

Village Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
April 2, 2024

MAYOR TRAVER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM AND LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call: Trustee Cutler, Trustee Boucher, Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Williams

Mayor Traver

We don't have the march minutes available, so we're going to table that until May along with these minutes from this meeting. With everything going on with the clerk and being out and all that. We just didn't have time to get to that. So, they'll be done for next month's meeting. So, we need approval of reports, the clerk, court, code, street water. If there's not any questions right now on any of those reports as presented.

Trustee Williams

The only question I have is on date here before about the site plan, review of Irving tissue on Broadway. What are they planning to do there?

Dave Armando

They might extend the landscaping project from Eddy Street down to Satterlee Lane.

Trustee Williams

Good. So, the same thing. Nice. Good. That'll look nice. Is that going to come right out to Broadway itself or is it going to.

Dave Armando

It's going to be just like what they've done here, right out the Broadway. They'll leave that little gap, more than likely from the sidewalk, you know, a few feet of grass and then through the wall and the bushes.

Trustee Williams

Is that going to extend all the way to Satterlee Hose?

Dave Armando

Yeah, I think it's going around the corner. Just a little bit on each side.

Matt Fuller

I had a long-time idea of possibly having a little park dedicated to an old paper machine park. Great big map that I have that they gave. Yeah, I would get that etched.

Dave Armando

I also got an email late this afternoon. They want to construct a 400,000 gallon water tank and a new fire pump house somewhere on the site.

Mayor Traver

Would it be to replace the one they have there now? Cause that's a couple hundred thousand right now, I think. If they put it in high enough for us. We'd use it, but help them with some money instead of putting. What's that? Four and a half million. The one up on Burgoyne Avenue. Hey, we'll give

you 2 million. Extend Moreau higher, but we get at that. Yeah, well, that's why I kind of thought why would that wasn't built higher at the time, but. All right. All right. Any other things on the reports right now or if not, motion to accept Trustee **Carpenter**, seconded by Trustee **Williams**.
Audit of the bills.

Diane Eddy

Yep. Okay. The audit bills general \$9,924.09 and the general abstract is \$41,656.79. And then the water PBA is \$3,263.11 and the water abstract is \$1,854.17.

Mayor Traver

All right, if there's not any questions on the bills, need a motion. Okay. Trustee **Cutler**.
Second. Trustee **Carpenter**. All in favor? Aye.

We got Rogers Island drive, the one area, it's basically the circle and the area for the visitor center. We've got two quotes in so far for the paving repaving of that will be used with the state pothole money, and we're waiting on a third. I think it'd be best if we could, you know, make a motion to go with low bidder, because I think getting that done, maybe by the end of this month, it will get done this year. Otherwise, I think, you know, once the paving season starts with these companies, I mean, we've got joint align, Da Collins bid one and the other was evolution. Once those companies get busy, you're a little job like that, you're not gonna see them, and I don't know, they're waiting on one from Derek. Yeah. Was it Stanley?

He was going to call Stanley, and the other one was Derek. Leo's. Jeez. Drawn a blank. What's it? Right up by you on Maple street.

What the heck? What is it, Matt? Come on. You remember Derek's Leo. They're up on Maple street. They're trucks and stuff. Huh?

Jim Thatcher

Services Unlimited.

Mayor Traver

Thanks, Jim. All right. They're supposed to get him a pricier pretty quick, so I think we'll wait. We won't mention the numbers, so. Because these will be in the minutes, because they do have to bid it.

Do you want to be able to go with it? We could authorize low bidder to get the job and get it rolling. Right. I'll make that motion. All right, so we got this would be resolution 25. Authorize. Lo bidder. Robert Rogers Road or Lane? Robert Rogers Lane. It's basically David Starbuck now. It's David Starbucks. Right. We got to make sure that is for chips purposes, getting that money refunded, so. Yeah. Yeah, it is David Starbuck Lane. Good catch, huh?

Trustee Cutler

Brodie said he should have third bid by the end of this week.

Mayor Traver

Okay. So, yeah, we'll authorize to go with a little bit around that so we can get that done here before the season for the visitor center starts. All right, we're in motion by trustee Williams. We got a second. Trustee Carpenter, all in favor? Aye.

Water project up north. We had talked about the Burgoyne Avenue section of that looks like going pretty darn hard to do that, possibly with Cooper, prospect and Grove. They are going. The county is bidding. It's out for bid now in the county, best case scenario, that contractor that does get that job

for the county, Burgoyne Avenue, if he was to bid and get the job, I think they'd make it a little bit easier. But it's still. I think it's still gonna be tough. And I think even so, if something happened, we could, you know, always put it in the sidewalk. And then instead of digging under a newly done Burgoyne Avenue, they got, the town has it, and the county does, too. It's like a mole where you can, you know, with water and pressure going in there. Cause you're only talking a three quarter inch line.

Then you need to go over to the other side for laterals.

Attorney Fuller

So we are still waiting on DoH for a sign off. I told him again last week, and if I don't hear by tomorrow, actually, I'll call down to the EFC and see what the status is.

Mayor Traver

So for us to go out to bid right now for our project, we're just waiting on DOH approval.

Attorney Fuller

Yep.

Mayor Traver

All right. Yeah. Cause if we get that going,

Attorney Fuller

Which honestly, from time standpoint, depending on where going and all that, right now, DoH is back in the socket in the OCR times. Right, Jim, there's nothing really we can do about that. But it is a little bit in our favor because I think the quietly working that we're going hard, but too.

Mayor Traver

But the thing, too, is we don't want to be too late bidding this either. So we're already.

Attorney Fuller

Yeah, we're already late. Yeah.

Mayor Traver

But hopefully we can get this thing bid, you know, by right now.

Attorney Fuller

But that it's a month late is strictly with Doh. They get everything in the dot like I said they were going to.

Mayor Traver

Yeah. Labelle has worked pretty good at trying to get that done for us. Doug's been pretty good, so hopefully we get an answer from Doh. If by the end of the week, do we need anything to send these out for bids?

Attorney Fuller

We're already all set, ready to go.

Mayor Traver

Yep. So hopefully we can get that. And we've said they need a three-week minimum. Right. To bid that So that puts us a bit opening first part of May. We're really lucky. So hopefully we can. All right,

DPW did get prices for the blower and the brush cutter. The blower is \$6,650 and that they've got the money in this year's budget to do that. And then the brush cutter is 11,000. The blower, they seem to think is the better bank for the buck for sure. But that brush cutter, I think it'll be really helpful for a lot of long guardrails and being able to reach over with that machine. And that's 11,561. So we have 7000 earmark for large equipment for next year as well. So that portion of that, and if they haven't heard back from any of the equipment distributors about buying that tamper, so they're going to put it on gov bids. And a lot of times we've got better pricing on there because it hasn't been used. It's not, you know, as we talked about, it's not that practical for what we're doing. So that shouldn't be too bad. Leaves and brush as you know, when we're talking budget, that. Down the end of towpath Real bark mulch now is going to be charging us to bring our leaves and brush and everything over there. And the numbers could be staggering. What we get rid of in bag leaves from this half of year to fall is unbelievable. And so I think we're paying \$50,000 a year, the recycling, to have that here. We're looking at how can we look at saving or maybe a different vendor with the brush and mulch and leaves? I think we could eclipse that number of that annually. Have to do that. So, kind of thought, we've got hundreds of acres over at the water plant, and there are some areas that have little gullies and stuff that might be like a natural way to bring the leaves and brush and stuff over there. They can get in through the gate down towards the reservoir itself, and they can drive in with vehicles and whatnot. So, I think we really got to look at, hard at that because we've got Griffin, we got over by the old canal, by the, you know, on the other side of that canal wall down on, off Argyle Street and down at the end of east, but there's not a lot of places, and they're not really that big a space. So, I think that we should look over there at the water plant and just get composting over there. And Bill's going to talk to DOH or DC to see, but he doesn't believe there shouldn't be anything with that. It's all clean material, but. Yeah, if we got to bring that there. And also services unlimited Derek, he owns the place up across from Zach's that has all the materials and stuff, and he takes stuff and mulch and compost and stuff like that. So could be a possibility, but I don't think it's as large scale as what real bar mulch has. So, I don't know how much you could take. And if he's gonna take it for free, I mean, these other places are charging. I doubt he's gonna give it away, so. But that's just something I think we gotta take a look at here. Once we start picking that stuff up again, maybe we can get over Dave and Eddie and get over there with Brodie and Billy and see if we can find a spot, you know, with DPW committee on water there. You can.

Trustee Carpenter

There's a couple of those people pits that are adjacent to the reservoir. And then before we've had to put in clean fill in there as well. Yeah. So that's a good. I think that would be.

Mayor Traver

Yeah, I mean, we got our loader. You get over there and kind of form an area to do that.

Trustee Williams

So, one thing you may want to consider, though, wetlands is the one issue that you're not going to want access to.

Trustee Carpenter

Actually, it's one of the driest areas over there. So that, I mean, we're still going to look at it real good, but that's usually a place we can put things clean.

Mayor Traver

Yeah. Maybe take a ride. Yeah. Get out there and see what. What may be a good spot. I think if you want to leave a note, Diane, for Brodie and the guys, they do need three new flags for the bridge, the

larger flags. And then I don't know if we were looking at doing another British one, because that thing is spent.

Diane Eddy

I've already got a note for them. Okay. And Janelle, I've already let her know about that, so she's already looking into that.

Mayor Traver

All right. And do we want another British one, or do we want something different on there, or do we have to have the British. I'm just asking you.

Trustee Williams

Brodie's always done those flags in the past.

Mayor Traver

Yeah, he told me about them. So, they put a couple new ones on, and they need three new American. And they have that British one and that's pretty faded.

Trustee Carpenter

Yeah. I might be able to help them get one, because I keep those rotated over there. Because it was British possession before it became American. Actually, it was the Dutch first, but I have several, so I may be able to give you some.

Mayor Traver

Yeah. Because they do get beat up. The tractor exhaust on the tractor trailer just blows right into. When they turn gray and. And everything. So. Yeah. If you do. Yep. So maybe they can go ahead and get the three American flags, and we'll see what Eddie can come up with for British flag here. And make sure you hang it up right.

There's just another letter. It doesn't, I know, but it doesn't unless you stare at it. It doesn't come to mind that it's wrong. It's pretty hard to really tell. Well, it is for us. Yeah, it is. Unless you're British riding by and you send a letter to us saying, hey, you're hanging that, that's hung upside down. Were you here, Peter? Oh, yeah. Unless you're a British citizen and drive by. Well, we had one complaint, remember, Peter? It was. They thought it was the confederate flag, the union jack.

Mayor Traver

Okay, 37 E Street. Had Dave, what we got going on over there, that's really, really bad.

Dave Armando

They're probably going to be my next one coming to court. I sent a letter out two weeks ago. They had. Some **** out front. Yeah, I think they got unlicensed vehicles. Not very happy. Said, I'm doing nothing but harassing her and there are worse places in town. And I said, well, we're talking about your place. Let's get it cleaned up.

Mayor Traver

Well, have we violated it where we can put it on the nuisance enforce with a nuisance law yet, or.

Dave Armando

I don't think there's enough violations here.,

Mayor Traver

All right well, I mean, we started where, you know, if they don't do it, so. Okay, just so you know, if they get to the 18 point violation, we can maybe help that landlord get that tenant out of there, too, because sometimes it's, you know.

Dave Armando

Well, the landlord doesn't want to get her out.

Mayor Traver

Even more reason. They're just going to get worse and worse. And I think he'd help the landlord by getting that lousy tent out like that. Wow. Yeah. I mean, she's. She's something else.

Trustee Williams

Where's the landlord live?

Dave Armando

I don't know where she lives now.

She was living up on the corner of Harrison in Burgoyne.

Pete Amorosi

I think she just bought the house, Dave. I don't know if she's living there or not.

Dave Armando

No, she did with her boyfriend. Apparently, they split. She told me she doesn't live there anymore.

Pete Amorosi

There's probably eight people living in that house, at least.

Mayor Traver

But if we got, you know, I think we need to document the violations and start seeing where they are, points wise. And I think a letter to the property owner saying, hey, you're at six points or nine points, and you get to 18, we're yanking the co and nobody's going to be in there. So. And that would be the best way to ever get it cleaned up without them in there and then re rent it.

Dave Armando

I'll see what they've got.

Mayor Traver

All right. Yeah. See what they might have. I don't know if we're getting called there by the sheriff's department. It's getting called there now. I have to look through the report to see if we're going at all to 37. It's really bad.

Mayor Traver

All right. Old business, I guess. We're still doing a lot of work, and going to be doing some more over the stormwater work over Drifting Ridge. It's coming along good. The water's flowing really well, I guess, into that pond. That kind of leads. Where are we at with anything on that?

Attorney Fuller

I thought they were coming tonight.

Mayor Traver

Yeah. So that's still got to be resolved, whether or not

Attorney Fuller

They wanted to grow that, the ability to take over the stormwater basin,

Mayor Traver

The big pond. Well, that's not very big, really, but it's holding the water that comes out of there. I mean, that's what normally is the protocol when developments go, and for some reason, this never got transferred over. But I want to make sure everything's right in there before we take anything over or if we need help cleaning out those lines. There's three lines that go in there just to get, get him to help. I think if we can get him to help with those cleaning those out, I don't think there's no reason why we wouldn't take it over.

Attorney Fuller

I can reach out if you want.

Mayor Traver

Yeah, if you want and tell her that's kind of where we're at.

Annex building. The story that never ends. So, they're okay now? It looks like maybe the next school board meeting they're going to okay the transfer of the property of the annex building.

Attorney Fuller

Did we put out a resolution?

That's good then, because the map changed it. It was like 1.12 acres, and now because of the taking from DOT out over the hill behind the annex, it's like 0.84 acres now. So if we can have a resolution accepting that dedication from the school and authorizing the mayor to sign, then I'll get it done in the next couple days. Just wait on my work. So we need resolution 26 to authorize the mayor to sign for the changes in the property. Yeah. Motion to accept Resolution #26 Trustee Carpenter, seconded by Trustee Cutler. All in favor?

All right. So the annex building we, the school had no more. It hasn't used it in many years, and the village and town are both getting that. It's coming to us first. But the village and town and the historical society is going to use that for storage of historic documents and different stuff because there's just no space. I mean, we've got a lot of stuff in the basement here that's just horrible. The old Fort museum and the art center. The art center is loaded, so it'd be a good spot to have archives of the fort or community there. So that's good. Mullin Park, I guess. Update with that, maybe. I think we talked a little bit more, got one more coating to put on the lower quartz. We need three days of 60 degree temperatures. Get that done. And then we're going to get the basketball courts lined, the tennis courts up on top lined, and we're going to lay out four pickleball courts on the lower court. So hopefully, by the middle of May, we will be complete with that.

Mayor Traver

I don't know if anybody saw the article in the Post R. There's not many articles in the post star now anymore. But there was about the Speakman Drive, over in Moreau that they've closed that road off because it's sinking. And so at the town of Moreau board meeting, they talked about having a close off. And there was a resident there that is actually the village code enforcement officer that was saying that. The town of Fort Edward had an old water line going under there. So I went over and I actually called Billy, and Ed had to talk to Billy, too. And there's no waterline of ours even near there. If anything there could have possibly. When you come over Fort Edward Road to about where mounds house was on the corner was where rarely our line. And some people one time had private lines coming off of it, and even those lines are actually not ours or they are private line. So anybody on

that, if there's repairs that need to be done. But the line that comes over to the village is in close to that, so. But Bill did talk to the town supervisor over there and the highway department, and they agree with Bill that they're certainly not in the waterline going under that that's making that wash out. I'm like, first I hear that, I go, oh, my *** it's going to be our problem. Yeah, the road sinking, but, no, it isn't.

So that was one good thing. But that's all we got there, actually, right now. Well, at this time, Mary, we open it up to the public comments and concerns and questions and

Public Comments

Mary Cunningham – Moon Street

I am here to represent all of Moon street, with one exception. We'd like to be able to still stay underneath the tree if it's good with you. Well, I know Dave and Ed, I think we're both. Both down and looked at everything, and I'm going to defer to those two gents to see their thoughts and everything are, you know, because it heard, you know, the whole mess and. But I want to, you know, defer to these guys that were down there and looking at things and seeing what we might be able to do and how we can do it.

Trustee Cutler

I'll go ahead. Well, the village and owns all the way to the river there. The street extends all the way to the river there. Mary has put up like, a table and chairs and some ornaments and stuff. The neighbor across the road contended that the water flow has changed since this has happened. We went down with the superintendent, and we pushed the snow bank back to where it was before. This is what the supervisor told us before you had your stuff there again in the street.

So we pushed the snow back to there, hoping the water would flow like it always did. I know there's a lot of contention between you and your neighbor. It's a pretty sad story, actually. What's going on down there. It's a pretty sad story. What's going on in the neighborhood down there. Well, I gotta go down with. I walked down the street the other day, and I was looking. I was thinking if we had put some curbing. We have curving that we could use from the end of your neighbor's driveway down and made sure the water flowed not down through his property, but down to the side of where you are at. I think that would. You know,

Mary Cunningham

The water doesn't flow on this property at all. Not at all.

Trustee Cutler

Well, I can see where the water runs in a couple of directions down there.

And the thing we're trying to do is we understand your neighborhood enjoys that village property. It is village property. I guess a while back there was some privileges granted to you, to flowers, and everything came to me. Yeah. Eight years ago. I think if we can get the water flowing the way so it's not going down your neighbor's property. Okay.

I think we do that with some curbing. But I think also at the end of the summer, if you folks are using that property, you have to move stuff back far enough or off that property so our snow plows can get and push the snow far enough down the street. So we've got the water running to the river straight down Moon Street. That's what I see as a pretty good option that hopefully will keep everybody happy down there.

Mary Cunningham

Okay. So we can sit underneath the tree?

you know. If the water were going to flow, where it flows, the state put in the rocks.

Those are river. The shot rock going on, the state put them in, and that's where the water has always flowed. I've only been here for 80 years. I grew up down there. That's where the water flows. And it doesn't flow on his property. It flows on village property.

Mayor Traver

I know that you know, and I agree, there's two little, like, trenches where the shot rock is going, where they're helping the storm.

Mary Cunningham

The first one. Excuse me for. That's fine. The first one is the one the state put in. And Tom put the second one in, which is fine. I lined it with stone.

This magneto, it's still all coming down and going the same place. It's always called the same place. It's always gone the same place.

Mayor Traver

I know you know that we've had people around the village, even that there's so many places where stormwater is now because these storms are so much more torrential. It seems like they come down fast and there's a lot more of that. So, I think as far as our end goes, I think, Dave, you got kind of a good idea to say, hey, let's at least eliminate that of being an issue now. Secondly, I realize it's a village owned property, and I'm kind of thinking that we have other areas in the village where we have a bench. That we actually with the hospital stuff we have benches and different things like that that perhaps there's something that that could be a village called a pocket park but something some an area where you know then there's no issues as far as someone else's property being on our property as something might happen or something along those lines you know because if it's a you know, rocking chair and somebody is to get hurt on it and it's not you know I think I just the way this society is with attorneys and sue happy and all this I just think that you know we need to kind of cover our end and maybe as an option to use in you know personal homeowners chairs or benches and things like that that is something that maybe we have. I don't know if we have anything still from that grant because I know there was still some bike.

Trustee Williams

I don't think so but I think the. Question. If that's the case, then what about people that bring chairs to McIntyre Park or to the little league park and they fall in those chairs?

Mary Cunningham

Same thing. So really, there's never a time when there's more than three or four people there.

Mayor Traver

I get what you're saying. But our attorney back there kind of. It's. Well, I think the old adage was, you put one attorney in a small town, and he starves to death. You put two of them in the same small town, and they're the richest men in town. So no offense, but it's just. Yeah, and maybe making that some type of calling it, doing some work down there with some curbing to make sure that. And so her side doesn't get flooded either with water, to say, let's see what we can do about drainage and to do that. And could be the Fort Pocket Park or name it, something along with the, you know, the fort area down there. And then it is, you know,

Mary Cunningham

There's no way for any cars to come down there. They have to put a no parking sign so they can go in and go out. You can't.

You know, as it is, the night business from the anvil is unbelievable. You can't drive down there. You can't go anywhere.

Mayor Traver

I hear you. And I don't know that it would be a busy pocket park. I think it would still be the neighborhood people that would utilize it, but I think it's a way that we can do that correctly, you know? And, you know, you guys still have a place to go and sit, and it would just be the. Stuff there would be ours.

Mary Cunningham

I can't put my table down there.

Mayor Traver

I don't know. We're still discussing here, but what's what, but, you know, I'm just trying to, you know, relieve us of any liability, possible liability and still allowing you guys to be able to do, you know, go down there and sit and enjoy the river.

Trustee Williams

So, we would put a table there.

Mayor Traver

Yeah, we, you know, we've got enough of that stuff. You know, I don't think, say we got it around, but we, you know, the stuff we got, the benches that we got from the hospital grant and that type of stuff that I would. I would just check with the guys at DPW to see if we got one of those benches by any chance, because there was some extra stuff that didn't get put in. And then maybe we could do some type of a table or something down there as well. Something that's going to be nice. Not anything that's.

Mary Cunningham

I have a whole brick patio down there.

I have a brick patio down there. The whole top of that land is brick. I got to take it off.

Trustee Cutler

Let me, let me take a look at it and I'll get back to the board with the next meeting.

It's all about liability, and I'll report back to the board what's down there and then we'll decide on and see how we can, you know, come up with an area. Unless. Yeah, you know, we want to promote neighborhoods. Getting out and enjoying the outdoors. It's just a sad situation that you have with your neighbor down there.

Mary Cunningham

Well, I think my house will go on it on the market end of the summer. I can't really take any more of it.

Trustee Cutler

Well, if the village board makes a decision, then he's going to have to live with it. Yep. And we're gonna do everything we can to keep the water off his property.

Mary Cunningham

But Dave, it's not on his property.

Mayor Traver

All right, well, because you did it.

Trustee Cutler

I'm not the enemy here.

Mayor Traver

I think the problem is it wasn't done by us. That, you know, he's just not. He's not taking any answers that we're giving right now. So, we need to do what we need to do to make sure that, hey, that's not there. That's not a huge, huge pull for us. And we can get that done, and we'll figure out, Dave, you can report back on how, you know, the layout and all that kind of stuff is. And we'll try to do what we can to make it so you guys in the neighborhood can all use it.

Mary Cunningham

It's all of Moon Street It's not just me. everybody signed it. I get it.

Mayor Traver

I know. I've got your envelope. We get it, we all do.

We just gotta do what's, you know, we don't need to be getting sued because of, you know, the stormwater. Because stormwater management is a big thing with. We're part of this MS4 group that's have to report every year what we're doing to help with stormwater management and everything. And this could very well be something that could say, hey, you're gonna have to do this or else. And so. We'll do what we can to get things right down there.

Mary Cunningham

Okay? Thank you. All right. Thank you.

Mayor Traver

All right, anybody else.

Kyle Cozzens – 73 East Street

Yeah. First on April 21, doing a canal clean sweep event, so that's April 21. The Champlain Canalway Trail working group. Evergreen bicycle works in Fort Edward are putting that on. It's through parks and trails in New York. But we're cleaning up from the pond at Mullen Park along the old path that used to go past the exercise equipment and then down along the old Champlain canal basically to where the bike trail just before where that starts everything on that, the left side there. I was wondering if the village might be able to supply some garbage bags or something like that.

Mayor Traver

We have in the past, we've done the big orange ones, remember they came down and did all of Broadway.

It was before the Promote Fort Edward group. And that's the 21st.

Let's see if Brody has any of the heavy orange bags. And if not, he can get some. I know we, I think we ordered them online the last time we did this, but he may have. Yeah, he may have.

Trustee Williams

Are you going all the way to the trail head?

Kyle Cozzens

Yeah.

Yeah. So just the end of the towpath lane. Not out to where the construction is?

Mayor Traver

Down the real bark mulch, basically.

Trustee Williams

I was telling these guys before the meeting, I just walked out there today. There's television sets in the culvert. On the right, just past what is it? Good earth. Clean earth. There's a gully with a couple of tvs in case you're looking for one.

Yeah, but you're gonna need more than garbage then.

Kyle Cozzens

And then the other question. Question with that is, when we're done with the cleanup, can I bring the trash down to the village?

Mayor Traver

The DPW barn? Or maybe I'll talk to Tim. Probably right to the town barn because they've got the garbage truck and they go. But I can talk to Tim Fisher about that. Being that, you know, we'll supply the bags. Cause part of it's in the town towpath. We'll supply the bags if they get rid of the stuff, you can let them know that. Okay.

Kyle Cozzens

All right. So that's one thing, you know, you're talking about. Second thing here. You're talking about the pickleball courts and all that and people using the park.

I don't know if you noticed, but that lot at the park has been filled up completely with workers from. We were talking about that earlier, too. Yeah. So, I mean, there's still going to be people showing up to ride their bikes as well. And so you kind of have, like, two spots across the street and nothing left and then nothing for people at the upper end of the park there.

Mayor Traver

We can certainly make a call to TDI for that because, you know, especially with warmer weather coming in our park, we don't need, you know, construction workers taking up all of our municipal parking lot. There's other areas they can park, even if it's a long. Yeah. And I'm sure they're going to be digging and boring in the CP rail maintenance area. There's probably some area down there where they can park because I know they're going to be over by defiance. They've been doing work over there as well, so they're probably finding wherever they can get, and they're not even geared up yet.

Kyle Cozzens

Who's. Responsible for the flags at the basin. The canal.

Mayor Traver

I'm guessing it's us.

Kyle Cozzens

Yeah, the canal flag is torn and there's a big, long streamer of flag coming off of it. All right. No,

Trustee Williams

I don't ever remember buying a Canal flag.

Mayor Traver

The state would probably provide it for us, I'm sure. Yeah, but, you know, everything there we're supposed to do and maintain. So, I don't know if we could have the guys at the DPW give them a shout down the canal to see, you know, if they're going to replace the flags because they don't want it looking like DPW will be. If Brodie can talk with the canal department down here at the lower end of town, I'm sure they'll provide a couple of new flags.

Kyle Cozzens

Um. Do you know when the street sweeper starts going out?

Mayor Traver

He's been out. He's been out.

Kyle Cozzens

We're already seeing people touring through and, you know, getting calls.

Mayor Traver

Yeah. Well, we had 2ft of snow last week and we may have 14 inches on Thursday, so I

Trustee Williams

You wanna know when a street sweeper comes out, it's when it's above 32 degrees. Yeah. Yeah.

Trustee Cutler

He was out in early March. Yeah.

Mayor Traver

Because it was nice. But, yeah, when it's cold, it can play havocs with the lines and stuff. Yeah.

Trustee Carpenter

So he does inspections. Yeah. Some get it right away and some will take a month. Nice.

Kyle Cozzens

I got two more things. One, I guess, for. Maybe for Dave, but I was walking down Broadway the other day and a lot of buildings are just covered in nasty. I don't know what it is, but it's been there before the winter, especially that blue building on the corner next to the bank. Some of the other buildings there. Again, like the other building down the street that I brought up, there's dust, graffiti all over the windows and it just looks nasty down there. It's not something I can see. People want to come to Fort Edward and walk past, so I don't know. We can. Some other cleaning. Yep. And the last thing

Mayor Traver

Dave?

Dave Armando

We have sent letters. And the problem is with the blue building, there's still that fight going on with the divorce. So, we've actually asked if we could do it. The village. I volunteered to do it. If we can get water.

Mayor Traver

That's 161, right?

Dave Armando

The only water hose bin that's available close by is from Stumpys. She won't let us use the water because she doesn't like the owner of 160 water. Have no idea what's going on.

If there's any water available from the bank. I don't know if the water is on in that building, but who's behind in the building?

You know what? We've got permission from the owner to do it, to wash it.

Mayor Traver

We've got the sweeper has a high-pressure hose on that. Maybe we can do it with that.

Dave Armando

It is just a matter of getting together to do it.

Mayor Traver

So, there was one thing I was going to ask you. And I'll jump in front of you here, Kyle. 161 Broadway. What's the status? Because I had someone just call me this afternoon that's interested in buying that. Well, there was some sewer issue. Correct?

Dave Armando

I condemned it because there was a squatter living there. Okay. The sewer line broke. Had been broke for an unknown length of time. Filled the whole downstairs, first floor, with sewage. It was running right out the front door. I don't know if you noticed it earlier in the winter, but there was a big lobby, that little foyer way, and in the back, it was running right off the back door, too. Got in the heating system. Went down into the furnace. Destroyed the furnace. So, I mean, Nassar's been there. He has hired someone to fix the pipes and get it cleaned up. I have seen Nasser periodically the last couple weeks. Over there.

Mayor Traver

So, has it been cleaned up there, inside of there?

Dave Armando

I don't think it's totally cleaned up yet, no.

Mayor Traver

Is that something we can view from the windows and see that? Well, I'm just saying to violate him. Because I don't think he should be allowed to leave that setting there like that to make him clean that up. Because before you know it, that floor will be rotted and then the building is gonna. You know. Cause he put all that money. Those two apartments are gorgeous upstairs.

Dave Armando

He did say that he was having people in there to start doing some work because he's trying to market. The problem is he let it go.

Mayor Traver

His ex-wife doesn't want to.

Dave Armando

Right. Well, she wants the prices he's willing to lower just to unload it, but she won't. I gotta get ahold of him anyway because there's been a light on the second floor.

Mayor Traver

Cause I had a fellow I know pretty well was thinking about looking at it and making an offer. And I said, well, I know there's a few things going on with it.

Dave Armando

There's also a lot of interest in 151 Broadway the last few weeks. I had a couple of engineers. Real estate agent.

Mayor Traver

That's punk and Moe's. That one thing for sure.

The sewer line. Right? I mean, that's. And they're going to have to come out to Broadway for that. I know the sewer district will definitely not allow them to go back down. So just to kind of let anybody know that. And they probably would want it to go that way anyways because they have to put in a whole new line to go down. Because the old one tapped into Chris and slick Finn's line, I think. Right. And then went over to the pump station.

Dave Armando

Whatever the problem is, it's 80ft away from the building.

Mayor Traver

Yeah. So coming out the front of the building, I'm not 100% positive, but I think when the state did route four, I thought they stubbed sewer lines for those. I'm not 100% sure, but I think they did. That'd probably be in the drawings that we got from the state, which would make it easier for them because I know they didn't want anybody digging in the road. So you could always dig the sidewalk. But. But just as a side note. All right, well, maybe we can see about getting the truck over there with the hose and doing it that way. But if there's, you know, stuff on the floor still, I think we gotta send him a notice, get that cleaned up because, you know, it'll be brought that floor away, and before, you know, it'll be down in the basement.

Kyle Cozzens

Last thing we had talked about camping in the village. Is there any progress on that?

Mayor Traver

I don't know who's looked at it. I have no problems with it. I just want to know how the mechanism to, you know, pay for it.

The money is not the big thing. It's just, you know, there's got to be some skin in the game, I think, to make sure this is not going to be open camping. So I don't know if anybody else has looked, you know, and I think, you know, we could certainly do down by, you know, the bathhouse area towards the river. I think my thoughts were kind of between the sidewalk. Sidewalk and the bathhouse in there. Yeah.

Trustee Carpenter

Years ago, there was a no, no camping village limit sign there, but it's since been gone.

Mayor Traver

It was a long time. But I think, you know, I think it'll, you know, encourage people to come in and, you know, spend some of their money when they're coming.

Kyle Cozzens

We're already getting. I mean, we've gotten, you know, people asking about coming through this year, and Lynn Griffiths got a call at the Baptist church about something that was supposed to be coming through this, this week. I think they're holding off because of the weather, but. He was asking, you know, she brought the information down to us and he was trying to figure out, you know, where he could camp. And so just, you know, trying to.

Mayor Traver

I think that we could certainly put something on our website, you know, to say, hey, here's what is available. And I think maybe, I don't know how we limit it to a number of spaces, maybe find out just how many the max spaces would be and if they filled up, if it was four tents and, you know, it's four tents and so that people could book it, you know, online through the village. And I don't know that we take credit cards or anything like that, but it's something we could figure out easy enough, but to then say, all right, we've got those spaces are taken up for the next three days and even that money we could.

Trustee Williams

Don't forget, though, the harvest host is that area also down at.

Kyle Cozzens

Near the out basin. Yeah.

Mayor Traver

That's done through the Canal street marketplace.

Trustee Williams

That's done through. Promote Fort Edward, Mike Dickinson.
It's not done through us.

Attorney Fuller

Harvest host is, too.

Trustee Williams

Yeah, Mike does all that. Okay. They use the marketplace for one of their spots.

Mayor Traver

I didn't know that was because I didn't think they were set up yet as.

Trustee Williams

They don't get paid. They don't get paid. Okay. There's no. It's a free harvest. It's a free harvest host. So what happens is, folks that I met these people from Pennsylvania in campers, and the only thing that they ask is that they spend money in the community.

So they go to the diners, they go to slick fin, they buy groceries, then they go on the merry way. There's no cash, there's no payment.

Kyle Cozzens

One thing with like you're talking about like how many spaces? A lot of times, obviously there's, there's a limit eventually, but a lot of times with the type of camping that people would be doing where they, they don't have a fire pit or anything like that. It's just small, you know, here's the perimeter of where the camping is. You know, find a place to set up your tent. I don't know that we would, you know, reach any kind of limit that at this point that would overtake the space available down there.

Trustee Williams

People are doing it now, though. I ran to a guy from Rhode island. Yeah, he's using the shower at the bath house, but his tent, he's just picking up his tent. It's early in the morning. He was on bike.

Attorney Fuller

Yeah, yeah, people are, people are coming through. And we talked earlier about the skate boarding on the courts the reason you do want to have a limit, because it's the law of unintended consequences. If you open up parks through camping, then you open them up to be occupied. And it's not, it's not a huge issue we've seen here locally, but I have advised in municipalities that have seen it. If people are just showing up and if you allow it. Outside of a restricted area. So, you do have to enforce it. Otherwise, I know you don't think there's an occupancy issue, but if somebody wanted to stage something or you end up with a homeless issue, they can take over the park.

Kyle Cozzens

That's what we talked about. I think like something like a two-day month limit or something like that. We want, we want people to be able to stay here a couple nights and utilize products, especially people touring through. They're not, they have places to go anyway. So, you know, if you do. Yeah. You know, two nights a month or something like that.

Trustee Williams

So, Matt, that doesn't pertain to people that are camping under bridges along the canal because, I mean, that's an issue. Oh, yeah, that's an issue. All right.

Kyle Cozzens

You have to have a designated area and then that way. This is the place you can.

Trustee Williams

And also, don't forget we have construction hopefully going on in that park.

Mayor Traver

Yep, that'd be kind of the north or east of the bath house, so there could be a little bit of, you know, could be some trailers or things like that, you know, hanging around for a few weeks.

But I think we can certainly work with it. But I think the best way is to see about putting it on our website. I think now the mess says that let's get a local law together to protect ourselves with the number of campers we can have, length of stay, things like that, and then. Sign up through the, you know, our website. And I think even to a point where, you know, a donation to be made to either promote Fort Edward or to the Canal Street marketplace is something that, you know will work.

Trustee Williams

And that's what the harvest host people do. They donate.

Attorney Fuller

Yeah. If you could, honestly, if you can set that up through the harvest host. I've used it. My wife and I went across the country. We used it. And what I'll tell you is, what's great about that thing is you can plan it on the day.

I mean, some cyclists and things are planning a week out of where to camp, but some, depending on the weather and wind and things like that, it literally could be a morning decision that, hey, I'm going to be in Fort Edward. I saw the app boom. And then you call. If you can reserve it through the app, you use it.

Kyle Cozzens

One thing with the Harvest Hosts, you must pay it is a subscription. I think that's \$80 a year. Because for some of these people, this might be like the one tour they do. So, they're not going to sign up for

Attorney Fuller

My point being after hours and before hours, you're not going to have somebody stat. Right? Yeah.

Mary Cunningham

What about the liability for the tents?

Attorney Fuller

Yeah. It would be covered on village property. Yeah.

Mary Cunningham

Everything that's on the village property is covered by village? I always wondered about the beach.

Mayor Traver

The beach?

Mary Cunningham

Yeah. Sandy beach.

Mayor Traver

Yeah, our properties are covered,

Trustee Williams

I think you can't swim.

Mayor Traver

Yeah, but I think in your instance, you know, having the pavers and stuff down there that wasn't put in installed by the village, that somebody gets hurt, that is going to be something that we may not be covered for.

Attorney Fuller

Well, I wouldn't be. Since we did come back to that topic, I'm actually not as worried about the village's liability for that, but your liability because it, when our insurance company gives in, we would be insured for our property. I'm not overly concerned about that. But when our insurance company finds out that we didn't put the improvements there and somebody else did, they're going to name it. The person who put them there. So, if it was a table, because it can't be exclusive. So, if you put a different chair there, it's not like only you can use them and nobody else. That's public property. Anybody could go down there and sit there and use those chairs and tables.

We couldn't stop. Right? That's not a private use of public property. But if somebody, if the chair broke or the table broke or something, even out of spite, is honestly what's going through my mind. You know, somebody falls over in a chair and we didn't put it there, the village would be named, but the villagers insurance company is like, when we activate our insurance, it's out of our hands, right? The insurance company steps in and they litigate it, they'll name more than they have to. So not to scare you about the liability, but I'll be honest with that.

That was my quick analysis in here, is I'm not overly concerned from the villages standpoint of whoever made those improvements. If there's a gap in the bricks or something like that and somebody falls the insurance company's going to name them. I hate to say that, but that's. I've been in those situations, believe it or not. We get in Lake George a lot, right? Like the village has Canada street, and right off it, you know, somebody might have a chair, a table chair in front of their restaurant, and somebody falls over backwards because they have cheap plastic chairs.

The village gets named, and the village's insurance company turns right around and names the restaurant, not our employees. So, it's the old adage, no good deed goes unpunished, right? It's trying to do a good thing of improving into the street, but somebody falls there, and we didn't create it. That's how the insurance will carry out. Stinks. But that's the liability trail that just went through my head. Same thing with tents. We'll have waivers and things like that that people will sign. None of the deal if they get injured out their own tent or somebody else falls over their tent state or something like that. Yes, the village would be named because it's our property, but our insurance company would turn right around and name the camper. That's how liability trails go.

Mayor Traver

Jim, you got anything? No updates other than what we got going.

Anybody? Anything with the board, questions, concerns?

Well, let me just look at Matts. I think we touched on everything. We're waiting on the survey at the water tower.

Attorney Fuller

I actually thought I would have had that, but I emailed her last week. I didn't hear back. It hasn't been an emergency, but I'll keep on it.

Mayor Traver

We're good at the grant, CHP, we're good. The only one thing. I don't know if we got anything on the Hafner. I guess that's probably good news. And I think we got those bids.

I think we're good. Not any other business.

Attorney Fuller

Do you want to move quickly on that park thing? If you do, you could actually set a public hearing enough for the confederation of regulation parts.

So long as I have it to you sometime in advance, you can move on in May, and I can get the public hearing notes and everything out to you. Yeah, we'll put it in with the other. Well, the public hearing, but you'll write both of those up.

Mayor Traver

Yeah, we have a public hearing set for May 6. Do them both same time. So we're going to put a set of public hearing resolution number saying we're going to have a public hearing in regards to new local law for public camping and you just put use of public parks. How's that? Use of public parks and then court. Village court. Yeah. So that'll be resolution 28, because we have to have two of them, each one separate. So, we're going to hold those, both hearings at 645, though, on the 6 may or no, it will be the 7th. No, no. 6th.

Diane Eddy

Let me see. May 6, 645, resolution 27 and 28.

Mayor Traver

And we had a motion by trustee Williams, right? Seconded by Trustee Cutler

Same thing on the resolution. 28. Yep.

Let me just put this in my phone here.

All right. There are any other questions, a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn. **Trustee Carpenter, Trustee Cutler.**

All ayes. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle Rose
Village Clerk-Treasurer