisfactory conditions, and to allow for Village cleanup of unsanitary conditions.

Deputy Mayor Krieger asked the Board to approve seeking bids for Machine Shop Services.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Krieger, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to seek bids for Machine Shop Services.

Deputy Mayor Krieger asked the Board to ratify prior approval to hire a Public Safety Officer.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Krieger, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted ratified prior approval to hire Isaias Camacho as a Public Safety Officer at the rate of \$19 an hour.

Trustee Carillo inquired as to why ratifying prior approval was necessary. Village Clerk Devlin indicated that initial approval had been done by email due to time constraints of when the Board meetings were scheduled.

Deputy Mayor Krieger asked the Board approve the purchase of two (2) new vehicles. Mayor Pontieri noted that the budget transfer approved earlier would cover the cost of this purchase. Trustee Keyes stated that he was opposed to this action since the Board had adopted a Green Fleet Policy in February 2020 which was a statement that the Board would commit to purchasing the least polluting vehicle equipment as possible. He had a long conversation with Highway Superintendent Dean the other day, and this policy extended down to all types of equipment. There may be another type of vehicle that was more expensive but would still accomplish the goal of this proposed purchase. He felt that taxpayers would only take the Board’s statements as seriously as the Board did themselves, and the Board had committed to a Green Fleet Policy to convert Village

equipment to more sustainable energy sources. If this purchase could wait until next year, he believed that there would be grant funding available to promote alternative types of vehicles. Mayor Pontieri stated that he had also had a discussion with Highway Superintendent Dean, and the issue with these vehicles was that they were used for snow removal. There were currently no electric vehicles on the market which could hold a charge longer than 15 hours if there was no electricity available to charge them, and these trucks needed to be available for plowing purposes. Trustee Keyes indicated that rapid charging stations were being developed. He was standing by his commitment. Trustee McHeffey noted that Trustee Keyes had stated that he had started doing further research into alternative vehicles and inquired as to how far he had gotten into this. Trustee Keyes stated that he had only done some initial research. Trustee McHeffey then indicated that he did not recall that the policy had stated that electric and hybrid vehicles were a priority. Trustee Keyes indicated that the policy stated that the least polluting type of equipment would be purchased that would meet the Village's needs. He felt that a hybrid might exist that would meet the Village's needs if further research was done. Mayor Pontieri stated that there might be a hybrid available, but the cost for one such vehicle would be in excess of \$90,000. Trustee Keyes indicated that the option could be to purchase one vehicle now and wait to purchase another one later. He believed that there were hybrids that were heavy duty vehicles, but he expected that they would be more expensive than the ones being considered. Trustee Ferb indicated that he believed that there were fully electric pick-up trucks available, but he did not know the cost. Mayor Pontieri stated that the cost was one concern, but he was also concerned with how long the battery on such a vehicle would stay charged, especially when raising and lowering a plow and pushing snow. Trustee Keyes indicated that he had hoped that this type of research would have been done when the policy was adopted. Mayor Pontieri indicated that staff did not have the ability to take time to do that type of research. Trustee Carillo inquired as to whether the new vehicles were 2022 or 2023 versions of the truck. Deputy Mayor Krieger indicated that he believed they were 2022 versions. Mayor Pontieri stated that these vehicles would be purchased off of a municipal contract and could be 2022 or 2023. Trustee Carillo indicated that she would feel more comfortable making a decision if further research had been done and alternative choices presented.

Mayor Pontieri stated that the research had been done based on what the Village's needs were. Vehicles were needed this year, and they needed to be vehicles that could handle the types of weather the Village had experienced over the past few years. These trucks were often run 20 hours straight, and taxpayer costs were the Mayor's and Board's responsibility. A hybrid vehicle would cost at least in excess of \$85,000. Mayor Pontieri agreed that the policy should be followed, but the policy also included language that spoke about the Village's needs. If a vehicle could only be used for 6 or 7 hours, and then had to be charged for 12, this would be problematic. Mayor Pontieri indicated that more research could be done, but he knew what the Village needed. Trustee McHeffey noted that he felt remiss in not doing this research himself. Mayor Pontieri indicated that this decision had been made in the past couple of weeks and noted that there were funds in the surplus to allow this critical purchase to occur. That was why the transfer had been made earlier in the evening. Mayor Pontieri stressed that he worked over 50 hours a week doing this job on behalf of the Village taxpayers, and he would not make any type of recommendation without researching and reviewing all available options. He agreed with Trustee Keyes' comments about reviewing purchases of items such as snowblowers and lawnmowers, but vehicles had to be able to meet the Village's needs as well as be fiscally responsible purchases. Mayor Pontieri noted that it was the Board's decision to make, but he stood behind the recommendation and stated that he felt that this was the most financially responsible way to address this need. He also indicated that the Village did not have trained mechanics to fix an electric vehicle that might break down. It was not simply a purchase to be made, but also the need for proper charging stations and maintenance that had to be done that had to be considered. Purchasing an electric vehicle for the job that needed to be done by these vehicles would not be appropriate at this time.

Trustee Keyes noted that he had sent some information to the Mayor a while ago about courses which could be taken by the Village mechanics to get them trained to work on electric vehicles and asked if he could follow up with that. Mayor Pontieri indicated that there was a process that would be followed for such training.

Trustee McHeffey indicated that he appreciated the time the Mayor took to review the costs and efficiency of actions regarding Village operations. He noted that he had advocated for the Green Fleet policy and had drafted the letter for the PEP Committee which was something he was proud of doing. Trustee McHeffey trusted all of what was being said, but due to the wording of the policy concerning need and availability and what he had heard, he felt that he had to oppose or

abstain from voting on the current proposal. He suggested that a breakdown be presented comparing the types and costs of vehicles that were available and noted that he felt that he needed to do his own research. Mayor Pontieri stated that he should trust the research that was done by those who knew what was needed and stressed that delaying action on this matter could result in not getting the necessary vehicles prior to winter. It would take at least three months for the vehicles to be delivered. The reality was that the Board could wait if they chose to do so, but they would not be the ones at the DPW yard dealing with issues that resulted from not having necessary equipment when it was most needed.

Trustee Ferb indicated that the Board needed to trust the decisions of the people who sent these requests to them. The Board could not take the time to dig into every request that was made, or else it would take weeks for action to be taken. What he had heard from the Mayor was that the critical criteria of these vehicles was to be able to run for 20 plus hours, uninterrupted by charging, while pushing snow. To the best of his knowledge, there was no electric vehicle on the market right now that could do this over that period of time with that type of load on it. Trustee Ferb indicated that there were not alternatives available at this time to what was being proposed to do this task. He supported the policy, but he did not believe that the Board should be second guessing requests that were made by those who were charged with doing so. Trustee Ferb stated that if these trucks were not available and the Village experienced a large snow fall, plowing would be negatively impacted.

Deputy Mayor Krieger concurred with Trustee Ferb's statements and noted that he had spoken with Highway Superintendent Dean a number of times about this issue. He had told him that there would be concerns raised because the vehicles were not electric. Highway Superintendent Dean had expressed his reasons for this request citing durability and operational requirements as to why these particular trucks were needed. When it was snowing hard, taking two vehicles off the road for any reason would be challenging for the Highway Department. Deputy Mayor Krieger stated that he trusted the recommendation of the Highway Department Superintendent and took his word that this was the right thing to do.

Trustee McHeffey inquired if the Village was retiring any vehicles. Mayor Pontieri stated that two were being retired. Trustee Ferb indicated that Highway #1 and #3 were being exceeded. Mayor Pontieri indicated that Highway #1 had been in service since the early 2000s. Deputy Mayor Krieger noted that these trucks were primarily used for snow plowing and were worked hard. There had been some heavy snows in recent years, and he was always glad to see a plow come through to clear his street. He stressed that he would take the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent as this was the job that the Village was paying him to do, and he was in favor of this request.

Trustee McHeffey stated that he would be abstaining from this vote and requested that future vehicle requests come with more details. Mayor Pontieri noted that most times the purchase requests were based on what was available on municipal bids and represented the best value to the Village. He reiterated that when the wording "based upon need" was contained in a policy the operative word in that statement was "need". Vehicles were needed that were required to accomplish certain tasks. While he understood the need for greener vehicles, the charge on the electric vehicle that was purchased for Code Enforcement did not last for twelve hours when the air conditioning was run, but rather for six hours instead. Mayor Pontieri stressed that others might be willing to take the chance of a vehicle breaking down at 2:00 a.m., but he would not be willing to risk that. Trustee McHeffey indicated that he would like to see these statistics before rendering a decision which would go against a policy he had advocated in favor of. Mayor Pontieri responded by noting that he was looking for information that was not there. Electric vehicles, especially trucks, had not been on the road long enough to give him the information that he wanted. He stressed that Highway Superintendent Dean had been doing his job for over 13 years and knew the types of vehicles that were needed to do certain jobs. What a car manufacturer included in its information was not the same as real use data. He again also raised the question as to who would be called to fix an electrical vehicle should it break down at 2:00 a.m. Practicality of operation, cost effectiveness, and reality had to be considered. Spending an additional \$20,000 or more on a vehicle that had many unknowns was not effective policy. The reality was that the Village needed trucks to do specific tasks and were required to be fiscally responsible to the taxpayers while making purchases.

Trustee Carillo stated that she appreciated the conversations and different viewpoints. She felt

that the Village was moving forward and had taken many positive steps that other places had not. Trustee Carillo also noted that newer vehicles were more efficient than older ones with regard to fuel consumption. Snow removal was necessary, and the Village needed to have its streets cleared immediately for safety reasons. In the future, she would need additional information with regard to vehicle purchases. She then inquired as to how many snow removal vehicles the Village had. Mayor Pontieri stated that there were probably about half a dozen used. Deputy Mayor Krieger indicated that all of those vehicles were not trucks, and the Village also contracted with outside services for snow removal as well. Mayor Pontieri indicated that he had made his statements and supported the Highway Superintendent's request. Trustee Carillo noted that the conversation was necessary to provide information to the public. She did not believe that there was an electric vehicle available to do the task required and her decision was set, but she felt delaying a vote by two weeks might make everyone feel better informed. Trustee Keyes indicated that if her decision was made, and she was comfortable with it, it should be made tonight. Mayor Pontieri stated that delaying a decision would delay delivery, and this was a time sensitive matter. Trustee Ferb commented that the Village had just invested over \$5 million in moving towards greener energy consumption. The Theatre and Village Hall were running on complete solar energy and not costing the Village anything in energy costs. This was a practical question, and he did not believe that electric vehicles were capable, at the present time, of providing the service that the Village needed in this area. For himself, he had just purchased a hybrid vehicle because he could not find a fully electric vehicle that would meet his needs after much research. It was not an electric world yet, and DPW was not ready for electric vehicles. Perhaps in the next budget cycle, funds should be invested in fast charging stations at DPW and making sure that someone on staff was capable of repairing them. The Board had to be practical and give the DPW staff the equipment they needed, especially since winter was only a few weeks away.

Village Attorney Egan indicated that debate was healthy in defining people's perspectives on this type of issue. However, he felt that the Board should rely on the advice of the Department heads when it came to these types of choices. After all the discussion, no one had presented a viable choice other than what had been proposed. In a choice like this, aspirational goals that he felt were shared by all had to be balanced with the obligation to the taxpayers to clear the roads of snow. The experience and knowledge of staff should be relied upon, especially since he did not believe that any of the Board members had recently sat behind the wheel of a truck and plowed snow. In his opinion, discounting the experience of someone who had done this and the lack of viable options that had been proven was a fool's errand. He reiterated that aspirational goals had to be balanced with public safety obligations. These types of purchases were rare, and he felt that perhaps in the future, Highway Superintendent Dean could be asked to present information to the Board if there were viable options with regard to cost efficiency and operations. Deputy Mayor Krieger stated that he had spoken with Highway Superintendent Dean in great length about Trustee Keyes' concerns, and he had been adamant that this was the purchase that needed to be made. Highway Superintendent Dean had also worked in maintenance at the Great Neck School District prior to the Village, so he had thirty plus years of experience in the area of plowing snow. The Village was not geared up for maintaining electric vehicles at the present time. Village Clerk Devlin stated that she was not aware of any hybrid or electric vehicle capable of handling the snow plowing capacity required in the Village. Deputy Mayor Krieger stated that Highway Superintendent Dean had not found any that would suit the Village's requirements. Trustee Keyes indicated that he had found some vehicles which were being built that would be available by next year in his initial research. Mayor Pontieri reiterated that he was concerned with cost effectiveness, operation, and maintenance that was available now. He also concurred with Trustee Ferb and Village Attorney Egan that the Village had taken great steps over the past year to address Green Policy objectives. In his opinion, Trustee Keyes' concerns conveyed that he felt that nothing had been done by the Village to advance those objectives. Trustee Keyes stated that this was not the case. Mayor Pontieri indicated that he should not be presenting this purchase as a singular action. The Board had stood behind the Green Fleet policy by 90%. Trustee Keyes indicated that he understood all of these issues. Mayor Pontieri indicated that action should not be delayed on this issue. Trustee Keyes asked the Board to move forward on the vote. Mayor Pontieri inquired of Village Attorney Egan as to what would constitute a majority vote. Village Attorney Egan stated that a majority of the number required for a quorum would constitute a majority vote.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Krieger, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and carried by majority with Trustee Keyes opposed, Trustee McHeffey and Trustee Carillo abstaining and Mayor Pontieri, Deputy Mayor Krieger, and Trustee Ferb in favor, the Board granted approval to replace Highway 1 and Highway 3 and purchase two (2) new Ford F-250 Pickup Trucks for \$113,607.50.

Deputy Mayor Krieger asked the Board to approve purchasing two (2) Western Plows.

Upon a motion by Deputy Mayor Krieger, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to purchase two (2) Western Plows for \$13,140.00.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Deputy Mayor Krieger, and unanimously carried, the Board recessed for five minutes at 7:36 p.m.

Upon a motion by Trustee Ferb, seconded by Trustee Carillo, and unanimously carried, the Board returned to regular session at 7:41 p.m.

Trustee Keyes indicated that the Patchogue-Medford High School's Homecoming Parade was scheduled to be held on October 22nd with the Hispanic Heritage Parade scheduled for October 23rd. He continued by noting that several events were scheduled to be held at 380 Bay Avenue on October 29th which included the Scavenger Hunt from 10:00 a.m. to noon, the Scarecrow Contest from noon to 1:30 p.m., and Trunk or Treat from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to approve a dog walk fundraising event at Shorefront Park.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval for Long Island Cares to hold their dog walk fundraising event "Paws Walk" supporting Long Island Cares and Baxter's Pet Pantry at Shorefront Park on Sunday, October 30, 2022 with a 7:45 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. start time.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to reschedule the Village of Patchogue Scavenger Hunt and Scarecrow Contest.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to reschedule the Village of Patchogue Scavenger Hunt and Scarecrow Contest to October 29th (Scavenger Hunt at 11:00 a.m., Scarecrow at 12:00 p.m.) at 380 Bay Avenue.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to approve the Village of Patchogue Walk through Zoo and Holiday Vendors Market.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to hold the Village of Patchogue Walk Through Zoo and Holiday Vendors Market on Saturday, November 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m..

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to approve the Patchogue Christmas Parade.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to hold the Patchogue Christmas Parade on Saturday, November 26th with a 5:00 p.m. lineup and 6:00 p.m. kickoff.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to approve the Menorah Lighting.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval for Temple Beth-El to hold their Menorah Lighting at the Capital One Bank Plaza on Saturday, December 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to approve hiring a contractor to rehabilitate the basketball courts and driveway entrance at 380 Bay Avenue and Shorefront Park.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to hire Rosemar Contractors to rehabilitate the basketball courts at 380 Bay Avenue and Shorefront Park, and the driveway entrance to the parks and soccer field behind 380 Bay Avenue at a cost not to exceed \$125,000.

Mayor Pontieri asked for confirmation that these funds were coming from the surplus account. Trustee Keyes stated that this was correct and noted that these areas were in poor shape.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to adopt the New York State Unified Solar Permit. He noted that this had been done previously, but some changes had been made which required new approval by the Board.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee Carillo, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to adopt the New York State Unified Solar Permit.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to adopt a resolution establishing energy benchmarking requirements for certain municipal buildings.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee Carillo, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to adopt a resolution establishing energy benchmarking requirements for certain municipal buildings.

Trustee Keyes asked the Board to hold dates for an event sponsored by the Better Man Distilling Company.

Upon a motion by Trustee Keyes, seconded by Trustee McHeffey, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to hold the dates of November 26th and 27th for Better Man Distilling Company's Holiday Market pending the approval of their Special Event application.

Trustee Keyes indicated that there had been a salary increase request for Christine Schmogger on a previous agenda, but it was not on this one. Mayor Pontieri stated that more information was needed before this action could be taken. Trustee Keyes noted that Ms. Schmogger had been hired last year as a seasonal employee who handled many special events including paddleboarding and yoga classes. Mayor Pontieri questioned the proposed rate of \$35. Trustee Keyes noted that he felt this was a bargain based on the revenue brought in from her programs, but he would table the request for now since it was not on the agenda.

Trustee Ferb asked the Board to set a public hearing to amend Sections 387 and 467 of the Village Code. Village Attorney Egan indicated that this was to be sure that these sections of the Village Code would match any changes adopted by the State.

Upon a motion by Trustee Ferb, seconded by Trustee Carillo, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to set a Public Hearing for November 14th to Amend Section 387-2 of the Village Code to bring the Village Code into conformity with New York Real Property Tax Law Section 467 and to avoid any future conflicts between the Village Law and Real Property Tax Law Section 467.

Trustee Ferb asked the Board to approve removing a property from the Village of Patchogue Tax Rolls as the property is now owned by Suffolk County Parks Department.

Upon a motion by Trustee Ferb, seconded by Trustee Keyes, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to remove 54 West Second Street from the Village of Patchogue Tax Rolls as the property is now owned by Suffolk County Parks Department.

Trustee McHeffey reviewed the Building and Housing Department report for September as follows: 6 building and housing summonses were issued; 10 plumbing permits issued; 17 building permits issued; no demolition permits issued; 16 rental permits issued; 20 notices of violation issued; 15 complaints received; no illegal dwellings, no overcrowded properties; 1 Planning Board application received; 3 Zoning Board applications received; and 4 Architectural Review Board applications received. He then reviewed the revenue report for the permits issued as follows: \$5,875.00 from rental permits issued; \$1,310.00 from plumbing permits issued; \$630.00 from Planning Board fees; \$15.00 from Zoning Board fees; and \$22,396.50 from building permits issued.

Upon a motion by Trustee McHeffey, seconded by Trustee Keyes, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the revenue report from the Building and Housing Department as presented.

Trustee McHeffey noted that the Patchogue Arts Council would have a busy upcoming week. MOCA Lights would be on display from October 13th through October 16th from 6:00 p.m. to

11:00 p.m. There would be exhibitions in various location throughout the Village including on Terry Street, in the Sculpture Garden, on South Ocean Avenue, at the Carnegie Library, at the Bank of America building, at the Patchogue-Medford Library, at the Patchogue Theatre, and at various other locations. Anyone interested in seeing the lights should visit the Patchogue Arts Council's web site or Facebook page for a link to a guided map. Volunteers were needed to sit at the various display sights. Anyone interested in doing so should contact the Arts Council. Trustee McHeffey continued by noting that there would be an event held on October 12th at 8:30 p.m. related to MOCA LIghts called "Come Map With Us". This would explain how an exhibition such as this was created. A Patchogue Arts Council 80s Party would be held at Toast Coffee House on October 28th from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. This was a fundraising event, and tickets were available through the Arts Council's web site.

Trustee McHeffey again thanked the CDA Board and staff for doing a great job. As Executive Director Russo had indicated, the waiting list was currently open. He reminded anyone interested in submitting an application that it must be postmarked between November 4th and November 10th. An application could not be accepted if it was postmarked any earlier or later than those dates according to government regulations. Most of what was discussed at the last meeting had been covered earlier in the meeting. However, one additional item being worked on was the Rider Avenue and Main Street project to upgrade the countdown timer for the crosswalk and the addition of some ramps. Executive Director Russo was finalizing the cost of those projects.

Trustee McHeffey asked the Board to ratify prior approval of playing acoustic music at an event.

Upon a motion by Trustee McHeffey, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board ratified prior approval for Plaza Cinema to play acoustic music outside their entrance on Friday, September 30th from 4:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Trustee McHeffey asked the Board to approve the Record of Activities for Elected Official John Krieger.

Upon a motion by Trustee McHeffey, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval of the record of Activities for Elected Official John Krieger in the capacity of Deputy Mayor, April 5, 2022 through March 31, 2024.

Trustee McHeffey asked the Board to ratify prior approval of hiring a part-timer in the Building Department.

Upon a motion by Trustee McHeffey, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board ratified prior approval to hire Talman Susoglu at \$18 per hour as a part-timer in the Building Department.

Trustee Carillo noted that the Village would be holding its first Hispanic Parade on October 23rd at noon and invited everyone to attend.

Trustee Carillo asked the Board to approve a block party on Gillette Avenue.

Upon a motion by Trustee Carillo, seconded by Trustee Ferb, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval for the residents of Gillette Avenue to hold a block party on Saturday, October 19th from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with street closure from Roe Boulevard north to Howard Street including amplified music.

Mayor Pontieri asked if anyone from the public wished to be heard.

Don Wachsmuth, Carman Street, asked for the Village's support with trash containers and saw horses as were usually provided for the 27th Annual Holiday Boat Parade scheduled to be held at 6:00 p.m. on November 20th with a theme of Winter Wonderland.

Upon a motion by Trustee Ferb, seconded by Trustee Keyes, and unanimously carried, the Board granted approval to the request for the Village's support as had been provided in the past for the 27th Annual Holiday Boat Parade scheduled to be held at 6:00 p.m. on November 20th.

Mr. Wachsmuth then offered a suggestion for the 5K run that would be held this upcoming

weekend. He had noticed a traffic issue when Rider Avenue was blocked off at the Carman Street intersection recently and suggested Carman Street be blocked at the Wiggins Avenue intersection in order to provide drivers with a way to exit without having to make a U-turn.

Mr. Wachsmuth continued by commenting on the previous discussion about electric vehicles that he would not have wanted to be a Tesla owner in south Florida trying to escape the recent hurricane. He also noted that precious metals had to be mined to create the batteries used on these vehicle, and electric power was required to power the batteries. It took a lot of energy to construct these batteries, and he questioned how they would be disposed of when they died. In addition, the electricity provided to charge these vehicles was not free and had to be produced using coal powered plants. He felt that the whole picture needed to be reviewed, and all of these items should be researched.

John Bogack, 8 Noxon Street, inquired if Noxon Street was on the list to be paved shortly. Mayor Pontieri stated that he believed it was. Mr. Bogack indicated that he had recently discovered that the street was named after a local businessman from the 1800s.

Mr. Bogack inquired as to how many parking spaces would generally be required to support a club that had an approved occupancy of 150 people. Village Attorney Egan stated that he did not know that number offhand but indicated that there was a calculation formula included in the Village Code that would provide that number. He noted that the Village would calculate a business's occupancy level by reviewing fire marshal occupancy numbers as well as the square footage of the building, and the parking area provided for the site. These numbers would include outside occupancy, standing occupancy, and seated occupancy, and the Village would base these occupancy numbers on the amount of parking that was provided for the site. All of these numbers would be reviewed by the Planning Board when a site plan was submitted. Mr. Bogack inquired as to how a court ordered occupancy level would fit with this. Village Attorney Egan stated that a court ordered occupancy level would supersede the Village Code's level.

Mr. Bogack thanked the Board for addressing green issues and noted that he felt that the Board was moving in the right direction on this topic.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Ferb, seconded by Trustee Carillo, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

vp

Signed _____
Lori Devlin, Village Clerk