

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC.VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on January 13, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York.

There were present: Mayor Bonnie L.S. Parente, Trustees Christopher A. Siciliano, James Iannone, Raffaella Dunne, James Lark. Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Village Clerk Marie L. Hausner

Also present: Carla Strauss, Marcia Weiser, Margaret Abad, Michael Guglielmo.

On the motion of Trustee Iannone, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Parente and Trustees Siciliano, Iannone, Dunne and Lark all voting "aye", the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of December 9, 2019.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Lark, and with Mayor Parente and Trustees Siciliano, Iannone, Dunne and Lark all voting "aye" the Board approved the minutes of the agenda meeting of December 30, 2019.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Dunne, and with Mayor Parente and Trustees Siciliano, Iannone, Dunne and Lark voting "aye", the Board approved the abstracts for December 2019 claim numbers: 20190286 - 20190371.

TRUSTEE REPORTS
TRUSTEE JAMES IANNONE

Trustee Iannone reported that the East Williston Fire Department responded to nine calls in the month of December: 12 EMS calls, three mutual aid calls to neighboring fire departments, and five general alarms. One of the mutual aid calls was to Williston Park for a fire at the Express Bagel store.

Trustee Iannone noted that Operation Santa was a great success thanks to the generosity of Village residents and the hard work put in by the volunteers.

Trustee Iannone reported that the East Williston Senior Group will be meeting on Thursday, January 16th at 1pm for a light lunch and dessert and socializing with friends. The group will meet again on February 20th for pizza and dessert and entertained by Robert McEntee of Magic Beyond Imagination.

TRUSTEE RAFFAELA DUNNE

The Beautification Committee was busy in the past week taking down the holiday decorations and are now on hiatus until the spring.

The Beautification Committee is also looking for a new chairperson and new members. Anyone interested should contact the Village.

The Recreation Committee continues its yoga classes on Monday and Wednesday mornings between 9:30am and noon. Gentle yoga takes place on Wednesdays from 6-7pm. Come Play with Me takes place on Mondays from 10-11am.

On February 12th, the Committee will host a Valentine's Day dinner at Cassariano in Mineola from 6-9:30pm.

TRUSTEE JAMES LARK

Trustee Lark presented the Justice Court Report for December 2019. There were eight parking, five moving and no village code violations dispensed with in December. Fees collected of \$1,680.00 with \$63.00 in New York State surcharges.

The East Williston Little League is currently working on extending the dugout at Devlin Field in order for it to be ready for opening day of Little League.

Registration for the upcoming season of the East Williston Little League closes on January 15, 2020.

MAYOR BONNIE L.S. PARENTE

Mayor Parente stated that the Board intended to have a referendum placed on the March 18, 2020 ballot for the Village election pertaining to changes on the East Williston Fire Department LOSAP program (Length of Service Award Program), as there were anticipated changes that need to be made. The Board has to authorize the resolution at the meeting so that it is approved more than 60 days prior to the election. It should be noted that should the Board decide that the referendum not be placed on the ballot, the resolution can be rescinded.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-1 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS TO THE DEFINED BENEFIT FIRE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM FOR THE EAST WILLISTON FIRE DEPARTMENT AND CALLING FOR A REFERENDUM ON MARCH 18, 2020, AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF NOTICES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

On the motion of Trustee Iannone, seconded by Trustee Dunne, and with Mayor Parente and Trustees Siciliano, Iannone, Dunne and Lark all voting “aye” the Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Article 11-A of the General Municipal Law was enacted to aid in the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters by permitting the establishment of a Service Award Program upon approval by the governing boards of the political subdivisions which contract with the volunteer fire department and by the eligible voters in the fire protection district after public referendum; and

WHEREAS, at special elections heretofore held, qualified voters of Incorporated Village of East Williston (“Village”), pursuant to General Municipal Law §216, approved the establishment of a Defined Benefit Length of Service Award Program (the “LOSAP”) for volunteer firefighters (“Members”) of the East Williston Fire Department (the “Fire Department”) as described in Section 219 of the General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees (“Board”) wishes to authorize amendments to the LOSAP for the benefit of members of the Fire Department, and to authorize a public referendum with respect thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Board proposes to amend the LOSAP, effective January 1, 2021, to allow any eligible member of the Fire Department who reaches the age of sixty five (65) to earn credit toward the forty (40) year service maximum (the “Amendment”); and

WHEREAS, members of the Board, believe it to be in the best interest and safety of the Village residents to authorize adoption of the Amendment, and wish to approve the Amendment, subject to approval by qualified voters of the District pursuant to a mandatory referendum pursuant to General Municipal Law §216(3)(d).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Board hereby approves the Amendment to the LOSAP as set forth herein for the Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a referendum of the eligible voters in the Village shall be held at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York on March 18, 2020 between the hours of 12:00 PM and 9:00 PM. The vote upon the proposition to be submitted to the qualified voters shall be by voting machine or ballot box and the Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to have the necessary equipment prepared for use; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Mayor shall designate not less than two nor more than four qualified persons to serve as election inspectors and ballot clerks, each of whom shall be a qualified elector and shall serve with compensation as determined by the Board, and shall notify the Village Clerk of such designation; and be it further

RESOLVED that notice of said Referendum shall be given by causing a notice in substantially the form prescribed by the General Municipal Law to be published as required by law; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Village shall pay for the costs of the election as it relates to the referendum held; and shall furnish the Inspectors of Election, at its own expense, with all the necessary registration books, papers, equipment and supplies.

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM FOR EAST WILLISTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Referendum of the qualified voters in the Incorporated Village of East Williston in the service area of the East Williston Fire Department, shall be held at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York on March 18, between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. for the purpose of voting upon the amendment of a previously established Service Award Program under Article 11A of the General Municipal Law.

The proposition shall be substantially in the following form:

PROPOSITION

SHALL the Length of Service Award Program for the East Williston Fire Department be amended, effective January 1, 2021

AMENDMENT OF THE DEFINED BENEFIT LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM FOR THE EAST WILLISTON FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL ALLOW ELIGIBLE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS WHO CONTINUE IN ACTIVE SERVICE AFTER REACHING THE ENTITLEMENT AGE OF SIXTY FIVE (65) TO ACCRUE PROGRAM POINTS AND RECEIVE A PROGRAM CONTRIBUTION FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED FORTY (40) YEARS; SAID AMENDMENT SHALL INCREASE THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST AND THEREBY INCREASE THE ANNUAL SHARE PAID BY EACH HOUSEHOLD IN THE VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON PER ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT; THE MONTHLY SERVICE AWARD PAYMENT WILL BE MAINTAINED AT \$20 FOR EACH YEAR OF CREDITED EAST WILLISTON FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER SERVICE; AND THE MAXIMUM MONTHLY AWARD PER ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT SHALL BE MAINTAINED AT \$800 PER MONTH. A PARTICIPANT MUST SERVE AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS WITH THE DEPARTMENT TO VEST.

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is authorized to take such other steps as may be reasonable and necessary to conduct the referendum; and be it further **RESOLVED** that the Treasurer be and hereby is authorized and directed to pay the costs associated with holding the referendum.

Dated: East Williston, New York, January 13, 2020

Mayor Parente attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor over the past weekend where Village resident Anthony Giunta received his Eagle Scout Badge. She noted that when Eagle Scouts are present with their badges at the ceremony, they are also given mother, father and mentor pins to be given to parents and those who have taken the time to mentor them throughout their lives and Boy Scout endeavors. The mentor pins are often given to parents, grandparents, siblings or other close to the Eagle Scout.

On this occasion, Anthony Giunta present his mentor pin to Village resident and his neighbor Barbara Seixas. Though years apart in age, Mrs. Seixas left a lasting impression on Mr. Giunta who felt it fitting to bestow this honor upon her.

Mayor Parente stated that no one should underestimate the lasting effect of ones presence and guidance in the life of another.

TRUSTEE CHRISTOPHER A. SICILIANO

Trustee Siciliano stated that the department of public works has obtained the new sander and it has been installed on the plow truck. Luckily, no snow has fallen so it has not yet to be utilized.

He reminded residents that in the event of a snowfall, to please not blow or shovel snow into the streets, to remove cars from the road so the plows can remove snow efficiently, and to clear snow from fire hydrants.

Trustee Siciliano presented the Library Report for January 2020:

- Tuesday, January 21st from 6-7:30pm Lunar New Year Celebration with Lion Dance to kick off the event, calligraphy demonstration and dumpling making. All ages welcome.
- Wednesday, January 22nd at 7pm “UFO’s Over Long Island – Everybody’s Got a Story” presented by Joseph Flammer of the Long Island Mutual UFO Network.
- Thursday, January 23rd at 7pm Tween/Teen Puzzle Break Escape (pre-registration necessary, \$10 program fee).

ONGOING PROGRAMS:

Pre-school/Toddler Story Time with Miss Steph Thursdays at 10:30am Toddler Story Time with Miss Dee Fridays at 10:30am. Residents should contact the Library to find out about available museum passes available for a three day loan.

Trustee Siciliano stated that he will not be seeking re-election as Trustee in the March election. It was his wish after serving for eight years to spend more time with his family, and to give the opportunity to someone else who wanted to participate in Village government.

Mayor Parente stated that Deputy Mayor/Trustee Siciliano has contributed so much to the Village through both the East Williston Fire Department and Village government. His presence as a member of the Board will be sorely missed.

VILLAGE CLERK MARIE HAUSNER

The following building permits were issued in December 2019: 37 Orchard Drive, construction of a patio and driveway. 131 Charles Street, installation of an HVAC system. 20 Post Avenue, installation of a fence. 143 Bengueyfield Drive, legalize and maintain a replacement patio. 124 William Street, construction of a portico.

The Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct report for November had no reports of auto accidents, aided cases, burglaries, robberies, larceny or criminal mischief. No moving or parking violations were issued.

The Village office will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-2 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE POLLING LOCATION AND HOURS OF THE VILLAGE ELECTION ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020.

On the motion of Mayor Parente, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Parente and Trustees Siciliano, Iannone, Dunne and Lark all voting "aye" the Board designated the Village Hall of the Village of East Williston, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston New York as the polling location for the Village election on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 from 12 noon to 9pm.

The Mayor opened the meeting to residents.

Michael Guglielmo asked if the Board had heard from National Grid as to when work will be completed on Roslyn Road, so that repaving of the road can take place. National Grid reiterated that completion of their work is still years away, so repaving will not take place until that work is finished.

Mr. Guglielmo stated that he felt that grieving the assessment in the Village is harder to do than with Nassau County. He noted that the County has its assessments on line.

Mayor Parente stated that last year, the Village placed its assessment roll on the website, but encountered several complaints about it being there, when other people posted the information on Facebook.

Mr. Guglielmo felt that having one book in the office and one in the Library is not enough, especially since the Library has cut back on evening hours.

Mayor Parente said she and the Board will review the process in the coming weeks, as the Board will be considering Village Code changes at the agenda meeting on January 27th.

There being no further business, on the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Iannone, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.