A Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Harrison, Westchester County, New York was held at the Municipal Building, 1 Heineman Place, Harrison, NY, Westchester County, on the 3rd day of February, 2011 at 6:30 PM, Eastern Standard Time. All members having received due notice of said meeting:

MEMBERS PRES	SENT:	
Joan B. Walsh	Supervisor	
Joseph Cannella Fred Sciliano Patrick Vetere Marlane Amelio)Councilpersons)	
ALSO ATTENDI	NG:	

Frank Allegretti Town Attorney Jonathan KrautDeputy Village Attorney Anthony MarracciniChief of Police Maureen MacKenzie Comptroller Ron Belmont Advisor to the Recreation Department

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2011 -- 036 ACCEPTANCE OF CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Cannella,

it was

RESOLVED to accept the following correspondence and reports:

- Monthly report by the Commissioner of Public Works for December 2010. 1a.
- Monthly report by the Chief of Police for December 2010. 1b.
- Annual Program Report from the Harrison Recreation Department for 2010. 1c.

LATE

ITEM: 1d. Monthly report by the Town Clerk for January 2011.

LATE

Monthly report by the Receiver of Taxes for January 2011. ITEM: 1e.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 037

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING RE: WESTMED BELOW GROUND PARKING

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio, with all members voting in favor the Hearing was re-opened.

Supervisor Walsh stated that there was considerable discussion regarding this matter at the last Town Board meeting, that the applicants were asked to redraw their plans, to lower the parking garage, which they had done. She then asked the applicant to explain their response to these requests.

Anthony Gioffre, attorney with the law firm of Cuddy & Feder, spoke on behalf of his client, West Med.

He stated that he had listened to comments the Board made at the last meeting and that his client had revisited the design and plans for the proposed garage. He then addressed comments that were made at the last meeting, which he did not have the opportunity to address at that previous meeting.

Mr. Gioffre stated that, prior to this application being filed, the campus was a smoke-free campus, adding that there were certain quality of life issues raised by the neighbors during the Planning Board sessions, and that WestMed then revisited that policy and decided to carve out one small location on the premises to be designated a smoking area, adjacent to an existing door. He continued that it is hoped that the employees will utilize this area for smoking, and not walk through the woods to Anderson Hill Road, pointing out that this was a significant concession by West Med. Mr. Gioffre further stated that the designated smoking location is in the rear of the building, that there was a small farmer's wall that has been partially knocked down, and it is now proposed that if it be re-built which will further impede anybody's access to Anderson Hill Road.

Mr. Gioffre further stated that one other item that had been mentioned was the allegation of trees being illegally cut on premises along the Anderson Hill Roadway along the buffer area. He said that the neighbors at one meeting had complained about the maintenance of the area, that Dr. Schwartz was upset, and immediately provided documentation to the Building Inspector that no trees were illegally cut, that the Building Department conducted a significant investigation, that there were a number of dead trees which had to be cut down, and no trees were illegally cut down.

Mr. Gioffre continued that an issue that has just recently come to light was regarding a pharmacy at this location. He added that there has been dialogue, and a notice of violation was issued just yesterday, that dialogue will continue, and WestMed will address these issues going forward. He respectfully submitted that this matter is not part of this application.

Councilman Cannella stated that he was not aware of this issue, and asked for details.

Mr. Gioffre said that the claim was that the pharmacy was a retail operation, which is not

permitted at this location. Sale of eyeglasses at this location is also retail, and constitutes more than one use on the premises which is not permitted. He further stated that no summonses have been issued, only the notice of violation. WestMed will continue to address these issues.

Mr. Cannella stated that he had no knowledge of these issues, but he would not approve any application if there was any question of violations on the property involved.

Supervisor Walsh stated that she took exception to Mr. Cannella's comments. that the garage had been before the Planning Board, there is an issue of timing, and she felt that the Board should proceed, adding that the matter of the retail uses had nothing to do with the parking.

Mr. Cannella replied that he appreciated the Supervisor's view, and she is entitled to it. He added that he is one vote out of five on this Board, and he is happy to have the dialogue of the presentation, but he would not vote until such time as the alleged violation is resolved.

Mr. Gioffre said that this is not the forum to discuss these alleged violations, but they believe that these two uses are customary and incidental to this operation on the premises. There isn't any outside sign for either the pharmacy or the optician. He continued that those issues go beyond the Special Use Permit that is before the Board. He added that there is an Attorney General opinion that has been issued, although it refers to Planning Boards, that stated issues that address site plans, that an alleged violation or an actual violation should not stop a Special Permit application.

Mr. Cannella then stated that, absent a Court Order, he will abstain from voting on this application until it is resolved.

Councilwoman Amelio then stated that she agreed with Mr. Cannella.

Supervisor Walsh asked the other two members of the Board their stand.

Councilman Sciliano stated that the fact that there is a violation on the property does not make him happy and that he probably would not vote.

Town Attorney Allegretti was asked for a legal opinion if the two issues can be mixed or if they were separate issues.

Mr. Allegretti said that he had not seen the Notices of Violations, but understood that there were a multitude of them. He continued that the Building Inspector had told him there was a pharmacy, a Walgreen's Pharmacy, a retailer and a food establishment that served food to the employees and general public, adding that these are serious issues, that these violations will have more discussions. He concluded b stating that it is up to the Board to decide what to do.

Mr. Cannella pointed out that there are now three out of five members who are not prepared to vote tonight, that the best the applicant could expect would be two votes (of approval), three will abstain. He added that he is not, on a personal matter, to deal with an issue for a Special Exception Use Permit where there have been questions about expansion of use of the facility, questions on traffic. He added that he has no knowledge of the substance of (alleged violations) but they would have a bearing on the volume of cars parking, going to the site, that he was not

interested in voting until that is known.

Mr. Gioffre said that there neighbors are here tonight, and he would like to walk thru the changes that have been made in a good faith effort, in response to the neighbors, with the hope that one person would change your mind, and vote favorably on the application.

Mr. Cannella stated that three people would have to change their minds, and he would not.

Ms. Amelio agreed she also would not change her mind.

Mr. Gioffre then asked Mr.Gerald Schwabe, of Divney, Tung & Schwabe to show the changes that had been made in response to previous comments, in a Power Point presentation.

Mr. Schwabe stated that one concern had been that the top deck was too high. The change that was made to literally move the deck down 5 feet. The berm and landscaping remained the same, the intent is the same, the height of the berm remains the same. Two points of the berm elevation, 175 on the easterly end, and 165 on the westerly side, straddling between Old Well Rd and Anderson Hill Rd. The parking count is reduced by two spaces, due to re-alignment. The entrance of the garage is shifted to the front end, and the lower level of the garage also drops five feet. Increasing the amount of excavation due to the lower elevation.

Mr. Schwabe stated that the site is 6.5 acres in size, bounded by Anderson Hill Road and Rte 287, with total parking today of 345 spaces -- 310 in the main parking lot. He showed the location of the proposed deck, including the landscaping with 117 trees and 147 shrubs in a planting plan. Enter the garage from the two locations. He added that in one area with the changes the drop is 14-15 lower than exists today, elevation 150, compared to 161 on Anderson Hill Road. Mr. Schwabe then showed how the deck would now look from Anderson Hill Road, comparing it to the current view vs the planned view after the berms and plantings. He then showed several other views taken from the street and discussed how the proposed planting plan would improve the view of Anderson Hill Road residents. He also pointed out that they had located the center of the deck at or below the existing grade, again to minimize the view from Anderson Hill Road. He then discussed the berm, and the plantings, adding that within five years, there would be enough growth to shield the area.

Councilwoman Amelio asked why the residents have to wait five years, until the plantings are full-grown, why not add more plants now so the screening is more extensive.

Screening is extensive now, adding more trees would not give enough room for their roots.

Ms. Amelio then asked what sizes are being proposed.

Mr. Schwabe replied that the woodland trees, such as birch, red oaks, hornbeam, etc, would be 8-10 feet or 5-6 feet, with calipers from 1.5 to 2 inches in size, adding that the evergreens would be 7-8 or 8-10 feet high, for diversity in the landscaping. He added that the berms would give added height.

Supervisor asked the height of the berm at various points.

STEVE: berm starts from, on the west side in a hollow, 12.5 feet higher than the road. As you come down, the ground level is above the level of the deck so as to keep the present trees, with added under story trees, then the next area is about 10 higher, plus the trees and shrubs. He continued that, in one particular area, the existing parking lot is closer to the road than the parking deck will be.

Councilman Sciliano asked if the deck would still have the 2% slope that was mentioned at an earlier meeting. He added that basically the applicant had done a good job decreasing the sight lines even more than at the existing elevations.

A member of the applicant's team replied that, by lowering that whole garage, the end is as low as it was before, adding that what they are having to do is regrade the outer lot. He further stated that it cannot be lowered further and still be able to get in and out, that they want to have daylight coming in so as to avoid other problems.

Mr. Sciliano: Think if we could increase the landscaping from the end of the berm eastward to add screening and a fence around the generator.

Ms. Amelio: the ball of the tree alone is about 2 feet, so the trees are really only 5-6 feet by the time you get done.

Tony Gioffre: height is not measured from the bottom of the ball. Will locate the trees in the field so as to screen views to reduce visual impacts. For the record, correspondence from Edward J Ferrule (SP?) Appraisals, done prior to latest iteration of the plans, and states that there will be no negative effect on the value of the marketability of the homes on Anderson Hill Road, and that the proposed buffer is superior to what exists today.

Councilman Cannella: talk about the bond. want to revisit that. Obviously the relevance of the bond has a particular relevance to the maintenance of the berm, which the Planning Board determined that it would be significantly higher than it is now, and the record demonstrated at the last meeting the berm now is in significant disrepair and has not been maintained, so obviously it is fair game to besure that anything that happens in the future that the town is protected with respect to subsequent maintenance of the berm. Would you tell me precisely what the Planning Board determination with respect to the berm was and where it is now.

Mr. Gioffre: Maintenance bond has to be put in place.

Mr. Cannella: how much?

Councilwoman Amelio: what length of time.

Mr. Schwabe: Will look through the Planning Board Resolutions but am sure it is consistent with the Code requirements, but there is a site plan approval which goes along with the landscaping approvals by the Planning Board. So to the extent that the landscape maintenance bond has become nullified based upon a period of time, whether it be 3 or 5 years, a tree does die, there is a requirement on the applicant to replace that tree based on the site plan approvals. The maintenance bond is only in effect so that if the owner does not maintain it, the town has the

ability at that point to go in and sue the bond. He added that he had several resolutions here, and would look thru them to see amount of the bond as determined by the Planning Board.

John Tripodi, 23 Yarmouth Road: amazed there was no violation regarding the trees. When he cut down a dead tree, he had to get a permit, so he is amazed that they cut down these trees without a permit to determine they were dead and thus here was not a violation. If other alleged violations come to light, this is what I think, do not make short term decisions that have long-term implications. Understand the town's fiscal condition -- project will bring fees and increased taxes.

Supervisor Walsh interrupted and stated that this was not the Board's overriding concern, she added that that she likes money, but at the same time we do obey the regulations.

Wanted to bring up that point. Picked up the newspaper this week, a headline read new center planned for along Westchester Avenue, and the doctors say the center would hurt hospitals. If you ride along Westchester Avenue, signs for ProMed, ambulatory signs, basically saying that the whole nature of Westchester Avenue has changed, and has that change been dealt with. 1130 parking spaces, once office buildings now medical, and if those spaces turn over 5 times a day 5,000 cars, versus hundreds of cars. Why do I bring this up? The nature of this road is changing. Dr Schwarz quoted referring to competition with hospitals. With all the changes that are going on Westchester Avenue and Anderson Hill Road, would propose we postpone it until the Master Plan is done and we understand what is really happening along Anderson Hill Road and Westchester Avenue, so we don't have these potential violations and all the other things we don't understand.

Supervisor Walsh replied that she wanted to address part of his comments, that she had conversations with the Assessor and the Building Inspector the other day, and part of our problem is that the office buildings on Westchester Avenue are old, they are not what the current tenants want, the 3 office buildings on the approach to the Gannett Building are empty, that her son's firm was one of the buildings and they left two weeks ago, they were the last tenant in that building. What are we going to do? I am going to a conference in March hosted by a national group that has put together a study on what to do, how to regenerate office parks. It is not just Westchester Avenue, not just our area, where the amenities that the current tenants want are very different from what was desired when these buildings were built in the 70's and 80's. Some of the buildings have been reconfigured, some such as the three buildings on Gannet Drive -- I don't know what is going to happen to them. This is one of the things we have to face -- we can't have empty buildings. Vandalism, crime, all kinds of ugly things there. It does seem to be that the medical profession has decided that the Westchester Avenue corridor is the ideal place, and the plan for 287, that will take a lot of traffic off the White plains Avenue bridge, a lot of traffic off Exit 8, and, coming out of White Plains, the traffic will move faster. I met with the engineers last Monday, and discussed the planting plan that they were going to put in. I asked for more trees and shrubs, they are not giving us berms, just trees and shrubs. Change is coming, we cannot fight it, but make the best use of it that we can. We are working towards that,

Mr. Tripodi: Understand what you are saying, but what is happening along 287 is somewhat irrelevant to this -- it is going to happen anyway. what I am saying is that the access along Westchester Ave, as you convert these buildings from office buildings, into something else, there will be more and more traffic, no matter where the entrance is, that traffic has to come down from Bryant Avenue, no other choice, people going in and out of these buildings will be on Westchester Ave. Maybe we should re-think this whole thing. Let's not keep on haphazardly approving things because we want to fill buildings.

Councilwoman Amelio: I think you make a very good point. There's something lacking in the mindset process here, that progress and preservation walk a very tight rope, and we have to keep in mind to preserve neighborhoods and protect the residents while still allowing progression of new corporations and businesses. We must keep in mind the residents first. It is a very difficult task. You talk about vacant buildings — why is not WestMed in one of these vacant buildings. One that does not in a neighborhood. Tough choice but we must keep in mind that people live in these neighborhoods and for many that is the biggest investment in their live, it is their home.

Mel Siegel, 91 Anderson Hill Road: Is there an entitlement that because WestMed requested a parking garage they will get it? Must there be a compromise or is an outright "NO" being considered? Understand that a 3% building fee, which would be \$60,000 which is a lot of money, you did say that is not the overriding but that is certainly a question from the neighbors, do you have to say yes to more doctors, more buses, more cars, more ambulances. more noise, more cement. Lets 'be realistic this is approximately a \$2 million garage. Is it being done to make it more accessible for the handicapped or is it a business decision that will somehow create more funds in that building that will pay for that deck.

Supervisor Walsh replied that no one ever said that is was not a business decision.

Mr. Siegel: Someone said it (the improvement) was for the handicapped.

Supervisor Walsh: It is an A & B, it goes together, but it is a business decision.

Mr. Siegel: When they showed the photographs from the street, I wish they had come up to my front steps and taken that picture. That is 20 feet higher from the roadway, and from my living room and family room, plus the 2nd story you are looking down from another 10 or 15 feet. He continued that many houses are on land that slopes up, and are not looking at this (parking area) from ground level. He also stated that he noticed in the new plans, he thought it did say that the new berms would be steeper, although he may be wrong, and that there was discussion about maintaining a berm, so a steeper (berm) is more of a concern. Mr. Siegel further stated that, if approved, (the town) must be more vigilant, must require more trees. He then asked the following list of questions: what about lighting, what has been done about that, is it the best possible or just adequate, how far is the extension of the farmer's wall, does it go past Old Well Road which would be a big help, that they also need a sound barrier -- how can plans be approved without this information. He further questioned what is the wording on the bond. Is it a 5 year, or a 10 year, adding that it should be in perpetuity.

Supervisor Walsh replied that the Planning Board didn't.

The Maintenance Bond is within the work of the Law Department and Building Department.

No determination by the Planning Board of the number of years for the maintenance bond.

We would expect that it would be reasonable.

Councilman Cannella: Reasonable is in the eye of the beholder.

Mr. Gioffre: It could be \$10,000 which we know it is not reasonable, but \$1 million also would not be reasonable.

Councilman Cannella asked if there was any idea of the planting costs?

Mr. Gioffre replied "NO" -- but they would work with the Law Department and the Town Engineer.

Mr. Cannella stated that this board will pay more attention to the bond than your suggested solution indicates.

Mr. Siegel then asked the Board that they don't act like parents who are beaten down by their kids and just give in.

Supervisor Walsh replied that she thought the Board was a little more adult than that.

Mr. Siegel again stressed that this is the entrance to Purchase, the entrance to our neighborhood.

Supervisor Walsh said she had one question, probably unpopular: If the garage does not go in, and you are stuck with what you have now...

Voice: They need to maintain that barrier.

Supervisor Walsh said that she did not believe that they would have to replant anything.

Councilwoman Amelio said that she wanted to read something, that her husband had happened to bring home, a copy of the brochure/magazine: 2011 Living in Westchester. She continued that lo and behold it states "that the Platinum Mile a stretch of I-287 that runs through Harrison, so named because companies such as Pepsico and Master Card have their posh corporate offices there but almost all 22 sq miles of Harrison today has estates and clubs attesting to the wealth of its inhabitants. Today the community of Purchase has some of the highest priced real estate in the county and a high proportion of celebrities." Ms. Amelio continued that the Board has to think this through carefully, as one gentleman said, that there are long lasting effects on the residents of Harrison, and the Board must be sure -- if it passes, that this bond addresses the issues that the neighbors are concerned with and that there is a sufficient duration for this bond.

Arnie Tschantre asked if, for all the talk of trees, will grass be planted? How will they address the erosion of the berm? Would the bond cover the erosion of the berm?

Supervisor Walsh stated that Mr. Cannella was once chairman of the Planning Board and could address that question.

Councilman Cannella stated that the protection of the berm would be part of the matters that the bond would protect, and the way that it would be drafted would cover that question.

Mr. Tschantre then said that he thought there should be a fence because giving people permission to smoke on the property would not stop people from walking around Old Well Road in the summertime, adding that there should be some way of keeping them on the other side.

Supervisor Walsh pointed that the Planning Board did not require a fence, and asked the residents if it had been brought up at the Planning Board meetings.

There was a reply from the audience that it had been discussed, but how do you maintain a fence when there are plantings adjoining it?

Mr. Tripodi then spoke, and stated that, at Planning Board meetings, there were discussions of fences, stone walls and other walls. He added that the Planning Board did not see fit to require a fence. He continued that there was once a split rail fence with landscaping. He then added that people come through the wooded area now, going to the bus stop, and someone is going to get hit (by a car on Anderson Hill Road.)

Arnie Tschantre stated that cars are going to be facing his house, and asked what about (protection from) the headlights.

Councilman Vetere stated that (the deck) has been lowered 5 feet so that the headlights won't hit his house, adding that it was originally 4 feet down, and with this added 5 feet, it is 9 feet.

Mr. Pelliccio of 1 Yarmouth Road stated that the place where the people walk through the wooded area is close to the White Plains Avenue bridge so as to catch the bus. He added that it is dangerous as when cars come around the bend, they can't be seen, such as at night when he comes home.

Supervisor Walsh asked why people go out that way when there is a bus on Westchester Avenue.

Mr. Pelliceio stated that he did not know.

Mr. Tripodi cited the fact that buses come to the entrance of the building as well as the stop on Westchester Avenue, as well as ambulances until 10-11 o'clock at night taking people to the hospital.

Another resident questioned the noise that the snow plows make during the night, that he is trying to sleep but hears the back-up alarms all night long. One night he went across the street and asked the driver to disconnect the back-up alarm.

Mrs. Walsh replied that she did not know what could be done about that.

Gary Lane 106 Duxbury Rd, asked how many parking spots were in the garage?

Councilman Cannella stated that a better question is how many spots are being added.

The answer was 96.

Mr. Lane said that from an overview of the site, hundreds of spots could be added on the other side of the building.

Mrs. Walsh asked if this was not down by the River.

Mr. Lane pointed out that spots could be added in the front of the building, and on the side, and if other buildings were to be empty, why could the cars not park there, build a parking structure.

Mrs. Walsh stated that the buildings that are now empty are on Gannett Drive which is too far away.

Mr. Lane continued that there is space on the property, 250 existing, adding 96, and making all this trouble with the residents. All the years he has lived there, as the medical profession expands in that building, transit people are using neighborhood streets for exercise walking. It is a free country but there is more and more egress from his neighborhood, nurses walking in their neighborhood, what else will happen. He added that (over the years) he had two cars stolen from his driveway.

Supervisor Walsh asked if this happened prior to WestMed being in the building.

Mr. Lane said that WestMed has been there for quite a while, and he has lived there since 1973. His point is that for 90 parking spots he does not understand creating such an upsetting structure.

Mark Mahommed said he had some concerns he wanted to share. Of the older renderings shown, there were not enough of other houses than just the three on Anderson Hill Road, adding that this affects the feeling of the neighborhood. Turning into a commercial zoning. If he is looking for a house, and sees this parking and the additional parking, he is going to turn around and go to another neighborhood. It is the feeling you get as you drive by. It does not reflect a residential neighborhood anymore. What is the reaction of people seeking to leave the city and they see this building. He continued that a comment had been made that the property values were not going down. He pointed out that property values is an issue of perception, not just the real estate and the buildings. If the perception is that the neighborhood is changing because many trees are being cut down, and the highway changes, I am not sure this is ending anytime soon, and we are creeping towards making this a small commercial community.

Supervisor Walsh stated that the commercial development really started when Westchester Avenue began to be developed in the 1070's and 1980's.

Mr. Mahommed further stated that when the first Ford car was developed, we did not know how we were going to damage this planet. Regarding what goes on the roof of the garage, there could be solar panels, lighting, parapets, roof exhaust systems, I am not sure we are fully seeing the impact of this property. He continued that there was an incident in White Plains last year at one

of the parking lots. A woman was attacked. We are going to have an enclosed structure within a residential neighborhood, and we were told last time that there is absolutely ... this is an unmanned parking, and all we need is just one incident in that garage to drop the price of our house. Just one incident. He continued the other thing that there is a violation against this building. It takes a lot of planning to put a retail facility no matter how small, between the architect engineers and consultants, how can they go about planning this retail, and then they expect the residents to trust this group of professionals to in good faith do something that just serves their interests.

Supervisor Walsh stated that the violations are questions that the applicant will have to address.

Mr. Mahommed continued that all the activities during the demolition and construction, if the Board is going to hold the developers to meet the standards of the US Green Building Council, there are all kinds of dust and erosion controls. Tremendous impact on the surroundings, including us, particularly from the dust.

Mrs. Walsh said there would be one more speaker, and then they would close.

Chris Manning of 4 Old Well Road stated that he lived directly opposite the proposed structure, and wanted to say a few words to summarize what they, as neighbors, have been going through the past six months. He continued that clearly you have heard time after time that they (the neighbors) do not want this in their neighborhood. He added that there are many, many concerns, some of which can be addressed, some cannot ever be addressed by the architect, the Planning Board, or this Board. He then stated that what he wants (the Board) to consider, as the representatives of all of Harrison, that you consider the hundreds of people that live in that neighborhood, and not one corporate citizen. Mr. Manning went on that he thought that what we in total, what we represent in terms of our tax base, and our voting power is much more than what they have...and we deserve a voice. He continued that this should not be approved, they should go back and consider finding their 100 parking spots (elsewhere.) He added that all of this for 100 spots, all this hassle and that looking at I-287 and seeing what they have done, has devastated this area. And right across the street now will be more devastation. We really don't want it, it is not necessary. He said that the Board should put their feet to the fire, to come up with a better plan, to find a way to serve their constituency, rather than putting his whole neighborhood completely out for years of construction and years of noise and all the other things that will happen.

Mr. Gioffre, attorney for the applicant, said that One thing that is paramount and that needs to be said on the record is that this is a Special Exception Use Permit, that this use has been contemplated for this zone and is consistent with the zoning of this lot. He added that he would like to appeal to (the Board,) that (the applicant has) been through this for a significant number of months, not only with this Board but also the Planning Board. He continued that it is really not a lot of new information aside from the revised design. Mr. Gioffre then said that he would respectfully ask that the Hearing be closed this evening at the very least but, just to address some of the comments as they relate to the alleged violations, that this is not something that was done in bad faith or untoward by CVS. He pointed out that there was a Certificate of Completion that was issued to the pharmacy last year and signed by the Building official so there has been discussions about it. He then said that not withstanding that, he thought the Board is well

within rights to close the Public Hearing and take action this evening, that the Board could impose whatever conditions you deem reasonable whether with respect to the landscape bond, with respect to any aspect of the proposal that you are concerned with, and the Building Department is within its rights to withhold any building permit until those issues have been satisfied with regard to the alleged violation. It may turn out at the end of the day that these are not violations that they are customary and incidental to the practice. He continued that, as he said earlier, the Walgreens is inside the premises, there is no sign on the exterior of the premises, that no one driving by would say oh let me stop here for the pharmacy. It is not the type of thing where you see the store, park in the parking lot and go in. We have been in dialogue with the Building official, Mr. FitzSimmons, we will get the information to address the notice of violation. A summons has not been issued, we are not required to go to Court at this point. I appeal to you at this point in the process, given the good faith efforts that we have made as it relates to all the documentation and revisions that we have gone through and that this proposal is consistent with zoning, that you close the Public Hearing and take action on this application.

Supervisor Walsh said that she hears what he is saying but it is very clear that if it was voted tonight it would go down.

Mr. Cannella said that that there hasn't been a vote, but what is clearly heard is that -- and he is not going to suggest what the ultimate outcome will be, but there are three people on this board, himself, Councilman Sciliano, and Councilwoman Amelio, who will not vote tonight, they would abstain, so the best that they could do would be two votes, and that would not pass either two.

He added that he had not heard anything tonight that would change his view as to an unwillingness to vote. To be clear, the position that three of them are taking is completely supported by the record for the following reasons. The parking issue and congestion issue and the concerns of the neighbors, which have been repeated multiple times, all of are relevance to the use and expansion of the use of the facility, so to the extent that your client's (use) is inappropriate, and I don't know if it is or not, that expands the use, I think that the Board is well within its purview not to act until this matter is cleared up.

Mr. Cannella then asked Councilwoman Amelio is she had changed her mind, and she replied "No."

He then asked Councilman Sciliano is he had changed his mind.

Mr. Sciliano said that, with the violations ...

Mr. Cannella continued that so there are three people who will abstain. If you want a vote, it will not pass.

Mr. Gioffre asked if the Board would close the Public Hearing.

Mr. Cannella replied that he was not going to do that either.

Supervisor Walsh said that one piece of information that she would like, and she had not realized that it wasn't black and white, is precisely what is the bond for the maintenance of the trees and shrubs.

Mr. Cannella replied that there are a couple of things. #1 that, and Councilwoman Amelio wants to understand more of the plantings, and he was sure that the applicant had planting plans, and whether they could be enhanced is another issue, and that Councilman Sciliano had raised another issue with respect to the shed on the upper portion of the lot where the generator is for the screening of it.

Councilwoman Amelio said that one of the residents also brought up the issue of lighting, and she could not find it in the plans.

Consultant: Relative to the Planning Board submission, and the Board has copies of it, in there is the lighting plan for the lot, including pole heights and the lighting spill study which was fully considered in the Planning Board submission.

Ms. Amelio said that the lighting poles had to do with the height of the garage, and that has not been adjusted, for the overall height of the garage as are you not digging down deeper.

Consultant said that the lights are fixed relative to the top of the structure.

Mrs. Walsh questioned if the lights are not now in the center of the deck, rather than on the perimeter.

Consultant: replied "Yes"

Ms. Amelio said that she was not gong to go into this, that she wants it clearly stated, that these are important issues. Same resident said that the lights are fixed relative to outer top tier of the garage, it is in the site lane and if anything the light from the poles are moving down five or six feet. Sharp cut-off fixture as per Planning Board, and there are studies to the extent of the garage.

Mr. Arethel asked: are lights going to be left on all night?

Normally there are some on top the tier, security lighting, reduced after business closes, what you are looking at, is after hours there is a night light service cutting it down to 255 or less than occupied hours.

Councilman Vetere stated that the applicant should correct all the violations before the Board moves forward.

Supervisor Walsh concluded the Hearing by stating that the Board is agreed that it will not vote tonight, and then asked for a motion to recess the Public Hearing until the Town Board meeting of March 3rd.

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Cannella, with all members voting in favor, the Hearing was recessed until March 3, 2011.

Councilman Cannella then pointed out that Councilman Sciliano had spent a great deal of time meeting with the applicant at the request of some members of the Board, and he wanted to thank him for putting substantial extracurricular time on this project.

Supervisor Walsh asked Mr. Cannella if he was also thanking her, as she too had been part of the meetings, that she wanted to know what was going on, so she took part in the meetings.

Mr. Cannella stated that he had not known she was there, but he thanked her also.

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2011 - - 038

DISCUSSION OF THE CURRENT IMPROVEMENTS BY NEW YORK STATE TO INTERSTATE HIGHWAY I-287

Supervisor Walsh said that this was entirely a State project, that the town had little input and no participation in this project. It is State funding with some Federal funds. She added that there were certain things that she fought for, one of which was the retention of the Columbus Avenue turnaround/bypass connecting Columbus Avenue in West Harrison to the Westchester Avenue approach into White Plains. The Supervisor said that she went to meeting after meeting when the project was being discussed, and at one meeting the turnaround/bypass would be included, and at the next it would have disappeared. As a result of her participation, the turnaround/bypass is a reality today.

Mrs. Walsh continued that it had always been that Exit 8 going west would go under the White Plains Avenue bridge, which will reduce the number of cars at the White Plains Avenue/Westchester Avenue intersection by between 2,500 and 3,000 per day. In response to a comment from the audience, Mrs. Walsh stated that yes they had knocked down every tree between the Exit 8W ramp and the Anderson Hill Road Bridge but they do have a planting plan that will restore the trees, with additional shrubs. But what they are doing, Westchester Avenue, where it is now is called Old Westchester Avenue, and down below, on the level of 287, will be New Westchester Avenue one going East and one going West. Those are the two new roads both going under the White Plains Avenue Bridge.

Councilman Sciliano said that the end result will be good for the area. He said that there would be benefits when it is completed.

In response to a question, Supervisor Walsh said that the Town had little to say about this improvement, nor did the county have much to say about it. It is a state and federal project, with state and federal funding. She continued that people should look at the work done between the present construction and the Tappan Zee Bridge, adding that the present construction in our area is Phase IV. Mrs. Walsh added that one of the proposals that the neighbors fought, and won, was the proposal to put a twenty foot concrete wall adjacent to the backyards of the homes on Locust Avenue, on the Westchester Avenue side. The neighborhood won that fight, and now there is an eight foot cedar fence instead of that concrete wall.

The Supervisor continued that you can't win every fight, but we tried, that the planting plan when in place will improve the looks of the area, that it will take a long time, but the types of trees and shrubs will make it look good.

She asked the question: When they are finished, will we have to look at all the skyscrapers of White Plains when we sit in our cars at the corner of White Plains Avenue. The answer was NO, that it would take a few years, but the view of those buildings would be blocked.

In response to a question, Mrs. Walsh stated that she has been told that some of the planting will go in in the fall of 2011, in the area of Phase III, on the northwestern side of the White Plains Avenue Bridge. The southeastern side is part of Phase IV, and that will take longer.

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<u>PUBLIC HEARING AT & T - TO CO-LOCATE A WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS</u> FACILITY ON PROPERTY KNOWN AS WESTCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB

On motion of Councilman Vetere, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio, with all members voting in favor, the Public Hearing on the application of New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC (AT&T) to co-locate a Wireless Telecommunications Facility on the property known as the Westchester Country Club was re-opened.

Supervisor Walsh asked if anyone wished to address the Board on this application.

Attorney Neil Alexander, a partner with the law firm of Cuddy and Feder, addressed the Board on behalf of the applicant. He said that there are several antennas on the building, about 150 feet off the ground, for emergency responders as well as others.

There is an existing scaffolding on the top of the building but will install screen walls to match the existing copper roof and conceal almost everything on the roof. It will be a massive aesthetic improvement.

Councilwoman Amelio state that at the last meeting, a resident was very concerned about the about the impact on health. She added that it had been adequately answered.

Councilman Sciliano said that he had Health Report was included in the material that was proved to the Board.

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio, the Hearing was closed.

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2011 - - 039 - - b

APPROVAL FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION PERMIT TO CO-LOCATE A WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY ON THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS WESTCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilman Sciliano,

it was

RESOLVED to approve the request by Neil Alexander, attorney with the firm of Cuddy & Feder on behalf of their client New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) to co-locate a Wireless Telecommunications Facility on the property known as the Westchester Country Club.

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Assessor, the Building Inspector, the Law Department and Mr. Alexander.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 040 - - a

PUBLIC HEARING – RE: A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 82 OF THE TOWN/VILLAGE CODE ENTITLED: "ALARMS", AMENDING SECTION 82-11 ENTITLED: "CHARGES FOR FALSE ALARMS OF THE TOWN/VILLAGE CODE OF THE TOWN/VILLAGE OF HARRISON

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio, the Hearing to amend Chapter 82 of the Town/Village Code entitled: "Alarms" by amending Section 82-11 entitled "Charges for False Alarms" was opened.

Supervisor Walsh stated that she had a comment. In the original body of the law it states there is only one "free" false alarm – (an alarm going off but there is not a charge for it.) She added that for quite a while now, the practice has been two "free" false alarm responses.

Town Attorney Frank Allegretti stated that the purpose of this change is to take out the fee structure, and add it to Chapter 137-1 by which all other fees are set by the Town Board. He continued that once this gets adopted, the Board will revisit it at the next meeting and set the Resolution and the policy as to what the Board wants to do regarding free false alarm responses.

Councilman Cannella stated that this now allows the Board to set fees without changing the law each time.

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio, the Hearing was closed.

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2011 - - 040 - - b <u>APPROVAL TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2011</u> RE: AMENDING CHAPTER 82 ENTITLED "ALARMS"

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio,

it was .

RESOLVED to adopt a Local Law amending Chapter 82 of the Town/Village Code entitled "Alarms" by Local Law No. 2 of 2011, by amending Section 82-11 entitled "Charges for false alarms" of the Town/Village Code of the Town/Village of Harrison to read as follows:

Section 82-11 Charges for false alarms.

Any owner of lessee of property having a police alarm device or system of police alarm devices on his, her or its premises and any user of services or equipment furnished by a licensee under this article shall pay to the Town of Harrison a charge for each and every false holdup alarm to which the Police Department, Fire Department or Ambulance respond, in each calendar year, in accordance with the false alarm fees set forth in the most current resolution of the Town Board fixing the fees pursuant to § 137-1 of the Town Code.

This law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of the State of New York.

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Law Department, the Chief of Police, the Chief of Fire Districts #1 & 2 and the Chief of the Harrison EMS.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 041

<u>AUTHORIZATION FOR LT. MICHAEL OLSEY TO ATTEND</u> ASHFORD UNIVERSITY FOR THE 2011 WINTER SEMESTER, COST: \$2,427.

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Cannella,

it was

RESOLVED to approve the request of Chief of Police Anthony Marraccini for authorization for Lt. Michael Olsey to attend Ashford University for the 2011 Winter Semester at a total cost of \$2,427 for books and the following courses:

"Psychology of Criminal Behavior" "English Composition II"

FURTHER RESOLVED that this is a contractual item which will benefit Lt. Olsey's police career.

FURTHER RESOLVED to authorize the Comptroller that, upon satisfactory completion and submission of Lt. Olsey's attendance at the above listed courses, to audit and pay the expenses outlined as per the contract with the Harrison Police Association.

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller, the Chief of Police and the Personnel Manager.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 042

APPROVAL FOR THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ACCEPT A DONATION FOR THE HARRISON FOOD PANTRY

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Cannella,

it was

RESOLVED to approve the request by Director of Community Services Nina Marraccini for authorization to accept two (2) checks in the amount of \$500 each from the Ambassador John L. Loeb, Jr. Foundation for the Harrison Food Pantry.

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller and the Director of Community Services.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 043 - - a

SUPERVISOR JOAN WALSH READ THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS ANTHONY ROBINSON RE: RADIOACTIVE MEDICAL WASTE

Unfortunately in recent weeks our Sanitation Department has collected radioactive medical waste from residential properties. Each time this occurs, the Town risks incurring a fine from the County for collecting "unacceptable materials." In addition, the Sanitation truck involved is impounded until such time as the radiation emanating from the truck has dissipated. The waste is then taken to a special recovery facility in Peekskill, where it is ultimately disposed of by County forces.

The time and expense associated with these occurrences is great. In order to prevent these events from recurring, I would remind all residents too properly dispose of radioactive materials, including needles, depends diapers and if the person is receiving any radio active treatment. These items should be disposed of by a qualified medical waste removal company. Also, please keep in mind that these materials pose a health hazard to our employees by exposing them to radioactive materials and the possibility of needle sticks from contaminated needles.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Angelo DelBorgo, Sanitation General Foreman at 914-670-3209.

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2011 - - 043 - - b REMARKS BY HARRISON FIREMAN JIM FORREST

Fire Fighter Jimmy Forrest addressed the Board and the audience. He asked anyone who has a fire hydrant in front of their home to uncover the fire hydrants. He added that the downtown district has 467 hydrants, and they need help to clear the snow from them. It is a safety issue. He also asked residents of narrow streets to use alternate side of the street parking so that the highway crews can clear the streets. He also said that people should park in their driveways so the streets can be plowed clear.

Supervisor Walsh stated that there is a problem notifying people of such a program of snow emergency streets. She added that there is a plan to have an emergency phone system installed so that people can be notified of problems such as this.

Village Attorney Robert Paladino stated that he has been working with DPW and the Police Department to plan a snow emergency parking plan, to install signs so that people will know which are the snow emergency streets.

Supervisor Walsh added that she had put a similar plea regarding the fire hydrants in her weekly newspaper column and that it was not only a safety issue but a cost issue – at times the men clearing the hydrants are on overtime – and that is your tax dollars.

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2011 - - 044 - - a

AUTHORIZATION FOR BUDGET TRANSFERS OF \$150,000 FROM THE TOWN CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT TO THE HIGHWAY ACCOUNT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ROCK SALT.

Supervisor Walsh stated that this purchase is necessary due to the many and severe storms of the past few months in order to have sufficient salt on hand if there is another storm. She also pointed out that the price today will undoubted be less than the cost next November. Commissioner Robinson also pointed out that there have been 11 significant storms so far this year, in contract to 7 storms in all of last winter. He also stated that there has been a 6% reduction in salt usage this year compared to last winter but a 48% increase due to the number of storms.

Mrs. Walsh also praised the work of the Highway crews in clearing the street. She added that there has been 66 inches of snow so far this year, and it is difficult to find places to put the snow taken from the business areas.

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio,

it was

RESOLVED to approve the request of Commissioner of Public Works Anthony Robinson for authorization for the Comptroller to transfer \$150,000 from the Town Contingency Fund to the Highway Fund for the purchase of rock salt.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 044 - - b APPROVAL FOR A BUDGET TRANSFER AND MODIFICATION

On motion of Councilman Cannella, seconded by Councilwoman Amelio,

it was

RESOLVED to approve the following Budget Transfer and Modification:

Increase:

001-9501-100-0903

Transfer out to Highway

\$150,000

Decrease:

001-1900-100-4490

Town Contingency Fund

\$150,000

Increase:

003-0000-050-5001

Highway Transfer in from Town

\$150,000

Increase:

003-5142-100-0410

Highway Snow Materials & Supplies \$150,000

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller, the Commissioner of Public Works and the Purchasing Department.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 045 MATTERS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

2 Personnel Settlement of Claim 2 Settlement of Tax Certiorari 2 Contract negotiations

On motion duly made and seconded, with all members voting in favor, the Meeting was recessed at 9:20 PM.

On motion duly made and seconded, with all members voting in favor, the Meeting was reconvened at 11:25 PM.

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2011--046--a

APPROVAL TO HIRE THOMAS CONNOR AS A SECURITY OFFICER AS NEEDED ON COURT DAYS

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Cannella,

it was

RESOLVED to hire Thomas Connor as a Security Officer as needed on court days at the rate of \$25 per hour, effective immediately.

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller, the Court Clerk, the Chief of Police and the Personnel Manager.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011-- 046-- b OVAL TO HIRE ROBERT HASSETT AS A

APPROVAL TO HIRE ROBERT HASSETT AS A SECURITY OFFICER AS NEEDED ON COURT DAYS

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Cannella,

it was

RESOLVED to hire Robert Hassett as a Security Officer, as needed on court days at the rate of \$25 per hour, effective immediately.

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller, the Court Clerk, the Chief of Police and the Personnel Manager.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011 - - 047 <u>SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM</u> KUNG v TOWN OF HARRISON

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Vetere,

it was

RESOLVED to settle the claim in the matter of King v Town of Harrison in the amount of \$2,260 for property damage, plus four (4) days of rental charges.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the settlement is subject to the claimant signing a General Release.

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller and the Law Department.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011- - 048 <u>APPROVAL TO SETTLE THE TAX CERTIORARI:</u> <u>REICH, 70 WESTERLEIGH ROAD,</u> BLOCK 611, LOT 47

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Sciliano,

it was

RESOLVED to authorize the settlement of tax certiorari as follows:

<u>YEAR</u>	CURRENT <u>ASSESSMENT</u>	PROPOSED <u>ASSESSMENT</u>	REDUCTION
2009 *	54,150	45,300	8,850

^{*}This applies to County Taxes Year 2010 School Tax Year 2011

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller, the Law Department, the Receiver of Taxes and the Assessor.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

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2011-- 049 APPROVAL TO SETTLE THE TAX CERTIORARI: OAK VALLEY CONSULTANTS, BLOCK 981, LOT 58

On motion of Councilwoman Amelio, seconded by Councilman Sciliano,

it was

RESOLVED to authorize the settlement of tax certiorari as follows:

YEAR	CURRENT ASSESSMENT	PROPOSED <u>ASSESSMENT</u>	REDUCTION
2009 *	64,000	46,810	17,190

^{*}This applies to County Taxes Year 2010 and School Tax Year 2011

FURTHER RESOLVED to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Comptroller, the Law Department, the Receiver of Taxes and the Assessor.

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilpersons Amelio, Cannella, Sciliano and Vetere

Supervisor Walsh

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

There being no further matters to come before the Board, the Meeting was, on motion duly made and seconded, with all members voting in favor, declared closed at 11:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Angela J. Tamucci Deputy Town Clerk

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