

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
AGENDA MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017

Agenda Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, November 27, 2017 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, Anthony J. Casella, Treasurer Michael Delury, Bonnie Kreisman, Village Clerk Marie Hausner, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Village Attorney Jeffrey Blinkoff.

Excused from meeting: Trustee James Iannone.

Also present: James Clark, Patrick Theodore, Paul Walters, William McLean, Rita Botensten, Michael Braitto, Matthew Cuomo, Philip and Maureen Chappo.

RESOLUTION #2017-38 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT WITH THE EAST WILLISTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 1, 2017 TO MAY 31, 2018.

On the motion of Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, and Casella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously authorized the Mayor to execute the contract with the East Williston Fire Department for the period June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018.

Mayor Tanner asked the East Williston Fire Department chiefs and commissioners to attend the agenda meeting this evening to discuss the issue of turning of the fire sirens during the hours of 11pm to 7am.

Trustee Parente stated that she wanted the sirens to be left on at night, but said she would defer to the Mayor on the issue.

Trustee Siciliano stated that he was against turning the sirens off, feeling it was not worth it for the amount of calls that East Williston responds to (which generally are few).

It was noted that there was some negative feedback about the sirens during the month of September when East Williston had numerous calls and mutual aid calls to Mineola.

Trustee Casella felt that the sirens should be kept in service at all hours. When someone moves to East Williston, they should understand we have a volunteer fire department and the sirens alert them to calls. Even though the members have pagers, a dual system of sirens and pagers ensures the safety of residents.

The discussion ended with the decision to keep the sirens on at all times.

Chief Theodore reminded the Board that the annual inspection of the fire department will take place on Saturday, December 9th at 10am.

Residents Rita Botensten, Michael Braitto, Matthew Cuomo, Philip and Maureen Chappo were present at the meeting regarding the proposed fence that the district wants to install at North Side.

Mayor Tanner noted that the village received correspondence from Nick Fusco of the East Williston School District requesting a traffic study for streets around the North Side School.

Rita Botensten thanked Mayor Tanner for allowing the group to appear before the Board. She stated that through networking, it was found that many residents did not know about the proposed installation of a fence, and did not know the reasons why the district wants to install a fence.

Mayor Tanner reiterated that the East Williston Village Board has little authority when it comes to school district matters.

Philip Chappo said the group wanted to share what they have learned and wanted to heighten the Board's sensitivity to the issue.

Matthew Cuomo stated that there is no traffic problem in the area of North Side School. The intent of a fence is to direct people around the property, rather than people walking across the property. The school board has backed off giving reasons for why the fence needed.

Michael Braitto wanted the Board of Trustees to ask questions of the school district in a friendly letter to them to obtain information as to the following:

- When the North Side School is in "lock down", is the Village of East Williston advised?
- Are they addressing parking issues and the effects on the quality of life in the area?
- How is the school addressing access issues (to the building)
- When will landscaping be completed on the property, as it was supposed to have been finished by now.

Mr. Braitto noted that the school district has already sent a package to the State Education Department with plans of what they want to do at North Side. This information may have also been sent to BOCES.

Trustee Parente felt that the intent of the letter is that East Williston is “listening and paying attention” to what is going on at the property. She added that some residents want a fence at North Side.

Mr. Braitto stated that a fence will fail, if it does not solve the problem. It is not known what exactly the problem is.

Mr. Cuomo stated that School Board President Mark Kamberg supports the installation of a fence. He may be feeling pressure (for the fence) from outside people. Any pressure from the Board of Trustees would alert them that the Board (and community) is not in favor of a fence.

Monies for this project have been approved in the school district budget.

Mr. Braitto added that the school district is not good at maintenance of properties, so the installation of a fence and maintenance thereof is questionable at best.

Trustee Siciliano noted that the students are dropped off on a public street. Perhaps consideration should be given to installation of a circular driveway.

Mr. Cuomo stated that the community is looking for answers from the school board. There are concerns that the measures being considered are not the means to solve the problem, which has yet to be identified. What needs to be known is what the defined problem is? Will a fence solve this problem? Putting gentle pressure on the school district may help in gathering information on the project.

Mr. Braitto stated that as far as traffic is concerned, perhaps closing neighboring streets for an hour a day may help.

Mr. Cuomo stated that most accidents over the years have taken place when people are pulling out onto East Williston Avenue near North Side.

Mrs. Chappo stated that drivers go through stop signs in the area.

Trustee Siciliano stated that years ago, the school district wanted to expand the parking lot to accommodate dumpsters. Residents turned the request down.

Mr. Braitto stated that a fence will be a problem for those parking by the openings (of the fence).

Mayor Tanner stated that he is against the installation of a fence around North Side School.

Mr. Braitto noted that:

- With regard to the North Side issues, focus needs to be placed on the bigger issue.
- He did not feel speed bumps could be placed on the surrounding streets.
- The entire front of North Side School (facing East Williston Avenue) is underutilized.
- A visitor's parking lot is needed at the school.

Mayor Tanner felt that we should work with the one person from the East Williston School Board who is against the fence to discuss/address the issues and questions.

Mr. Cuomo said that the issues in question are given to the Safety Committee first for an assessment, then the issue is given to the Capital Committee. The problem is they don't know what they are trying to solve.

He added that in the afternoons, the general area is a mess, as a mad dash ensues to pick up students.

Mayor Tanner stated that perhaps the school district can stagger dismissal times to alleviate this problem.

Trustee Parente felt that limiting access to streets by cars may be a better solution.

Trustee Casella felt that after a letter is sent to the school district, a copy should be sent to the Williston Times..

Trustee Siciliano felt that as a courtesy, we should ask to meet with the school board.

Trustee Parente stated that sending a letter may be best, and let them respond to us.

Trustee Casella thought that the pressure put on the school board for the need for a fence was from non-East Williston residents.

The Board asked the group present to draft a letter to the school board and the Trustees will review to be sent.

It was noted that Mayor Tanner, and Trustees Parente, Siciliano and Casella were against the installation of a fence, but acknowledged that they have no control over the issue.

The Board discussed the issue of the Tzu Chi Foundation at 60 East Williston Avenue contemplating alterations to the building to start a day camp/nursery school at the location.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the East Williston had revised the Code regarding conditional uses years ago, that may apply to this issue.

Mayor Tanner stated that a day camp may be an intensity of the use of the property.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that “ARLUPA” regulations come into play, and the Village may not be able to legislate the use.

Officials from Tzu Chi will be contacting the Village with more information.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that he spoke with Paul Vesel of RealTerm Energy. He went over all of the concerns/questions the Board expressed in their emails about the proposed agreement for the installation of LED lighting.

Points discussed were:

- Disposal costs covered in the contract.
- Work to be performed as a turnkey project.
- Photometric design, using existing lights.
- Underground infrastructure needs (wiring).
- Open book, rather than closed book contract.
- Termination of contract for cause.
- Before and after photographs (offered after the initial audit of street lights).
- What trees need to be trimmed and coordination thereof with the Village.

Mr. Blinkoff will get back to Mr. Vesel on the agreement.

The Board discussed the proposal from Worldwide Security. Ms. Kreisman stated that Walter Rivera was concerned that the proposal from the company was not complete. The proposal from A-1 Security included four cameras. Worldwide only contains three. Mr. Rivera suggested the Board go with A1 Security.

It was noted that the Board already approved a resolution to accept the proposal of Worldwide Security, pending obtaining quotes on wiring work to the pole. A quote from Albertson Electric was received in the amount of \$475.00.

Mr. Rivera will once again contact Worldwide about a fourth camera.

The Board re-scheduled the December 2017 agenda meeting to January 2, 2018.

Trustee Parente received word from the East Williston Little League about repairs and improvements to the fence at Devlin Field. They have held fundraisers to cover the costs.

A quote was received from North Shore Fence Co. in the amount of \$1,580.00 for this work.

Trustee Siciliano felt the Village needed to obtain at least one more quote before approving the proposal, but felt that the work should proceed after another bid is procured.

The Board felt it best for the Village to handle the installation/repairs. It was also felt that the repairs should take place after the new surveillance cameras are installed.

RESOLUTION #2017-39 A RESOLUTION APPROVING TO INSTALL/REPAIR FENCING AT DEVLIN FIELD AND AWARD TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Casella, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, and Casella all voting “aye”, the Board approved to install/repair fencing at Devlin Field and award the work to the lowest responsible bidder.

Trustee Parente informed the Board that Tom McCauley received an email from Tom Hoag, stating that due to AED training by East Williston for the East Williston Little League, a life was saved recently.

Trustee Siciliano stated that public works discovered recently during hydrant flushing that two hydrants needed to be replaced. A quote from Orchid Sewer was received in the amount of \$16,300.

RESOLUTION #2017-40 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSAL FROM ORCHID SEWER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,300.00 TO REPLACE TWO FIRE HYDRANTS.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Casella, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, and Casella all voting “aye”, the Board approved a proposal from Orchid Sewer to replace two fire hydrants.

Mr. Delury asked the Board to consider adding another banking organization to the list of banks approved by the Village for the depositing of village funds. NY Class (New York Cooperative Liquid Asset Securities System) is an investment pool that many municipalities use to invest in short term/high interest payouts. If approved, this institution will be added to the preforma resolution at the annual meeting in April.

RESOLUTION #2017- 41 A RESOLUTION APPROVING NY CLASS COOPERATIVE LIQUID ASSET SECURITIES SYSTEM AS A DESIGNATED ADDITIONAL DEPOSITORY OF SEPARATE FUNDS DEPOSITED BY THE VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON.

On the motion of Mayor Tanner, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, and Casella all voting “aye”, the Board unanimously approved NY Class Cooperative Liquid Asset Securities System as a designated additional depository of separate funds deposited by the Village of East Williston.

There being no further business, on the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Mayor Tanner, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.