# BOARD OF TRUSTEES VILLAGE OF WARWICK DECEMBER 18, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Warwick was held on Monday, December 18, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. in Village Hall, 77 Main Street, Warwick, NY. Present was: Mayor, Michael J. Newhard, Trustees: Barry Cheney, Mary Collura, Carly Foster, and Tom McKnight. Also present was Deputy Village Clerk, Jennifer Mante and Village Attorney, Stephen Gaba. DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser was absent. Others present, Warwick Police Department Chief, John Rader and Gail Hoffer-Loibl.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was held for Shirley Gordon.

The Deputy Village Clerk held the roll call.

# **Acceptance of Minutes**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried for the Acceptance of Minutes: October 16, 2023, November 6, 2023 & November 20, 2023 work session.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

### **Acceptance of Reports**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried for the Acceptance of Reports – November 2023: Clerk's Office, Justice Department, Planning and Zoning, Department of Public Works, and Building Department, including October 2023 Justice Reports and October 2023 Building Department Open Complaint report.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

### **Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried for Authorization to Pay all Approved and Audited Claims in the amount of \$216,894.33.

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Two

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Police Report.

No report.

#### **Announcements**

1. 2023 Village of Warwick Christmas Eve Sing-along & Apple Eve Event.

Trustee Collura invited everyone to join the festivities, bringing noisemakers to welcome in the new year. She shared that the apple, created by John Redman in 2017 for the Village's sesquicentennial year, has become a beloved tradition.

2. Christmas tree pickup – The Village of Warwick will start picking up Christmas trees on January 2<sup>nd</sup> for approximately 2 weeks. Trees must be placed by the curb to ensure removal. Trees may also be dropped off until January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Town of Warwick chip site at Public Works Drive.

Trustee Cheney stated that the final pickup would be the week of January 15<sup>th</sup> and that trees must be at the curb by January 15<sup>th</sup> to ensure pickup.

Mayor Newhard added that the Village had a chipper this year, and the trees would be used for mulch and compost.

- 3. 2024 Village of Warwick calendar of holidays and meeting dates for the Village Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Architectural and Historic District Review Board.
- 4. The Village of Warwick received the Hudson Valley Regional Council Momentum Award in recognition for Climate Smart Communities certification and related environmental actions.

Trustee McKnight announced that the Village received an award from the Hudson Valley Regional Council for its climate-related initiatives over the past year. Trustee McKnight, along with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, attended a ceremony in Newburgh where they were honored with the Momentum Award,

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Three

recognizing notable achievements in a brief timeframe. Trustee McKnight expressed gratitude for the recognition, highlighting the inspiration gained from being among leaders of other municipalities in the Hudson Valley area. He acknowledged that some are more advanced in their initiatives but felt proud to be in good company. The Village has more initiatives planned, and Trustee McKnight found the experience inspiring.

5. The Village of Warwick has been awarded \$406,167 through the second round of Safe Streets 4 All grants, towards the Village's Planning and Demonstration Activities plan to slow down Warwick.

Trustee Foster shared how the funding application submitted in June resulted in approval for one dimension of the project, with another funding cycle currently open. The funded portion has a federal share of \$406,166.40, contributing to a total project cost of a little over \$500,000.

Two major projects include a town-wide Transportation Safety Action Plan, in collaboration with other villages and the Town, with a total project cost of approximately \$355,000 over an 18-month to two-year planning process. The second funded element is the "Slow Down Warwick" campaign demonstration projects, specific to the Village, with a project cost of over \$150,000, including a \$122,000 Federal grant.

The "Slow Down Warwick" project aims to deploy demonstration projects at 10 prioritized sites, using pre- and post-deployment speed testing. It will involve collaboration with the community to create measures aligned with the local culture, potentially including artistic elements on roadways. The 20-month schedule includes a public information campaign and stakeholder engagement. Trustee Foster expressed hope that lessons learned from this project can be applied more broadly across the Town. The next steps involved signing an agreement with USDOT and coordinating with the Town and police department for successful project implementation.

Mayor Newhard added that the grant was country-wide and how more cities, towns, and counties receive these kinds of awards, but not many villages.

Trustee Foster highlighted some of the projects that will remain unfunded, which included designs for sidewalk and safety improvements on West Street, work on Galloway/17 and South Street Extension, and broader pedestrian zone improvements. She mentioned that these items were previously submitted for RAISE grants last year and were highly ranked but not funded due to budget

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Four

constraints. Trustee Foster mentioned plans to roll over these unfunded projects into the current application.

Additionally, she discussed the possibility of adding a scope item for the Safe Streets for All initiative, focusing on the Dial-A-Bus rebrand, improvements, and additional stops. Trustee Foster believed that including this in the proposal could enhance the Village's standing in the grant application process.

Lastly, Trustee Foster mentioned a multi-use trail as another scope item, indicating that discussions about this project would likely take place in the coming month or two.

A discussion occurred regarding scheduling work sessions.

### **Correspondence**

1. Letter of resignation from Billing Control Clerk, Debra Pawliczak.

Mayor Newhard thanked Ms. Pawliczak.

2. Letter from Kim Williams regarding Main Street parking.

Mayor Newhard discussed a concern raised by merchant Kim Willie Williams regarding other merchants parking in metered spots in front of their stores, which has been an ongoing issue. There was also a reference to potential real estate on West Street, though the details were not clear. Mayor Newhard acknowledged Melissa, the parking enforcement officer, for her assistance in encouraging merchants to use longer-term parking spaces rather than those intended for customers. The Mayor expressed a need to address the issue, especially during times of free parking, and stated that further investigation would be undertaken.

### **Discussion**

1. Professional Agreements.

Mayor Newhard addressed discussions about professional agreements, specifically mentioning the retirement of Robert Dickover, who has been the Planning Board attorney for many years. Mayor Newhard suggested proceeding cautiously with other professional agreements and taking on too many at once.

Trustee Cheney suggested considering guidance from the state Comptroller's

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Five

Office, which recommends reconsidering professional agreements every three or four years. He proposed dividing the list of professional positions accordingly and sticking to a scheduled review. In addition to addressing the Planning Board attorney, Trustee Cheney recommended evaluating existing contracts and relationships to identify areas that may need improvement. He suggested focusing on those aspects this year and addressing the remaining positions in subsequent years. Trustee Cheney noted that the Zoning Board of Appeals attorney position has recently been appointed, indicating that it may not require immediate reconsideration and could be reviewed in two to four years.

A discussion ensued regarding the engineering contracts and whether they should be included in the review of professional agreements. The acknowledgment was made that there are multiple engineers for different areas, and while there are solid contracts in place with them, periodic reviews should be conducted.

It was discussed that many agreements were likely more than three to four years. Exceptions were noted for recent agreements, such as the Village's website and the ZBA attorney.

Trustee Foster provided comments on the need for greater consistency in contracts. Specifically, she pointed out concerns about the markup on subcontractors or outside services in contracts. Trustee Foster expressed the opinion that such markups are unacceptable and suggested that they should be eliminated.

Trustee Cheney expressed concern that if the markup fees were eliminated, then the Village could be charged administrative fees.

There was a discussion about the customary practice of charging administrative fees while managing and reviewing outputs. Trustee Foster thought it was possible that the Village was getting charged on both ends, but Trustee Cheney mentioned that the invoices they've seen did not include administrative charges. Negotiation was suggested to address this matter.

Trustee Foster stated that there was a 15% markup on outside services, which did not seem standard. Trustee Cheney explained that the 15% markup was a handling charge for subcontractor-related costs, such as invoicing and billing coordination. Trustee Foster noted that mark-ups are disallowed for Federal grants. The conversation emphasized the importance of being aware of and adhering to grant regulations, with Trustee Cheney suggesting that if the Village knew such markups weren't allowed, they wouldn't include them in reimbursement requests from the grant, as it could lead to deductions.

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Six

The conversation moved on to Trustee Foster suggesting that individuals being reappointed should submit their qualifications along with the appointment requests. The idea was that this practice would be beneficial, irrespective of whether there is a competitive solicitation process.

Trustee McKnight emphasized the need to ensure that each service provider had an actual contract in place. There was a mention of instances where there might be uncertainty about whether a contract exists with a particular provider.

Trustee McKnight summarized what the Board was looking for; to have a revised list of professional agreements with information on when they were originally appointed or last bid, confirming the presence of an active contract. The idea was to categorize them into different groups for consideration, acknowledging that the process might not happen all at once.

Trustee Foster added that she would like to see a consistent set of terms for each contract.

The Board concluded that a list would be prepared, and they would choose which professional agreements to tackle for next year based on recommendations from the Mayor and the Clerk.

#### 2. Draft Code of Ethics.

Stephen Gaba would send the Board the revised draft code to be discussed in a work session at a later date.

#### 3. Draft Short-Term Rental Code.

Trustee Cheney summarized what had been discussed previously and thought some of the controls the Village had drafted may be too restrictive based on new laws that had been passed since the previous discussion. He suggested guidance from the Village attorney to navigate the topic.

Trustee Cheney raised several questions regarding short-term rentals, including concerns about parking requirements (such as one parking space per bedroom) and how decisions would be made in that regard. Additionally, he questioned whether hosting events or parties at these rentals would require a special permit, possibly from the Planning Board. Trustee Cheney highlighted the issue of unauthorized events causing problems, as seen in other locations.

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Seven

Furthermore, Trustee Cheney emphasized the need to define the Building Inspector's role in regulating short-term rentals and determine appropriate fees to cover enforcement costs.

Trustee McKnight added that all should have fire inspections; the rest of the Board agreed.

The Board concluded that a work session would be scheduled to fully discuss the topic.

# **Public Comment** - Agenda Items Only

#### **GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

No comments were made.

### **Shared Cost Purchase - Hot Pacher Dumb Trailer - FAILED**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and failed to carry to approve and authorize payment to the Town of Warwick in the amount of \$17,405.50, 50% of the shared cost, for the purchase of a Hot Patcher Dump Trailer. The total cost of the Hot Patcher Dump Trailer is \$34,811.00. This is an unbudgeted item. Funds to be allocated in budget code A5110.2350.

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

Trustee Cheney Nay Trustee Foster Nay Trustee Collura Nay

Trustee McKnight Nay Mayor Newhard Nay

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Eight

### **Discussion**

The conversation among the Village Board focused on the ownership and usage of the trailer. It was noted that the trailer was currently kept in the Town barn, and the Village has used it. The Board deliberated on the division of responsibilities and contributions between the Village and the Town, and wanted to know if the other villages, Florida and Greenwood Lake, also had use of the trailer and if so, would they be contributing to its cost.

The trailer in question is used for patching asphalt, and Trustee Cheney clarified its capabilities and benefits. It was explained that the heated unit allowed for more effective asphalt patching, especially during the winter, and provided flexibility in obtaining asphalt materials, which would be helpful in the spring and summer months.

There was a consensus that the equipment was useful, but that the details of the shared service arrangement needed to be clarified between the Village and the Town, addressing questions about maintenance responsibilities and equipment usage between the three villages.

Mr. Gaba clarified that sharing a piece of equipment doesn't necessarily require an extensive agreement but rather some basic understandings. These include determining who will insure it, handle maintenance, and establishing agreements on usage, scheduling, and dispute resolution. He emphasized the importance of having a clear agreement, even if it's not highly detailed, and highlighted the need for reviewing the terms before signing. Mr. Gaba also mentioned that the agreement should be neutrally agreed upon, particularly when involving other municipalities.

### Authorize Payment #6 – TAM Enterprises, Inc. – S. Street Sidewalk Replacement Project

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to authorize Payment #6 in the amount of \$19,832.95 to TAM Enterprises, Inc. for the South Street sidewalk replacement project, including the sidewalk construction between Lawrence Avenue and Galloway Road. The scope of the work covered by this application was included in Change Order #2 previously approved by the Village Board on October 2, 2023. Funds are appropriated in budget code A5110.4400 in the FY2023-24 budget.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

#### **Discussion**

Trustee Foster received clarification that the ADA accessibility transition at the end of

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Nine

the sidewalk would be created as part of the contract.

A discussion ensued regarding the payment amounts and how much was left to be paid. It was clarified that there would be one last payment to authorize.

# Advertise for Proposals - Pole Barn, 24 Memorial Park Drive

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to advertise and receive proposals for the materials and construction of a pole barn building at 24 Memorial Park Drive.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

#### **Discussion**

Trustee Cheney explained how the foundation and slab were estimated to be about \$240,000 to \$250,000, with \$140,000 allocated into this year's budget. Initially, the plan included the DPW doing a lot of the construction, but it was determined that the complexity of the project warranted a competitive bidding process. The DPW would be doing a lot of the interior work, which would include offices, storage areas, and multiple garage bays used for storing smaller equipment.

# <u>Facility Use - Stanley Deming Park, Albert Wisner Public Library - 2024 Children's Book</u> Festival

A MOTION was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to grant permission to the Albert Wisner Public Library to use Stanley-Deming Park to hold the 2024 Children's Book Festival on Saturday, October 12, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as per their letter dated November 29, 2023. Permission to include: three (3) food trucks to be parked on the grass between the creek and the handball courts on the west side of the park; additional 6-8 garbage cans placed near the food trucks and festival tents; a 3' x 12' banner to be hung on the fence by the entrance of Stanley-Deming Park at the intersection of South Street and Parkway, from Sunday, September 29, 2024, through Saturday, October 12, 2024; Festival tents to be set up beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 11, 2024, and removed by 1:00 p.m. Sunday, October 13, 2024; use of Stanley-Deming restrooms; Uncle Brothers Band to perform a free children's concert under the bandstand from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. during the event; in coordination with DPW Supervisor, Mike Moser, use of designated parking in the large section

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Ten

of the grass behind the basketball courts and additional temporary accessible parking spaces designated by the Village on Parkway, close to the entrances of Stanley-Deming Park; if possible for the DPW to provide spotlights for the setup date of Friday, October 11th. Approval contingent upon providing the Village of Warwick with certificates of insurance naming the Village as an additional insured from all food truck vendors at least 30 days prior to the event and obtaining permission of the Warwick Valley Central School District to use the Park Avenue School for parking and providing such documentation 60 days prior to the event. Completed facility use permit, proof of insurance, and security deposit have been received.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney <u>Aye</u> Trustee Foster <u>Aye</u> Trustee Collura <u>Aye</u>

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

### Seasonal Recreation Staff - Savanna DeLucia and Skyler Blanton

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to hire Savanna DeLucia and Skyler Blanton as part of the FY 2023-24 special event staff at a rate of \$15.00 per hour for the Christmas Eve Sing-along and Easter Egg Hunt per the recommendation of Village of Warwick Recreation Director, Ron Introini.

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

# <u>Acknowledge Receipt of Liquor License – Craft Beet Celler, 93-95 Main Street, Suite 2 - WITHDRAWN</u>

A MOTION was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to acknowledge receipt of the Standardized Notice Form from the New York State Liquor Authority for an on-premises liquor license to Craft Beer Celler, located at 93-95 Main Street, Suite 2, Warwick, NY 10990 and authorize the Village Clerk to submit a letter notifying the New York State Liquor Authority that there are no objections to this notification and application, and waive the thirty (30) day notice requirement of the filing of a New York State Liquor License Application.

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Eleven

The vote on the foregoing <b>motion</b> was as follows:		WITHDRAWN
Trustee Cheney	Trustee Foster	Trustee Collura
Trustee McKnight M		Mayor Newhard

### **Discussion**

Trustee McKnight found an error on the application, pointing to Item 18; is the premise located within 500 feet of three or more on premise liquor establishments, of which the applicant answered, no, however three businesses were located within the 500 feet.

A discussion occurred amongst the Board and the Village Attorney regarding the New York State Liquor Authority and past applications. Trustee McKnight noted the main difference was there would need to be a public hearing from the New York State Liquor Authority.

It was determined that the Board would wave the 30-day notice requirement but would include the comment that there were currently three establishments with on premise liquor licenses within the 500 feet.

There was a discussion with Mr. Gaba on how to word the motion.

# <u>Acknowledge Receipt of Liquor License – Craft Beet Celler, 93-95 Main Street, Suite 2 - Amended</u>

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried to waive the thirty (30) day notice and advise the Liquor Authority that it appears that item 18 was incorrectly completed, as there are more than three liquor establishments within 500 feet of the applicant's property.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

# Acknowledge Receipt of Liquor License - Craft Beet Celler, 93-95 Main Street, Suite 2

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Collura, and carried to deem the initial motion amended Nunc Pro Tunc to provide as the second motion was worded.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney <u>Aye</u> Trustee Foster <u>Aye</u> Trustee Collura <u>Aye</u>

Trustee McKnight <u>Aye</u> Mayor Newhard <u>Aye</u>

# RESOLUTION INTRODUCING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Warwick has a local law before it entitled: "A local law to amend the Village Code by enacting a new Chapter 60 entitled 'Community Choice Aggregation Program'", and

WHEREAS, in order to enact the said local law it is necessary to formally introduce it and to hold a public hearing on it,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- 1. That the movant of this resolution does hereby introduce the proposed local law, and
- 2. That a public hearing on the proposed local law be set for January 15, 2024 at 7:30 o'clock p.m. and that due notice of the same is directed to be given by publication and posting.

Trustee McKnight presented the foregoing resolution which was seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows: APPROVED

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Thirteen

Barry Cheney, Trustee, voting Aye

Carly Foster, Trustee, voting <u>Aye</u>

Thomas McKnight, Trustee, voting Aye

Mary Collura, Trustee, voting <u>Aye</u>

Michael Newhard, Mayor, voting Aye

# Bridge NY Program - Wheeler Ave Culvert

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee McKnight, and carried to amend the motion enacted on December 19, 2022, to authorize HVEA Engineers to prepare a resubmission of the application for the Bridge NY program current round for the Wheeler Ave Culvert replacement as an amendment to the existing authorization in place between HVEA Engineers and the Village of Warwick at no increase in the cost stated in the original motion.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

# **Executive Session**

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

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

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

#### In Executive Session

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

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Fourteen

# **Exit Executive Session**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Foster, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried to exit executive session and resume the regular meeting.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney <u>Aye</u> Trustee Foster <u>Aye</u> Trustee Collura <u>Aye</u>

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

#### **Advertise - Full-Time Billing Control Clerk**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to advertise for the position of Full-Time Billing Control Clerk in accordance with Civil Service requirements.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Nay Mayor Newhard Aye

#### Advertise – Part-Time Billing Control Clerk

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Collura, seconded by Trustee Cheney, and carried to advertise for the position of Part-Time Billing Control Clerk.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

#### Reports

**Trustee Cheney's Report:** 

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Fifteen

Trustee Cheney spoke of the success of last week's Mobile DMV office, where 75 transactions were processed; a single-day record for that particular mobile unit.

Trustee Cheney reported that the Health Department had inspected the Village's water system and was expecting the results within the next four to six weeks. Trustee Cheney stated that he was not there for the entire inspection, but for what he was involved in, there didn't seem to be any significant issues.

# **Trustee Foster's Report:**

No report at this time.

# **Trustee Collura's Report:**

Trustee Collura, as the liaison to public health, emphasized her focus on mental health, particularly post-COVID. She has been collaborating with Judy Batista of Warwick Cares and engaging with the community, such as visiting seniors to discuss mental health. Trustee Collura introduced the concept of a mental health crisis safety plan, which involves identifying signs of a mental health crisis, listing activities that make one feel better, identifying supportive people to contact, and creating a mentally safe environment. She stressed the importance of seeking professional help if the safety plan is ineffective, mentioning the Mental Health Crisis Line (988).

Trustee Collura touched again on Apple Eve, highlighting its purpose as a social event to welcome the new year, where community members can come as they are and share the moment with others.

#### **Trustee McKnight's Report:**

No report at this time.

### **Mayor Newhard's Report:**

Mayor Newhard acknowledged the impact of significant rainfall, approximately four inches in the past 24 hours. He expressed gratitude to the Department of Public Works (DPW) for their diligent efforts in managing the situation and dealing with various issues throughout the Village. While there were individual problems, the Village experienced minimal damage overall. Notably, the walk bridge at Lewis Woodlands was lost but later recovered downstream.

Mayor Newhard extended appreciation to both the DPW and the Water Department for their roles in monitoring reservoirs during the heavy rainfall, preventing potential issues reminiscent of past challenges faced after hurricanes Irene and Lee.

Village of Warwick Board of Trustees December 18, 2023 Page Sixteen

In addition to these updates, Mayor Newhard announced a forthcoming event where Senator Skoufis would present the Liberty Medal Award to Fire Department Chief, Kevin Colomba. This prestigious award is the highest civilian honor bestowed by the New York State Senate, recognizing Chief Colomba's extraordinary acts of heroism. The Chief had played a crucial role in aiding individuals in an incident while off-duty.

Lastly, Mayor Newhard conveyed warm holiday wishes on behalf of the Village Board of Trustees. He encouraged everyone to enjoy the holidays with family and urged support for local businesses by shopping locally.

# <u>Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items</u>

No comments were made.

# **Adjournment**

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Cheney, seconded by Trustee Foster, and carried to adjourn the regular meeting at approximately 9:20 p.m.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows: APPROVED

Trustee Cheney Aye Trustee Foster Aye Trustee Collura Aye

Trustee McKnight Aye Mayor Newhard Aye

Jennifer Mante, Deputy Village Clerk