

Minutes

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for the fiscal year beginning on June 1, 2022 and ending on May 31, 2023; Organizational Meeting and the Regular Monthly Village Board Meeting

Present: Mayor Michael Abrams

Trustees: David Flaherty
Dorene Weir
James Mark Browne
Susan Patterson

Also attending: Economic Development Director Renee Shurr; Climate Smart Chair William Mancini; former trustee Robert Puckett; former trustee Richard Phillips; and several members via zoom video conference.

Mayor Abrams opened the Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2022 and ending on May 31, 2023 at 7:04 pm.

Mayor Abrams read the public hearing notice advertised in the Register Star.

Mayor Abrams stated at the start of the budget season he felt it necessary to go back to the Comprehensive Plan and look to see what the vision of the village is and to take a look at some of the challenges the village is facing and establish some village priorities based on those challenges. The board can look to see what they are funding and they will need to make some choices. With taking the last line of the "Vision of the village's future" out of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan on Page 18 it says "our village will be a desirable and sought after place to live, to raise a family, to do business, and to visit." The village faces several challenges to move forward with the vision like fiscal constraints, limited staff and resources, ability to prioritize and choose at times and to overcome these challenging we need to find ways to collaborate with each other as well with external organizations and to be disciplined in our long term planning and savings and to pursue every opportunity from outside funding.

There are four actions that will enable the board to make decisions on the budget process. The first is to be brilliant in the basics focusing on delivering our essential services extremely well, such as water purification and delivery, fire rescue and response, customer service, and code enforcement. Mayor Abrams believes in the proposed tentative budget the village has set the village to be successful in that first priority.

The second action is recodification of the village code. The village code has not been reviewed in 20 years. The Village board has placed money in the tentative budget to have an outside agency review the code. The code will go through a legal review to rectify any discrepancies. This will be a 2-3 year project but there are funds in this year's tentative budget to start that.

The third action is long-term planning. The board will assess all the village assets and create a long-term planning and savings plan. For example: New York Rural Water is making a list of all the water lines, hydrants and putting a dollar value to those items with an expiration date. The village will be able to know and evaluate when to have those items replaced. The village has also placed money in the budget for an engineering firm to help assess all of our roads, sidewalks and drainage to help the village determine what to do first. There's also money in the budget for a revitalization plan for Rothermel Park. The engineering firm will look at the park and determine what is possible for an overall engineering plan of the park. The engineering plan can be submitted to public officials and the state to assist in funding of the overall park.

The fourth action is to complete Albany Avenue and William Street. Both streets need new water lines, drainage and sidewalks. The village is still waiting to hear if the village has been awarded the WIIA Grant. The village will continue to save and pursue grants to complete these projects.

Mayor Abrams stated, in summary, he believes we have a good start to the budget. The assessed value of the village increased by \$1,967,522; the tax rate increased by 1.81%. This is within the New York State Comptrollers tax compliance. The village will raise \$372,190 in taxes. This is \$10,946 more than last year.

Mayor Abrams would like to address a few items a resident has brought to his attention. One item is the village's sales tax on Page 11 of the village budget (A1120 sales tax). To date the village has taken in \$253,000 in sales tax. This is an average of \$36,000 a month. To average that out for the remainder of the year the village is estimated to take in approximately \$433,000. He felt the village is conservative in estimating \$410,000 in the budget.

The second item is the enhanced enforcement. He will continue to engage with the State Police that has been in the Village Hall for over 30 years. With placing funds in the village budget for the enhanced enforcement the village can contract with the Sheriff's office to enforce traffic control and assist with events in the village. This is a contractual agreement with the county Sheriff's department that the village will pay for a deputy for a certain number of hours. They can be used for speed enforcement and traffic control during events. It has the ability to pay for itself. If the village passes a local law to make the violations become a citation the fine money would come to the village.

The other question he received was \$15,000 for the Economic Development Director. Mayor Abrams has spoken with Renee to include grant administration support to the village office. The village cannot afford all the items we need to do to move forward without grants. The village office needs support in administering those grants. He believes the compensation to The EDC Director is very reasonable and Renee brings a lot to the village and it was a long time coming. He is looking forward to working with Renee with the grants.

Mayor Abrams spoke with former Mayor Leiser concerning reducing his proposed \$5,000 as Water and Sewer Commissioner salary to \$4,000 and increasing the amount to be paid to the summer program staff. Dale has been the Water Commissioner for many years and to his credit and the DPW credits the Village is being awarded the New York Rural Water Participant of the year the best water system in all of New York State. He feels hiring Dale over the next couple of years to help with a 30 year plan for the villages water system and take the knowledge he has in his head and put it on paper is valuable. With that, Mayor Abrams proposes to reduce the Water Commissioner's salary by \$1,000 and increasing the summer program Director from \$3,200 to \$3,700; the Assistant Director from \$14.20 to \$16.00 and Camp Counselors from \$13.20 an hour to \$14.00 in the proposed tentative 2022-2023 tentative budget.

Mayor Abrams open to the public hearing to the trustees and any residents wishing to speak.

Trustee Flaherty stated he felt the tentative budget is a very good budget that the Village Board worked very diligently on.

Q: Former trustee Robert Puckett apologized that he had not attended any previous budget meetings but he would like to know why the total appropriations went down by \$150,000 and the village increased the amount in proposed revenues with raising the amount to be raised by taxes?

A: Mayor Abrams responded that due to COVID last year the Village Board was very conservative on their estimation of sales tax. This year the village based their sales tax on actual revenues received. The reduction in total appropriations of \$150,000 was the exact amount of capital projects last year. The village will not be doing any streets until Albany Avenue and William Street is complete. The village will be doing maintenance of streets with skid boxing but will be saving funds to complete Albany Avenue and William Street.

A: Former trustee Richard Phillips commented that Mayor Abrams did address several of his questions he had but he would like to make the following thoughts and comments he has. The 3% increase in tax he is fine with that. It is not 4, it's not as good as 2 but with the 8% inflation out there right now he is not sure about the increase. He was looking at the sales tax forecast under revenues and he noticed it's a 30% increase from last year and he gets where the village is coming from by increasing it but he was always thought it was best to be conservative. So if the village received more in sales tax village can send that money to the general fund or use it. He believes the last time the village was audited it was back when he was mayor and they were informed they had too much fund balance and he did not think that was a bad thing. He himself would like to see the village be more conservative on the sales tax. In the last budget he was involved in 2021 the village received \$49,000 more in sales tax then estimated. With the 8% inflation who knows what the next 4 quarters will bring in sales tax.

As the past Fire Commissioner and past member of the Palmer Engine & Hose he would like to thank the Village Board for the Fire Department's budget. Everything is well deserved and it's hard to get members.

He saw in the budget there is \$10,000 to rent a deputy and \$8,000 for equipment to purchase speed signs. The village residents pay county taxes that pay for Sheriffs. The State Troopers are inside the Village Hall and everything is paid by Village taxpayers. He and former Mayor Dunham met with the State Troopers and Sheriff's to discuss speeding and they were happy to work with a village and set up speed radar within the village. They submitted speed radar reports to the village and the reports showed that there is not as much speeding as you would think. When people are sitting there it seems as if people are going faster. He would like the board to consider removing the \$10,000 and if they still feel there's an issue can borrow it from another place in the budget.

For the \$5,000 for the Water Commissioner, he knows that Dale is very good at what he does and he is very happy he is continuing as Water Commissioner. But he thinks the \$5,000 is a little high. He said as you continue with the Organizational meeting it has always been that there was a Street Commissioner, Water Commissioner and a DPW Commissioner that way you are not forming another layer of government. If a resident has a complaint they can go to the Commissioner and not an employee. Additionally, \$5,000 for the CEO he does not know what the board is requesting of him for the additional increase. And for the Economic Development Director he has worked with Renee and she does a great job but maybe a separate grant fund or title should be made. He does not know if she's working on a grant or multiple grants. He feels the summer program is something great for the parents and the kids in the village and feels that some of the other funds being spent should be spent on the summer program staff. He checked online and the average councilors gets paid \$16.00 an hour. He thanked the Village Board for their time.

A: Trustee Flaherty noted the State Police sit at several hot spots throughout town like the traffic circle and 9H. Speeding is the number one complaint the Village Board has received and has for several years. The village needs to do something. If the village board chooses to contract with the sheriff's department that can only help. As for the speed signs he drives by them in Castleton

every day and they work. This is the next best thing if the troopers are not available to run speed control throughout the village.

Q: Village resident Sioben Connley doesn't understand if the village residents are already paying county taxes why the village board would want to engage in contractual expenses with the sheriff's department especially if the perception of cars are going faster than they are. She does not understand what \$10,000 buys but believes that money can be spent better on other programs. The major concerns is not the cars speeding for the Village residence, it is for trucks. They use their Jake brake instead of their brakes. She has looked at the village's website and the traffic common committee. She feels that the traffic signs work and she applauds the Village Board in that respect but does not agree with spending \$10,000.

A: Mayor Abrams would like to mainly use the sheriff's deputy on weekends to help with the cars and mainly the trucks. There is a safety issue especially in the village square on the weekend. The trucks barrel through the village and several of the trucks do not cover their loads. He has talked extensively to the commercial truck unit and has sent videos of the trucks going through village. The commercial unit will come to the village and issue tickets. They were upset to see that the trucks have tarps to their loads but are not using it and is allowing the debris to cover the village streets. The driver could push a button and it would automatically cover their load it is the driver choosing not to.

Q: Sioben what is the evidence that this will work?

A: Trustee Flaherty responded by issuing tickets. Trustee Browne the village knows the problem streets and the sheriffs will be requested to sit on those streets. The village already has the data, a base line for Albany, Gaffney and Eichybush Road.

Former trustee Phillips requested the Mayor sit with the State Troopers and Sheriff's prior to signing into a contractual agreement with the Sheriffs.

A motion made by trustee Flaherty to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:42 PM; seconded by trustee Weir. All voted "aye".

Mayor Abrams opened the Organizational meeting at 7:43 PM. Mayor Abrams made the following appointments.

Appointments:

Deputy Mayor	David Flaherty
Clerk Treasurer	Nicole H. Heeder
Deputy Clerk	Kristy Silvia
Records Officer	Jackie Bujanow
Budget Officer	Nicole H. Heeder
Village Attorney	Robert F. Fitzsimmons
Acting Justice	-----
Justice Court Clerk	Susan Bauman
Deputy Justice Court Clerk	Tina M. Puckett
ZBA Member to (3/31/27)	David Sullivan

Chairman of the ZBA	Kimberly Gray
Planning Board Member (to 3/31/27)	Kevin Monahan
Recreation Commission Member (to 3/31/29)	Amber van Moessner
Historic Preservation Member (to 3/31/27)	Randal Dawkins
Code Enforcement Officer	Peter Bujanow
Zoning Enforcement Officer	Peter Bujanow
Fair Housing Officer	Peter Bujanow
Title VI Coordinator	Peter Bujanow
ZBA/Planning Bd. & Historic Preservation Comm., Attorney	Robert F. Fitzsimmons
Economic Development Director	Renee Shur
Village Historian	Kathleen Johnson
Fire Department Engineer	Peter Hunter
Dale R. Leiser	Water and Sewer Commissioner
Depository	Community Bank, N.A. with maximum amount allowable on deposit \$2 million
Official Newspaper	Register Star
Regular Monthly Meetings	Second Wednesday of each month; 7:00PM
Mileage Allowance	.58.5 cents per mile

A motion made by Trustee Weir approving the appointments; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted "aye".

Mayor Abrams made the following committee appointments.

Committee Appointments:

Mayor Abrams	Personnel Liaison to Code Enforcement Officer Liaison to Fire Department Department of Public Works Recodification Emergency Management Albany and Williams Street Projects Village Budget Officer
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	Liaison to County Board of Supervisors and Town Supervisor
Trustee Flaherty, Deputy Mayor	Village Hall and Bandstand Office Technology and Records Management Refuse Collection Liaison to the Zoning Board of Appeals Liaison to the Climate Smart Task Force
Trustee Weir	Parks and Playgrounds Resident Communications Coordinator/Bulletin Landscape, Beautification, and Decorations Celebrations Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Street Lights Cable Contracts Policy Coordinator Liaison to the Recreation Commission Liaison to Greenway Council and Hudson River Heritage Liaison to U.S. Senator Gillibrand and U.S. Congressman Delgado
Trustee Browne	Speed Reduction and Truck Traffic Calming Long-term Budget and Financial Projections Insurance Policy Coordinator Albany Hudson Electric Trail Liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission Liaison to Village Historian Liaison to NYS State Senator Jordan and NYS Assemblyman Ashby
Trustee Patterson	Recodification Village Parking Sidewalk Snow Removal Liaison to the Planning Board Liaison to the Climate Smart Task Force Liaison to National Grid Liaison to U.S. Senator Schumer

A motion made by Trustee Weir approving the committee appointments; seconded by Trustee Browne. All voted “aye”.

Resolution for advance approval of claims

Trustee Weir made the following Resolution for the advanced payment of claims; seconded by Trustee Browne. All voted “aye”.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to pay in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage and freight and express charges and credit card purchases. All such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit, and the claimant and the officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the Board of Trustees.

Procurement Policy

Annual review of the village's Procurement Policy adopted on February 12, 2020.

Establishing new village office hours and hours for the Village Clerk, Deputy Clerk and the CEO/ZEO

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty approving the following changes to the village office hours and hours of the Village Clerk, Deputy Clerk and the CEO/ZEO; seconded by Trustee Patterson. All voted "aye".

Village Office Hours: Monday –Thursday open from 9am-2pm phones answered until 3pm
Village Clerk: Monday – Thursday; 9am-5pm
Village Deputy Clerk: Monday – Thursday; 9am-4pm
CEO/ZEO: Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 7am- 10am (3 additional hours to be used at CEO/ZEO discretion throughout the week to be responsive and flexible to meet with contractors and answer calls/emails)

A motion made by trustee Flaherty to adjourn the Organizational meeting at 7:50pm and take a quick break; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted "aye".

Mayor Abrams called the Regular monthly Village Board meeting to order at 7:57 pm.

CLERK/TREASURER

Minutes -A motion made by Trustee Weir to approve the minutes of March 9, 2022 monthly Village Board meeting; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted "aye". A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the budget meetings minutes of March 23, 2022 and March 30, 2022; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted "aye".

Budget Amendments - Will be approved at the next meeting.

Abstract- A motion made by Trustee Flaherty approving the monthly abstract in the amount of \$44,271.24. General Fund expenses of \$39,661.80; Water Fund expenses of \$4,609.44; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted "aye".

Treasurer's Report

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty approving the monthly treasurer's report; seconded by Trustee Browne. All voted "aye".

Tentative Budget 2022-2023 –Mayor Abrams proposed the following changes to the tentative budget per the discussion during the Public Hearing:

Water Fund

Expense

F.8310.1 Water Administration Personal Services - \$1,000

F.1990.4 Contingent + \$1,000

General Fund

Expense

A.7310.1 Personal Services + \$1,251.00 (Director salary of \$3,700; Asst' Director increase to \$16.00/hr for a total increase of \$1,680.00; and Camp Counselors to \$14.00/hr for a total increase of \$1,470)

Revenue

A1120 Sales Tax \$1,251.00

Trustee Flaherty made a motion to approve the proposed changes and adopt the proposed tentative budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year beginning on June 1, 2022 and ending on May 31, 2023; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted “aye”.

Renumbering of Local Laws-The following local laws were adopted by the Village Board during 2020 during covid but the state does not have a record of them. A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to renumber the following three local laws for submittal to the state; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted “aye”.

LL No. 4 of 2020 to Local Law to No. 2 of 2022 “A local law amending the Code of the Village of Kinderhook in relation to traffic restrictions.”

LL No. 5 of 2020 to Local Law No. 3 of 2022 entitled, “A local law amending the Code of the Village of Kinderhook to add Chapter 133 entitled Dumpsters.”

LL No. 6 of 2020 to Local Law No. 4 of 2022 entitled, “A local law amending the Code of the Village of Kinderhook to add Chapter 132 entitled Temporary Storage Containers.”

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Code Enforcement Officer Peter Bujanow thanked the Village Board for his reappointment as Code Enforcement Officer and the Village Board’s support to his office. He submitted his monthly report to the Village Board.

Village Hall-Peter officially noticed the Village Hall Repair work due to the car running into the village hall. Three contractors completed a walkthrough of the project and one contractor submitted a bid. The bid was a little late and did not have the required bid bond of a 5%. Peter has spoken to the contractor concerning the process and he is willing to provide a check for the bid bond. The board has the ability to wave any of the irregularities as long as it is a legitimate bid. Peter will follow up with the insurance company and the architect concerning the bid. The bid included the base bid and the alternate with one addendum to address the gutter over the back room. There was further discussion with the contractors to consider building out for more space on the village hall but that would be for the village on the alternate side not the base bid that is covered under the insurance. Peter would like the village to consider this option and stated the village could hold off on the alternate piece now. He would like the village to move forward with the gutter for water mitigation.

Trustee Browne inquired if Peter knew why the other two contractors did not bid on the project. Peter said he did reach out and one contractor did not respond and the other one stated he became too involved in another project.

Peter will submit a comprehensive plan out to the board in a few days after speaking to the insurance company in preparation of the Village Board awarding the bid.

Municipal Code is now Online-The village’s code book is now online at eCode360.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department had their installation of officer’s Saturday night Mayor Abrams attended the event at Kozel’s and he would like to recognize Ray Lauster for his 25 years of service.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Senator Chuck Schumer will be holding a press conference at Rothermel Park on Friday, April 13th at 10:30 am by the Albany Electric Trail to discuss his Rural Outdoor Investment Act. This is to help with outside tourism. This is something the village has been working on to pull visitors from the trail to the village to patronize the businesses. Everyone is welcome to attend.

KBPA- the “Kinderhook Flower Walk” where you may walk around the village viewing flower arrangements in windows from florists or flower growers throughout the village. is this weekend.

Farmer’s Market-The Farmer’s Market is one of the finalists for the best in Columbia County. They won in 2019. Renee will be posting on social media for everyone to vote.

MAYOR ABRAMS

Mayor Abrams would like to finalize the employee handbook and distribute out to the village employees in May. He would like to meet with the village employees in June to review everyone’s priorities roles and responsibilities with their job descriptions. He started a weekly staff/sync meeting with the Super indent David Booth, EDC Director Renee Shur, Deputy Clerk Kristy and Clerk -Treasurer Nicole Heeder. He is meeting with CEO and village attorney weekly and will add the chairperson of the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Historic Preservation to attend monthly. He would also like to meet with the boards for training. NYCOM may help with webinars on these trainings.

Water & Sewer Department-The village is being awarded NY Rural Water System of the Year at their annual conference at the Turning Stone Casino. Supreintdent Booth will attend the conference for a few days to receive his required water credits. Mayor Abrams and Water Commissioner Leiser will attend the luncheon and award ceremony.

Historic Preservation Commission - The meeting was cancelled due to lack of business.

Village appointment- Mayor Abrams appointed Quinn Murphy to the Recreation Commission to fulfill the opens seat from April 2022 to March 2028.

TRUSTEE FLAHERTY

Village Hall Justice Court-Previously, the village requested an extension of the grant funds due to COVID. The village was awarded the extension until June but we may need to request an additional extension.

Bandstand- Trustee Flaherty has not been able to meet with architect Greg Merryweather to discuss the HPC’s suggestions of the fence.

Zoning Board of Appeals-The March 21, 2022 meeting was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

Garbage Contract-Trustee Flaherty made a motion to award the garbage contract to County Waste in the amount of \$113,924.00 and giving the Mayor permission to sign the contract on the village’s behalf; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted “aye”.

TRUSTEE WEIR

Recreation Commission- the commission met early Monday evening to stuff the Easter Eggs.

Proposed alternate members Quinn Murphy and Peter Santamaria volunteered to assist in stuffing the eggs. The Commission finalized their plans on the Easter Hop/Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday promptly at noon. The Kinderhook Elks Lodge will be at the bandstand for pictures with the Easter Bunny from 11am – 1pm. During their meeting they agreed to purchase hats for committee members to wear during events.

LWRP – EDC Director Renee Shur finalized the request for proposals (RFP) they were sent to engineer firms on the April 4th and the proposals are due back May 11th.

Memorial Day Parade – The planning of the Memorial Day Parade is on track. The American Legion requested Mayor Abrams to be the Grand Marshall and he has agreed. They also reached out to other public official to attend and are awaiting responses.

Climate Smart Task Force-Bill Mancini reported:

Dash for Trash- Anne Birckmayer is organizing “Dash for Trash” for this Saturday, April 23rd sign up is in the Village Square.

Capital District Community Choice Aggregation Program - In January of 2020 the board voted to join the Capital District Community Choice Aggregation Program along with eleven other municipalities in the Capital Region. The CCA was scheduled to begin in early 2020 but due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was delayed. The representatives of the participating communities continued to explore avenues to move forward with the CCA forming a coalition, called Capital District Community Energy (CDCE). As part of this effort, the CDCE has opened discussions with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to see if it can assist with the CCA's goal of providing renewable electric energy to our communities at a price that would meet or beat utility prices. The NYPA is requesting the Village send a letter of support for the CCA program in the Capital District. Mr. Mancini has submitted a Joint Letter of Interest for the village board to considering sending in support. Trustee Flaherty made a motion to have Chairmen William Mancini sign the Joint Letter of Interest on behalf of the Village; seconded by Trustee Browne. All voted "aye".

Community Solar Campaign – Mr. Mancini inquired if the board would be purchasing the proposed water fountain for the Village Square and the bike rack for the village square with the solar grant incentive monies. He believes the DPW will be purchasing a battery operated string trimmer. Treasurer Heeder requested the grant funds be spent by May 31st, the end of the village's fiscal year.

RESOLUTION REGARDING NY-NJ Watershed Protection Act: H.R. 4677-Trustee Flaherty made the following Resolution; seconded by Trustee Browne. All voted "aye."

WHEREAS, New York Congressman Tonko has proposed the NY-NJ Watershed Protection Act, a unique federal investment program to authorize \$50 million of federal funds to protect and restore all watersheds, including the Hudson River Watershed, that flow into New York-New Jersey Harbor and

WHEREAS, The Act has unanimous support among the Hudson Valley's Congressional delegation; and,

WHEREAS, the Act would provide benefits to diverse stakeholders such as the protection of fisheries and wildlife, conservation of natural resources and public and private lands, critical urban greenspaces, ocean and coastal resources, and various opportunities to improve the quality of life for community members throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Kinderhook is part of the most densely populated and economically important regions in the country, the proposed NY-NJ Watershed Act will provide enormous economic and environmental benefits locally, regionally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, watersheds provide drinking water, tourism and outdoor recreation, economic opportunities, as well as sustain fisheries, critical wildlife and provide vital infrastructure from flooding and rising sea levels; and

WHEREAS, the Act would provide matching funds to achieve the goals of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary Program, a state program that has greatly benefitted Hudson Valley communities; and,

WHEREAS, the Act would fund shoreline management and restoration within the watersheds,

WHEREAS, as an elected body tasked with protection and safeguarding irreplaceable water-connected resources and nature-based flood hazard mitigation measures that are essential to protect human life and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, this Act would direct the Secretary of the Interior to enhance collaboration and coordinate restoration activities at all levels of government to protect fish and wildlife habitats, endangered species, improve water quality, increase public access to the estuary, mitigate flood risks, and develop public outreach and educational activities; and

WHEREAS, many residents of the region of the NY-NJ Watershed live in communities lacking environmental justice, where access to and enjoyment of fish, wildlife, clean water, and other natural resources have been impaired or compromised, federal funding is necessary to mitigate these long overdue environmental and social issues; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Kinderhook would benefit from the Act as it would establish beneficial programs and award grants to help fund valuable restoration projects in our local community; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Kinderhook is a cornerstone in which its residents depend on and the region relies on for its resources to provide prosperity throughout the state, therefore, the Village of Kinderhook must uphold its duty to protect the community's access to drinking water and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Kinderhook has an opportunity to be a social and environmental leader of the state, by supporting the NY-NJ Watershed Protection Act, we may lead by example and facilitate much needed change; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Village Board of Kinderhook supports the passing of the NY-NJ Watershed Protection Act.

TRUSTEE BROWNE

Planning Board-The meeting of April 7th has been rescheduled for April 21st at 7:00pm. The meeting was rescheduled due to a lack of a quorum. Planning Board member Susan Patterson became a Trustee, Bruce Charbanneau stepped down due to medical reasons and another member was unable to attend. An email blast has been sent out inquiring if anyone is interested in volunteering for the two open seats. The application for Heel Motors, a motor vehicle retailer is still on hold. The Planning Board has not received the additional items requested. An application for a standalone solar was received today and will be reviewed at the meeting.

Insurance-Trustee Browne received the updated quote for the village's insurance. He has sent the certificate of insurance over to the Greenway for the AHET.

AHET-Trustee Browne will be attending a phone conference with Suerindent Booth on May 18th at 11:00 am with the Hudson River Valley Greenway and with Ron Rich, the Friends of the Electric Trail. He has requested the "as built" plans of the trail and will have them printed for the village as it shows the land surveyed with the trail and the trail goes through the park.

Policy handbook- Village attorney Fitzsimmons reviewed the proposed employee handbook and requested Trustee Browne review the Designation of employees at will protection and a few other minor changes.

Traffic Control- Trustee Browne has followed up with the letter he sent to Senator Jordan and Assembly representative Jake Ashby. Senator Jordan has sent a letter to the commissioner of DOT on the village's behalf requesting that DOT provide the village with assistance. Several items listed in the letter are: 1. to seek alternative routes around the village's center especially on weekends. 2. seeking a state DOT mandate study on heavy trucks on village streets 3. Help clarify and strengthen the section 380-8 of the state agriculture law for hauling cargo and finally to request funding under the NYS DOT for a traffic study done similar to what was done in the

City of Hudson. He met separately with Assembly representative Jake Ashby on March 25th and reviewed with him the truck traffic study.

TRUSTEE PATTERSON

The village received a quote for the recodification the Village code book. The village will seek other quotes for the recodification.

APPLICATION OF USE

A motion made by Trustee Weir approving a. Mills Park Volunteer Group is requesting Mills Park on June 5, 2022 from 1-4 pm Columbia Land Conservancy; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted “aye”.

TAXPAYER TIME

The Village Board welcomed Trustee Patterson to the Village Board. Mayor Abrams set a special meeting at 6:00 pm on April 27th to address a few open items. A swearing in ceremony will be held at the bandstand on Saturday, April 30, 2022 around 11:00am.

Hydrants will be flushed on April 19th and 20th starting at 9 am.

Renee requested the village board consider the porta potty for the summer as the village had done prior to COVID -19. Clerk Heeder will call and have one delivered.

A motion made by Trustee Weir to adjourn at 9:11 pm; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted “aye”.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole H. Heeder
Village Clerk