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VILLAGE OF GREENPORT  
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK : STATE OF NEW YORK  
-----x  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
WORK SESSION  
-----x

Station One Firehouse  
Third and South Streets  
Greenport, New York 11944  
March 21, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

B E F O R E:  
KEVIN STUESSI - MAYOR  
MARY BESS PHILLIPS - DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE  
PATRICK BRENNAN - TRUSTEE  
LILY DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON - TRUSTEE  
JULIA ROBINS - TRUSTEE  
  
JARED KASSCHAU - VILLAGE ATTORNEY  
CANDACE HALL - VILLAGE CLERK

1 (The Meeting was Called to Order at 6 p.m.)

2 MAYOR STUESSI: I'd like to make a motion to  
3 open the Thursday, March 21st Work Session. May I  
4 have a second please?

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Second.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

7 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

10 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye. Motion carries.

12 Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

13 (Pledge of Allegiance)

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Please be seated.

15 *The Public Hearing regarding the proposed*  
16 *Local Law for the maximum speed limit in non school*  
17 *zones throughout the Village to 25 miles an hour.*  
18 *Public Hearing remained open from February 22nd.*

19 Again for those of you in the audience and  
20 anybody watching, some years ago the Village lowered  
21 speed limits on Front and Main Streets from 30 miles  
22 an hour to 25 miles an hour, but all of the  
23 neighborhood streets were kept at 30 miles an hour.  
24 So the Board is considering lowering, lowering them  
25 to 25 miles an hour in the neighborhoods as well.



1           MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. We're awaiting one thing  
2 from our traffic consultant on this. So with that,  
3 I'll make a motion to keep this -- that hearing open  
4 until a week from tonight, to Thursday, March 28th's  
5 regularly scheduled Board meeting. May I have a  
6 second?

7           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Second.

8           MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

9           TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

10          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

11          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

12          TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

13          MAYOR STUESSI: Aye. Motion carries.

14                 Next up, we have a *Public hearing regarding*  
15 *Wetlands Permit Application submitted by Costello*  
16 *Marine Contracting, as Agent for the property at*  
17 *2050 Manhasset Avenue, Greenport, New York 11944*  
18 *Tax Map #1001-3-1-2 to perform the following work:*  
19 *Construct a 112' low profile retaining wall. Install*  
20 *three rows of 12" coir-logs, 16' in length. Plant*  
21 *Cape America Beach Grass 12".*

22                 Is there anybody that would like to speak in  
23 regards to this this evening?

24          MR. LEHMANN: (Raised Hand).

25          MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, sir.



1 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye. Motion carries.

2 Next item up on the agenda is a --

3 MR. LEHMANN: Mr. Mayor. Mr. Mayor, excuse me.

4 Does that mean it's approved for construction?

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: No.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No.

8 MAYOR STUESSI: It will be scheduled --

9 MR. LEHMANN: If not, then --

10 MAYOR STUESSI: It will be scheduled for a vote  
11 next week.

12 MR. LEHMANN: News 12 will -- it will be great.  
13 When News 12 makes a picture of a body floating, a  
14 coffin floating in that harbor, that will really look  
15 good for Greenport, and it's that close. If anyone  
16 wants to take a look at it, please do.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: I've been down there. Thank you.

18 MR. LEHMANN: Did you pace off? How many feet  
19 did you pace off?

20 MAYOR STUESSI: I've been down on the beach.

21 MR. LEHMANN: Did you walk to the first --

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Absolutely, yeah.

23 MR. LEHMANN: How far was it?

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Mr. Lehmann, excuse me.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: We're not going to engage

1 anymore on this.

2 Next item up is the *Public Hearing to discuss*  
3 *and possibly take action amending or restating*  
4 *Chapter 88, entitled "Noise" of the Greenport Village*  
5 *Code.* May I have a second to open it?

6 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Second.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

8 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

9 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

11 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye. Motion carries.

13 Is there anybody this evening that would like  
14 to be heard in regards to the Noise Code?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Which part of it?

16 MAYOR STUESSI: Anything regarding the Noise Code.

17 MR. MURRAY: Is this the leaf blower, also?

18 MAYOR STUESSI: That's included in the Noise  
19 Code, correct.

20 MR. MURRAY: It's not that high up (Referring  
21 to microphone).

22 (Laughter)

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But, Dave, you just have a  
24 little bit more --

25 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, you're not vertically

1 challenged.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- more of you than the rest  
3 of us.

4 MR. MURRAY: No.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Maybe the opposite way.

6 MR. MURRAY: Hi. I'm David Murray, 332 Fifth  
7 Avenue. I also have a business on Main Street. So I  
8 want to talk a little bit about the leaf blowers.  
9 And I didn't talk at the last meeting I was here,  
10 because I wanted to do a little research on how I  
11 felt about it.

12 So I'm opposed to this leaf blower ban on three  
13 reasons. The first one is on the impact of contractors.  
14 The Mayor mentioned that Southampton has done this,  
15 so I reached out to some contractors there and how  
16 this is working. The contractors are having to get  
17 the homeowners to supply and keep charged the  
18 batteries, which I said why are they doing that? And  
19 they said, well, they can't keep them on their  
20 trailers, they can't keep enough batteries on their  
21 trailers to supply a day's -- supply leaf blowing in  
22 Southampton, so they're asking their homeowners to  
23 purchase the equipment and keep it charged in their  
24 garage. So Leueen Miller just got here, she'd  
25 probably need 15 of them for her yard.

1 (Laughter)

2 MR. MURRAY: And they're actually installing  
3 big systems to charge multiple battery at the homes.  
4 So your contractors are being asked to take a huge  
5 cost of setting up for this battery.

6 I was talking to Gerard Orientale in Soundside  
7 Landscaping. He has 20 backpack blowers, so he's  
8 going to need to resupply 20 battery systems, and how  
9 is he going to charge them? I don't think the  
10 Department of Transportation allows you to carry that  
11 many batteries on your trailer. I think he knows  
12 more about that than I do.

13 The cost to the homeowners is going to be quite  
14 dramatic. Mrs. Smith on my road --

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Julia.

16 (Person Entered the Meeting)

17 MR. MURRAY: -- her contractor -- how are you?  
18 Welcome. I think there might be another seat  
19 somewhere.

20 So she uses a small contractor who needs to  
21 revamp for his battery systems. He's going to tell  
22 her that she needs to find somebody else. So she's  
23 going to have to call a contractor who is set up for  
24 this, who's going to charge her probably double to  
25 cut her grass and things like that. So the cost to

1 the homeowners is quite -- is going to be quite a  
2 dramatic difference.

3 My main reason for opposing this is the Village  
4 can't handle this. The last thing the Code Enforcer  
5 needs to do right now is to get additional calls. He  
6 can't do his job as, as it is. There's too much on  
7 him, and you guys want to put a code to somebody who  
8 is inundated with permits, rental permits, ticketing.  
9 Village Hall is not set up for this new code. The  
10 Village will get 10, 15 calls a day. And you're  
11 going to ask him to run down to go violate somebody  
12 for a gas blower.

13 I think you need to step back, quit throwing  
14 this type of code in the off-season, which you say,  
15 you say you're hearing it from the public. The  
16 public's not here. You're going to throw a code like  
17 this on Mrs. Smith, who's in Florida. She comes back  
18 in the summertime and hears that next year she's not  
19 going to be able to have her landscaper do it. I  
20 think you need to think about that. So I oppose the  
21 leaf blower section of the Noise.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you. Is there anybody  
23 else from the public that would like to be heard this  
24 evening? Yes, sir.

25 MR. TAYLOR: I wasn't going to mention anything

1 about --

2 MAYOR STUESSI: If you can state your name and  
3 address for the record, please.

4 MR. TAYLOR: Hi. My name is James Taylor, I  
5 live at 451 Sixth Street. I wasn't going to talk  
6 about leaf blowers again tonight, because I think  
7 everyone, a lot of people know what I think about it,  
8 and I've spoken up here a few times.

9 But just to respond to the gentleman that spoke  
10 just now, a couple of things. The main argument I  
11 hear coming in the other direction -- and, I mean,  
12 first of all, let me say that I am very much in favor  
13 of banning gas-powered leaf blowers, and the main  
14 reason for that is -- well, there are three reasons.  
15 One, the noise, obviously; two, the environmental  
16 impact; and three, the impact on the actual wellbeing  
17 of the user, the people who live in the neighborhood.  
18 But the only argument I ever hear coming in the other  
19 direction is that it's going to be expensive, or  
20 problematic, or inconvenient to landscaping  
21 companies, which I get. It means they're going to  
22 have to transition and adjust the way they work. But  
23 it doesn't seem to me to be a valid argument, because  
24 other places, other towns, other communities have  
25 enforced a ban of this kind successfully, and the

1       landscaping companies have had to adjust into that  
2       transition, and if that's what it takes, it can  
3       happen.

4                If the entire state of California -- and just  
5       imagine for a second how big that state is, how many  
6       people live there, how many landscaping companies are  
7       in that state. If that entire state can ban  
8       gas-powered leaf blowers, I don't understand why  
9       Greenport has to be different and has to be how we --  
10      why we can't manage it, that's completely absurd to me.

11              There is absolutely no -- I mean, everyone, you  
12      know, everyone sitting here has heard the evidence,  
13      which is irrefutable. They know what the impacts  
14      these machines have on people's lives and people's  
15      health. And it seems completely ridiculous that we  
16      would be backing off from what is an inevitability,  
17      because the direction things are going, not just with  
18      leaf blowers, with everything else, is in one  
19      direction. So for us to go back in the other  
20      direction and just kind of dig our heels in for the  
21      sake of landscaping companies is completely  
22      ridiculous.

23              So, you know, that's kind of how I feel about  
24      it. Thanks.

25              MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you, sir. Is there

1 anybody else here from the public that would like to  
2 be heard on Noise Code this evening? Yes, sir.

3 MR. ORIENTALE: How are you? Gerard Orientale,  
4 Soundside Landscape, 67575 Main Road, Greenport.  
5 Some of my concerns and thoughts for you guys to  
6 consider, I have just a few notes here.

7 You know, the DOT has a lot of regulation on us  
8 in general, which is not a bad thing, but carrying an  
9 excess of batteries that -- on this equipment that we  
10 need to use to accommodate the noise ordinance is  
11 really not put in place yet that makes it easy for  
12 us, or let alone possible for us, because of the  
13 quantities of batteries that we would have to carry  
14 in the course of a day.

15 The other thing is that if we were carry  
16 generators on the truck, we're also limited to  
17 15 gallons of fuel per day that we can carry on a  
18 truck or trailer properly secured, and there's reason  
19 for that gallonage. If there's a spill, it's a  
20 controlled spill. Anything over 15 gallons, the DOT  
21 views it as not in control of the person driving the  
22 truck, or, you know, the situation.

23 There's also like the generator noise, you know,  
24 for running the generator to consider.

25 The other thing is, is does this include like

1 chainsaws, the blower ban for noise?

2 MAYOR STUESSI: That's not being contemplated, no.

3 MR. ORIENTALE: Okay.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's next.

5 (Laughter)

6 MR. ORIENTALE: The insurance companies are  
7 also going to change a lot of things, which really at  
8 the end of the day, not so much for us, but the end  
9 user is what it really affects. The Fire Marshal I'm  
10 sure is going to have something to say, because the  
11 simple fact of how are we controlling these battery  
12 fires if they were to happen? Going back to like  
13 some of the cars that catch on fire, they have to  
14 burn for hours to burn out on these lithium  
15 batteries. So it's just something to be thought out,  
16 how do we control that? We don't have that answer yet.

17 The technology on the equipment also is not  
18 there for a commercial application. It may be there  
19 for residential, but not necessarily commercial to  
20 run an eight-hour day. I think if you're going to go  
21 that direction of changing over to battery, there  
22 also should be a reasonable period of transition and  
23 not a cutoff date, hypothetically, tomorrow or next  
24 week. Something to think about there as well.

25 Yeah. The investment on it as a whole, which

1 really is not the Village's problem, it's the  
2 business owners', but the investment of is quite a  
3 big investment. So we --

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Mr. Mayor, may I ask Jared  
5 some questions, please?

6 MR. ORIENTALE: Go ahead.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Is it okay if I ask him  
8 questions?

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Sure.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'm sure you're part of the  
11 Landscapers Association.

12 MR. ORIENTALE: Uh-huh.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: It's my understanding that  
14 the State is contemplating some regulations in  
15 dealing with gas leaf blowers.

16 MR. ORIENTALE: Uh-huh.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But I believe the Association  
18 has put together some facts as to the cost. All  
19 right. But my one question is if a property owner,  
20 who you're doing a job for, feels very strongly that  
21 they don't want the gas leaf blower in their property --

22 MR. ORIENTALE: Uh-huh.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- you would, as a business  
24 person, accommodate that?

25 MR. ORIENTALE: Well, out of 275 clients that

1 we currently maintain, not one has asked for that  
2 service. Would we entertain it? Sure, we would try  
3 to accommodate them, and we would ask them to supply  
4 us with the equipment that's needed and put up a  
5 charging station at their facility, garage, shed,  
6 etcetera, that we have access to.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. That's all.

8 MR. ORIENTALE: We could do that.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. Thank you.

10 MR. ORIENTALE: Yep. Any other questions you  
11 guys might have?

12 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you, sir --

13 MR. ORIENTALE: Okay. Thank you.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: -- for your thoughtful  
15 comments. Is there anybody else from the public that  
16 would like to be heard this evening on noise?

17 MS. MILLER: Yes, yes.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, please, Leueen.

19 MS. MILLER: Leueen Miller, 424 Fourth Street.  
20 I voiced my opinion on this before, and I'm going to  
21 reiterate it, and that is in the scheme of the  
22 problems that Greenport is facing, I honestly find  
23 this proposal ridiculous. And the reasons, I think I  
24 probably have one of the largest gardens in  
25 Greenport. I have a contractor who comes in the

1 summer once a week. He, he comes with four guys,  
2 they have two lawnmowers, the leaf blower, and the  
3 weed killer. Is it noisy? It is noisy for about  
4 20 minutes. I couldn't tell you which is the  
5 noisiest, the lawnmower or the leaf blower, but  
6 they're in and out in about 20 minutes.

7 And I'm really in debt to them. I have a good  
8 contractor who's reliable, I think who depends on me  
9 and others in the Village and outside the Village to  
10 run his business. And I think I'm environmentally  
11 conscious in terms of the kind of fertilizer I use,  
12 etcetera. I try to keep organic.

13 I'm not really sure about the environmental  
14 impact of the leaf blower. So is it today the leaf  
15 blower, tomorrow the lawnmower? And where do we,  
16 where do we go with this? And the time and effort  
17 that's been spent on this problem I think is out of  
18 proportion to the issue we are facing.

19 So I'm concerned about the whole battery thing,  
20 which I've heard about, the problems with the  
21 contractors who are trying to make a decent living in  
22 an expensive area. And so, in conclusion, I'm really  
23 opposed to this. I would urge the Board to focus on  
24 more serious issues. Thank you.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

1 (Applause)

2 MS. GULLEY: Hi. Hillary Gulley, 451 Sixth  
3 Street. I just want to say, just as a reply to who  
4 just spoke, I also have one of the biggest gardens in  
5 the Village. We have -- or in my neighborhood, at  
6 least, we have almost 12,000 square feet. I planted  
7 like over 65 trees on my own.

8 I've already written to the Board on this  
9 issue, so I'm going to keep it really brief. But,  
10 you know, I've been partially -- I've been dealing  
11 with an injury that has prevented me from doing a ton  
12 of physical work, but somehow I've been able to take  
13 care of this 12,000 square foot garden without a  
14 gas-powered leaf blower. I do it with an electric  
15 battery-powered leaf blower, it really helps me out,  
16 but a gas-powered one is not necessary.

17 So I think it's just really important that  
18 people keep in mind nobody's banning leaf blowers,  
19 they're just banning the really noisy gas-powered  
20 ones that -- I mean, they vibrate your eardrums, and  
21 I can't have a conversation with my own husband in my  
22 kitchen when it's happening around us.

23 And I know, you know, you've said, the woman  
24 who just spoke said it only takes 20 minutes, but  
25 that gets very compounded when every single one of

1 your neighbors has this going on.

2 And I can tell you which one's noisier, leaf  
3 blower versus, versus a lawnmower. It is definitely  
4 a leaf blower by a lot, it might even be by double,  
5 and I know that because I can hear the leaf blowers  
6 from over a block-and-a-half, maybe sometimes two  
7 blocks away, and I cannot hear the lawnmowers from  
8 that far away. So I just wanted to put that out  
9 there. I am, obviously, in support of banning  
10 gas-powered leaf blowers. Thank you.

11 (Applause)

12 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you. Since you've  
13 already spoken, if you could let somebody else speak.  
14 And we'll go through anybody else, and then if  
15 there's time, you're welcome to speak again.

16 MS. HASKELL: Beth Haskell, 59 Washington  
17 Avenue. I commend this Board and the Village for  
18 taking this kind of action and considering this. I  
19 think that we, the residents, the people who live  
20 here full-time, the -- are -- know that this Board  
21 cares about the quality of life in Greenport, and  
22 this is really a quality of life issue.

23 I want to clarify one thing. I know that in  
24 the past one of the Trustees has said that they  
25 didn't think there was a sound difference between a

1 gas leaf blower and an electric leaf blower. The  
2 American Green Zone Alliance, which is a California  
3 landscaping company, in a paper that they wrote on  
4 this subject clarifies an important thing about the  
5 noise. Typical -- and I'm going to read, and it's  
6 going to be off my phone, so it's a little awkward.  
7 Typical gas machine have a noise between 75 decibels  
8 and 95 decibels, with some gas chainsaws as loud as  
9 120 decibels. Meanwhile, most electric tools,  
10 meaning gas -- meaning electric leaf blowers, are  
11 between 65 and 75 decibels, with the -- sorry. With  
12 one leaf blower as quiet as 56 decibels. But the  
13 noise difference between gas and electric are much  
14 more dramatic than these numbers might suggest,  
15 because the decibel scale of -- for loudness is  
16 logarithmic, not linear. That means the noise level  
17 accelerates up an exponential curve, with each  
18 increase of 10 decibels being twice as loud as the  
19 previous.

20 So, basically, what that means is -- okay, I'll  
21 go back to reading. For example, a typical  
22 85 decibel gas leaf blower is four times louder, and,  
23 therefore, four times more odious to the public, and  
24 four times more hazardous to the operator's ear.

25 I think what the people who have spoken against

1       this so far have not taken into account, that this is  
2       a issue that affects the people who use these leaf  
3       blowers. It's seriously dangerous for them to  
4       breathe the fumes and have this noise going off all  
5       day long as they use them. So I'll leave my comments  
6       at that.

7               MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

8                        (Appause)

9               MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, please.

10              MS. DE CRUZ: Now I know how to do this, you go  
11      like that (referring to microphone). Margaret  
12      deCruz, 25 Washington Avenue.

13              The funny thing about this leaf blower issue is  
14      that leaf blowers were made for blowing leaves, but  
15      they are being used when you're cutting your lawn,  
16      and it's not necessary.

17              I hired a landscaper for two years, I think, to  
18      do my lawn, and he'd pull out his leaf blower, and  
19      I'm like, "I don't want you to do that, because  
20      you're not" -- first of all, they're leaving the  
21      grass on -- the cut grass on the grass, so they don't  
22      need to do that. And what they're doing is they're  
23      just cleaning up the sidewalk and throwing dust  
24      everywhere. So I don't think it's even necessary for  
25      landscapers to use these all the time when they're

1 cutting grass. If they're clearing a lawn, I mean,  
2 the leaves, that's what they're made for. And I'm --  
3 I definitely would prefer an electric, or if they  
4 want to do my lawn, not use the leaf blowers, they're  
5 not necessary, if they want to sweep, or I could  
6 sweep afterwards. I mean, it's -- I think we have to  
7 realize it's not necessarily for lawn cutting to use  
8 a leaf blower. That's what I wanted to say. Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MR. HARRIS: Peter Harris, 212 Knapp Place.  
11 I'm in favor of the use of leaf blowers, and I, and  
12 I -- I also can understand the people that are  
13 against it, and -- but I'm -- just want to go down  
14 memory lane a little bit for all you people that  
15 didn't live in Greenport many, many years ago.

16 We had fish processing plants in this town that  
17 used to -- it -- Cooper's, Cooper's Fish Factory,  
18 Plock's, a skimmer clam plant down at Claudio's.  
19 They unloaded ocean-going trawlers, which I will tell  
20 you, there were throngs of out-of-towners that used  
21 to come down because they enjoyed watching them  
22 actually unload, unload fish boats.

23 We had a dump that used to burn the garbage,  
24 and depending upon which way the wind blew, you were  
25 like in a fog bank of stinky, smelly smoke. But you

1 know what? We lived with it, because that was a part  
2 of Greenport. We had a sewer plant that used to  
3 wreak to high heavens.

4 My biggest thing is not leaf blowers. My  
5 biggest thing, as a volunteer fireman for this Fire  
6 Department, is having to go, not me personally, but  
7 our EMS personnel, all volunteers, 365 days a year,  
8 24 hours a day.

9 This past Saturday I'm sitting in my home, and  
10 in a matter of three minutes, we had -- we got called  
11 out for two alcohol overdoses, and it is rampant in  
12 this Village. And there is -- I know, there's,  
13 there's things on the, on the books about public  
14 drinking, open container law, and nothing gets done.

15 They call the rescue to come there, they take  
16 them to the hospital, they let them -- now you're  
17 taking up room in the hospital to let an intoxicated  
18 individual sleep it off, give them a meal, and then  
19 let them go back out on the road.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They repeat it.

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Pete.

22 MR. HARRIS: And the fact that just this past  
23 weekend, we had what I call a frequent flier. It's  
24 a, it's a lady that basically comes from Patchogue,  
25 but they give her money to give her a bus ticket or a

1 train ticket to go east to get her out of their town.  
2 She was standing in front the post office. The  
3 ambulance was on its way with a patient, a really  
4 true patient, and she's there waving her hands,  
5 waving her hands to get picked up.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: Pete, if I could ask if there's  
7 anything else you want to add on Noise Code? We're  
8 hearing that now, and you're welcome to get back up  
9 when we're hearing from the public.

10 MR. HARRIS: Okay. I'm just, I'm just, I'm  
11 just trying to make a point, Mayor, that everybody's  
12 concerned about leaf blowers. We have -- I feel this  
13 Village has many more important issues than worrying  
14 just about leaf blowers. Thank you.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

16 (Applause)

17 MR. LUDACER: Ken Ludacer, 133B Sixth Street.  
18 Going back seven years, this is now the third public  
19 hearing I've been to concerning gas-powered leaf  
20 blowers, and invariably, unless I've missed  
21 something, the argument comes down to this: On the  
22 one hand you have a large body of facts, numerous  
23 studies on the health and environmental harm caused  
24 by gas-powered leaf blowers. These facts are not  
25 disputed by the other side of the leaf blower

1 argument, and actually they're barely even  
2 acknowledged. Instead, the other side counters with  
3 a purely speculative suggestion that curbing or  
4 banning gas-powered leaf blowers might adversely  
5 impact a landscaper's profit margin.

6 First, a small sampling of these verifiable  
7 facts. Air and noise pollution from gas-powered leaf  
8 blowers pose multiple hazards to human health. The  
9 noise produced by gas-powered leaf blowers may cause  
10 hearing loss, high blood pressure, cardiovascular  
11 disease and heart attacks. The high intensity noise  
12 that gas-powered leaf blowers produce is particularly  
13 harmful to the developing ears of infants and young  
14 children.

15 Then there's the significant contribution of  
16 gas-powered leaf blowers to greenhouse gas emissions,  
17 which is irrefutable, by some estimates accounting  
18 for as much as 10% of the CO2 discharged annually  
19 into the atmosphere. And I know you've heard this  
20 many times, but one hour of leaf blowing is the  
21 equivalent in emissions of driving 1100 miles in a car.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No way.

23 MR. LUDACER: And once again I'll note, and I'm  
24 tired of hearing myself say this, too, that in 2010,  
25 Greenport Village made a Smart Climate Pledge that

1 acknowledged the climate crisis to the local and  
2 global environments posed primarily by the burning of  
3 fossil fuels. And Greenport pledged at the time to  
4 pursue measures to mitigate the impacts by reducing  
5 greenhouse gas emissions, shifting to renewable  
6 energy, and to consider climate change in the  
7 long-term planning.

8           So against the force of these facts and many  
9 others, the other side counters with the anecdotal  
10 speculation that, but if these gas-powered leaf  
11 blowers are banned, landscaping companies might not  
12 be as profitable as they could be, and, yet, there is  
13 no evidence of that.

14           In fact, in Rye, New York, when Rye, New York  
15 established a trial summertime ban on leaf blowers in  
16 2008, it was against substantial objections from the  
17 landscaping businesses operating there. Yet, one  
18 year later, at a hearing to review that same ban and  
19 supposed ill effects on business, only one landscaper  
20 showed up, because the vast majority of landscapers  
21 there had actually saved money.

22           The point is not even landscapers themselves  
23 have a clear picture of how a ban might affect their  
24 bottom line good or bad. Still, that's the fallback  
25 argument against banning gas-powered leaf blowers,

1       which is, oh, it's possible, maybe, could be, that  
2       landscapers could lose money. So, ultimately, those  
3       against a ban are pointing to an unknown presumed  
4       monetary loss that might or might not be a gain and  
5       saying that that's too high a price to pay, making a  
6       dollars and cents calculations based on nothing more  
7       than anecdotal hearsay, and insisting that that's too  
8       high, too high a price for Greenport to honor its  
9       pledge to be part of the global effort to reduce  
10      greenhouse gases. That's too high a price, whatever  
11      it is or isn't, to better protect the waterways.  
12      That's too high a price in dollars and cents to  
13      safeguard the health and welfare of Greenport  
14      residents, or, for that matter, those operating those  
15      machines.

16                So that's what the Board is putting on the  
17      debate scale here tonight, the unknown impact, good  
18      or bad, on the landscapers' bottom line, versus known  
19      indisputable, indisputable facts such as, and I'm  
20      quoting here, "Air and noise" -- I'm quoting here  
21      again, "Air and noise pollution from gas-powered leaf  
22      blowers pose multiple hazards to human health. The  
23      noise produced by gas-powered leaf blowers may cause  
24      hearing loss, high blood pressure, cardiovascular  
25      disease and heart attacks. The high intensity noise

1 that gas-powered leaf blowers produce is particularly  
2 harmful to the developing ears of infants and young  
3 children." Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else who would  
6 like to speak?

7 MR. LEHMANN: I should just get a seat up here.  
8 Captain Robert H. Lehmann, again, 535 Third Street,  
9 been a resident in Greenport for 50 years. And  
10 Mr. Peter Harris is absolutely right. Greenport is a  
11 very unique and a very unusual town, and if you don't  
12 love it, leave it.

13 Okay. I have to say about leaf blowers, there  
14 has to be compromise, please. This is going on for  
15 how long? It's ridiculous. Have a leaf blower  
16 operate from 9 to 3, no longer than one hour at a  
17 time. That will solve the whole problem. And the  
18 young folks who are working, are waiting all winter  
19 to work landscaping, who are drinking in the streets  
20 and causing havoc, they're back at work, okay? They  
21 can use it for one hour, and please shut it off.  
22 Thank you very much. I apologize for my loud voice.

23 MS. FINNE: Tina Finne, 120 Center Street,  
24 Greenport, New York. I have a couple of complaints.  
25 First of all, this was not advertised in our local

1 paper. So anybody that knew about it basically was  
2 word of mouth, or they knew from last week.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not true.

4 MS. FINNE: Not true?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

6 MS. FINNE: Was it in the local paper this  
7 week?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, it wasn't published in  
10 the local paper.

11 MS. FINNE: No, it was not.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: It was published in Newsday,  
13 right.

14 CLERK HALL: It was published in Newsday.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Which --

17 MAYOR STUESSI: If you'd like to speak more,  
18 please, go ahead.

19 MS. FINNE: No. Yeah, thank you.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: And there have been -- it was  
21 published in Newsday. So what happened is, typically,  
22 the Clerk's Office publishes in Suffolk Times,  
23 depending on the timing.

24 MS. FINNE: Yeah.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: If there's timing issues, they

1 publish in Newsday as well. Many times we publish in  
2 both, depending.

3 MS. FINNE: Well, I think on --

4 MAYOR STUESSI: And there's also been some  
5 articles about it, too.

6 MS. FINNE: I think that if it's --

7 MAYOR STUESSI: Please.

8 MS. FINNE: -- something like this that's going  
9 to affect land -- the people that work here, the  
10 people that live here, then I think we need to post  
11 it in the local paper. I mean, because we  
12 basically -- we have pretty much -- it's lopsided  
13 here. And it might be like lopsided after it's in  
14 the local paper, but it might not be.

15 And I, quite frankly, like I understand. I  
16 respect the opinions in here, but I'm a homeowner.  
17 To make a decision that I can't use something I think  
18 is unfair, it's ridiculous. We don't all have to  
19 agree about that. But what I do have a problem with,  
20 and I don't know if I should speak on this right now,  
21 I have complained about the Road Department and the  
22 job that they do. I think that's a pressing --

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, we just want to focus on  
24 noise right now.

25 MS. FINNE: Okay.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: And you're welcome to come back  
2 and --

3           MS. FINNE: But I also have a problem when we  
4 elect officials and -- well, going back, I grew up in  
5 Greenport when we didn't have a leash law, and it  
6 was --

7           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Didn't have a what?

8           MS. FINNE: A leash law, and it was a mess. I  
9 mean, dog fights. I had dogs doing tug of wars with  
10 cats, you know, things like that. And I have a  
11 problem with elected officials who want to change a  
12 rule for me, but change a rule for themselves,  
13 because they don't want to put their dog on a leash.

14           So I oppose this ban. I think we could work  
15 with people. I think we can make compromise. But to  
16 all out ban something or -- which I'm not quite sure  
17 if it's a ban or if it's we can use, yet, what  
18 battery operated, or we can't use battery. Do we  
19 know yet? What is the proposed law?

20           MAYOR STUESSI: The language, the language  
21 that's been posted is that gas-powered leaf blowers  
22 would be eliminated starting next year, and then  
23 phased in over the rest of this year. Electric leaf  
24 blowers would be allowed all year-round. That's the  
25 newer language that's been proposed.

1 MS. FINNE: Continually, because --

2 MAYOR STUESSI: Based, based upon public  
3 comment.

4 MS. FINNE: Okay. Based -- because when  
5 somebody else looked into the law, they thought after  
6 a while it was going to be maybe no blowers  
7 whatsoever.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

9 MS. FINNE: Is that not true?

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, it depends, depends on  
11 the charging of -- the commercial landscapers, it  
12 depends on how they charge the electric leaf blowers.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: That's not what it says. It's  
14 banning gas leaf blowers starting next year with a  
15 phased-in approach.

16 MS. FINNE: Well, that's, that's what my  
17 question is. And I think this, you could hold it  
18 over to next week, put it in the paper, and see if  
19 somebody shows up. Thank you.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's a full room.

22 MS. FINNE: Yeah, and it's mostly one sided.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: When was the agenda on the  
24 website?

25 (Applause)

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Pardon me?

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: When was the agenda on the  
3 website?

4 MAYOR STUESSI: We've been talking about this  
5 for many weeks now.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: As of what, yesterday or the  
7 day before?

8 MAYOR STUESSI: No, no. I think this is our  
9 third public hearing --

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: December.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: -- on Noise that we've been  
12 talking about.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, December.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. Is there anybody else  
15 who would like to be heard? Yes, sir.

16 MR. HEIT: Lorenzo Heit, 235 Linnet Street.  
17 Just two things. This is primarily a noise ban.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Speak into the mic.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: Please, speak into the  
20 microphone?

21 MR. HEIT: Which is primarily about the noise,  
22 I believe, but I see it as a win/win. We reduce the  
23 noise if we go to electric. But beyond that, as a  
24 gentleman before said, the amount of pollution is  
25 just staggering from these small motors. The reason

1 cars don't put out as much as they have catalytic  
2 converters, and also it's a pollution control that do  
3 not exist on these. So it's a win in terms of the  
4 sound level, and it's a win in terms of the amount of  
5 pollutions they put into the air.

6 And then I just want to point out sort of a  
7 red herring that's been thrown out into our  
8 discussion and that's the fire safety of batteries.  
9 And they do catch fire periodically, but it's not  
10 even newsworthy when a car catches fire, a regular  
11 gasoline car catches fire. I mean, and, you know,  
12 the people in the Fire Department will -- I'm sure  
13 will confirm that many of the fires around the  
14 community are caused by gasoline and flammables of  
15 that type. So we would be reducing that, and I think  
16 overall we'll see an improved safety from that.

17 Thank you.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you. Is there anybody  
19 else this evening that would like to be heard? Yes,  
20 ma'am.

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Oh, I just -- when you get a  
22 chance, I want to get a clarification from Jared  
23 after this is over.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Why don't we finish the public  
25 hearing and then we'll discuss it.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, after this is over.

2 That's what I'm saying, after.

3 RANDY WADE: Randy Wade, Sixth Street, Greenport.

4 Thank you so much for being so responsive. I'm  
5 really glad you heard us and we're able to get this  
6 draft to include the language that we've talked about  
7 so many times.

8 It is really interesting that, you know, it's a  
9 really important issue to people where they can't  
10 have peace in their own home, and it's not important  
11 to a lot of other people. And we all have different  
12 values, so we kind of count on our public officials  
13 to look out for the good of all.

14 And like I had talked to a neighbor once and I  
15 said, "Can't you ask him" -- because when I came 41  
16 years ago, all my neighbors did their own lawns and  
17 just leaf blowers weren't even an issue. Some people  
18 have said they didn't -- even landscapers didn't  
19 start using them until more recently, they used  
20 brooms. Contractors used to use brooms to sweep the  
21 dust rather than leaf blowers. People would wait for  
22 their car to dry, rather than -- or wipe it down,  
23 rather than -- I've heard of using leaf blowers to  
24 dry a car. So I asked the neighbor if she could ask  
25 her landscaper to not use leaf blowers, and she said,

1 "You know, no, I can't do that. I mean, if it was  
2 the law." So people are -- you know, it's really  
3 going to help a lot, and, and we're very grateful  
4 to you.

5 I talked to Sonia Spar at this morning's  
6 meeting at the Legion Hall and, and we were both  
7 commiserating about worker health and what they have  
8 to do, because the landscapers, of course, are  
9 supposed to give them breathing apparatus and, you  
10 know, soundproofing ear things, and they go around  
11 without it. So it's like amazing how damaging it is  
12 for them, because, you know, they spew out some huge  
13 percentage of -- 30% or something goes into the  
14 atmosphere of what these -- the fuel that it operates on.

15 And, anyway, but I asked if I could -- if she  
16 would translate something into Spanish if, if there  
17 was an information flier, and she said, "Yes,  
18 absolutely." And so I just will volunteer to help in  
19 any way to get the word out, and I hope you pass it.  
20 Thank you so much.

21 (Applause)

22 MR. LEHMANN: Mr. Mayor, if I may take the  
23 honor to introduce the next guest and resident of  
24 Greenport. Marilyn White Corwin has -- family has  
25 been here since 1640.

1 MS. SHELBY: Who is it?

2 MR. LEHMANN: 1640.

3 MS. SHELBY: Who is it?

4 MR. LEHMANN: Marilyn White Corwin.

5 MS. SHELBY: Who?

6 (Laughter)

7 MS. CORWIN: Well, anyway, I'm Marilyn White  
8 Corwin. Whoo. Anyway --

9 MAYOR STUESSI: You came with your own  
10 announcer, that's fantastic.

11 MS. CORWIN: I had no idea, believe me.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: I'm very impressed.

13 (Laughter)

14 MS. CORWIN: Anyway, I have a home on Fifth  
15 Avenue in Greenport. And I had no intention of  
16 speaking here tonight, so I'm totally unprepared, but  
17 I'm confused about one thing. Now, you're talking  
18 about the leaf blowers, you're talking about the  
19 noise. A couple of people came up and they're  
20 concerned about the environment, you know, what  
21 damage the leaf blowers do to the environment. Is  
22 that one of the major problems here with -- you know,  
23 with whatever the leaf blowers spew into the air?

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Many people have brought that  
25 up as a concern, yes.

1 MS. CORWIN: Okay. All right. So that being  
2 said, that is a concern, I'm sure. I mean, I -- then  
3 let's start thinking about things like -- and this is  
4 going to make me very unpopular, okay? But has  
5 anybody ever been in the Village when Aldo is  
6 roasting his coffee?

7 (Laughter)

8 MS. CORWIN: And there's nothing but a big  
9 cloud of smoke, and you walk through that and you're  
10 choking, and whatever. Or, if you live many blocks  
11 away and you have your windows open. Now, if you go  
12 online and you look up roasting coffee, talk about  
13 carcinogenics. And I probably didn't say that word  
14 right, and forgive me, people, that, you now -- it's  
15 very, very harmful. Okay. So that's -- we have to  
16 think about that. What about cigarette smoke? Okay.  
17 We have people, I know this, probably smoke, oh, a  
18 few packs a day. They smoke in public. You walk  
19 down the street and you go past them and they're  
20 smoking. Maybe we need to ban public smoking. What  
21 Pete, what Pete brought up, you know --

22 (Applause)

23 MS. CORWIN: Thanks, guys, I wasn't even  
24 prepared.

25 (Laughter)

1 MS. CORWIN: And what Pete brought up,  
2 you know, about the drinking in public, this kind of  
3 thing, these are all very important issues. This  
4 leaf blower issue, I think that the Village Board, at  
5 this point, we have a lot of real serious things to  
6 start looking at, instead of spending years on  
7 worrying about the leaf blowers.

8 I think that the people who own their own  
9 properties should be allowed to use leaf blowers. I  
10 think that these landscapers, this is their  
11 livelihood. I mean, I heard a gentleman say, "Oh,  
12 it's not going to impact," blah, blah, blah, or they  
13 don't know if it will impact them. It doesn't even  
14 matter. If we're looking out for everybody, which is  
15 what you're all supposed to be doing, is looking out  
16 for the residents, you know, and these residents are  
17 hiring people to do their lawns, then we need to look  
18 into them and know that this could be a possible  
19 tragedy for them in the sense of their -- you know,  
20 that their -- I don't want to say wellbeing, but  
21 their -- it's going to be a real problem for them,  
22 you know, economically. We would hate for them to  
23 have to lose their businesses and this kind of thing  
24 because of the fact.

25 And, you know, and somebody else mentioned that

1       there hasn't been any, any fires with these  
2       batteries. What are they doing in the city now?  
3       They're putting these special charging units outside,  
4       because, because all these people that have these  
5       batteries that they're charging has caused so many  
6       fires. There's been fatalities, because these  
7       batteries are dangerous.

8               And I get everybody wants to go green and they  
9       want everything to be battery operated and all this.  
10      It's a problem, and I think that you just need to  
11      take a little more time. I don't think people should  
12      be banned from doing something that they've been  
13      doing. And they say, oh, years ago, you know,  
14      40-something years ago, nobody used -- you know,  
15      nobody used a leaf blower. Well, you know what? How  
16      many years ago did you take and beat your laundry on  
17      a rock out in the river because there were no washing  
18      machines? I mean, so, you know, you got something  
19      that's new and helped people and -- anyway, whatever.

20             But, anyway, that's, that's how I feel, that I  
21      really do not think that we should be putting so much  
22      time into something like this. I think we need to  
23      put more time into something else, and I think that  
24      we should not ban the leaf blowers. That's it.

25      Thank you.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

2                           (Applause)

3           MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else in the  
4 public that would like -- yes, sir. Behind you.  
5 We're going to go through anybody who hasn't spoken  
6 before we consider somebody else.

7           MR. KREILING: Paul Kreiling, 149 Sixth Street.  
8 We're talking about leaf blowers, we're talking about  
9 carcinogens, we're talking about this, we're talking  
10 about that. Why do we live here? Why did we come  
11 here? We came here because you can hear the birds,  
12 because everything is green, it's beautiful. That's  
13 what we should be supporting.

14           Leaf blowers are not doing it, they have the  
15 decibel levels. And it's not just the decibel, it's  
16 the frequency. When you have a -- the train comes  
17 in, that's a decibel, but it's a low frequency and  
18 it's a rumble. Same decibel level with a high  
19 frequency, two different curves, it's the pitch that  
20 is causing the problem, the annoyance. This whole  
21 hoopla, it's about, it's about the pitch. It's like  
22 you've got an old Harley with -- or you got a Suzuki,  
23 that's the difference. It's still a motorcycle,  
24 that's the difference.

25           I think that we should concentrate why we're

1 here, what we gain by being here. In the spring,  
2 birds singing to each other. Leaf blowers, they  
3 can't hear anything. Same thing in the fall, when  
4 they're getting ready for migration, they're all  
5 getting together, leaf blowers, they can't hear  
6 anything, that's the problem. The problem isn't the  
7 leaf blower itself, it's the just disregard for why  
8 we are here. Thank you.

9 (Applause)

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you. Is there any --  
11 hold, Margaret, please, let's -- is there anybody  
12 else who has not spoken that would like to speak?

13 MR. TRUELOVE: (Raise Hand).

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, sir.

15 MR. TRUELOVE: Hey. This is Jeff TrueLove from  
16 338 Second Street, and Jane.

17 (Laughter)

18 MR. TRUELOVE: I am not -- I'm against leaf  
19 blowers, and I'll tell you why. It's -- by  
20 happenstance years ago -- we live on the corner of  
21 Second and Center. By happenstance years ago, we had  
22 our soil tested, and it was tested by the University  
23 of Delaware, right on that intersection there, and  
24 they said -- they got back to us with the results,  
25 and essentially said, "Do you have children near this

1 soil?" And we said, "Yeah, we have children. This  
2 is our house." They said, "Don't let them play near  
3 that soil. The lead content in that soil is  
4 incredibly high." We had sent two or three samples.  
5 The sample in the backyard, they said, "Okay, look,  
6 if kids go out in that backyard and play in that  
7 soil, tell them to take off their shoes when they  
8 come home and wash their hands. But out front, in  
9 that sample, don't get near that."

10 Now since we moved in, we've had four or five  
11 homes renovated or painted, and being a nut and a  
12 fanatic, I'll go around and I'll check those paint  
13 scrapings. It's all lead paint.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yep.

15 MR. TRUELOVE: Right? Now when I walk past the  
16 house across the street, all those paint scrapings  
17 are right there in the soil. So we work hard to keep  
18 our house clean of lead dust for the health of our  
19 children, and every single week we lose ground,  
20 because the dust from the leaf blowers blows all that  
21 paint dust right back onto our property.

22 And I'm giving my kids a complex. "Take off  
23 your shoes, wash your hands, come on, you've been  
24 outside." It's horrible. And I try and -- I try and  
25 walk myself back from it, but it makes a big impact

1 On our lives, and it's the leaf blowers that are  
2 bringing that lead dust onto your property. The  
3 noise is annoying as all get-out, but it's not, it's  
4 not poisoning my children. So I want you to please  
5 think about that, and thank you.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else who has  
9 not spoken that would like to speak on Noise? Yes,  
10 ma'am?

11 MS. KREHLING: Lorraine Krehling, Central  
12 Avenue. I've been up here before, but, obviously,  
13 some of the things we've said don't stick.

14 One of the first things that was said was the  
15 impact on contractors. How many times have we heard  
16 that? Does anyone say after that the impact on the  
17 people who are working for the contractors? These  
18 people, these young men who we must think of as  
19 expendable, otherwise, we would actually care about  
20 the fact that they are breathing carcinogens, they  
21 are breathing particulate matter, and they're  
22 breathing the very lead dust that the person before  
23 me spoke about, let's think about that before we  
24 think about the contractors.

25 Contractors are on the top of the pile, because

1 they're very smart men, and they -- they'll know how  
2 to adjust. They've always known how to adjust,  
3 they've made it in this town.

4           Someone said that on her property she had --  
5 they only came in for 20 minutes and it didn't bother  
6 her. Well, I know where she lives, she faces the  
7 water. I have live in the Historic District and  
8 on -- we all have, I believe the last time said,  
9 yards the size of postage stamps and we're bringing  
10 in golf course equipment to clean them.

11           On -- this week I sat down at my desk to -- I  
12 had -- I was about to start on a particular project  
13 and -- not start, but to work on it, the leaf blowers  
14 arrive. They're in my -- my neighbor, one yard, one  
15 yard away. You know, they're only 50 feet between  
16 our houses, and it's three, three leaf blowers with  
17 power packs for an hour. So don't tell me about the  
18 20 minutes in this little tiny yard, you know.

19           Now, I actually like my neighbors, I like all  
20 of them very, very much. I think that they don't  
21 understand what they are doing when they bring -- and  
22 it's landscape crews. I mean, they're not out there  
23 with their own -- I think we could put in a clause  
24 that says if you have your own leaf blower, you can  
25 use it for 20 minutes. But they're not here, they're

1        somewhere else, and I'm listening to this. And then  
2        the -- then they arrive the next yard, then they  
3        arrive across the street, and it's -- it really is  
4        endless. And I checked my blood pressure, it  
5        actually does go up. And, I mean, there's nothing  
6        you can do. I went to the post office, you know.

7                So, yes, the -- someone from the Audubon  
8        Society, Peggy, the last time, I hoped she'd speak  
9        again, talked about the foolishness of blowing  
10       leaves. I mean, if you really want your grass raked  
11       in the fall, that's fine, but the foolishness of  
12       blowing grass clippings is beyond me. I mean, we --  
13       it's good for your grass, it's good for your, your  
14       garden beds. And when you blow up all those leaves,  
15       all those insects that the birds really need are  
16       getting stirred out of their slumber and, and die, I  
17       mean, let's face it.

18                So the idea of a manicured lawn that is sort of  
19       a Holiday Inn version of things is really not what  
20       Greenport was ever about. And I've been here a long  
21       time, too, and 10 years ago I don't think there were  
22       leaf blowers, and somehow everybody's lawn looked  
23       fine.

24                                (Laughter)

25                MS. KREAHLING: So, I mean, really think about

1 the silliness of it, particularly in the summer.  
2 Blowing grass clippings is just, it's just -- it's  
3 ridiculous, really. And it's not the people who live  
4 there. I mean, they come in and it looks really  
5 neat, but they wouldn't do it if they had to do it  
6 themselves.

7 Finally, it's not just the health of the  
8 contractors, but I would like you to think about the  
9 people who work for the contractors. I think you  
10 should put that first on your list of what you're  
11 thinking about when you're saying, "It's okay, it's  
12 okay, these little guys will come in and clean up, and  
13 it's okay if they don't have the hearing things on."  
14 Ten years later down the -- they won't be able to  
15 hear, but, you know, that won't be our problem. You  
16 should really think about that first. But then you  
17 should also think about the health of your neighbors,  
18 and in the Historic District particularly when we  
19 have not just lead, we have asbestos, we have  
20 insecticides. They're all laying in the soil, which  
21 is where they belong. And what you're doing when you  
22 use a leaf blower is just stirring all that stuff up  
23 so we can drink it. And I do remember Greenport when  
24 I didn't have to dust, that was before leaf blowers.

25 So I know that people mean well. I know that,

1 that you folks are trying to do the best thing for  
2 the Village, but I think you should think about all  
3 of the people in the Village, not just the  
4 contractors, and not just the people who, you know,  
5 are coming back from Florida and may have to pay a  
6 little bit more for electric leaf blowing.

7 Okay, thank you. And thank you guys for  
8 hanging in there, Trustees, because you really did  
9 work hard putting this together. And the noise  
10 ordinance, particularly Mary Bess, thank you very  
11 much, and blessings.

12 (Applause)

13 GARY SCHARFMAN: Hello. Gary Scharfman, Fifth  
14 Street, West Dublin. Something was said earlier this  
15 evening that -- about the capacity of the Village to  
16 enforce, and this is not an either/or proposition. I  
17 don't think we should ever have any law proposed that  
18 we're not prepared to enforce and have the will to  
19 enforce. And if that requires the Village somehow  
20 coming up with the wherewithal to do that, so that  
21 things that are not being enforced currently, like  
22 drag racing that goes up and down Fifth Street in  
23 West Dublin, needs to be further, further invested  
24 in, then that's something for the Village to try and  
25 to solve. But I would not forestall any sort of law

1 that we can't, we can't -- because we can't -- we  
2 think we can't enforce it. I think you're very  
3 creative, I think the Village is filled with creative  
4 people, and I think we can, in fact, have a law or a  
5 series of laws that will benefit the community and  
6 that can be enforced. Thank you.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

8 (Applause)

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else that  
10 wishes to be -- yes, Mary.

11 MS. YOURCH: I'm Mary Yourch, Stirling Cove. I  
12 happen to be in agreement with the ban. However, I  
13 would like it -- I would be very happy if we could  
14 phase it in. I think in the very beginning, when we  
15 started talking about it, that was the first thing  
16 they talked about was a phase-in plan of starting  
17 with not later than 5 o'clock, or something  
18 reasonable, not earlier than 8 o'clock, nothing on  
19 weekends. That's, that's the kind of thing that I  
20 would like to see happen. Thank you.

21 (Applause)

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else that  
23 would like to be heard on the Noise Code this  
24 evening? Yes, if you could keep it brief, please,  
25 since you're come up again. Thank you.

1 MS. DE CRUZ: Yeah, I am very brief, you know  
2 that.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: I know you've spoken on it in  
4 many other meetings, so.

5 MS. DE CRUZ: No, this is -- I'm aware that it  
6 seems like it's become landscapers versus the town,  
7 and that's not really where this is at. It's  
8 actually -- I think what would help is if the town  
9 did educate the homeowners about leaf blowers, and  
10 lawn care, and keeping the leaves and all that, then  
11 people could probably say to their landscapers, "I  
12 really don't need you to use the leaf blowers."  
13 I mean, I really think it comes down to educating  
14 people, getting them to say, "Yeah, it's important,  
15 we don't need this, and it's noisy, and it's  
16 polluting, and it's harmful." That's all I have to  
17 say, okay? Thanks.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, John.

21 JOHN SALADINO: John Saladino, Sixth Street.  
22 In the interest of full disclosure, I'm one of the  
23 volunteers that's on this Code Committee that gave  
24 the Village Board the first draft of the Noise Code.  
25 What we should remember here tonight is it's a Noise

1 Code.

2 In the first draft of the Noise Code that was  
3 eventually changed was that if you violated the Noise  
4 Code, you were issued a summons. Well, first we  
5 decided everybody should -- we were more in favor of  
6 compliance than summonses, so we drafted the code  
7 with the idea of compliance, that's the reason.

8 And we discussed gasoline-powered leaf blower,  
9 two-cycle gasoline-powered leaf blowers ad nauseam,  
10 three, four weeks on that one discussion. It was  
11 decided by the members of that committee that the  
12 code protects the public from excessive noise from  
13 the leaf blower, because there's a decibel standard.  
14 If the leaf blower violates that decibel standard,  
15 goes above that decibel standard, they're subject to  
16 a violation. Someone, Gary just brought up that  
17 there's no reason why the code can't be enforced.  
18 That was our opinion.

19 When we drafted the code, the Noise Code, we  
20 took into consideration all noise, downtown, music  
21 from downtown, dogs barking, motorcycles, cars with  
22 loud mufflers, boats. No one ever suggested, no one  
23 on -- in that committee or no one on this Board ever  
24 suggested that if your dog barks too much that we ban  
25 dogs. No one ever suggested -- I live --

1 (Laughter)

2 JOHN SALADINO: I don't have a dog, I got a  
3 cat. I live on Sixth Street. In the summertime,  
4 when I sit in the backyard, I hear, I hear the music  
5 from downtown. No one ever suggested we should ban  
6 music. Do I hear it? I do. But does it violate the  
7 code? I don't think so, I can hear it. The  
8 discussion about leaf blowers was of the same thing.  
9 Can you hear them sometimes? Yes. But does it -- is  
10 it in violation of the code, 50 feet from the sound  
11 source? If it is, you call the cop or you call the  
12 Code Enforcement Officer and they get a summons.  
13 Actually, they'll probably be told to shut the leaf  
14 blower off.

15 So I'm not sure why we're throwing the baby out  
16 with the bath water here. If it's already -- if it  
17 was already in the code that -- and we're talking  
18 about noise. If we're talking about environmental  
19 concerns, maybe we should address that in a different  
20 chapter of the code, but right now we're talking  
21 about noise. So if we're talking about a leaf blower  
22 that makes too much noise, and it's not violating the  
23 bulk standard for decibel levels, perhaps the  
24 argument here should be let's lower the decibel  
25 level, as opposed to banning a piece of equipment.

1 We're not going to ban music, we're not going to ban  
2 dogs, we're not going to ban swimming pools, because  
3 kids sometimes use swimming pools and make too much  
4 noise in the swimming pool. That's crazy, that's  
5 crazy.

6 So just to -- and, again, some of you folks  
7 have heard this, I have an electric leaf blower,  
8 you know, just it's not like I'm advocating for --  
9 but we have to be consistent. We have to be  
10 reasonable and we have to make sense sometimes.

11 A lot of people are quoting what's happening in  
12 California. Me, personally, I don't think California  
13 should be the light on the hill that we follow.

14 (Laughter)

15 JOHN SALADINO: In California -- well, if we're  
16 talking about, if we're talking about California, in  
17 California a lot of things are banned. Nail polish  
18 remover is banned, air fresheners in cars are banned.  
19 We have a Trustee that has a wooden boat where its  
20 varnish is banned in California, you can't use  
21 varnish. So because California does something, it  
22 doesn't necessarily equate to what's happening in  
23 Greenport. We got to, we got to make that  
24 differential, that difference of 3300 miles and  
25 mind set.

1           So I don't know how many people here, by the,  
2           by the applause, I couldn't gauge by the applause  
3           who's in favor, who's not. Obviously, there's more  
4           opposed than there is in favor, or maybe the  
5           opposite. My suggestion to the Board, since you  
6           represent the entire Village, not just the people  
7           that show up at this -- not the 70 people that showed  
8           up here tonight, you represent the 950 property  
9           owners and the 2300 residents, my suggestion would be  
10          put it on the ballot, make it a referendum on the  
11          ballot.

12           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nice.

13           MR. SALADINO: If 400 people vote, if there's  
14          400 voters, I think there was 500 last election, if  
15          251 say yes, then you ban it. If 251 say no, then  
16          you say sorry. I mean, I don't understand. This is,  
17          this is a divisive issue, you should let the people  
18          speak. And the people that are here tonight don't  
19          speak for the Village, they don't speak for the  
20          Village, they speak for themselves. The way some of  
21          the Trustees speak for themself and not speaking for  
22          the people they represent, it's the same thing here.

23           We've all been to a ton of these meetings that  
24          things get changed, rules get changed, laws get  
25          passed by the amount of people in the audience. I've

1       been to a thousand of these meetings and I've seen it  
2       a hundred times.

3               The time to -- the time to have addressed this  
4       issue was when the code was being written, not ad hoc  
5       at the table. Well, this guy does this, south side  
6       does that, south side, different place, different  
7       place.

8               And for the people that are interested, that  
9       they think Southampton is on the right track and  
10      stuff, Southampton banned leaf blowers if you have  
11      property less than an acre-and-a-half. If you have  
12      more than an acre-and-a-half, you're allowed to have  
13      a leaf blower.

14                               (Laughter)

15               MR. SALADINO: So, you know, we're not quite  
16      the same as Southampton.

17               Another guy suggested that the facts and  
18      figures here, they're anecdotal. No. My facts and  
19      figures that I gave you last time were empirical,  
20      they weren't anecdotal. When you're saying, well,  
21      some contractor says, or we don't know if we're  
22      they're going to lose money, there's contractors here  
23      tonight that can agree or disagree. I spoke to my  
24      contractor. For him to repower five leaf blowers,  
25      \$1300 a machine, whatever the batteries were, three

1 batteries or four batteries for each machine.

2 Anyway, the bottom line, and he did it with a paper  
3 and a pencil with a -- with wherever he got it from,  
4 Grainger, or whoever he's going to buy his equipment  
5 from, it was \$18,200. That's for five leaf blowers.  
6 And I think some -- I think, I think somebody said --

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And how -- I have a question  
8 for you.

9 MR. SALADINO: I'm going to reclaim.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Ma'am. Ma'am, please.

11 MR. SALADINO: I'm going to reclaim my time.  
12 I'm going to reclaim my time here.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: We're not going to do that.

14 MR. SALADINO: One guy got up, he said he's got  
15 20 leaf blowers. I guess we'll times 18,000 by five,  
16 you know. But to suggest that the consumer won't be  
17 heard, we don't care about -- some folks here don't  
18 care about the contractor. You know, I kind of do, I  
19 kind of do, but the consumer, also. Who's that  
20 contractor, if he's not a dope, who's he going to  
21 pass that cost onto?

22 So, you know, I'm an old guy on a fixed income,  
23 I need the money. If my bill -- I pay \$225 a month  
24 for my landscaper. If my bill goes up 25, or 40%, or  
25 50%, it kind of hurts, it kind of hurt.



1 keep the hearing open until next week. Is it the  
2 28th?

3 CLERK HALL: Yes.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: March 28th.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there a second on that from  
6 the Board?

7 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah, I'll second that.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Discussion, before we close  
9 this matter and move on to the next. I know a lot of  
10 people came for this topic and they may be leaving  
11 the meeting. So I just want to thank everyone that  
12 came tonight, whether you're for or against, because  
13 even though there was some criticism about spending  
14 too much time on this issue, I was one of the people  
15 that asked that we keep this open, I wanted to hear  
16 from more people. And I understand that this does  
17 not represent the entire Village by any means, but  
18 I'm glad to see more people here commenting on this.  
19 I'm glad to see we have a little bit more  
20 representation from the landscaping industry here  
21 tonight. So to the criticism about spending much --  
22 too much time, I don't agree, I think we need to hear  
23 people, and I thank you all for coming on this.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Good point. Thank you.

25 (Applause)

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Call the vote. All in favor?

2 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

3 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

5 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye. Motion carries.

7 Next item up is a *Public hearing regarding*  
8 *amending Chapter 44, entitled "Assemblies" and*  
9 *Chapter 101 Recreation Areas, Beaches, in the Code of*  
10 *the Village of Greenport.* Yes. Sorry. Your name  
11 again, ma'am?

12 (Laughter)

13 MAYOR STUESSI: You could state it for the  
14 record. Thank you, Dave, good night.

15 MR. MURRAY: Good night.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: Good night. Thank you.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Take care.

18 MS. SHELBY: Valerie Shelby, 526 Third Street.  
19 And I'm going to have to dash out of here, because I  
20 have another meeting to go to. I'm sorry.

21 But I disagree with having the dogs roam the  
22 beach free. I think it's a liability. I think we're  
23 going to have a lot of lawsuits on our hands.

24 First of all, you have a camp, the Village has  
25 its own camp down there in the summer. How are the

1 kids going to be protected with dogs roaming? How?

2 Dogs, I don't care what you say about dogs, if  
3 they got teeth, they bite, and I'm afraid of them. I  
4 really think it's a hazard. I, I don't know. I  
5 think it's ludicrous to change this law. It's  
6 ridiculous to have an unleashed dog around children  
7 and handicapped adults. It's ludicrous, I don't get  
8 it. I had a lot to say, but the noise people took up  
9 all my time and I forgot it.

10 (Laughter)

11 MS. SHELBY: So I'm begging you to not to vote  
12 on this or anything, because I really got to go.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, the current contemplated  
14 code has leashes on dogs and they're -- it's required  
15 in what we're talking about? There's been  
16 discussions by others and people have made comments  
17 that, you know, they thought we should not.

18 MS. SHELBY: But I thought you wanted to  
19 unleash the dog on the beach. Is that --

20 MAYOR STUESSI: There are certain people that  
21 have made that suggestion, but that's not what's in  
22 the code that's in front of us.

23 MS. SHELBY: Could you explain it to me so I  
24 can get it?

25 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I'll explain it,

1 since I'm the person --

2 MS. SHELBY: Thank you.

3 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: -- who's brought  
4 this up. Right now there is not a leash law in the  
5 Village of Greenport. Dogs either have to be leashed  
6 or under the control of a responsible person. Also,  
7 right now the code does not allow dogs at all on  
8 beaches or in recreation areas, which includes  
9 Mitchell Park, the polo grounds, everywhere. And my  
10 point is just that I see dogs all those places, and  
11 this is an enforcement issue.

12 I don't really think we shouldn't have dogs on  
13 beaches or in any recreation area. I also don't  
14 think that they -- like I don't think that having  
15 them under the control of a reasonable person, and I  
16 don't think -- I understand what you're saying, you  
17 don't want to be chased by dogs, dogs can do bad  
18 things. That is true, but if they're under control,  
19 I don't think it's an issue.

20 I'm also open to like, sure, should they maybe  
21 not be in the playground not on a leash, but I do  
22 think -- I mean, I drove by Moore's Lane today, I saw  
23 someone throwing a ball for his dog, nobody else was  
24 in the entire polo grounds. I just don't think we  
25 should have more laws that aren't enforced or get

1 enforced unfairly.

2 And I'm bringing it up. And, yes, like I'm a  
3 person who I have used those spaces, some of them  
4 sometimes responsibly with my dog. A lot of other  
5 people have, too, and I see it all the time, and I  
6 just -- I think this is an opportunity, if we're  
7 looking at the law, to make the law meet actual  
8 community needs, but, I mean, not everyone's going to  
9 agree.

10 And I hear what you're saying, but I also don't  
11 think, I don't think we're going back -- I also  
12 remember when there were a lot of dogs free in  
13 Greenport. I've lived here my whole life, or that I  
14 remember, at least, and I'm not saying I think we  
15 should have dogs like running free, you know, chasing  
16 people, biting kids, but I think -- I don't think  
17 this has been a problem so far. So I'm more just  
18 saying the law all should meet -- I mean, okay, was  
19 it a problem in 1985? Yes. But I don't think right  
20 now, when --

21 MS. SHELBY: There was a problem least year.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, there was.

23 MS. SHELBY: Just, just sorry for cutting you  
24 off, but you think it's not a problem? People, and I  
25 don't hate dogs, but people let their dogs loose.

1 We're down there having a picnic, and the dog comes  
2 up and urinates on our cooler.

3 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I just think that  
4 the law is under control. So that dog wasn't under  
5 control, that's the issue.

6 MS. SHELBY: I don't, I don't --

7 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: But, I mean, I hear  
8 you, and maybe, maybe the history --

9 MS. SHELBY: I don't get what you're saying, I  
10 really don't. I'm not trying to be ignorant, but  
11 you're saying it's okay if the dog is under control?  
12 I don't get that.

13 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yes, I --

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Just to be clear, the language  
15 that's being contemplated that's in here allows dogs  
16 within parks and at beaches, but with a leash on  
17 them. The current Village Code, there is no leash  
18 law out here in the neighborhoods. It says that  
19 there's --

20 MS. SHELBY: I don't --

21 MAYOR STUESSI: No, I just want to be clear,  
22 because somebody earlier suggested there was and  
23 there's not, so --

24 MS. SHELBY: So we don't go by New York State  
25 leash law, we got our own little hamlet that --

1           MAYOR STUESSI: There's a whole bunch of things  
2 in Village Code that are different than other places  
3 in the State.

4           MS. SHELBY: Sounds like a --

5           MAYOR STUESSI: So that's why we're taking a  
6 look at it.

7           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But there -- Mr. Mayor, just  
8 to be clear, the old, the existing code says no dogs  
9 or domestic animals shall be allowed on beaches or  
10 within recreational areas, okay? That's -- this is  
11 what we're contemplating, so it's changing that.

12          MS. SHELBY: The change is so they can be --  
13 sit right next to me?

14          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Just to be clear, that's the  
15 one change.

16          MAYOR STUESSI: But on a leash, that's what it  
17 says.

18          TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Well, what's  
19 written right now is on leashes.

20          MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, yeah.

21          TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: All I was bringing  
22 up is that I think -- I see places being used, and I  
23 don't think we should necessarily automatically have  
24 \$500 fines for people throwing a ball for their dog  
25 in an empty park. But, I mean, that's just an

1 opinion I'm bringing up. But I hear the other side,  
2 and maybe there's a compromise where there's certain  
3 areas it's allowed, and maybe Fifth Street it's not  
4 allowed, or whatever it is.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Why don't we take some more  
6 public comment. Is there anything else you wanted to  
7 add? I think it's good hear your perspective.

8 MS. SHELBY: Are you going to leave it open or  
9 close it? I have to go.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Pardon me?

11 MS. SHELBY: Is it going to be closed? You're  
12 going to decide on it right now?

13 MAYOR STUESSI: We're not going to be voting on  
14 anything tonight relative to this, no.

15 MS. SHELBY: All right, because I'm sorry, you  
16 guys took up so much time, I got to go.

17 (Laughter)

18 MS. SHELBY: I'm really sorry.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: Head on out. Thank you.

20 MS. SHELBY: All right. Thank you. Thanks for  
21 listening.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else that  
23 would like to speak on the contemplated code in front  
24 of us this evening for Parks and Mass Assemblies?

25 MS. MURPHY: I do.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, please. Oh, sorry, one  
2 ahead of you.

3           MS. MURPHY: Lorraine Murphy, 301 North Street.  
4 We had a situation at the beach with our sister. She  
5 was sitting on the ground with her back against one  
6 of the big rocks, and this dog, friendly dog comes  
7 down, put his face and growled right in her face,  
8 just like -- and she had to move. Or if that was a  
9 kid, what would have happened, you know? That dog,  
10 the owner was right there, no leash. I mean, that's  
11 just a situation that happened, it's scary. You  
12 know, you can't do that, you can't let dogs just, you  
13 know.

14          MAYOR STUESSI: I appreciate that. Thank you.

15          MS. MURPHY: Yeah, yeah.

16          MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, please, you're welcome to  
17 come up to the front.

18          MS. JACKSON: I just want one thing to say,  
19 too. I'm Joanne Jackson, I work for the Village  
20 summer day camp. We had a lot of situations with the  
21 kids when they're sitting down on the ground eating  
22 lunch, and the kids would -- I mean, the dogs would  
23 be on a leash, but the people would bring the dogs  
24 over there, because the dogs will go over there by  
25 the kids while they're sitting down. And I'm like,

1 "Wait a minute, you can't bring the dog over there by  
2 them because they're eating lunch." "Well, they only  
3 want to smell them." "No, they're eating lunch."

4 (Laughter)

5 MS. JACKSON: But it's a lot more, but, you  
6 know --

7 MS. SHELBY: They got to leave with me, sorry.

8 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you. Be careful out  
9 there on that crutch.

10 MS. JACKSON: Yes, thank you.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: You're up, with a dog on a  
12 leash to boot.

13 KEN: You got it.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: It's a very well behaved dog, I  
15 will add, having met him a number of times.

16 KEN: My name is Ken, I live down on Third  
17 Street here. You know, I have a guide dog and he's  
18 very well behaved. And I know when I go on beaches,  
19 go swimming, he is on a leash. But I know a lot of  
20 times, when I, when I go swimming myself, my dog is  
21 off the leash because he'll swim with me, and then  
22 he'll have to point me the way back. But I go down  
23 to where the baseball fields are down by the electric  
24 company.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes.

1           KEN: I go down there, and that's the only  
2 place I can play with him, you know, in a closed  
3 area, you know, play ball and stuff like that. You  
4 know, he's not a regular dog, so I just can't him  
5 outside and let him run and play. You know, but I'd  
6 like to have, you know, a closed in area, as long as,  
7 you know, people pick up after their dog, that's what  
8 gets me. I pick up all time, and when sighted people  
9 don't pick up, that ticks me off.

10           MAYOR STUESSI: I've got a poop bag in my  
11 pocket if you need one.

12           KEN: Oh, I always have them.

13                           (Laughter)

14           MAYOR STUESSI: I probably have a couple.

15           KEN: All right. That's all I got. Thank you.

16           MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you very much. Yes,  
17 Margaret.

18           MS. DE CRUZ: Now I always have been succinct,  
19 but some people aren't, or at least I think am. All  
20 right. Margaret deCruz.

21           MAYOR STUESSI: You're succinct on your first try.

22                           (Laughter)

23           MAYOR STUESSI: No double-dipping on this one.

24           MS. DE CRUZ: Okay. Well, you know, I learn  
25 more things.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Speak your mind, please.

2           MS. DE CRUZ: So I read in this code that they  
3 want to start fining people if their dogs are off  
4 leash. And I bring my dog and pal to that field so  
5 they can play together, otherwise, I don't go to dog  
6 parks, it's not safe.

7           I do not want to have a \$500 fine. It's really  
8 important for people and dogs to have a place they  
9 can run free. Walking on the -- I -- walking on a  
10 leash on the streets, fine with me. I'm very careful  
11 that my dog, you know -- yeah, you've got to have a  
12 trained dog and a trained person, but we need places  
13 to run them off leash, even on a beach in the winter,  
14 when there's nobody there, and they get to run and  
15 they come back to you. So I hope we don't have to  
16 deal with a fine, it would be really unfair. It's  
17 expensive enough to have, you know, a pet who give us  
18 a lot. So thank you.

19          MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you. Is there anybody  
20 else that would like to be heard on --

21          MS. YOURCH: Mary Yourch, Stirling Cove. I  
22 just wanted to -- since the gentleman with the, with  
23 the dog mentioned that people are not picking up  
24 after their dogs. In some communities, I've seen  
25 stations with bags and places for them to leave their

1 waste.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: We have those in a number of  
3 places. We could probably have more, though, for  
4 sure.

5 MS. YOURCH: I've never seen one.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: In Mitchell Park over by the  
7 restroom there's one.

8 MS. YOURCH: Okay.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

10 MS. YOURCH: Because people may bring their own  
11 bags, but they end up in other people's garbage  
12 and --

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Yep.

14 MS. YOURCH: -- that's a suggestion.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

16 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Mary, there's actually one at  
17 the end of Sterling Avenue where people park. You know,  
18 right near where you live there's a dispenser for  
19 poop bags, too.

20 MS. YOURCH: Sterling Avenue?

21 TRUSTEE ROBINS: At the end. You know where  
22 the big rock is, looking out at the harbor?

23 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And garbage.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Where the memorial is.

25 MS. YOURCH: Oh.

1 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And a garbage can.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

3 MS. YOURCH: That side, yeah.

4 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: The opposite side of it.

6 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah. They have a dispenser.

7 MS. YOURCH: The other side of Sterling 123.

8 MAYOR STUESSI: The other side.

9 MS. YOURCH: Yes.

10 (Laughter)

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else who would  
12 like to be heard this evening on parks and --

13 KEN: Can I say one more thing?

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes.

15 KEN: I don't have to get up here, but, you  
16 know, around Greenport there's not enough trash cans  
17 around to dump poop bags. I mean, when I walk, I  
18 mean, I have a -- well, I don't have it on me  
19 tonight, but I have a pouch that has a clip on the  
20 side that I have to, you know, clip the poop bag on  
21 and do whatever I'm doing until I come up to a,  
22 you know, garbage can.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes. That's why I get the  
24 lavender scented ones when it's in my pocket too  
25 long, you don't want to forget it.

1 (Laughter)

2 MAYOR STUESSI: But good point. Thank you.

3 KEN: But you forget.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

5 KEN: You forget.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: Oh, I've -- yeah, I've left it  
7 in my car. I made that mistake in July.

8 (Laughter)

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Anybody else?

10 (No Response)

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Would anybody on the Board like  
12 to make a motion keep this open until next week?

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'll make the motion to keep  
14 the public hearing open for Chapter 101, Recreation  
15 Areas and Beaches.

16 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Second.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

19 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

21 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Motion carries.

24 I see a large number of people. We are going  
25 to let the Assistant Chief do his report, and then

1 we'll allow public comment, just in the interest of  
2 everybody's time before we go to the rest. But I see  
3 you sitting back there patiently, Albie, thank you.

4 ASST. CHIEF DE KERILLIS: Thank you, Mayor.  
5 Good evening, Mayor and Village Board. As far as  
6 reports go -- my name is Albie De Kerillis, First  
7 Assistant Chief, Greenport Fire Department. We're  
8 very proud to have an application for membership that  
9 was approved by the Board of Wardens yesterday  
10 evening to Phenix Hook and Ladder by the name of  
11 Jon Versheck, and we're very proud to report.

12 And I have nothing more to report on anything  
13 else, except if anybody has anything from the Board,  
14 I'd like to hear.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Chief Albie, I am going to  
16 bring up during the Work Session some issues that  
17 arose during the Wardens meeting last night.

18 ASST. CHIEF DE KERILLIS: Okay.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: One of them I spoke to you  
20 this morning --

21 ASST. CHIEF DE KERILLIS: Yep.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- was dealing with  
23 information that the Village Board has not been given  
24 in the past in your reports. And, also, a  
25 communication between the Fire Department and

1 Southold Town P.D., okay?

2 ASST. CHIEF DE KERILLIS: Okay, wonderful. I  
3 look forward to it.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Just you and I had a  
5 discussion. I just want to make you aware --

6 ASST. CHIEF DE KERILLIS: Excellent.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- I'm bringing it up at  
8 Work Session, okay?

9 ASST. CHIEF DE KERILLIS: I'll look forward to  
10 working with you as always.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

12 ASST. CHIEF DE KERILLIS: Thank you, Mayor.  
13 Thank you very much, everybody, have a good night.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you. As I said a moment  
15 ago, I see a large number of people here. Just out  
16 of courtesy, before we go into our regular Work  
17 Session, we'll open up for any public comments on any  
18 subjects, if anybody would like to speak.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We have Chapter 44.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Pardon me?

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Chapter 44.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: So did you not say 101 and 44?

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, I said 101.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Oh, I'm sorry. If you could  
25 give us just a second, please.

1 MR. FARRELL: Sure.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, I only did 101.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. Would somebody like to  
4 make a motion on 44?

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'll make a motion to keep  
6 Chapter -- the public hearing open for Chapter 44,  
7 Assemblies

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Second.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

10 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

11 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

13 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Aye. Motion carries.

15 Please, sir. You look like a lawyer.

16 MR. FARRELL: I'm sorry.

17 (Laughter)

18 MAYOR STUESSI: We don't see many ties in  
19 Greenport, and I left that life behind me.

20 MR. FARRELL: Almost, I almost left the tie  
21 off, but --

22 MAYOR STUESSI: You should have.

23 MR. FARRELL: I should have, yeah.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: I called you out, right?

25 MR. FARRELL: I have people who I'm

1 representing, so I wanted to look a little more  
2 professional.

3 My name is John Farrell, I'm with the firm of  
4 Sahn, Ward, Braff, Koblenz & Coschignano. Our  
5 offices are at 1300 Veterans Memorial Highway,  
6 Suite 100, Hauppauge, New York. I represent the  
7 interests of a number of property owners in the, in  
8 the Village that are proprietors of short-term  
9 rentals.

10 Over the past few months there have been a  
11 number of rumors circulating throughout the Village  
12 that the Board is considering changing the definition  
13 of short-term rental in an effort to make it more  
14 difficult for property owners to rent their homes  
15 during the year. Currently, short-term rental is  
16 defined as the rental of residential homes for  
17 periods of less than 14 days, except for approved  
18 bed and breakfast establishments.

19 In addition to the exclusion of bed and  
20 breakfast, there's also exclusions for single, a  
21 single unit in a two-family home where one of the  
22 dwellings is either owner-occupied or occupied by a  
23 long-term tenant. The other exclusion is a rental of  
24 a portion of a single-family home where the owner is  
25 present.

1 It is our understanding that the Village is  
2 considering extending the 14-day limit to 30 days.  
3 So anything less than 30 days would be considered a  
4 short-term rental and would be prohibited.

5 Many of the people I represent were under --  
6 understandably upset when the Village first  
7 restricted short-term rentals by mandating a 14-day  
8 minimum, and they continue to struggle finding  
9 renters, but they're slowly adapting to that.

10 In addition, I know a number of people that had  
11 to sell their homes, because those restrictions were  
12 too onerous for them, and they couldn't keep their  
13 vacation homes without the supplemental income from  
14 the short-term rentals. That being the case, my  
15 clients were curious why the Village would consider  
16 changing this, because it seems that the changes to  
17 the code have had the desired effect of reducing the  
18 number of rentals that are available on a short-term  
19 basis, for less than 14 days. So the curiosity is  
20 why the 100 -- more than 100% increase in the number  
21 of days to be considered a short-term rental.

22 They're curious about the benefits to the  
23 Village versus the detriments to them, because,  
24 collectively, my clients have invested millions of  
25 dollars in their homes in the Village of Greenport.

1 They've helped increase property values, the tax base  
2 is increased. Foot traffic in the downtown has  
3 increased, which has helped the local businesses  
4 thrive throughout the year. They also provide  
5 employment opportunities for various service workers,  
6 including property managers, landscapers,  
7 construction workers, electricians, plumbers  
8 housekeepers, etcetera. If these short-term rentals  
9 are -- or these rentals are further restricted, those  
10 individuals are going to have less and less  
11 opportunity for employment.

12 You know, one of the things that we've heard is  
13 that the concern is affordable housing. I don't see  
14 how further restricting it is going to create more  
15 affordable housing. The people that I represent are  
16 not likely to go into the long-term rental market  
17 where they're renting for long periods of time.  
18 There's just too much wear and tear on the property.  
19 There's difficulty with tenants that stop paying, and  
20 then they have to go through a long eviction process,  
21 which can take anywhere from, you know, nine months  
22 on the short side to two years on the long side.

23 And, also, if they went to full-time renters,  
24 the rents they would have to pay would be astronomical,  
25 because they would have to cover the cost of

1 mortgage, property taxes, property insurance, regular  
2 routine maintenance. You know, you're looking at  
3 possibly, you know, more than 3,000 or \$4,000 a month  
4 for a single-family home. And if you look on -- you  
5 know, even on Zillow right now, you know, we --  
6 month-long rentals, monthly rentals are going for  
7 5,000, between 5,000 and \$60,000 a month in the  
8 Village of Greenport.

9 I would submit that the best way to provide  
10 affordable housing is to provide more multi-family  
11 housing. Mayor, Mr. Mayor, you've actually advocated  
12 for that, and you're seeking pro-housing status from  
13 New York State. Greenport's uniquely situated to be  
14 able to provide multi-family housing in a way that a  
15 lot of North Shore communities and a lot of  
16 communities on Long Island are not in that you guys  
17 have sewers. The sewer capacity is something that  
18 developers really struggle with, because that  
19 restricts their density when they can't provide  
20 proper sewage treatment. So we would propose,  
21 you know, that the Village consider changes to the  
22 code that would encourage multi-family housing to --  
23 you know, if you -- if the concern is really the  
24 affordability component.

25 The other rumor that's been floating around is

1 that the Board is considering eliminating the  
2 exclusion of two-family houses. This is something  
3 that the Village had promoted when it first enacted  
4 the short-term rental restrictions. They encourage  
5 people as a way -- they encourage people to do the  
6 two families as a way to provide long-term rental  
7 housing for one party, while being able to provide  
8 short-term rental housing on the -- in the other  
9 unit. If that's the case, then, you know, what are  
10 those people that have taken the steps to convert  
11 their homes to two-family dwellings supposed to do at  
12 this point? They've converted to two-family  
13 dwellings in reliance on this income and now it's  
14 being taken away from them. That's a, that's a  
15 pretty dramatic change and that's -- you know, you're  
16 encouraging costs in reliance of what the Village has  
17 done.

18 I'm sorry, lost my place. So there are some  
19 benefits to short-term rentals or shorter term, 14  
20 days or less, 14, you know, the 14-day restriction.  
21 Gives the homeowner an opportunity to rent their  
22 home, you know, to someone and not be stuck with that  
23 person for a period of 30 days. If you get a bad  
24 tenant, it's very difficult to get them out. And if  
25 they're not, you know, following the rules or doing

1        what's expected of them as tenants, you know, the  
2        homeowners, the person renting their house is stuck  
3        with them for 30 days, and that could become more of  
4        a nuisance to the Village and the Village Code  
5        Enforcement.

6                I would submit that the only people that are  
7        actually benefitting as a result of any further  
8        restriction on rental properties are the hotels and  
9        the beds and breakfasts. Right now, if you want to  
10       stay a single night in any hotel in the Village of  
11       Greenport between the months of June and August, the  
12       minimum you're going to pay per night is \$500 per  
13       night, and that's with the competition that they have  
14       from the, from the single-family housing market on  
15       Airbnb. I don't even want to think about what would  
16       happen to that number if that stock isn't available  
17       for rental opportunities. I think what would happen  
18       is you'd probably end up generating more traffic  
19       congestion.

20               I think we have to face the fact that Greenport  
21       is a desirable place to come in the summer. There  
22       are great restaurants, great downtown shopping, you  
23       have a carousel, boating, you have the ferry, there's  
24       a lot to do around here, and eliminating the -- you  
25       know, or further restricting STRs is not going to

1 stop people from coming. What it's going to do is  
2 it's going to make them drive from further distances.

3 So I think one of the things that was talked  
4 about initially was, you know, there's a lot of  
5 traffic and this is going to help eliminate the  
6 traffic. It's not, it's going to drive the traffic  
7 up, because if you can't stay someplace in walking  
8 distance to the downtown and you want to go to that  
9 downtown, you're going to drive in.

10 So I would ask that the -- before the Board do  
11 make any of those changes, that it open a dialogue  
12 with the stakeholders, with the, with the short-term  
13 rentals, and have a discussion about how we can work  
14 together, rather than just haphazardly throwing  
15 together a restriction that says it has to be,  
16 you know, more than 30 days for you to rent it. Have  
17 a discussion with them and see if there's a way that  
18 we can address the concerns that the Village might  
19 have about this. Again, this is all based on rumor.  
20 We don't know exactly --

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Just to be clear, it's been  
22 talked about at a number of public meetings --

23 MR. FARRELL: Right.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: -- already. Our Code  
25 Committee, which is chaired by Mary Bess Phillips,

1 has made some recommendations, the Board is  
2 considering them. And at such time as we do find  
3 language that we might consider, there would be a  
4 public meeting scheduled, and likely several.

5 MR. FARRELL: I understand that. I just -- I  
6 would think -- I think the people that I represent  
7 would like to be part of that discussion, rather than  
8 have to come to a public hearing where you almost  
9 feel like it's a foregone conclusion, that it's going  
10 to get adopted the way it was written, because these  
11 people sat down, took time, put pen to paper and  
12 crafted a code. You know, they're coming in --

13 MAYOR STUESSI: So, as you saw from  
14 participating the first half of tonight --

15 MR. FARRELL: No, I did see.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: -- we listen to both sides, so.

17 MR. FARRELL: I understand that you listen to  
18 both sides.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

20 MR. FARRELL: I still think that, you know,  
21 they want to be part of the discussion, and I think  
22 they would welcome that opportunity.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: All right. I would encourage  
24 everybody to come if and when we end up holding a  
25 public hearing on it.

1 MR. FARRELL: Okay.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you, sir.

3 MR. FARRELL: Thank you.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else that  
5 would like to speak this evening on anything? Yes.

6 MS. QUINN: I would like to. I'm glad you said  
7 that.

8 MAYOR STUESSI: Cookies?

9 MS. QUINN: I wish.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: I wish.

11 MS. QUINN: Shan Quin, 115 Center Street.

12 Anything, I'm here, you're here. I want to  
13 bring up I live on Center Street, it's in the center  
14 of town. It's --

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Microphone, please

16 MS. QUINN: Oh, okay. Can you hear me now?  
17 It's in the middle of town. The Fire Department uses  
18 it criteria frequently. Now we have buses. We have,  
19 you know, trucks that take things to the grocery --  
20 no. What are those called? Trucks, we have trucks.  
21 And the point is it's not kept up very well. We have  
22 large potholes. The one in front of our house is  
23 gone now, but now it's incredible. So it's just a  
24 strip between Third and Main.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Uh-huh.

1 MS. QUINN: If they could just give it some  
2 attention. It gets used a lot.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. So the hot asphalt plant  
4 is just now opening. We're going to be filling. We  
5 start -- just started filling some potholes and we'll  
6 be filling more. Your street is actually on a list  
7 of priority streets that the Board considering  
8 repaving, but we need money for that, and we are  
9 discussing bonding in a large sum of dollars of some  
10 priority parts of the Village that haven't been  
11 taken --

12 MS. QUINN: Okay.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: -- as well a care of as others.

14 MS. QUINN: Will that take care of the  
15 sidewalks? Because I --

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yes.

17 MS. QUINN: When I moved in --

18 MAYOR STUESSI: All in due course.

19 (Laughter)

20 MAYOR STUESSI: There's a lot to do. We  
21 just --

22 MS. QUINN: I know.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: We just spent close to \$70,000  
24 in the Downtown District replacing a lot of --

25 MS. QUINN: That's good.

1 MAYOR STUESSI: -- bad spots there.

2 MS. QUINN: That's good. And the only other  
3 thing is do you have any control over the electric  
4 company? Because I've had those two telephone poles  
5 in front of my house for almost -- I know it's a sore  
6 subject.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: It's not electric, it's -- I  
8 believe it's Verizon.

9 MS. QUINN: Oh, that's phone.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, it's Verizon.

11 MS. QUINN: It is phone. Sorry.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: I'll follow up with them.

13 MS. QUINN: Okay. Thank you.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: We're -- they need something.

15 MS. QUINN: Thank you.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: They need something from us  
17 right now. We're doing a little bit of horse  
18 trading, so --

19 MS. QUINN: Okay.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: -- they need to focus on it.

21 MS. QUINN: 115 Center Street.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

23 MS. QUINN: Thank you.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: They're actually working --  
25 we've talked about it publicly before. Down at Fifth

1 Street, their lines that go over to Shelter Island  
2 are exposed on the beach and some people have tripped  
3 on them, and they're working on getting those buried.  
4 And then they're eventually going to be coming to us  
5 to redo new lines going to Shelter Island, which is  
6 going to entail a lot of work. But there's a other  
7 things to do around the Village and we'll have a  
8 conversation with them about it. Thank you.

9 Anybody else? Yes, ma'am. If you could state  
10 your name and address for the record, please.

11 MS. CHI: Hi. I'm Judy Chi, this is my  
12 husband, Sasha Blaug, 140 Bay Avenue. We'd like to  
13 speak about the possible proposed changes to the  
14 short-term rental rules.

15 We are year-round residents here, Greenport's  
16 our primary residents. And when we made the decision  
17 to move here and to buy a home, we specifically  
18 looked at two-family homes, because the short-term  
19 rental income would make that financially possible  
20 for us.

21 And, as you know, a lot of the homes here were  
22 built in the 1800s, they're historic homes. They --  
23 many of them need a lot of updating. You know, I  
24 understand why people kind of put off putting --  
25 doing any updates. They're very expensive,

1 especially if it's an historic home, because  
2 everything has to be custom. You have to buy custom  
3 windows, doors, you have to hire architects and  
4 designers, it has to go through HPC approval, but,  
5 you know, it was a challenge that we were willing to  
6 take on. We had a particular interest in historic  
7 homes.

8 So we, you know, hired local contractors and  
9 crafts people to work on the renovation. And I don't  
10 think it's surprising to hear that, you know, to  
11 renovate one of these homes is hundreds and hundreds  
12 of thousands of dollars. And not being able to do  
13 the short-term rental would really be pulling the rug  
14 from under, under us. We rely on that short-term  
15 rental income. And doing away with it does not  
16 incentivize us to go to a long-term rental, because  
17 the rental income from that is just -- it's just not  
18 enough to cover your -- you know, help offset the  
19 mortgage, other expenses. And it essentially would  
20 force us to convert it to a single family and maybe  
21 rent it in the summer, but then that displaces us  
22 from our own home. And then the other option would  
23 be to sell the home, which would be very upsetting,  
24 and, you know, makes us feel like the Village is  
25 telling us people like us are not wanted here, and

1 it's just not a good feeling to have. So I thank you  
2 for listening to us --

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

4 MS. CHI: -- and just being able to put a face  
5 to the issue. Thank you.

6 MR. RICCOBONO: Yeah, hi. My name Bill  
7 Riccobono, on Sixth Street, 446. I was actually  
8 quite shocked when I heard that the Village Board was  
9 considering increasing the minimum to 30 days. So  
10 I'm wondering what is behind that consideration, and  
11 what's the process where you, where you discover the  
12 facts necessary to make such a decision? I don't  
13 know if we're having a dialogue here, if somebody is  
14 willing to answer that question.

15 But if, you know, as our Lawyer suggested, this  
16 is just in a formative stage, maybe we could -- you  
17 guys could form a committee and invite people to  
18 develop changes that you feel would be more effective  
19 for the -- and better for the town -- for the  
20 Village.

21 But to just -- my impression is, just from --  
22 even from hearing what your comments are tonight, is  
23 that you're sort of secretly planning to spring  
24 something on us at a public hearing.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: (Laughter).

1 MR. RICCOBONO: Well, I mean, what is the  
2 process? You're laughing, but what's the process?

3 MAYOR STUESSI: I'm not laughing at you, I'm  
4 just -- it's been talked about at many Village  
5 meetings, frankly, over the course of several years  
6 now. I'll let Mary Bess, who's the Code Committee  
7 Chair, talk briefly about meetings for it.

8 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: The discussion of short-term  
9 rentals started out with the further discussion of  
10 accessory dwelling units. The committee felt that we  
11 needed to review the short-term rentals. Over the  
12 years we've had complaints that have been lodged with  
13 the Village in reference to some of the activities of  
14 the short-term rentals. The process is that we  
15 discussed, we discussed short-term rentals in a broad  
16 term. We looked at some people that we know, or we  
17 looked at some of the sites that were short-term  
18 rentals, looked at the properties to see, you know,  
19 where they were headed.

20 We have an enforcement issue with the way the  
21 current short-term rental code is written, so there  
22 was a lot of discussion that it was time to review  
23 it. The number of days is one that has actually been  
24 bandied around the country, to be honest with you.  
25 The 30 days, that's not something new. But the --

1 MR. RICCOBONO: Well, actually --

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Wait, wait, wait.

3 MR. RICCOBONO: -- there are laws all over the  
4 country, all over the place.

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Let me finish, okay?

6 MR. RICCOBONO: All over the place.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So that you understand the  
8 process, okay, we had a discussion. We developed  
9 language or we developed the thoughts that we wanted  
10 to put into a suggested proposed code change. Please  
11 remember, this is suggested proposed code change. It  
12 is not a definite, it's not finished.

13 The process is the Code Committee comes up with  
14 the thoughts or the ideas that we've discussed. The  
15 code is then brought to the Work Session, where the  
16 Village Board, these Trustees here and the Mayor, we  
17 have further discussions in public. They're not done  
18 behind doors, they're not done in secret, they're  
19 done at every Work Session, and then we go to public  
20 hearing. But throughout that whole process, you, as  
21 a Village resident, have the opportunity to comment  
22 at a Work Session, you have an opportunity to comment  
23 at any public hearing, any public meeting where the  
24 public is allowed to speak. But we do discuss it in  
25 the public, it is not behind closed doors.

1           MR. RICCOBONO: But I'm just suggesting it  
2 might be more beneficial to everybody to form a  
3 committee and I allow to hear opinions about the  
4 issue before you formalize it in a public session,  
5 because as somebody just said tonight, there is a  
6 feeling that when you put something on, on the agenda  
7 as a public hearing, it's almost like a foregone  
8 conclusion.

9           I've been involved in government for years and  
10 years, I know how it works. So you have a  
11 discussion, you put it on the agenda, you say, "Oh,  
12 listen, everybody come, you can say whatever you  
13 want," but you have already formulated your opinion  
14 many times. And I'm just suggesting that maybe we  
15 could have a committee to discuss these issues in a  
16 non -- you know, in a very open environment.

17           TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I don't think that would be  
18 appropriate. Unfortunately, we have to conduct our  
19 work in this setting.

20           MR. RICCOBONO: Right.

21           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: It's a process.

22           TRUSTEE BRENNAN: There would be --

23           MR. RICCOBONO: It's a public body, yeah, I  
24 get it.

25           TRUSTEE BRENNAN: There would be a potentially

1 negative impact from what you're suggesting, having a  
2 smaller committee meet with a particular group of  
3 people. This is not an easy way to work, but it's  
4 the way we're required to work, and it's really in  
5 the best interest of all of the public to try to  
6 conduct our business in this format.

7 And speaking for myself, these issues are not a  
8 fait accompli. I don't come to them with a  
9 foregone -- it's not a foregone conclusion. We're  
10 here to listen. We're doing a lot of listening. I'm  
11 not ignoring you, I'm listening, and we're going  
12 to -- we all take this home with us, but we have to  
13 meet here and discuss it amongst ourselves. It's  
14 really required.

15 MR. RICCOBONO: Okay. So one last thing. I  
16 appreciate that. One last thing is that what is --  
17 have there been many complaints? I mean, what  
18 precipitated this. I don't understand. Did you feel  
19 that you can't enforce the current regulation, and  
20 somehow making it a 30-day minimum would help you  
21 enforce the regulation? I mean, what's behind the --  
22 your desire to change the regulations?

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, there was a multitude  
24 of issues over the past couple of years. Having been  
25 on this Board for awhile, I'm very much aware of the

1 complaints that came in from neighbors of short-term  
2 rentals and their quality of life, which we all heard  
3 with leaf blowers, quality of life is important to  
4 the Village --

5 MR. RICCOBONO: Right.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- residents. That has been  
7 pretty predominant during the summer seasons. We  
8 have a rental code that we should be identifying  
9 who's short-term renting and who's long-term  
10 renting, which has been a problem, because  
11 sometimes the colors have been grayed, okay, to be  
12 honest.

13 And the other issue is, is that this is, this  
14 is the process that gives everybody the opportunity  
15 to comment, whether they're a short-term renter or  
16 not, and get the facts out to the total public,  
17 because the news -- you know, but what I'm trying to  
18 say, and I keep saying this, okay, this is a  
19 suggested proposed code language, it's not final.  
20 And I will be honest with you, over the last eight  
21 years, okay, our public hearings probably did give  
22 you that impression, okay? But there were some of us  
23 who fought that very hard, because we feel that  
24 public hearings are meant for the public to give us  
25 guidance as far as whether their -- whether the

1 direction we're going is the right direction for the  
2 community or the wrong direction, okay?

3 But I keep saying this, is that this is a  
4 suggestion, that we listen, we hear. If the Noise  
5 Ordinance, and some of our -- Chapter 150 wasn't an  
6 example that this Board listens to the community,  
7 regardless of whether they agree or don't agree,  
8 okay, that we hear and we're listening, okay?  
9 That's -- I can't put it any plainer, okay?

10 MR. RICCOBONO: No, I appreciate that.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: If I can just jump in, so  
12 that's actually a very good example. You heard some  
13 of it tonight.

14 MR. RICCOBONO: Right.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: The Noise Code that we are  
16 looking at tonight is very different in a couple of  
17 areas than what was originally suggested by the Code  
18 Committee.

19 MR. RICCOBONO: Uh-huh.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Same thing on Waterfront  
21 Commercial and Commercial Retail development, there  
22 were changes that were made by listening to the  
23 public through the public process of holding public  
24 hearings.

25 MR. RICCOBONO: No, no, that's fine. I

1 appreciate all that you're doing. I'm just  
2 suggesting that if -- one, that there be more active  
3 participation from all sides, which I understand the  
4 problems with the public hearing, and how you have to  
5 make sure that it is public, in fact, but the, the --  
6 I'm suggesting, really, maybe that the problem is  
7 more enforcement than it is anything else, because  
8 you --

9 MAYOR STUESSI: That's not it, I can assure you.

10 MR. RICCOBONO: What?

11 MAYOR STUESSI: We've looked at that very  
12 carefully.

13 MR. RICCOBONO: Yeah, because somebody else  
14 mentioned tonight, I know exactly --

15 MAYOR STUESSI: It's the law and how it's  
16 written.

17 MR. RICCOBONO: Yeah, but --

18 MAYOR STUESSI: So that's why we're taking a  
19 look at it.

20 MR. RICCOBONO: Right. So the enforcement  
21 maybe should be for the bad actors, and not painting  
22 with a broad brush that harms other people.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: We've done that. We  
24 actually -- there was somebody that there was an  
25 issue and their license was taken away --

1 MR. RICCOBONO: Okay, good.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: -- while they corrected some  
3 problems, so --

4 MR. RICCOBONO: Okay, thanks. I'll get off now.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. Thank you very much.

6 MR. RICCOBONO: Thank you very much, appreciate it.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: And please keep attending. If  
8 it goes to public hearing, we can make -- it's going  
9 to, you know, be noticed appropriately in the paper,  
10 and will be on the calendar as well, and would be  
11 listed under the "What's New" and public hearings on  
12 the Village website as well.

13 MR. RICCOBONO: Right, right, okay. Thank you  
14 very much.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: There's a good chance that will  
16 happen within the next month.

17 MR. RICCOBONO: Thanks.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: You're welcome, sir. Yes, sir.

19 MR. BALZARETTI: Jim Balzaretti, 407 Wiggins  
20 Street. I think the reason Bill brought it up this  
21 way is we don't -- I don't want to use the word not  
22 trust you guys, but when you sent out the scarlet  
23 letter, as I recall, okay, that called -- that caught  
24 everybody by surprised, I mean, nobody knew that was  
25 coming. And then I came up and asked you a question

1 and you said no, it was wrong, it's -- but the thing  
2 is you did it, and like why? And there was no reason  
3 why you sent it out, you just said it was wrong. And  
4 that's why we all fear that this could still happen  
5 again without, you know -- you said we can't have a  
6 committee, the process doesn't work that way. Well,  
7 we could have our Attorney talk to your Town Attorney  
8 and set something up, I mean, whatever you think is  
9 the best way to go about this. But when you sent out  
10 that letter, sorry, Kevin, it just like it blew us  
11 away.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: There was a lot of concern  
13 about enforcement, and so that we wanted to be clear  
14 that we were enforcing it. And, you know, we  
15 corrected the mistake that was made in that, and we  
16 are enforcing the code. So, that being said, there  
17 are concerns from the community, and we're listening  
18 to the community, listening to you, listening to  
19 others. But, again, we don't have any language that  
20 we currently have a public hearing on, it's just come  
21 to us and we're starting to consider it.

22 MR. BALZARETTI: And the reasons were because  
23 of complaints?

24 MAYOR STUESSI: A lot of complaints. I mean, I  
25 will tell you --

1 MR. BALZARETTI: I mean, is that on the -- I  
2 mean, is that on record with the Southold Police  
3 Department, those type of complaints --

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Those complaints --

5 MR. BALZARETTI: -- or just phone calls to you?

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, they're within the  
7 Village Hall, they're officially complaints that were  
8 filed.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, I'm not even talking --

10 MR. BALZARETTI: They're not --

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Hold on.

12 MR. BALZARETTI: I didn't even know that  
13 they're published or not.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Can I answer the question?

15 MR. BALZARETTI: Sure. Sorry, go ahead.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: You asked me a question.

17 MR. BALZARETTI: Sorry, Kevin, go head.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Go ahead.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: So there are, there are several  
20 different types of complaint. There's an official  
21 complaint that's filed that is, you know, whether  
22 it's anonymous or calling Village Hall, there is a  
23 problem, somebody, you know, has broken windows in  
24 their house and we need you to go look at it. And  
25 then there's us walking around talking to people in

1 the Village. And, you know, my friend, Fred Thiele,  
2 who's the State Assemblyman for us, said, you know,  
3 "You guys are the ones who go in the store with a  
4 grocery list and you're the only people who come out  
5 with a longer list when you leave."

6 (Laughter)

7 MAYOR STUESSI: And I can tell you that like  
8 I -- you know, it's hard being anonymous when you're  
9 6-foot-3 with long blond hair. Everywhere I go I sit  
10 down and I talk to people, just as the rest of my  
11 Board does, and I will tell you that there is a very  
12 significant percentage of our population, people who  
13 live here primary full time, and some others who  
14 commute between here and elsewhere, who are very  
15 concerned about the issue, and so that's why our Code  
16 Committee is taking a look at it.

17 MR. BALZARETTI: So the complaints are more at  
18 the top of the list than affordable housing?

19 MAYOR STUESSI: We're looking at both. They  
20 work together, actually, in a lot of ways --

21 MR. BALZARETTI: Okay.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: -- as Mary Bess said.

23 MR. BALZARETTI: All right.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: You know, we don't want to  
25 legalize ADUs if they all become short-term rentals.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Short-term rentals.

2 MR. BALZARETTI: I don't blame you.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So that --

4 MAYOR STUESSI: We're looking at eliminating  
5 single-family zoning and going to --

6 MR. BALZARETTI: Go two-family.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

8 MR. BALZARETTI: Yeah, I read that. Okay.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: And we're looking at  
10 multi-family in certain places, too. We already  
11 changed the code in the downtown district to allow  
12 housing on the entire south side of Front Street. We  
13 already have people who are filing plans to build  
14 apartments over there, which would be a great thing.

15 MR. BALZARETTI: It should be. All right.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

17 MR. BALZARETTI: Okay. Thank you.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: We are listening and appreciate  
19 you speaking tonight.

20 MR. BALZARETTI: Okay.

21 MR. LEHMANN: Captain Bob, 535 Third Street.  
22 I'm getting tired. I've got too easy ones and a real  
23 challenge. Two easy ones. The water machines at  
24 the, at the power plant, they got to be fixed. My  
25 wife was born in Dublin.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: So not just fixed. We have two  
2 that are --

3           MR. LEHMANN: New ones.

4           MAYOR STUESSI: -- in shipment that the Board  
5 already approved. They are on their way from the  
6 West Coast --

7           MR. LEHMANN: Thank God. Thank you.

8           MAYOR STUESSI: -- to be installed, hopefully,  
9 within the next two weeks.

10          MR. LEHMANN: My wife is Irish. Without her  
11 seven cups of tea a day, forget it.

12                           (Laughter)

13          MR. LEHMANN: The second, easy one.

14          MAYOR STUESSI: That must be why you're  
15 spending so much time here tonight, huh?

16          MR. LEHMANN: Oh, I'm going home for my corned  
17 beef any minute. And the second one is an easy one,  
18 Monsell Trail, a real pretty environmental gate that  
19 opens for a pumper, of course, in case there is a  
20 fire, but a little walk-through all across there.  
21 You'll stop all that garbage, and that squatter will  
22 have to leave. That squatter --

23          MAYOR STUESSI: We're taking a look at funding  
24 proper gates that the police can utilize to get  
25 through, or anybody else --

1 MR. LEHMANN: Very good.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: -- for a true reason as part of  
3 our new budget.

4 MR. LEHMANN: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: It was just submitted to the  
6 Board yesterday.

7 MR. LEHMANN: And the most important thing.  
8 Seven years ago I spoke to Supervisor Russell and I  
9 had a great idea, at least I thought it was. I spoke  
10 to the lady who owns the southeast corner of Main and  
11 25. There's a 330-foot-by-60-foot foundation there.  
12 I said what a great idea. That would make a  
13 beautiful north station or substation. It's almost  
14 impossible, or it's going to be impossible in the  
15 next four or five years to get through this Village,  
16 with all the traffic, on the pumper to a rescue.

17 And the best part about it is, I'm not speaking  
18 for the Fire Department, I'm speaking for myself, the  
19 East-West District, that's Peconic Landing and east,  
20 and, of course, the west district of Greenport, would  
21 probably fund that, along with the State, along with  
22 the Federal Government, and along with the Town of  
23 Southold. Because in that building you could have a  
24 pumper, you could have a P.D. station, even if it's  
25 one patrol car to go out to Orient, you could have a

1 rec. center, you can have a senior center. Man, you  
2 could have everything in that building, 330 foot  
3 long. It would save about \$50,000. The foundation's  
4 already there, it's perfect. Something to think  
5 about in the future.

6 You cannot get a pumper through this town.  
7 God forbid you get a call when there's so much  
8 traffic, nobody can go anywhere. That pumper can't  
9 go and the ambulance can't go. It's up there, it  
10 tears the whole north end of Greenport.

11 Thank you very much. I'm going home for  
12 dinner. Thank you, everyone.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you for your service to  
14 our community, sir.

15 MR. LEHMANN: Thank you.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good night.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Good night.

18 MS. GULLEY: I also have the height and lack of  
19 anonymity problem. I'm Hillary at 451 Sixth Street.

20 I prepared a lot of comments about the  
21 short-term rental proposals that you mentioned in  
22 your op-ed, because it has been really troubling to  
23 me to hear just some of the like assumptions and  
24 stereotypes that go along with some of the  
25 decision-making about short-term rentals. I've

1 prepared all these comments, which I might just save  
2 for a public hearing, it's basically a whole essay.

3 But in short -- well, not in short, this isn't  
4 going to be short, guys, I'm sorry, but, so  
5 essentially, a little bit of history. We built our  
6 home here in 2017, and we moved out here full-time  
7 and we are -- my husband is an art director and I'm a  
8 translator and writer, and we built our home off the  
9 back of our own labor and our own funds. We did not  
10 have like a trust fund, we did not have anything. We  
11 were just clever about the way that we got funding,  
12 and we're good at design, and so we managed to make  
13 it happen.

14 What bothers me when I, when I hear you talk  
15 about this like confluence of what Villagers want and  
16 affordable housing, and I, and I want to say like  
17 I very much am from a working class background, and  
18 it has been an extremely and unexpectedly painful for  
19 me to be on this divide of the haves and have-nots in  
20 this Village, like to see the sort of class wars play  
21 out between the people who have rentals and the  
22 people who really can't afford to live here and who  
23 can't -- and I feel, you know, very, very torn  
24 between the two. I mean, I can't even really speak  
25 articulately about it, because it's too, too

1 emotional, actually.

2 But the point is because I see so many emotions  
3 flying around, and because we actually have a corner  
4 lot, and when we built our house, you know, we had a  
5 lot of people coming up to us telling us their  
6 opinions about our lives and many other people's  
7 lives. And one of the things that we heard often was  
8 that we were the rich hipster kids from the city  
9 coming in to appropriate and exploit Greenport,  
10 people were convinced of this. They were convinced  
11 that we weren't going to live here year-round, which  
12 we do. They were convinced that we were going to  
13 rent our whole house and it was going to become a  
14 party house, which it never did, and there was just a  
15 lot of emotion.

16 And, in fact, during COVID, we built two sheds  
17 in our backyard. Part of the reason we built two  
18 sheds, we have work studios back there and we have  
19 storage as well, I have my carpentry studio back  
20 there. Part of the reason we did this, instead of  
21 expanding on our house, we could have done like a  
22 garage with an apartment over it or something, was  
23 because I knew that one day the Village might try to  
24 take any second family home unit from me. So I  
25 didn't want to create that for you guys to take away

1 from me, because I literally would not have been able  
2 to afford you guys taking that away. If I had built  
3 an addition to my home on the premise that I could  
4 have rented it out short term, and you had come and  
5 taken that away, I literally would have to sell my  
6 house and move. So I'm really happy that I made the  
7 call in advance not to do that.

8 That said, when we built our sheds, and I'm  
9 going to save the details of this for a public  
10 hearing, we were attacked by a neighbor, who is not  
11 present here, it wasn't Randy, don't worry, who, who,  
12 who was convinced, and there was nothing I could do  
13 to get it out of their mind, convinced that we were  
14 going to rent these sheds, convinced. They said to  
15 me, "You will rent the sheds." And I said, "No, I  
16 really am not planning on renting the sheds." We  
17 have brains, we can produce our own work, we just  
18 need to have space to do it. She proceeded to call  
19 out the fact that I did not have children, that I  
20 must have more leisure time to do these things than  
21 she did. It was, it was a sexist and nativist attack  
22 by somebody who wasn't even from here, by the way.

23 The person is not from Greenport, they moved  
24 from Brooklyn just a little bit, a few years before  
25 we did. But they wanted to like prove their, you

1 know -- anyway, the point is, I see a lot of  
2 assumptions, and I don't want to see people's lives  
3 destroyed based on some of these assumptions. And I  
4 know it's a really emotionally charged issue, and it  
5 just really bothers me having seen some of these  
6 assumptions. There was nothing I could say or I  
7 could have said to convince this person that I was  
8 not going to rent my sheds. And even to this day,  
9 years later, they make a concerted effort to slow  
10 their car down. They slam on the brakes at the paths  
11 of my house and crane their necks and look back into  
12 my yard. So it's so emotionally charged that that  
13 has happened.

14 We've also had to redo our landscaping to keep  
15 people out of our yard. So there was awhile there,  
16 especially during COVID, where we had people coming  
17 into our yard on a weekly basis, weekly, to press  
18 their faces against the glass of both our sheds and  
19 our home. And I kid you not, I mean, I will be, I  
20 will be chasing the next person out with a garden  
21 hose, I will, I will be drenching them. But, you  
22 know, and some people were like, "Oh, why don't you  
23 put up a rope or something and say No Trespassing"?  
24 And I was like that doesn't feel very neighborly.

25 But what I'm trying to tell you guys is when

1       you move forward with this, these code considerations,  
2       keep in mind that people are really emotionally  
3       obsessed with this issue, and so there might be a big  
4       push from them, but it doesn't necessarily correspond  
5       with the truth. And the truth is that in a lot of  
6       these short-term -- shorter term. I don't want to  
7       say short-term. I don't think it's right to leave a  
8       single home empty and have people cycling in and out  
9       of it every single day, or every two days, or  
10      whatever. That's -- I don't think that's okay. But  
11      the 15-day to -- or 14-day to 30-day increase seems  
12      really egregious.

13             It seems like -- I know from studies, and I  
14      will send you guys links to it, there's an article  
15      that came out in the Harvard Business Review, and  
16      they, they were talking about the rental increase in  
17      the city and how it didn't lead to any short --  
18      affordable housing. And what it especially did not  
19      lead to, which is really important to consider, is  
20      affordable housing for the working class, which is,  
21      you know, definitely where my heart lies, and where I  
22      know you guys are trying to figure out, you know, how  
23      do workers live here, how do we expand the -- or make  
24      more diverse the economic spread of people who can  
25      live here.

1           And so, yeah, I mean, I -- and I've, and I've  
2           seen some of my friends here who have, you know,  
3           renovated homes really meticulously with the aim of  
4           being able to rent a second unit in them for 15 days,  
5           and they've done such a -- I mean, Judy is like being  
6           very modest, but she's like a fantastic architect and  
7           designer, and she put her imagination into that and  
8           her energy and her work. And so I just don't think  
9           it's right to just take it away like that and pretend  
10          like these people aren't doing anything, because  
11          they are.

12          The other thing is like the reason that we're  
13          year-round residents in Greenport is because our  
14          friends, who were able to rent here for two weeks out  
15          of the year for over 10 years running, they  
16          introduced us to Greenport, so we're here because of  
17          them. I know other people who are here year-round  
18          because of other people who were able to rent short  
19          term, shorter term, right? And, yeah, I just don't  
20          think it's, it's that productive. I don't think that  
21          knee-jerk reactions to an affordable housing crisis  
22          that have proven themselves to be completely baseless  
23          and ineffective in other ongoing models. They're  
24          like the last thing that we need right now. I'm  
25          going to -- I'm just --

1           MAYOR STUESSI: So, again, we're going to have  
2 a public hearing --

3           MS. GULLEY: I know, I know.

4           MAYOR STUESSI: -- at some point. You're  
5 welcome to speak then.

6           MS. GULLEY: I know.

7           MAYOR STUESSI: I would ask of you to give  
8 thought to those -- you're in a different situation  
9 than a lot of others.

10          MS. GULLEY: We are. Yeah, well, I'm -- I was  
11 about to --

12          MAYOR STUESSI: So what I would ask -- let me  
13 finish, please.

14          MS. GULLEY: Yeah.

15          MAYOR STUESSI: What I would ask is for you to  
16 give consideration to those in the neighborhood that  
17 are not happy with people -- with houses that sit  
18 empty and people are coming to visit on just  
19 weekends, because that's one of the concerns many of  
20 us have heard.

21          MS. GULLEY: Well, what I was going to, what I  
22 was going to say to you is I am concerned with that.  
23 I -- from my house I can count 12 empty houses.

24          MAYOR STUESSI: So come back --

25          MS. GULLEY: Right.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: -- when we do a public hearing  
2           and say, "We think you should" -- once you have  
3           something to review, "We agree with this, but we  
4           think you should consider this," which is exactly  
5           what we did with the Noise Code, and why we're in a  
6           different place than we were two months ago.

7           MS. GULLEY: Okay. The other thing is I think  
8           you need to make a distinction between people who  
9           rent a room in a house who live there --

10          MAYOR STUESSI: Excuse me, don't -- we don't --  
11          please, if you could just let us put language in  
12          here.

13          MS. GULLEY: But what you guys are -- you guys  
14          are going to put language together and suggest a code  
15          change, and I'm asking that when you do put that  
16          language together, that you consider that  
17          distinction, because every -- even the strictest  
18          short-term rental laws in the country have allowed  
19          for people to just rent a single room in their house,  
20          and I think --

21          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: We discussed that very  
22          distinction at our last meeting --

23          MS. GULLEY: Okay.

24          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- so it is on our minds.

25          MS. GULLEY: Good. Thank you. Thanks, guys.

1 (Applause)

2 MAYOR STUESSI: Anybody else like to speak this  
3 evening. Good night.

4 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Mayor, Jared  
5 is trying to get your attention.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: What?

7 ATTORNEY KASSCHAU: I got to run.

8 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes, go.

9 ATTORNEY KASSCHAU: It's okay?

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. I don't think we --

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: Happy birthday.

13 ATTORNEY KASSCHAU: Thank you.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Sorry.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: She needs to go to the  
16 bathroom.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: We're going to take a few  
18 minute break to use the restroom --

19 TRUSTEE ROBINS: We can do that now?

20 MAYOR STUESSI: -- get some fresh air. Yes.

21 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yes.

22 MS. CHI: Should we take a break? Okay.  
23 Should I wait?

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Five minutes.

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yes.

1 MS. CHI: Okay.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: You're welcome to sit down.

3 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Bear with us.

4 (The Meeting was Recessed at 8:11 p.m. and  
5 Resumed at 8:16 p.m.)

6 MAYOR STUESSI: All right. We're back in  
7 session. Is there anybody else from the public that  
8 would like to speak before we go to the rest of the  
9 meeting? Let's see if there's anybody who hasn't  
10 spoken first. Is there anybody else who'd like to  
11 speak who hasn't spoken? No?

12 (No Response)

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. Ma'am, you're welcome to  
14 come back up briefly if it's on the same subject,  
15 please.

16 MS. CHI: Yes, it's on the same subject about  
17 short-term rentals. Judy Chi, Sasha Blaug,  
18 140 Bay Avenue.

19 I just wanted to add that since the Village  
20 announced that it was enforcing the current  
21 short-term rental code, if you look on the Airbnb  
22 website, and I know that's not the only one that  
23 people use, there were 300 short-term rentals in  
24 Greenport, it's down to 70 now. So I guess I'm just  
25 asking if the Board could look -- give that time to

1 see how that's impacted housing, you know, local  
2 businesses before making further changes to the code.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: We will give everything a lot  
4 of consideration, and I'm sure listen to a lot more  
5 public comment once we open up --

6 MS. CHI: Okay.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: -- the public hearing on the  
8 subject.

9 MS. CHI: Thank you.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: But thank you.

11 MR. BLAUG: And just a quick comment, really  
12 based off of what Hillary said. The studies by  
13 Harvard and by the University of Pennsylvania are  
14 quite insightful in what the optimal changes to what  
15 the code is in terms of benefiting the villages, the  
16 towns. It's really worth the read, and I think,  
17 generally, the current code is pretty close. They  
18 suggest don't do any long blocks of bans, but to put  
19 a total number of days per year, and that way that  
20 dissuades large investment groups from coming in and  
21 buying up tracts of property and taking housing off  
22 the market. They also suggest allowing for  
23 two-families to be incentivized, from conversion of  
24 one-families to two to generate more long-term  
25 housing. It's more of a balanced approach. And I

1 think those, those studies are worth looking at as  
2 you rewrite the code.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Thank you. I already did.

5 MS. CHI: Thank you.

6 MS. GULLEY: Sorry. I just have a last thing  
7 to say. Hillary at 451 Sixth Street. Just I know  
8 that you guys are going to move forward with your  
9 thoughts and your language, and I just -- I wanted to  
10 point out that in your op-ed, Kevin, I think we agree  
11 on lots of things, but some of the language in that  
12 op-ed felt alarming to me. I didn't like the way  
13 that you referred to the workers from Calverton as  
14 our, quote-unquote, workers. I thought that that  
15 felt kind of paternalistic, and I didn't -- there was  
16 like a sense of ownership there that I didn't love.

17 My dad drove an hour each way to go to work,  
18 and it wasn't because he couldn't find housing near  
19 where he lived, it was because we could live in a  
20 nicer area if we lived an hour away from where he  
21 worked. There are a lot of reasons people live far  
22 from where they work, and I don't think -- I think  
23 that sometimes -- I mean, I know you're the Mayor and  
24 you're -- Greenport's on your mind all the time,  
25 right, you are centralizing Greenport in your head.

1 But it's worth considering that a lot of these  
2 workers don't live in Greenport, not only because of  
3 affordable housing or lack thereof, but because  
4 living in Calverton or in Riverhead gives them access  
5 to other work sites all along both forks, and also to  
6 mid-island, where they're also taking lots of jobs.  
7 So -- and I know like quite a few workers who are in  
8 this situation, and speak to them and I in contact  
9 with them. So I just wanted to put that out there.

10 As you guys like sort of form your thought  
11 process around this, I hope that you can look to like  
12 the reality of the situation of these people who  
13 you're trying to provide for. And also just the fact  
14 that, you know, I don't necessarily think that  
15 Greenport's going to go back to this 1950s ideal of  
16 like s'mores and a sea creature painted piano, which  
17 is what you mentioned in your op-ed. I think that  
18 there's a very complex reality at stake and you guys  
19 have a tremendous opportunity to be thoughtful in  
20 your code adaptations.

21 And I'm not saying that nothing needs to be  
22 done, but I'm saying take the opportunity to be very  
23 thoughtful and consider the range of nuance that you  
24 can employ. Like Sasha was saying, some of these  
25 studies that have been done, and this morning I was

1       actually -- and I will send you a link to this as  
2       well. There's a panel out of a Berkeley think tank  
3       that you guys can consider as well, and they have all  
4       of these really great ideas about how to regulate  
5       short-term rentals and promote community ownership.

6               And that's the last thing that I will say I was  
7       a bit disturbed by, is the fact that you immediately  
8       went to the possibility of a developer, working with  
9       a developer for the land, the Greenport land that you  
10      want to lease. I think if we're really that  
11      community oriented, we need to think about a  
12      community-owned trust for those public rentals, or  
13      for those rentals, affordable rentals, as opposed to  
14      a developer-owned situation.

15             So those are just suggestions I'm putting out  
16      there as you guys move forward. Thank you.

17             MAYOR STUESSI: Is there anybody else that  
18      would like to speak this evening? No?

19                       (No Response)

20             MAYOR STUESSI: All right. Candace, you want  
21      to kick it off with the Clerk's report? Thank you,  
22      everybody.

23             CLERK HALL: All right. Can you hear me? Is  
24      this on? Sorry.

25             TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I can hear you,

1 because I'm right next to you.

2 (Laughter)

3 CLERK HALL: All right. Good evening,  
4 everyone.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: If I could ask the audience to  
6 be quiet, or if you -- excuse me. If you could be  
7 quiet, or if you want to talk, please go outside so  
8 we can hear Candace. Thank you, everybody.

9 CLERK HALL: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'm going  
10 to start here with a few resolutions. There will be  
11 several more, quite a bit more for the next meeting.  
12 There's been quite a bit of moving pieces going on in  
13 Village Hall. So the resolutions that I have  
14 outlined here tonight, we are looking to hire William  
15 Frances Cunningham to be a part-time Pumpout Boat  
16 Operator for the summer.

17 And then I have another resolution here  
18 awarding the bid for the renovation of Mitchell Park  
19 bathrooms. I am recommending that we go with the low  
20 bidder. There's been conversation with the Board  
21 already on email. Again, there are some moving  
22 pieces going on separate from this resolution on  
23 that.

24 And then I'm going to circle back to the public  
25 assembly permit applications in just a moment.

1           Next up, I have the contracts and agreements  
2           that have been signed over the last month or so. So  
3           we have the Penflex Service Award Program, the  
4           Garratt-Callahan contract. Cable T.V. Franchise  
5           Agreement has been signed and sent out. The Village  
6           Road End Draining Project -- Drainage Project  
7           Contract has been signed. DeAl Concrete Corp, which  
8           is the sidewalk project that went on over the last  
9           week or so, that contract was executed. And then  
10          finally here, I've listed the McCann Campground  
11          contract was signed with our Campground Manager,  
12          which is great.

13                 Next up here I have a list of some of the legal  
14          notices that have gone out over the last month. So  
15          we did conduct a tax sale. That publication was  
16          completed. And then our annual Organizational  
17          Meeting, a notice went out for that. Tentative  
18          Budget Hearing notice. A public hearing for Chapter  
19          88 Noise. A public hearing notice for Chapter 44,  
20          and -- Chapter 44 Assemblies, and then Chapter 101  
21          Recreation Areas and Beaches. And then, finally,  
22          there is a bid that will be closing tomorrow morning  
23          for the surplus of our ice rink, that legal notice  
24          went out as well.

25                 And then I'll wrap up with the announcements

1 before circling back to our public assembly permit  
2 applications.

3 So the BID is hosting their annual Egg Roll on  
4 Saturday, March 30th, from 10 a.m. to noon. The  
5 Friends of Mitchell Park is sponsoring free Carousel  
6 rides for two hours after the event.

7 The required annual training for all Village  
8 staff, Board and the Mayor has been scheduled. This  
9 is going to be conducted a little differently than it  
10 has in the past. We're going to be doing a Zoom,  
11 which I am excited to switch it up a little bit, and,  
12 hopefully, make this more effective and effective for  
13 the whole Village.

14 This is a pretty substantial announcement here.  
15 So our IQM2/Granicus software, which is our Village  
16 meeting software, they announced that their "End of  
17 Support" date -- they announced their "End of  
18 Support" date and "End of Life" dates for this  
19 software, which is -- this is the substantial  
20 software that we use, again, that's how we generate  
21 our meetings. The Livestream goes through there,  
22 it's all connected.

23 I am working with Granicus to figure out the  
24 best solution for the Village to move forward. But  
25 the "End of Support" date is September of 2025, and

1 then the "End of Life" for this software is expected  
2 to be September of 2027.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Candace, can I just ask a  
4 question?

5 CLERK HALL: Sure.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Exactly what you mean by the  
7 end of -- "End of Life"? Does that mean that it's  
8 completely -- the program is going to completely end  
9 altogether and they're going to be deleting it, or  
10 have they moved on to a newer version of Granicus?

11 CLERK HALL: So that is part of what I'm  
12 working with Granicus on. You know, obviously the --  
13 a huge issue here is the archive of all of our  
14 meetings. I'm sure that's what you're concerned  
15 about.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: (Nodded Yes).

17 CLERK HALL: So my understanding of it is  
18 limited. At this moment, I am working with them to  
19 just see what's the best case scenario for us and how  
20 we'll manage our archive, and then also phase in this  
21 new programming. So I don't have an answer for you  
22 yet, but I will keep the Board informed.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And the cost for the program  
24 has increased?

25 CLERK HALL: I'm sure --

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Well, not as yet.

2           CLERK HALL: I'm sure it will increase, this  
3 new software, but that's in 2027. So right now my  
4 biggest concern is the end of service. So with  
5 our --

6           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: In 2025.

7           CLERK HALL: Yeah. So with our special  
8 meetings and all of the work that you guys are doing,  
9 this is a very antiquated system.

10          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, I know.

11          CLERK HALL: So as -- yeah. As you're aware,  
12 it's not the easiest system to navigate. So,  
13 although it's actually really exciting, there is  
14 going to be some work that we need to get them to put  
15 into the system, so that we're set up over this  
16 two-year time frame, or, you know, two-year time  
17 frame between when they will stop servicing it,  
18 meaning we won't be able to do anything new within  
19 this old system.

20          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

21          CLERK HALL: And then when the whole system is  
22 phased out.

23          MAYOR STUESSI: And we're going to look at  
24 other options at the same time once we know what it  
25 is they're proposing.

1 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

2 MAYOR STUESSI: As you're aware, Mary Bess,  
3 this is the most widely used system --

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, it is.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: -- throughout local government.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right.

7 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

8 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, no, I'm aware of it.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: So one would assume they're  
10 doing anything that's not going to be better than it.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah. No, no, I have  
12 looked.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Any new software adoption there  
14 are going to be challenges.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right. No, I've been -- I  
16 received notices from Granicus --

17 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- as far as what's going  
19 on, just because I was involved in getting the  
20 original program here.

21 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So I'm very much aware of  
23 it. And as you pointed out, I'm very concerned about  
24 the archiving.

25 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

2 CLERK HALL: Understood. That is something  
3 that I'm also concerned with, and we'll make sure to  
4 keep you, keep you all in the loop with that.

5 Next Tuesday the State Archives will be  
6 returning to Village Hall for another haul-out, which  
7 is great. We're expected to haul out another  
8 50 boxes. So we are getting close to 300 boxes at  
9 this point, which is all free of charge for the  
10 Village. I think it's -- you know, as I've stated  
11 before in previous meetings, this is -- it's huge  
12 that we're able to haul out this amount of records  
13 that we no longer need free of charge, it's not  
14 costing the Village anything.

15 And the contact that we have from the State  
16 Archives has been a huge asset. She's been working  
17 with us training, and implementing best practices,  
18 which are already -- more of those are being put into  
19 place in Village Hall.

20 Village brush pickup begins on April 9th, 2024.  
21 This is a bi-weekly schedule, as its been in the  
22 past. The schedule is posted on the Village website.

23 And then, finally, a tax sale was conducted on  
24 March 12th, 2024.

25 And then I'm going to circle back. I have two

1 of the five public assembly applications listed here.  
2 As the Board knows, I've brought this up in the past.  
3 It is -- it's been a bit challenging to the process  
4 of accepting applications, and the fees, and security  
5 deposit that goes along with these public assembly  
6 applications. It continues to be a challenge. And  
7 at this point we're receiving an influx of  
8 applications, as we're gearing up for the spring, and  
9 the fall, and the summer, obviously.

10 So what I am asking of the Board is to consider  
11 implementing guidelines for the Clerk's Office to  
12 work off of, guidelines that would include who should  
13 be eligible for fee waivers. There are -- there's at  
14 least one organization that, that has a resolution  
15 where they don't pay for the application fee, but the  
16 security deposit is for the Village, in case the  
17 property is not returned in the original manner that  
18 the -- you know, that the applicant was using it.

19 So I think it's important for the Board to take  
20 a look at this and make a decision, because where it  
21 stands, I have to request the funds as the  
22 application comes in. But I do get a significant  
23 amount of push-back from various organizations,  
24 whether they're -- you know, they have historically  
25 done, you know, events in the Village or they're a

1 new organization.

2 My goal is, obviously, to be fair and  
3 consistent, is the biggest thing, and at this moment  
4 it's difficult to be fair and consistent when  
5 historically, for whatever reason, different  
6 organizations were granted fee waivers and then  
7 others are not.

8 And then security deposits, again, is a totally  
9 separate thing. Just for the record, the security  
10 deposits are held, they're not cashed, and then  
11 they're returned to the applicant after the event is  
12 held. And then, of course, the application fee is  
13 something that we deposit once the application is  
14 either accepted, or it's returned if it's denied.  
15 So --

16 MAYOR STUESSI: Why don't you go through the  
17 pending applications --

18 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: -- and anything else, and then  
20 we could have a discussion about that.

21 CLERK HALL: Okay, perfect.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: I've got a few ideas I want to  
23 give to the Board.

24 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Candace, so those security  
25 deposits are all kept in an escrow account,

1 basically?

2 CLERK HALL: No.

3 TRUSTEE ROBINS: No.

4 CLERK HALL: They're kept in our safe.

5 TRUSTEE ROBINS: They're commingled with other  
6 funds in the Village?

7 CLERK HALL: No, they're not deposited at all.  
8 So they are held with the application in the safe.  
9 They are -- the check is either -- we reach out to  
10 the applicant, ask them if they'd like us to destroy  
11 the check, or to return the check to them or money  
12 order.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: (Inaudible).

14 CLERK HALL: I'm sorry?

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, I'm just talking out --  
16 I'm thinking out loud.

17 CLERK HALL: So it's not deposited, and the  
18 reason it's not deposited, I discussed it with our  
19 Deputy Treasurer, Adam, it's very difficult for the  
20 funds to leave the Village accounts once it's  
21 deposited in. So \$500 would require the applicant to  
22 submit a W-9, and then there's, you know, whatever  
23 other paper work that Adam would have to go to to  
24 return the funds. And then, obviously, it would be  
25 on a monthly basis. So, you know, if they --

1 depending on when the event happens, it could put the  
2 applicant out this \$500 for a few months, maybe, if  
3 we deposit it. So that's not how we handle those  
4 funds, it's just kept in the safe with the  
5 applications.

6 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Okay.

7 CLERK HALL: So the applications that I have  
8 right now, which I believe most of these have been  
9 circulated to the Board, I apologize if any of this  
10 has not, but I will certainly do so.

11 The LGBT Network submitted a public assembly  
12 application for their second annual North Fork Pride  
13 Parade and Festival. The proposed event date is  
14 June 22nd, 2024.

15 The next one here is a public assembly  
16 application for the Greenport Farmers Market  
17 submitted on March 15th. The public assembly  
18 application -- let's see. The proposed event dates  
19 would start on May 17th through October 11th, 2024.  
20 The Greenport Farmers Market is requesting an  
21 up-front waiver of the required \$500 security fee.  
22 And I have not received a check for the application  
23 on this one as well.

24 So next up is an event application from the  
25 AgroCouncil and the Greenport BID. This one is

1 actually quite pressing, because the event date is  
2 before the next opportunity to approve it. So this  
3 is for the 5K, the fundraiser, 5K, Cherry Blossom 5K,  
4 excuse me. I have reached out to this applicant to  
5 obtain checks for the security and the application, I  
6 have not received those as of yet.

7 (Siren Sounded)

8 CLERK HALL: The next application that I have  
9 is for the Friends of Mitchell Park for the Tai Chi  
10 that goes on throughout the summer. This applicant  
11 here -- sorry. If you guys want me to continue, I  
12 will. Continue, yes?

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Give it a second.

14 CLERK HALL: Okay. So the next application  
15 that I have here is from Friends of Mitchell Park and  
16 Denise Gillies. This is for the Tai Chi that's been  
17 going on for many years at Mitchell Park.

18 This applicant, Friends of Mitchell Park, there  
19 was -- there was a resolution passed back in 2018  
20 where it was agreed upon that this applicant would  
21 not pay for the application fee, and they have also  
22 requested for this series of events, the waiver of  
23 the \$500 security deposit.

24 And then, let's see, I have -- the next  
25 application is from the Greenport Athletic Booster

1 Club. They are looking to hold a 5K fundraiser for  
2 the Greenport School. This applicant has requested a  
3 waiver of both the security deposit of \$500 and the  
4 application fee of \$50. This event they are hoping  
5 to hold on June 1st.

6 I believe that is all of the applications that  
7 I have at this point. Again, it is quite challenging  
8 to manage these requests. I think it would be  
9 really, really important for us to have, whether it's  
10 code or a policy to deal with the requests.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: So if I heard correctly, every  
12 single one of those is a not-for-profit that's  
13 requesting that fee waiver?

14 CLERK HALL: Actually, the LGBT Network has  
15 submitted both checks, they've actually submitted  
16 four checks.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: But they're not-for-profit as  
18 well, right, and they're not --

19 CLERK HALL: They are.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: And they're not asking for the  
21 fee waiver?

22 CLERK HALL: No, they're not.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. Everybody else, though,  
24 was asking for the fee waiver and is a not-for-profit?

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I would just interject, the

1 Farmers Market is not yet anything as far as a  
2 corporate entity goes.

3 CLERK HALL: Correct.

4 TRUSTEE ROBINS: And they are charging money,  
5 aren't they? I mean, that's -- and that's a  
6 for-profit, right?

7 MAYOR STUESSI: Were they forming a 501?

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: That's their intention.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, okay.

10 CLERK HALL: So just to be clear, the LGBT  
11 Network, there's an application for Mitchell Park,  
12 and then there's an application for other Village  
13 properties. The Mitchell Park is a different fee of  
14 \$250 for the application, the same \$500 security  
15 deposit, and then they have submitted both. So they  
16 submitted the Mitchell Park application with both  
17 checks, and then they submitted the standard public  
18 assembly application with both checks. All others  
19 have either requested the waiver of the application  
20 fee and/or the security deposit.

21 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Do you ever waive the  
22 security deposit?

23 CLERK HALL: Not that I'm aware of.

24 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: It doesn't make any sense.

25 TRUSTEE ROBINS: It's security.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, they usually take -- no,  
2 they always take the security deposit.

3 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Some people are requesting a  
4 waiver?

5 CLERK HALL: Exactly.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: Are you sure there weren't  
7 instances last year of security deposits being  
8 waived, Mary Bess?

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Friends of Mitchell --

10 MAYOR STUESSI: I don't think that --

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Friends of Mitchell Park  
12 might have been the only one --

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- that I'm aware of.

15 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah, I feel  
16 like -- I mean, again, this is just memory, but I  
17 thought a lot -- I mean, I thought we even  
18 waived them.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We waived the fees.

20 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Well, I thought we  
21 waived the security deposit, too. But, again, this  
22 is pure memory.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I have to go back.

24 CLERK HALL: Since I've been here, there --  
25 since August of last year, we've received security

1 deposits.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's what I thought.

3 CLERK HALL: I've looked back a little bit and  
4 it does look like we've received security deposits  
5 from just about everybody. Friends of Mitchell Park  
6 is a little different, I can do a little bit more  
7 research on that one. The application fee has been  
8 waived historically. For that one, again, Friends of  
9 Mitchell Park, there was a resolution that was passed  
10 that they don't pay for the application, that did not  
11 included the security deposit.

12 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah, that's my recollection,  
13 too, is we waive fees, but not security deposits.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, we waive fees, but not  
15 the security deposit.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: So I think what we need to do,  
17 to your point, is come up with some consistent  
18 process, so that you're able to manage it. And it  
19 would seem to me that we create a slightly different  
20 form, and the only people that are allowed to ask for  
21 a fee waiver would be a not-for-profit. If you're  
22 not a not-for-profit, then it would seem that we  
23 ought out to be charging a fee, unless anybody thinks  
24 differently.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, I think that --

1           MAYOR STUESSI: And the fees, fee waiver is not  
2 guaranteed until the Village Board vote -- considers  
3 it and votes on it.

4           CLERK HALL: And that's -- yeah, that's been  
5 something that I've been expressing to the  
6 applicants, that it's not the Clerk's decision  
7 whether the fees are waived, it has to go to the  
8 Board.

9           MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, I'm just talking about  
10 the process --

11          CLERK HALL: Yeah.

12          MAYOR STUESSI: -- of somebody applying.  
13 Because right now the application suggests --

14          CLERK HALL: No, it --

15          MAYOR STUESSI: -- that they need to have the  
16 money in.

17          CLERK HALL: Yeah.

18          MAYOR STUESSI: Right.

19          CLERK HALL: This, both applications, they  
20 actually request a cover letter --

21          MAYOR STUESSI: Right.

22          CLERK HALL: -- for the Board and it is showing  
23 that -- well, it says a \$50 nonrefundable permit fee  
24 and a 500 -- \$500 security deposit must be submitted  
25 with the complete application. I'm getting

1 applications with --

2 MAYOR STUESSI: But that's my --

3 CLERK HALL: Exactly.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: You're making exactly my  
5 point --

6 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: -- is that we need -- if we're  
8 going to keep it the way it is, then we need to  
9 enforce it, which hasn't been done in years. Or if  
10 not, we should come up with a new policy that's  
11 pretty clear on it, and something we're comfortable  
12 and she's going to be able to manage.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, you have --

14 MAYOR STUESSI: I think we need to look at it  
15 equitably across the board for not-for-profits  
16 versus -- I mean, I can't think of any for-profits,  
17 so --

18 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah. I know you're looking  
19 for some help and some guidance and I think this  
20 Board will definitely try to support you that way.  
21 It strikes me that the clearest thing to do is to  
22 require the fee and the security deposit in every  
23 case.

24 CLERK HALL: Yes.

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And then this Board will then

1 decide whether we're going to waive the fee.

2 CLERK HALL: Uh-huh.

3 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Isn't that how we've done it  
4 in the past, Mary Bess?

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's what we've always  
6 done in the past.

7 TRUSTEE ROBINS: That's how we've done it,  
8 yeah.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: No, you haven't, it hasn't been.

10 CLERK HALL: We have not, actually.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, well --

13 MAYOR STUESSI: And we're getting people  
14 complaining about it, and so, yeah.

15 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, the last I -- okay.  
17 Because the -- in previously years it was also  
18 understood that they took the checks, okay, and the  
19 checks were kept like you do, because in order to  
20 reimburse them, we have to go through the abstract  
21 process.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: BID in particular has been very  
23 clear, "Oh, we never had to give a check for certain  
24 things." It's neither here or there, I think we need  
25 to make a decision going forward.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: It doesn't really matter at  
2 this point, but I need to bring forward something  
3 here, that in the Mass Assembly permit, I mean, the  
4 Mass Assembly Chapter, on 44-3, we have an  
5 application procedure, Review Contents of a Mass  
6 Assembly. So does that need to be made stronger to  
7 say that checks need to be received and that just  
8 ends it, it's in the code?

9 CLERK HALL: It's not only in the code, it's on  
10 the page, the front page of the application.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, no, no, I understand,  
12 but if it's referred to that it's in the code, that  
13 it has to be received, that's --

14 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's a done deal, okay?  
16 Because we have here the wording, "Any person seeking  
17 to organize or host any mass assembly event shall  
18 file an application with the Village Clerk at least  
19 60 days prior to the date or dates upon which such  
20 mass assembly event is to take place, or such later  
21 date as the Village Board of Trustees may agree upon,  
22 but in any event a date that is no later than 7 days  
23 prior to any regularly scheduled meeting," which  
24 gives the opportunity for the later --

25 CLERK HALL: Applications.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- the later applications.  
2 "Of the Board of Trustees that precedes to that date  
3 on which mass assembly event is to take place. The  
4 application shall include the following," which is  
5 listing everything that you have and whatever.

6 So we could put in the wording that the checks  
7 need to be presented with the applications, and that  
8 would say the code says it, you have to do it. I'm  
9 just putting that out there, because we didn't have  
10 the public hearing on the mass assembly, so we have  
11 the opportunity to change the language in here, if  
12 that would help the situation.

13 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Does it -- you're  
14 talking about the proposed mass assembly code?

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: The proposed, right, the  
16 proposed.

17 TRUSTEE ROBINS: I had also, just a side note,  
18 sent an email to Brian Stolar about the fact that an  
19 applicant on that public assembly permit should have  
20 to print their name as well.

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. I replied to that and  
22 said I thought it was a good idea.

23 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah, yeah.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: Even if it's a not-for-profit,  
25 whoever's filing the application.

1 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Whoever is representing them,  
2 yeah.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, there's a name underneath it.

4 TRUSTEE ROBINS: The agent, or whatever. But a  
5 name would be good.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So, Candace, let me ask you  
7 a question.

8 CLERK HALL: Yes.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Did you review this code  
10 chapter?

11 CLERK HALL: Yeah, I have.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

13 CLERK HALL: The problem is it's not that -- in  
14 my opinion, it's -- this is the application, it's  
15 written here, it's on the code. The problem is --

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, the fee --

17 CLERK HALL: Historically, what's been done is  
18 that applications are taken. And I'm in a situation  
19 like this right now, actually, with the Egg Roll for  
20 the BID. I don't have checks for that, but that's  
21 something that the Board has already approved. So  
22 now it puts me in a position where I have to follow  
23 up and hunt down a check for an application that's  
24 been approved. So I am in agreement with you, the  
25 code says it, the application says it.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: No, not the existing code, the  
2 proposed code.

3           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Not the existing, the  
4 proposed code.

5           CLERK HALL: Proposed code, yeah.

6           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: It needs to be written in  
7 here in the proposed code.

8           CLERK HALL: Yeah.

9           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: It's not in here directly.

10          CLERK HALL: And even -- you know, not to be,  
11 to be rigid, we want these events that are near and  
12 dear to the Village to happen, but, you know, this --  
13 the 5K, the Cherry, the Cherry Blossom 5K, I received  
14 this application two days ago. There isn't an  
15 opportunity, aside from now, to approve this.  
16 Otherwise, next month the event would have already  
17 happened before the Regular Session.

18          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, no, I understand.

19          CLERK HALL: So even the timeline of the  
20 submissions is challenging, but the -- really, the  
21 most challenging thing is the push-back that I get  
22 myself, and then the other staff in the office, of  
23 even accepting the applications without everything  
24 that's listed here.

25          MAYOR STUESSI: So I think if the Board's

1 decision is that we should require it of everybody,  
2 we can send a -- we know who these organizations are  
3 and who these people are. We can very easily send a  
4 letter to all of them, I'll be glad to talk to them,  
5 and say, "Listen, starting June 1," or whatever it  
6 is, you know, "Everybody is going to have to have a  
7 check before we even take an application."

8 CLERK HALL: Right.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Like "Candace and the Clerk's  
10 Office will be told we will not accept your application  
11 without a check."

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, I think, I think --

13 TRUSTEE ROBINS: That's the best --

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

15 TRUSTEE ROBINS: That's the best way to do it,  
16 right.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, that -- I agree with  
18 that, and I think on the application it should say  
19 that this is not complete unless --

20 CLERK HALL: What is that?

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Without, without the  
22 payments, okay? If it's on the application, that  
23 it's not complete without the payment. Then it's --  
24 on the application, it's here it is, I can't accept  
25 it, this is the way it is, and this is the way it's

1 going to be from now on. It's in the code, or we'll  
2 fix it to be this the code.

3 CLERK HALL: Okay.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I mean, that's my --

5 MAYOR STUESSI: It's only a few people, I mean,  
6 it's not a big number.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Oh, no, I could think of a  
8 few more that are going to come up.

9 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Well, we will  
10 change it so it won't say nonrefundable. So then if  
11 we say yes, we're going to waive this fee, it will be  
12 the same thing, where the check won't be deposited.

13 CLERK HALL: No.

14 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: The \$50 check.

15 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

16 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: If we say we waive  
17 your fee.

18 CLERK HALL: Because I can't cash it until you  
19 approve it.

20 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Right, right. But  
21 I'm just saying that has to be explained and changed  
22 on the application.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: How do you guys feel about a  
24 fee waiver for a not-for-profit versus -- I can't  
25 think of a for-profit. Can Julia or Mary Bess think

1 of something that's a for-profit group that has done  
2 something before in the Village in the past?

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, we have several. We  
4 have some companies who have events here, one of them  
5 is Greenport Brewery. We have that one that pops up  
6 and he's always late, so we remind him every year, or  
7 someone reminds him of --

8 CLERK HALL: (Raised Hand).

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Because, yeah, I don't want  
10 to go through the drama. Greenport Brewery is one of  
11 them. I think Claudio's may have in the past had  
12 some type of an event, I believe, boat show.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: So does anybody feel like we  
14 should have a rule on, you know, potential waivers?  
15 Should we agree to consider a waiver for anybody, or  
16 should it only be for not-for-profits?

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I think it could be case by  
18 case.

19 TRUSTEE ROBINS: I kind of think not-for-profits.  
20 I don't really necessarily feel we should be offering  
21 waivers to everybody.

22 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: What -- isn't there  
23 something else in Mitchell Park that we've talked  
24 about before, like where they have the tent and  
25 loading?

1 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: That was the Coast Guard,  
2 Coast Guard Auxiliary --

3 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Okay.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- which is probably a  
5 not-for-profit or a --

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, it is, but they  
7 also -- that's part of -- they actually come in as a  
8 group and they take boat slip, they take slips, they  
9 pay for their slips when they come in here. So  
10 that's part of an activity that's through the marina,  
11 although they do do the Mass Assembly Permit.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I like the idea of drawing a  
13 line between not-for-profit and for profit, I think  
14 that's kind of sensible. But, at the same time, I  
15 would not be willing to say that I would waive a fee  
16 for any nonprofit.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

18 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: That still has to be some  
19 discretion.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Of course.

21 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. I'm just suggesting  
23 maybe that we say, you know, request fee waiver, must  
24 be a not-for-profit to request it, subject to  
25 approval of the Board.

1 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That could be on the  
3 application.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

5 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I think that makes  
6 sense.

7 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Candace, we don't want you to  
8 be in a position of having to make a discretionary  
9 decision, because it's unfair to you. It's not  
10 really even appropriate in this case.

11 CLERK HALL: Agreed.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So I don't know if we're  
13 giving you the kind of help you want, but I guess  
14 we're saying you have to push back --

15 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

16 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- and you have to say that  
17 this is the Board's decision.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, I think what we need to  
19 do is we will -- we're going to change the  
20 application, modify it slightly. I'll draft a letter  
21 that goes to all of these people and, you know, make  
22 sure we talk to them as well.

23 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Or maybe the letter  
24 even, you have the letter at Village Hall to give.

25 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

1 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Because there may  
2 be new people who, you know, like -- just like a --

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Most of them --

4 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: And I know there's  
5 instructions on there, but just like a little extra  
6 like this --

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: A cover letter. A cover  
8 letter.

9 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

10 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: This is how we do  
11 things.

12 CLERK HALL: This is really helpful, actually,  
13 because it's -- you know, this meeting is a public  
14 meeting, it's on record.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Yes. And the other thing we  
16 need to correct, that is we need to correct the  
17 resolution that was in place for waive -- you know,  
18 automatically waiving it for --

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Friend of Mitchell Park.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: -- the Tai Chi. I'll be glad  
21 to have a conversation with them the next Board  
22 meeting, you know, that we need a check, it's not  
23 going to be for everybody, but they can make the  
24 request for it.

25 CLERK HALL: Okay.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: We want to treat everybody  
2 equally. And then there are some new rules that were  
3 put in place awhile back that included like no tents  
4 and things. I'll bring that -- we'll bring it up at  
5 the next -- circulate it to the Board to look at,  
6 because we're going to need to remote back, because  
7 there are a number of things that were in there,  
8 including that all applications for summer events had  
9 to be in by March 15th, I think it was. And I think  
10 it makes more sense to stick with a rolling schedule.  
11 It seems to be working, other than the few last  
12 minute ones, like the Easter Bunny thing.

13           CLERK HALL: Yeah. We -- we've been trying to  
14 just be proactive to a certain extent of not  
15 hand-holding these organizations that hold these huge  
16 events for the Village. I think there is some  
17 responsibility on the organization to get these  
18 applications in. But on the flip side, you know, for  
19 this, this Cherry Blossom 5K, that I received the  
20 application two days ago, they're already  
21 advertising. So it kind of like -- it puts us all in  
22 a really unfortunate position.

23           MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. We'll draft something to  
24 send to the BID, because --

25           CLERK HALL: So we'll try to be proactive.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: -- they know. They're just --  
2 they're all busy.

3           CLERK HALL: Yeah.

4           MAYOR STUESSI: And we've just got to work  
5 better on the calendar, so it works well for  
6 everybody.

7           TRUSTEE BRENNAN: When you accept an  
8 application that you've considered to be complete, do  
9 you like date-stamp it --

10          CLERK HALL: Yes.

11          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- or write your name on it  
12 or something?

13          CLERK HALL: I do. So we -- I've been putting  
14 in practice, because, as you said, I think it's  
15 important that -- I think it's important, like you  
16 said, to push back, because it is the guideline, but  
17 they are date-stamped when we receive them, a  
18 complete application. I don't date-stamp it until I  
19 have everything. I keep a copy to bring with me as a  
20 reference to the meeting. So there's notes of,  
21 you know, how these are processed and sent out to you  
22 all. In this case, for some of these applications,  
23 it just wasn't enough time to get them to you. Yeah.

24          MAYOR STUESSI: Okay.

25          CLERK HALL: To answer your question.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: I'll change this tomorrow.

2           We'll just draft a letter and we'll send it out and  
3           have some conversations.

4           CLERK HALL: Thank you.

5           TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Candace, you've probably seen  
6           some municipal forms that have a little check box up  
7           on the top-hand corner, it will say like cover  
8           letter, check, application complete, check, security  
9           deposit. It's really kind of an exercise for you to  
10          go through with the applicant --

11          CLERK HALL: Yes.

12          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- to demonstrate.

13          MAYOR STUESSI: Literally, check box the check  
14          for the check --

15          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Would that help?

16          MAYOR STUESSI: -- or, "Here, I'm not accepting it."

17          CLERK HALL: I think that's a really great idea.

18          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

19          CLERK HALL: Because right now it's a -- it's a  
20          paragraph that it's unreal how many people ignore  
21          this paragraph right here, you know.

22          MAYOR STUESSI: We could make it simple bullet  
23          points with a check box.

24          CLERK HALL: I think it's a good idea.

25          MAYOR STUESSI: "If your check boxes are not

1 checked, I can't accept your application."

2 CLERK HALL: Or send it to the Board.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

4 CLERK HALL: So, you know, for some of these  
5 applications, I have held off from sending it to the  
6 Board for consideration, or even putting it on the  
7 agenda until we have a complete application. But, at  
8 this time, you know, people are gearing up for the  
9 spring. So this is probably, you know, a higher  
10 number than usual of applications, but I don't think  
11 it's going to slow down at this point. So I appreciate  
12 the conversation from you guys.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I have to ask you a question.

14 CLERK HALL: Yes.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Saint Agnes Church, it's  
16 getting near Easter time.

17 CLERK HALL: Nothing.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Didn't we pass a resolution?  
19 Don't they have some type of an activity on the back?

20 CLERK HALL: Yeah, they have a huge event every  
21 year and I haven't received anything about it, but I  
22 will follow up.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. All right.

24 CLERK HALL: Thank you.

25 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I think, although

1 maybe I missed it, but I don't think we got the  
2 Greenport Athletic Booster Club.

3 CLERK HALL: No.

4 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: But maybe that's  
5 because it came in late.

6 CLERK HALL: So that one, I'm glad you brought  
7 that up. That one is a little --

8 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I mean, actually,  
9 are they -- they may not be a 501(c)(3).

10 CLERK HALL: They're not.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: The Easter Club should be, no?

12 CLERK HALL: So the tricky thing about that is  
13 the gentleman who submitted the application, I did  
14 push back, and I told him that I -- you know, I can't  
15 put this on the agenda until I get the checks. You  
16 know, then there was some back and forth. And then  
17 ultimately he let me know that it's really difficult  
18 to get a check through the district for this  
19 application.

20 Now, if it's required, I think that it's on  
21 them to submit the application in enough time to do  
22 their -- to do the leg work on their side. Even if  
23 this is a check that we're ultimately going to  
24 destroy, like the security deposit, that was the  
25 conversation, you know, between myself and this

1 applicant, that it's really difficult to go through  
2 the district to get a check to submit with his  
3 application.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Through the school district?

5 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

6 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I mean, it does  
7 kind of bring up -- I mean, because I don't know, but  
8 like is the PTA maybe not a 501(c)(3)? Like there  
9 might be a lot of like charitable good-cause  
10 organizations that are not like technically 501(c)(3)  
11 nonprofit.

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But I think if we have the  
13 clause in it, a clause that it's up to the -- you  
14 know, the Village has the --

15 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: But if we were  
16 saying you're only eligible to check the "Please  
17 waive my fees" if you're a nonprofit.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, I think, you know --

19 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I mean, or if we  
20 mean nonprofit just as a nonprofit, and we don't mean  
21 like a technical 501(c)(3), that's true.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, I think the checklist  
23 could have a variety of --

24 CLERK HALL: The basketball tournament that I  
25 co-organized, we became a nonprofit, because we ran

1 into fundraising issues, but we weren't.

2 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Right.

3 CLERK HALL: We just were a group of people  
4 putting together this event for free for the  
5 community. So, you know, it is a good point that  
6 they may not all be not-for-profit.

7 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So there's several kinds of  
8 nonprofits, and there's foundations --

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right.

10 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- and there's public benefit  
11 corporations. We may be able to just flip this around  
12 and say that for-profit entities may not request a  
13 waiver.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

15 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Right.

16 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: We leave it  
17 open-ended --

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right.

19 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- on the other side.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: On the other side.

21 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Does makes sense?

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

23 CLERK HALL: Yeah, absolutely.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: And if we think it's shady for  
25 any reason, we can ask for some sort of proof that

1 they're truly a not-for-profit.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, one thing I will ask,  
3 Candace, is I'm uncomfortable with you asking whether  
4 to send a check back or destroy it. I would prefer  
5 that you just send the check back to them.

6 CLERK HALL: Okay.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: From a banking point of view  
8 and --

9 CLERK HALL: Understood.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- verification, I think it  
11 would behoove you to just --

12 CLERK HALL: Mail it back.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Mail it back.

14 CLERK HALL: Okay.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

16 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Unless you trust the mail,  
17 which I'm becoming less and less inclined to do.

18 (Laughter)

19 TRUSTEE ROBINS: I'm literally driving up to  
20 places and hand-delivering checks.

21 (Laughter)

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I did have --

23 MAYOR STUESSI: So how does everybody feel  
24 about the security deposit amount? I mean, I realize  
25 if we raised it, it might be considered more punitive

1 to people. But like, honestly, if there's damage,  
2 it's going to be a hell of a lot more than \$500.  
3 It's honestly like token chump change if anything  
4 really happens.

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Don't we ask for insurance  
6 coverage?

7 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah. No, it is.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: There's also a big, a big  
9 range in size of events.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We ask for insurance  
11 coverage.

12 CLERK HALL: We do ask for insurance.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We ask for insurance  
15 coverage.

16 CLERK HALL: So, yeah, the applicant is  
17 required to have insurance.

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah, it's 100,000, isn't it?

19 CLERK HALL: I'm sorry?

20 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Or is it a million?

21 CLERK HALL: It's a million.

22 TRUSTEE ROBINS: It's a million.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: It almost seems like why are we  
24 even asking for the security deposit if we've got  
25 proof of insurance and --

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Because many deductibles.

2 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And many different purposes,  
3 right?

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Different purposes.

5 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So the insurance is going to  
6 be only for liability, probably.

7 CLERK HALL: Yes.

8 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

9 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And the security deposit  
10 might be to do like street cleanup.

11 CLERK HALL: Yeah.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Or something.

13 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, we can ask for those  
15 fees, though, for additional fees.

16 TRUSTEE ROBINS: If they mess up the bathrooms,  
17 or something like that.

18 CLERK HALL: What do you mean, additional fees  
19 for --

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, in other words, years  
21 ago with the Maritime Festival, we asked for them to  
22 help with the --

23 CLERK HALL: We still do.

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- garbage bill.

25 CLERK HALL: Yeah, we still do.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right, right. So you have  
2 the --

3 CLERK HALL: They receive an invoice after.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: You know, there are things --

5 MAYOR STUESSI: It's in dispute right now.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: What do you mean it's in  
7 dispute?

8 CLERK HALL: It is.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: You've got to be kidding me.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: I will share more on that.

11 (Laughter)

12 MAYOR STUESSI: So back to my question, because  
13 I want to sort of put this to bed and get the  
14 application. Does everybody feel like the \$500 is  
15 appropriate as a security deposit?

16 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I'm fine with that.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'm fine with it for now.

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yeah.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: And I agree.

20 CLERK HALL: Okay.

21 MAYOR STUESSI: I think that covers it for that.

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I do have a question on the  
23 resolution for the Mitchell Park bathrooms.

24 CLERK HALL: Sure.

25 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And maybe this is more to

1 the Mayor than -- when this contract is being  
2 developed, do we have a -- do we have a start date  
3 for them to start the construction?

4 CLERK HALL: So I will --

5 MAYOR STUESSI: They will be starting  
6 immediately upon our vote next week.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. Do we have a date  
8 that -- an anticipated end date or --

9 MAYOR STUESSI: They owe us that.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. That's what I'm  
11 asking.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: But it's quick. He's already  
13 mobilized --

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well --

15 MAYOR STUESSI: -- and ready to go based on,  
16 you know, the Board --

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: -- and getting supplies.

19 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. I just wanted to just  
20 make sure that we had some type of end date in the  
21 contract, perhaps.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. And we've been putting  
23 that in all of them --

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay, yeah.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: -- since I've been hanging out

1 here.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. I feel the question --

3 MAYOR STUESSI: It's the same guy who did --

4 CLERK HALL: Road barn.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: The road barn.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: And the bath -- and the  
8 campground bathrooms. He's done a great job and been  
9 very timely.

10 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Really good.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah. I don't have a  
12 problem with the contractor, I'm just asking about  
13 the --

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, yeah.

15 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- follow-up. And, Mr. Mayor --

16 MAYOR STUESSI: And we're also doing punch  
17 lists on things --

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: -- when they finish as well.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. That's what I wanted  
21 to know.

22 MAYOR STUESSI: Which I did with Bill on the  
23 sidewalk just yesterday.

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. That was my question,  
25 was --

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

2           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: -- is, you know, how are we  
3 going to deal with the steps and the work approved,  
4 looking at it to see if it's up to what we're looking  
5 for. Okay. All right, that's it.

6           MAYOR STUESSI: I'm driving a few civil contractors  
7 batty right now.

8           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's okay.

9                                 (Laughter)

10          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That's okay, that's happens.

11          The only other question I have, and maybe this  
12 is me being a stickler, but most people in this  
13 Village read the local newspaper, The Suffolk Times,  
14 to look for the legal notices for our public  
15 hearings. I know we use Newsday, and Newsday was  
16 always used as a last minute, being able to get it,  
17 okay? But when I counted out the days for the  
18 February -- from the February 29th meeting up until  
19 tonight's meeting, we did have enough time to get  
20 something in The Suffolk Times, okay?

21          CLERK HALL: In theory, yes.

22          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'm, I'm a big -- and I feel  
23 it's very important, because having come from the  
24 background that I came from, and the first thing I  
25 had to do on Thursday morning was to read the legal

1 notices for the bank branch, and the obituaries for  
2 various reasons for bank purposes, I know many people  
3 are made more aware of what's going on when it's in a  
4 local paper. So I just -- I had to say that, okay?

5 CLERK HALL: That's fine, and if that's the  
6 preference. The Mayor and I discussed it the other  
7 day. Yes, there -- in theory, there was enough time,  
8 but the day-to-day activities in the Village  
9 sometimes don't allow for what may seem like a date.  
10 You know, there -- yes, there was a date that we  
11 could have submitted it. However, we have used  
12 Newsday for really important meetings, so I didn't  
13 see the issue with using Newsday at the time.

14 Also, with the Village Administrator retiring  
15 last week, it was definitely a priority to spend as  
16 much time with Paul before he left as possible. So I  
17 will going forward always try to meet the deadline to  
18 have it in The Suffolk Times, since that seems to be  
19 the preference. But I didn't realize that it was an  
20 issue to use Newsday, as opposed to Suffolk Times,  
21 because we do --

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right. Well --

23 CLERK HALL: -- for really important meetings.

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: For communication, and this  
25 Administration has made a priority on communication,

1 and that is just one of the -- for me, a legal notice  
2 for a public hearing to get out to the public is a  
3 little bit more important than some other things,  
4 okay? So --

5 CLERK HALL: Understood.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay?

7 CLERK HALL: It was published also on the  
8 website and in Village Hall.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I understand that, okay, but  
10 most people, as much as we all love the website and  
11 we're all trying to improve it, the first thing that  
12 they look at on Thursday afternoon is they all go  
13 online and look at the legal section, okay?

14 CLERK HALL: Understood, now that it's clear on  
15 the preference.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay.

17 TRUSTEE ROBINS: And a lot of people don't read  
18 or take Newsday, either, you know? And I find them  
19 annoying, because people send me articles from  
20 Newsday and I don't have a subscription. They have a  
21 pay-wall, you can't read their articles, you know,  
22 so --

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, so does The Suffolk  
24 Times.

25 CLERK HALL: Yeah, they both do.

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Frankly, The Suffolk Times --

2 TRUSTEE ROBINS: They have a pay-wall as well?

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, absolutely.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

5 MAYOR STUESSI: And The Suffolk Times a lot of  
6 times doesn't even put things online that they put in  
7 the paper, and vice versa. There are things that are  
8 printed that don't make it online.

9 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Okay. Yeah, I read it online,  
10 I don't --

11 MAYOR STUESSI: So it's, anyway, another  
12 discussion on it.

13 CLERK HALL: Thank you.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

15 CLERK HALL: I'm clear on the preference.

16 MAYOR STUESSI: Anything else?

17 CLERK HALL: I have nothing else.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: Lily?

19 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I don't have very  
20 much, except I think we will try to put the resolution  
21 on next week.

22 CLERK HALL: Yes.

23 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I'm looking at  
24 Candace, because she's going to do it, for Dances in  
25 the Park, the lineup. So that's all I really have.

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Dances in the Park what?

2 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: The lineup, like so  
3 that we can next week --

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Oh, great. Did you find a  
5 country group?

6 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: We -- yeah. We're  
7 sticking with the country groups we have.

8 MAYOR STUESSI: All right.

9 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: And we're --

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Beyoncé is coming?

11 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah, exactly.

12 CLERK HALL: Signed her up.

13 (Laughter)

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Taylor Swift. I mean,  
15 you know, that's --

16 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah. So that's  
17 all I have.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: And then it looks like, as I  
19 had mentioned in an email, that we figured out a way  
20 of forming a not-for-profit to collect funds for  
21 Dances, etcetera. Jared's finalizing that, and I'll  
22 send something out to the Board on it tomorrow.

23 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: And we'll be able  
24 to do it soon.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

1 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: On record.

2 (Laughter)

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Mary Bess?

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Code Committee, of course, I  
5 see that Legal has presented the short-term rental  
6 language, which I'm sure we'll discuss.

7 I will be during the week photocopying the  
8 residential suggestions. I needed to go back and  
9 take the Excel and correct what we changed. So I'm  
10 sorry, I haven't had a chance to do that, and it's a  
11 lot of paper, so I will print it and put it in your  
12 boxes. It's a working document, so it's not public  
13 yet.

14 We did discuss signs on Wednesday, and we will  
15 be finishing that up to probably present at next Work  
16 Session. We will not be meeting next week, so that  
17 everybody is aware, because two of our members are  
18 absent. And we decided to finish up on the sign and  
19 give ourselves a break for Wednesday, right, John and  
20 Dinni? We've got a break, right?

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Johns committed.

22 MR. SALADINO: We're all going to the --

23 MAYOR STUESSI: John's committed to being here,  
24 it's those others.

25 (Laughter)

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. I do have one issue  
2 that cropped up at the Wardens meeting. After the  
3 Wardens meeting, I had a rather interesting  
4 conversation with one of the Wardens, Norma Corwin,  
5 in reference to what information we really know  
6 that's going on around the Village in reference to  
7 the EMT calls, and to the Police Department, and the  
8 interaction between the two agencies. It was rather  
9 a contentious discussion. And afterwards I decided  
10 to do what I always do, is to go back, take a look  
11 and see perhaps if there is some issue here that we  
12 as a Board are not getting all the information we're  
13 supposed to be getting.

14 They -- I don't know if it's all the Wardens,  
15 but she was under the impression that we were  
16 receiving a copy of their Fire Department run report  
17 every month, which actually breaks down the dates of  
18 the incident and where it was. No names, but what  
19 the action was, whether it was an alcohol overdose,  
20 which seemed to be a conversation brought up earlier  
21 by Pete Harris, who is also a Warden on the Fire  
22 Department, and I was not aware of it.

23 Chief Johnson provided me with a copy of what  
24 they've had since January 1st of this year, which I  
25 will photocopy and get to everyone. It was an

1 interesting document as to the amount of alcohol  
2 O.D.'s that have been going on within our Village.  
3 There was also a discussion of the grouping of people  
4 who are open -- you know, open containing drinking  
5 out in the parking lots and Mitchell Park.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: You were with me with the  
7 Police Chief --

8 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right.

9 MAYOR STUESSI: -- when we had that exact  
10 conversation.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yes, yes.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: And the Police Chief, just for  
13 everybody else to agree, or to be aware of, he agreed  
14 that they needed to do some additional retraining  
15 with police officers, that if anybody has an open  
16 container where they shouldn't by a car and parking  
17 lots, etcetera, that they need to be citing them  
18 appropriately up to arrest, depending on what the  
19 situation is.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, that's part of the  
21 communication breakdown between the Fire Department  
22 and the EMTs, because their, their concern is, is  
23 that the Police Department is making the decision.  
24 Rightfully, that's -- they're first on the call, and,  
25 Patrick, I think you go on the calls. They make the

1 decision as to whether this is a hospital situation  
2 or take them to the, to the retaining section at  
3 Peconic.

4 So what I would like to do is I would like to,  
5 with the Mayor and the Board's permission, is to  
6 reach out to Chief Flatley, see if he has -- I think  
7 he mentioned that he was going to look about a  
8 liaison from the Police Department to the Village, or  
9 was he talking about -- there's some, several  
10 officers here who seem to be --

11 MAYOR STUESSI: We have a local liaison  
12 officer.

13 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We, do? Okay.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: So if there's a specific  
15 meeting you want to schedule, I'd be glad to  
16 coordinate it with you.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, what I'd like to do is  
18 schedule for him to come to the Board of Wardens  
19 meeting and the --

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Well, why don't we do that for  
21 next month?

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, that's what I wanted  
23 to do.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: I'll be glad to ask him and  
25 offer it as well.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. All right. I think it  
2 will be beneficial that that communication takes  
3 place between the two departments and have -- they  
4 have a continued dialog.

5           MAYOR STUESSI: Uh-huh.

6           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I was not happy with how I  
7 was approached on this subject, because I believe  
8 that everybody should understand that we all don't  
9 get information. We don't all know what's going on  
10 around the Village, we try very hard to, but this was  
11 something that could have been handled in a different  
12 way. And that's all I'm going to say about it, is it  
13 could have been handled differently. I'm taking the  
14 high road and approaching it in a different way. So  
15 if we have the permission, yeah, I would like to get  
16 that set up, okay?

17           MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, I'll set it up

18           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. Other than that,  
19 that's it for me.

20           MAYOR STUESSI: Julia?

21           TRUSTEE ROBINS: Just we had a Carousel meeting  
22 on the 5th, and we -- you know, I reported to them  
23 that Friends of Mitchell Park are going to be paying  
24 for the Carousel rides for the BID event, the Easter  
25 Egg Roll.

1           I let them know that the -- we have passed a  
2 resolution, the rides are going to be increasing from  
3 2.50 to \$3 per ride on 6/1/24, and that the group  
4 ticket prices are going to increase from 25 to 30.

5           I had a short conversation with Rick Albanese  
6 about the side ramp. I think what the plan now is  
7 just to use that for handicapped access, to put a  
8 sign to direct people to it for that reason, and  
9 maybe do a new sign for the front entrance as well  
10 just to let people know, because the main entrance,  
11 handicapped, stroller access is on the side. You  
12 know, it won't get locked. In other words, there  
13 will be a sign there, a sign there letting people  
14 know that.

15           We talked a little bit about some of the music  
16 at the Carousel. Apparently, there are limitations  
17 on how many CDs are available for carousel music. I  
18 think we've discussed this before, we'll mention it  
19 again, that we might want to consider purchasing an  
20 iPhone and using Bluetooth. That would solve the  
21 problem. They could download any music that they  
22 wanted to play in the Carousel.

23           A couple of projects that they want to finish  
24 up, now that they kind of settled down with the  
25 Carousel again. There's some painting that still has

1 to get done on the inner scenic panels, which was a  
2 process that they had been working on before the  
3 pandemic, so they'd like to finish that up.

4 And, also, they had talked about creating a  
5 booklet that gives a little bit of a historic  
6 background on all of the paintings, both on the  
7 rounding boards and the inner scenic panels. And a  
8 suggestion was made also that maybe we could install  
9 a digital slideshow somewhere in the building that  
10 would show all of those paintings with a little bit  
11 of a description. So I spoke to Rick about that,  
12 he's going to be doing a little research on that.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay.

14 TRUSTEE ROBINS: So that's it.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Patrick.

16 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I didn't really prepare a  
17 report, but I'll just -- I just have two comments  
18 about the Fire Department.

19 When I was listening to Mary Bess before, I was  
20 nodding in agreement when we were talking about the  
21 medical calls and the alcohol. I didn't want to  
22 imply that I'm responding to those calls, because I  
23 don't respond to medical calls.

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, no.

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And it's important, because

1 while I'm a fireman, I don't do that, and we have a  
2 very dedicated group of people that respond to these  
3 medical calls. And it's an enormous burden.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: It is.

5 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And it's a small group that  
6 do the lion's share of the work. And it's not just  
7 the alcohol overdose, but there's many, many medical  
8 calls for the community.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: There's many other issues.

10 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I just want to be clear, that  
11 I didn't want --

12 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, that's okay.

13 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- to take credit for that.

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: You were in the meeting, so  
15 you --

16 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yes. I was in the meeting,  
17 yes.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: The meeting, yeah.

19 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And I do -- I am aware of how  
20 many calls there are, and I agree, it's very  
21 troubling, it's a problem.

22 I just want to bring forth a concern from the  
23 Fire Department. So we've had a couple of very  
24 successful meetings here, where we've workshopped  
25 like comprehensive planning, and well attended. And

1       there is a concern in the Fire Department that when  
2       we hold those meetings, we should just be mindful of  
3       maybe directing people not to park perhaps in the  
4       parking lot, because I think at the last event, it  
5       was so well attended, there was not a lot of spots  
6       left for responders to park in and so --

7               MAYOR STUESSI: Should we look at signage or  
8       something in -- on the parking spots?

9               TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

10              TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I was going to say  
11       that, because I -- I mean, this years ago, but I  
12       worked as a poll worker, and I had no idea, because I  
13       came here at five in the morning, parked in those  
14       spots, and then there were people who were upset, and  
15       which is -- I mean, I understand, but there's no  
16       way --

17              TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

18              TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: -- to know.

19              TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: There should be signage  
20       there.

21              TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Signage, or maybe when we're  
22       announcing the event, we could put a reminder in  
23       there and ask people to park on the street or  
24       something. I mean --

25              TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah.

1 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- we probably won't catch  
2 everyone --

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

4 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- but it will be helpful for  
5 the Department to try to maintain more space out  
6 there.

7 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Patrick, maybe because they  
8 did discuss that out back, they're going to be  
9 filling in the cracks on the blacktop and recoating  
10 it, or whatever. Perhaps we should, a suggestion is,  
11 line some of the parking spaces and then have them  
12 written on the, on the pavement, you know, "Firemen  
13 Only", or something to keep people out of the -- you  
14 know, at least --

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Don't they all have bumpers out  
16 there, as I recall, too?

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, no.

18 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: No.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: At least they could stencil it  
20 right on the bumper, too.

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No.

22 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I don't think so.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No.

24 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Anyway, that's a good idea.  
25 Well, you could bring it back to the Wardens, or I'll

1 bring it back.

2 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'll bring it back to the  
3 Wardens, yeah.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: If we do a large meeting, happy  
5 to include something in it, but I think most people  
6 won't pay attention to it.

7 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

8 MAYOR STUESSI: But if we can get something --

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah, but --

10 MAYOR STUESSI: -- on the spots.

11 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right. But even if we  
12 write, most people, I think, if there's language on  
13 the blacktop -- because I've noticed when we put the  
14 hours for parking back behind IGA, people noticed the  
15 road, that it was a 20, 30-minute parking more than  
16 they did the sign that was up in front of them.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Uh-huh.

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And that I think that's  
19 something that, you know, we could at least get a --  
20 what is it, five or six that they need for an  
21 ambulance?

22 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah, probably.

23 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah. At least those spots,  
24 try to do something, okay?

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: That would be great.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: I mean, is there any reason to  
2 allow any public parking?

3           TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Well, you know, accessibility.

4           MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

5           TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So some people need to be  
6 close to the building, they need to get in.

7           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: The handicapped

8           MAYOR STUESSI: I mean, maybe we need to look  
9 at some additional handicapped parking right out  
10 front by the street, too.

11          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And that could be an idea.

12          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Maybe, yeah.

13          MAYOR STUESSI: Because, I mean, you know, it's  
14 always sort of first come, first serve, and it's  
15 problems for a lot of people.

16          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right.

17          MAYOR STUESSI: Not a lot, but a number of them  
18 where you would want to park right out front, you  
19 come straight up the sidewalk.

20          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I'd like to bring it back to  
21 the Fire Department, have them come back with some  
22 suggestions.

23          MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, that would be great.

24          Okay.

25          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah, that's really all I have.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Okay. A few things. Adam, I  
2 know I shared with a few of you that he went home  
3 sick, unfortunately, earlier. He's been doing a  
4 fantastic job. Everybody got the budget on their  
5 desks yesterday. Please, you know, look through it  
6 carefully. It's going to be published, and we're  
7 going to be having some meetings on it.

8           In addition, I have two candidates for the  
9 Treasurer role. Adam applied as well, talking to him  
10 and the other candidate.

11           And then as I had mentioned before, we're  
12 finalizing some job descriptions for the two roles  
13 that we would be dividing Paul's former role into,  
14 with a Public Works role title to be finalized that  
15 would manage the large part of the Public Works and  
16 that part of Village Hall, together with Utilities,  
17 and somebody very much focused on managing, you know,  
18 grants and the coordination with government,  
19 government liaison, etcetera. I'm hoping to have  
20 something here in the next few days to circulate to  
21 everybody just to take a look at. It's part of the  
22 budget as well and is in there.

23           In addition to that, our wonderful intern from  
24 last summer wants to come back and work this summer.  
25 This is Yan, who was a Greenport High School student,

1       born and raised here, first generation American.  
2       Amazing guy who worked in the Village Hall through  
3       the summer part-time. He's studying Government at  
4       NYU, and just spent the semester in Washington D.C.  
5       as part of that.

6               I'm going to forward everybody some information  
7       from ParkMobile on the paid parking that, you know,  
8       we obviously just passed the ability to have paid  
9       parking. They're going to be coming out and putting  
10      a full proposal together for us.

11             The only other company that I found that makes  
12      sense, based upon talking to some others, is -- I  
13      think it's Flow, which is in Patchogue. That's the  
14      closest location, but they've apparently had a lot of  
15      issues, there's a lot of complaints in a variety of  
16      different places. And the cost differential, it's  
17      really passed on to the consumer, and it's not much.  
18      I would say the real strong advantage with ParkMobile  
19      is that they're operating in Sag Harbor, and they are  
20      also starting in Shelter Island this summer.

21             TRUSTEE ROBINS: Are they, really?

22             MAYOR STUESSI: Yep.

23             TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Yeah.

24             MAYOR STUESSI: And --

25             TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I think they're

1 also on the South Fork, I mean, farther, not just  
2 Sag Harbor, in East Hampton.

3 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. And then they -- from an  
4 analysis to implementation, they can, you know, have  
5 that done in a matter of 30 days. So we'll have  
6 something to talk about here pretty quickly on that,  
7 and then can take a look at a map and what we're  
8 going to try for this summer.

9 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: You sent us that article, a  
10 study about the curb parking scheme.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

12 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Really a congestion pricing  
13 scheme.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

15 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I didn't actually get through  
16 the whole thing, it was kind of lengthy. But,  
17 you know, my only comment on that is, you know,  
18 there's a lot of discussion around congestion pricing  
19 and whether it discriminates against people  
20 economically, right?

21 MAYOR STUESSI: Uh-huh.

22 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So peopler who are willing to  
23 pay to get parking, and people who can't make that  
24 same calculation won't get parking, so I'm just a  
25 little bit concerned about that.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: Well, the article was more of a  
2 position paper on creating a parking benefit  
3 district --

4           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: District.

5           MAYOR STUESSI: -- as opposed to necessarily  
6 what you set parking at, and the funds that are  
7 utilized, how you, you know, utilize them in the  
8 parking district itself.

9           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: And I have, I have some --  
10 I have a lot of questions about that, because,  
11 you know, I just -- I have to finish reading it, but  
12 I have some questions about the concept, but we'll  
13 discuss that when --

14           MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. I'm not suggesting  
15 everything that was in there is exactly what we want  
16 to do, but the idea of -- we're going to start taking  
17 money in and we need to dedicate it to something  
18 that, you know, benefits the area that it's being,  
19 you know, brought in from, so sidewalks, lamps,  
20 etcetera.

21           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Well, that -- yeah, but  
22 that's where I'm having a hard time, because it's  
23 public streets and it belongs to the Village, so the  
24 benefit should be with the whole Village, so that --  
25 and dedicated funding, dedicated funds within the

1 Village get to be complicated, because in order to  
2 get the money out of the line item you have to have a  
3 vote. So there's a lot of questions I have, and when  
4 we get to it, I'll bring them up. But it's -- I  
5 think it's a great concept. I like the idea of a  
6 pilot program to find out how it would work, so.

7 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Thanks for sending it. I  
8 didn't mean to be critical, and I think, you know,  
9 so --

10 TRUSTEE ROBINS: I haven't really read it in  
11 depth.

12 MAYOR STUESSI: Okay.

13 TRUSTEE ROBINS: I just glanced at it.

14 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: I have the same  
15 thought just about like if I was going somewhere, I  
16 would want to know how much I'm going to pay for  
17 parking and if it's changing all the time, which I  
18 know is just one little part of that, but yeah.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, I'm not, I'm not  
20 suggesting we look at pricing fluctuations. It was  
21 purely creating a district that the funds go into  
22 and --

23 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Gotcha.

24 MAYOR STUESSI: -- you know, that we target  
25 what they're going to be utilized for.

1 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Which, which is what we do,  
2 and I think we all do it, we look at other areas.  
3 And I'm grateful for the article, because I had never  
4 heard of that before, so I started doing some  
5 research on it, how it operates. But, you know, we  
6 look at -- but we have to do what is best for the  
7 Village. And I think finding out resources and  
8 information is a great way to make those decisions,  
9 so thank you very much for sending it.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Sure. And then I'm going to be  
11 forwarding a proposal when I get it for additional  
12 resources, as I've talked to several of you and  
13 mentioned at prior meetings, for grant-writing  
14 support. There's a number of grants that are coming  
15 up here in the next few months, and pretty  
16 significant ones in a number of different areas. And  
17 the idea would be to bring them on to help not just  
18 put together that list, but to really get us focused  
19 and the community on some of the ones that we're  
20 going to need to get the community focused on, but  
21 they would produce all of the grant-writing, help  
22 support us with this. It would probably be initially  
23 for like a six-month period, "X" amount of dollars,  
24 with "X", "X", "Y" deliverables, and then assuming  
25 we're happy, we would continue with them beyond that.

1           This would be in addition to the services that  
2 we've been getting already from Susan Stohr, who's a  
3 great one-man band. This is a much larger firm  
4 that's got a number of people. You know, Susan, we  
5 just finished the microgrid project. Thank God, it's  
6 getting signed off. And we have approval to move  
7 forward on the ferry project, which is fantastic, so  
8 we're going to be going out to bid on that with  
9 construction starting this fall.

10           And then the huge news, of course, is that the  
11 Village just got \$3 million in funding from the  
12 Federal Government to rebuild the bulkhead wall.

13           Adam is going to be circulating something to  
14 the Board. We had talked about a bond number, which  
15 included sidewalks and streets. And we had  
16 specifically talked, loosely agreed in the prior  
17 meeting to look at bonding for \$3 million towards the  
18 bulkhead wall, because we're going to -- we're  
19 getting, we have confirmed by the Federal Government,  
20 signed off by the House, the Senate last week, and  
21 President Biden last week --

22           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Whoa.

23           MAYOR STUESSI: -- that we get this \$3 million.  
24 So what Adam and I are suggesting is that we bond for  
25 \$1.5 million towards the bulkhead wall, which we'll

1 be able to utilize as part of potential funding. And  
2 if there is any overage, but, of course, we're going  
3 to be going out for re-engineering and bids on it.  
4 But I think it's safe to have this available to draw  
5 down on if we need to, A, if --

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Separate from the grant.

7 MAYOR STUESSI: Completely separate from the  
8 grant.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. That's what I'm,  
10 because --

11 TRUSTEE ROBINS: And that would be 5 million in  
12 the grant.

13 MAYOR STUESSI: So we --

14 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right, because --

15 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, we would --

16 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: For the bulkhead.

17 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, we would --

18 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right.

19 MAYOR STUESSI: We would decrease that  
20 \$3 million we earmarked to 1.5, since we now have  
21 \$3 million coming from the Federal government for --

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Right. But just remember  
23 there's -- it's a grant, so we have to, we have to  
24 make sure that we have the bonding in place for the  
25 3 million.

1           MAYOR STUESSI: I don't think that's going to  
2 be the case with the way it's supposed to be funded.

3           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. Right, that's what  
4 I'm saying.

5           MAYOR STUESSI: I'll know here pretty quickly.

6           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. All right. That, but  
7 you got to keep that in back of your mind.

8           MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

9           TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Because we have -- yeah.

10          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I think that makes a lot of  
11 sense.

12          TRUSTEE ROBINS: Like you do for the ferry  
13 project.

14          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: That's a good idea, and  
15 that's great work on the grant. I think the  
16 \$1 1/2 million is prudent, because we really don't  
17 know what it's going to cost --

18          MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

19          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- because we're just getting  
20 into --

21          TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: We're starting that, right.

22          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: -- the process of  
23 re-engineering that, right?

24          MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, yep.

25          TRUSTEE BRENNAN: And as we discussed earlier,

1 we may need to -- well, we may have overages, but we  
2 also may need to float payments, possibly. I don't  
3 know.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: Uh-huh.

5 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: So that's good news.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: So there's going to be a lot of  
7 construction in the Village this fall and winter  
8 between those two projects.

9 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Well, they need it.

10 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah. John, we'll be wanting  
11 to talk to you and the CAC group. I recall from some  
12 things that I read that you had a number of comments  
13 when this was being considered back in 2018, very  
14 thoughtful, and would like to make sure that you and  
15 the group are involved when we take a look at this,  
16 of course, for Mitchell Park.

17 MR. SALADINO: Let's build it.

18 (Laughter)

19 MR. SALADINO: That's my advice.

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I do have one question,  
21 though. Under the Sewer Department report, they had  
22 a DEC inspection. Do we know how that came out?

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Not yet. There was an issue  
24 again with a lot of stormwater going into the sewer.  
25 And so as everybody's aware, we've got this sewer

1 moratorium, we're doing the study on the sewers.  
2 I've requested a proposal to also look at the  
3 stormwater, because we're dealing with major  
4 incursion and --

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: So --

6 MAYOR STUESSI: -- we're getting ready to go  
7 into another 2 1/2 inches of rain on Saturday, and  
8 there is just no place for the water to go.

9 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Can you, can you give us an  
10 update on the Third Street stormwater problem?

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah, we've -- I mean, we've --  
12 the Sewer Department has been down there with me,  
13 with Kip, and I've met with a whole bunch of  
14 neighbors down there. I was with one of them in her  
15 living room this morning, and it's literally like  
16 putting three glasses together, running a straw  
17 between them and the water all levels out. And  
18 it's -- they're at one of the lowest points of the  
19 Village where water is coming up, and it's coming up  
20 out of the drains. We literally just cleaned out all  
21 those drains right before Christmas and we tested  
22 them again. The water is moving through them, but it  
23 connects over to the opposite side of the apartments  
24 directly to Silver Lake, and that water table is just  
25 as high as everything else, so.

1 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Can't make water go where  
2 there's already water.

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Do they have groundwater, do  
4 they have groundwater coming up?

5 MAYOR STUESSI: Pardon me?

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I mean, is it coming up from  
7 the ground?

8 MAYOR STUESSI: Oh, yeah.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Oh, okay.

10 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Yeah.

11 TRUSTEE ROBINS: It's groundwater, groundwater  
12 saturating everything.

13 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Just to be totally clear,  
14 this is not an issue of maintaining the drains.

15 MAYOR STUESSI: No.

16 TRUSTEE ROBINS: No.

17 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No.

18 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Has nothing do with the  
19 drains.

20 MAYOR STUESSI: Absolutely not.

21 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: No, has nothing to do with  
22 the drains.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

24 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Nothing to do with drains.

25 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: That's really unfortunate.

1 MAYOR STUESSI: Yeah.

2 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: I feel so bad for the  
3 homeowners, the occupants along that area.

4 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I do, too.

5 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: What a mess.

6 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: But getting back to this, we  
7 will get a copy of the report, the DEC report when it  
8 comes?

9 MAYOR STUESSI: Uh-huh.

10 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. The other thing is, I  
11 have a question, is we have a previous notice of  
12 violation that we've been working through the years  
13 to get through.

14 MAYOR STUESSI: I will update on all of that  
15 when we have this.

16 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay, okay. That's what I  
17 wanted to know. Okay.

18 MAYOR STUESSI: It appears there are issues  
19 from --

20 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: That one, too.

21 MAYOR STUESSI: -- that longstanding one --

22 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yeah.

23 MAYOR STUESSI: -- way back when.

24 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Okay. All right.

25 MAYOR STUESSI: If nothing else, I'll make a

1 motion to adjourn. Thank you, everybody, for a long  
2 patient evening and listening to all --

3 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'll second your motion.

4 MAYOR STUESSI: -- your comments.

5 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: I'll second your motion.

6 MAYOR STUESSI: All in favor?

7 TRUSTEE ROBINS: Aye.

8 TRUSTEE BRENNAN: Aye.

9 TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Aye.

10 TRUSTEE DOUGHERTY-JOHNSON: Aye.

11 MAYOR STUESSI: Thank you.

12 (The Meeting was Adjourned at 9:26 p.m.)

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