

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
AGENDA MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2018

Agenda Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, January 29, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York.

There were present: Mayor David E. Tanner, Trustees Bonnie L.S. Parente, Christopher Siciliano, James Iannone, Anthony J. Casella, Treasurer Michael Delury, Bonnie Kreisman, Village Clerk Marie Hausner, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Village Attorney Jeffrey Blinkoff.

Also present: Emily Willis, Jared Mandel.

Trustee Siciliano stated that Library Director Emily Willis was invited to the agenda meeting this evening because of an incident that took place at the library where a patron used the computer in the library, became disruptive and then pushed a library staff member with his body into the library director's office. He then entered the lobby and started yelling and causing a commotion. The police were called, but the man had left by the time they arrived. A police report was filed by the library staff member.

A week or so ago, the man came back causing distress among library staff. The police were again called.

Ms. Willis now has a policy in place about use of the library.

A certified letter was mailed to this person stating his library privileges are revoked and he is not permitted to enter the premises.

She stated that this person has come into the library on previous occasions (prior to the incident mentioned above). He usually comes in to the library mid-day.

Ms. Willis stated that she consulted with the library supervisor of Williston Park and her husband, who is also a library supervisor in another jurisdiction in drawing up the library use policy.

Mayor Tanner stated that perhaps the Nassau Library System could be used as a resource for creating library policy.

Jeffrey Blinkoff was asked by the Mayor to review the policy.

Ms. Willis stated that the next Library Board meeting will take place on February 28, 2018.

A question arose about the individual in question entering the actual Village Hall building (whether he was just barred from the Library or the entire premises).

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the restriction can state “library and its entry way”.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village Hall had public restrooms.

Trustee Parente asked if Ms. Willis was aware of any other library having similar problems to those experienced in East Williston. She also asked how Ms. Willis felt about the situation.

Ms. Willis stated that a number of libraries have security in place. She also noted that she is not nervous herself, but some staff members are extremely concerned and have taken back some of their shifts. Some Library Board members have also become concerned about this issue.

Trustee Siciliano stated that when he attended the Library Board meeting on January 22, 2018, 90% of the library staff was present at the meeting. He also noted that police officers from the POP unit of the Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct were present at the meeting.

The Board asked what suggestions Ms. Willis had for aiding in this situation to avoid or curtail future events.

Ms. Willis suggested the following: stationing a security guard at the library during evening and Saturday hours when the Village office is closed, a portable panic button, re-positioning cameras in the library to obtain footage of a person’s face when they face the circulation desk, replacing the library office door with one that is more solid.

She noted that the police offered to perform a security evaluation for the entire Village Hall, but would not do it just for the library.

Ms. Willis stated that because of this incident, the library hours were changed. The changing of the hours was done after an evaluation of the number of patrons was performed which showed, that on average only three people used the library on occasion from 6-7pm.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Board needed to digest and discuss the information provided by Ms. Willis.

Trustee Siciliano stated that the lights on East Williston Avenue are now completed and are in working order.

He also noted that as everyone is aware, the Village has experienced a number of water main breaks and valve leaks during the winter. During a recent leak on William Street, valves in the area were replaced.

Trustee Siciliano stated that public works personnel will be “exercising” valves, as well as adding valves to the system so that when a water main break occurs, fewer homes will need to be without water while the break is repaired. He added that James Bailey is currently doing a survey of valves to ensure they are in working order.

Mayor Tanner noted that East Williston was not alone in experiencing water main breaks this winter due to the extreme fluctuation in temperatures.

Trustee Parente asked if the new valves replaced are new materials.

Trustee Siciliano stated that the valves are new however, the pipe surrounding the valves is still old, and may not hold up. He also noted that a number of valves were buried when the repaving of roads took place.

Mayor Tanner stated that public works should have a preventive maintenance program for valves.

Trustee Siciliano stated that Williston Park has a device that is used to exercise valves.

Mayor Tanner asked how meter replacement was going.

Trustee Siciliano stated as he had in the past, that he is concerned with the public works staff installing meters where they have to drill a hole through a resident’s home. He would feel more comfortable if a professional installation company performed this work.

Mayor Tanner asked Ms. Kreisman to obtain prices for a company to perform this work.

Jared Mandel was present at the meeting and presented samples of Village entry signs for the Board’s perusal.

Mayor Tanner stated that the entry way signs would be installed in the right of way and would include the sign and a street light.

Mr. Mandel said he took into account the character of the Village when designing these signs, sort of a farm house/antique look.

Both Trustees Parente and Iannone liked the “option 2” sign with the “option 1” base.

Trustee Casella said he was looking for something different, perhaps more modern.

Mayor Tanner expressed concern about durability of the signs, standing up to vandalism and/or large truck traffic passing the signs.

Mr. Mandel said he will come back with another set of drawings, as well as exact placement of the sign at each location.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, the Board moved to adjourn into executive session at 8:20pm to discuss personnel matters.

The Board re-convened at 9:20pm. The resolutions were approved during the executive session.

Upon the appointment by Mayor Tanner of Jared Mandel as Building Inspector, the Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2018- 2 A RESOLUTION APPROVING COMPENSATION TO VILLAGE BUILDING INSPECTOR.

WHEREAS, the Mayor has appointed Jared Mandel as the Village Building Inspector to full the current unexpired term, and,

WHEREAS, a motion having been made by the Mayor which was seconded by Trustee Siciliano to provide compensation to the Building Inspector in the amount of \$31,272 per year, or \$2,602 per month, which is the amount paid to the previous Building Inspector,

Now, therefore it is **RESOLVED**:

That compensation shall be provided to the Building Inspector in the amount of \$31,272 per year, or \$2,602 per month, which is the amount paid to the previous Building Inspector.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Tanner, Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone and Casella.

Nays: None

RESOLUTION #2018- 3 A RESOLUTION CLARIFYING IMPROVEMENTS WHICH WILL RESULT IN PROPERTY REASSESSMENT WITHIN THE VILLAGE

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees (“Board”) believes it is important to maintain the nature of the Village, and

WHEREAS, to that end, the Board wants to encourage residents to make minor improvements to their homes and properties, and

WHEREAS, the Board further believes that reassessing properties within the Village on the basis of permits being obtained for certain minor improvements to homes and property may discourage residents from making such minor improvements, and

WHEREAS, the Board having considered which minor improvements should not result in reassessment, and

WHEREAS, a Motion having been made by Trustee Casella, which was seconded by Trustee Iannone that obtaining permits for the following minor improvements shall not result in reassessment: the construction or replacement of fences and sheds, and the replacement of central air conditioning units.

Now, therefore, it is **RESOLVED**:

That obtaining permits for the following minor improvements shall not result in a reassessment: the construction or replacement of fences and sheds, and the replacement of central air conditioning units.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

AYES: Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone and Casella.

NAYS: Mayor Tanner

RESOLUTION #2018- 4 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE 2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,384,870.

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees (“Board”) has the duty to approve a tentative assessment roll, and

WHEREAS, to that end, the Board has been presented with a proposed tentative assessment roll for the fiscal year 2018-2019 in the amount of \$2,384,870, and

WHEREAS, the Board having had the opportunity to consider the same and having determined that said tentative assessment roll should be approved, and

WHEREAS, a Motion having been made by Trustee Parente which was seconded by Trustee Casella approving the proposed tentative assessment roll for the fiscal year 2018-2019 in the amount of \$2,384,870,

Now, therefore, it is **RESOLVED**

The proposed tentative assessment roll for fiscal year 2018-2019 in the amount of \$2,384,870, be, and the same hereby is, approved.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

AYES: Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone, and Casella.

NAYS: Mayor Tanner

Trustee Parente asked about the progress on the East Williston Fire Department radio room.

Trustee Iannone stated that Chief Clark advised him that it is close to completion, perhaps by the end of next month.

Trustee Iannone stated that the department's procurement of radios from the Oyster Bay Fire Department fortuitously did not go forward. The radios to be purchased will be obsolete and out of compliance by June of this year, as they were low band radios will no longer be used. After June 2018, all radios must be high band to communicate with other departments in an emergency. The department will not be in compliance if the radios are not purchased by June.

Trustee Parente recalled Chief Theodore stating that he was not able to hear the Mineola Fire Department a few years back during a mutual aid to that department, due to the low band radios.

Trustee Iannone stated that the department has \$8,000 in the budget for radios. There are 44 members needing said radios. The cost for high band radios for those members will be approximately \$17,000.

Mayor Tanner stated that he has observed that the department does not spend allocated monies on what they are supposed to be purchasing, such as preventive

maintenance on vehicles. He said the department needs to have pressure put on them to spend the monies they requested.

Trustee Iannone also stated that the department needs to purchase a new “jaws of life” tool to save victims trapped in vehicle crashes.

Mayor Tanner asked Trustee Iannone to put together a list of the department’s needs for discussion at the next meeting.

Trustee Parente stated that he should also check to see if they purchased the Scott air packs they had talked about.

Mayor Tanner asked if the Board felt that additional flashing speed signs were needed on Roslyn Road. The Board concurred that no further signs were needed.

Mayor Tanner asked about the status of the re-installation of sidewalks on Sumter Avenue.

Mr. Blinkoff stated apologizing that he needed to follow up on this matter and report back to the Board.

Mayor Tanner apprised the Board about the issue of the pulling of the certificate of occupancy at 20 High Street and the posting thereof.

On Saturday, January 27th, the East Williston Fire Department was called to the premises finding an internal water line break, necessitating interim building inspector Kerry Collins to declare the building unsafe due to water damage and mold. Based on the environmental status, the certificate of occupancy was removed.

Mayor Tanner instructed the office staff to advise the Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct that the premises is not to be occupied.

Trustee Casella asked if the Village contacted Nassau County about the competency of the owner.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the Village does not have enough facts about the person to contact Nassau County.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the Muzio’s, former owners of 8 Sumter Avenue have petitioned East Williston and other entities to recoup monies they paid for this and other properties. He noted that the Village only billed the Muzio’s for what the Village was allowed to bill (back taxes, water, cleanup of the property by the Village, etc.).

Mayor Tanner asked that a list of “to do” items be prepared after each meeting and distributed to the Board for follow up.

The Board discussed the issue of the placement of security cameras at Devlin Field.

Mr. Blinkoff had been in contact with World Wide Security and went back and forth about the wording of the contract. There was disagreement about the termination clause, but they finally agreed to it. He added that the contract in general was not a good one, mostly protecting the interest of World Wide Security.

After being in contact with John Mirando from the City of Long Beach, it was discovered that Long Beach purchased the system from World Wide, but it was on the New York State bid list.

Mayor Tanner was shocked that World Wide did not mention they were on the New York State bidders list. He also wanted to know what the difference in cost was between quotes given to East Williston and Long Beach.

The entire Board was concerned about the integrity of World Wide.

Trustee Siciliano stated that Walter Rivera liked the first company that provided quotes, A-1Security.

Mr. Delury stated that at first the Board approved utilizing A-1, subject to locking in the five year maintenance fee at a set price. A-1 did not want to negotiate on that price.

Mayor Tanner asked that A-1 be contacted to see if their prices remained the same and have not changed, and report back to the Board. He felt this process was taking too long.

Mayor Tanner stated that security is a wider issue in the Village.

Turning the discussion back to security in the Library, he asked the Board their feelings.

Trustee Parente felt that having a security guard is overkill.

Trustee Siciliano stated that the Library staff is scared. He thought that perhaps if a security guard is warranted, they could forego using one staff member at night and on Saturdays and have the security guard. This may offset the cost.

Trustee Iannone felt that having the portable panic button, with an audible alarm may be a good idea. The noise from the alarm may be a deterrent.

Mayor Tanner asked if library staff can protect themselves should an incident occur.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the library staff is not security and cannot be directed by the Village to protect themselves (for example, the Village cannot supply mace or other deterrent).

Trustee Casella felt the Village should hire a security consultant.

Mayor Tanner stated that general security is an issue throughout the Village, feeling that a security consultant is needed.

It was suggested to contact Michael Balboni of Redmond Security.

Trustee Iannone felt that the consultant who attended an agenda meeting a few months ago presented a picture of what is needed for larger villages such as Farmingdale and Patchogue. East Williston does not have the problems these villages have.

Mayor Tanner said that during the warmer months, crowd control around the train station and pavilion and parks is a problem.

The Board discussed the issue of deer control on the Wheatley Hills Golf Club property.

Mayor Tanner called the Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct about the issue and spoke to Inspector Flanagan. The inspector felt the issue was more complicated than it may seem. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will most likely be involved in the process of removal of the deer.

WHGC President Martin Kearns has stated that they do not know if they are dealing with one or more deer. They also do not yet know if the deer will be killed, or anesthetized and relocated.

It was noted that the Town of North Hempstead was contacted as well (because most of the golf course is in their jurisdiction).

Trustee Casella stated that his grandchildren have seen deer on the property at the Willets Road School.

Mr. Blinkoff read the portion of the East Williston Code which prohibits discharge of firearms and the like.

Trustee Iannone said he was opposed to having a wildlife control company coming into the Village using a crossbow to exterminate the deer, given the close proximity to homes in the area.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Golf Club seems to have thought the process through thoroughly.

Trustee Siciliano felt that once golf resume on the golf course in warmer weather, the deer will vacate their habitat in the area.

Mr. Blinkoff had spoken with the company hired by the WHGC. If a DEC permit is issued to remove the deer, the Village will be notified.

RESOLUTION #2018- 5 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO NOTIFY THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION ABOUT UPHOLDING THE EAST WILLISTON VILLAGE CODE'S PROHIBITION OF DISCHARGING FIRE ARMS.

On the motion of Trustee Iannone, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone and Casella all voting "aye" to authorize the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation about upholding the East Williston Village Code's prohibition of the discharge of fire arms.

There being no further business, on the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Parente, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 pm.