

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
AGENDA MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2020

Agenda meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, December 28, 2020 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York.

There were present: Mayor Bonnie L.S. Parente, Trustees Raffaella Dunne, James Lark, Village Clerk Marie L. Hausner, Secretary to the Board of Trustees Bonnie Kreisman, Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff.

Attended via Webex: Trustees James Iannone, Anthony Gallo, Village Treasurer Michael Delury, Deputy Clerk William Basel.

Also present: East Williston Board of Fire Commissioners Paul Walters, William McClean, John Ferro, Patrick Theodore, Steven Jones.

With the East Williston Fire Commissioners present, the Board discussed the 2014 grant from Nassau County Legislator Richard Nicoletto's office in the amount of \$40,000 for upgrade to the fire department's radio communications room. The Village may lose this grant because proper protocols and policies were not followed.

Michael Delury was asked to get a list items and prices from Craig Stewart who performed work on the radio room and forward it to Ursula Babino at Legislator Nicoletto's office.

Mayor Parente asked if any of the commissioners had any meeting minutes, or emails regarding any work or purchases on the radio room.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that any purchase/work less than \$35,000 does not need to be bid, but needed at least three quotes, or the written documentation for the attempt to obtain three quotes.

The Commissioners advised that work was started by William Titterton of the New Hyde Park Fire Department with the plan to demolish the old room, and refurbish it into a new room.

The Board questioned if any purchases were made off of New York State contracts.

Mayor Parente asked if John Ferro could call Craig Stewart to inquire about this issue, and ask him to specifically outline what was purchased from State contract.

Steve Jones will contact former East Williston Fire Chief Dan Cramblitt to see if he has any information that will aid in obtaining information.

Mayor Parente stated that the Board, Commissioners and Chiefs will be meeting on this subject again in the near future.

Paul Walters expressed his dismay in the lack of donations from village residents towards Operation Santa this year. It was his hope to sponsor a food drive in January or February.

The Board discussed the lawsuit against the East Williston School Districting with regard to the construction of a fence around the North Side School.

Mr. Blinkoff had been in contact with Wade Baltramo of NYCOM with regard to filing a Notice of Motion for Leave to File an *Amicus Curaie* Brief.

NYCOM said they will write a brief to join in the motion.

Trustee Dunne stated that that the plans for the fence did not include safety and access issues brought up by the East Williston Fire Department, as well as issues brought up by the Building Inspector.

Trustee Iannone stated that the Fire Department requested a straight path from the street into the school property. The School District said they would make the recommended changes at a meeting with Patrick Theodore and former Trustee Chris Siciliano, but it never took place.

RESOLUTION #2020-36 A RESOLUTION TO FILE A NOTICE OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF WITH THE APPELLAE DIVISION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK IN THE MATTER OF PAULA CUOMO, MATTHEW CUOMO, PHILIP CHAPPO ETAL AGAINST THE EAST WILLISTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE EAST WILISTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

On the motion of Mayor Parente, seconded by Trustee Lark, and with Mayor Parente and Trustees Dunne, Iannone, Lark and Gallo all voting “aye”, the Board authorized to file a Notice of Motion for Leave to File an Amicus Curiae Brief with the Appellate Division of the State of New York in the Matter of Paula Cuomo, Matthew Cuomo, Philip Chappo Etal, aganst the East Williston Union Free School District and the Board of Education of the East Williston Union Free School District.

Mayor Parente stated that the holiday light contest went well. It was hoped to host this again in 2021.

Mayor Parente stated asked if there were any updates with the Picciuca case at 137 Weeks Road. She asked that Jared Mandel follow up on this with both her and the office.

The Board discussed the Oakley Lane retaining wall. The Beautification Committee recommended placing vines on the East Williston portion of the wall. James Bailey is looking into the type of vines.

William Basel investigated new website hosts as well as upgrades to the current host, GovOffice. The upgrades to the website (including the smart forms, and email processes) will cost approximately \$5,500, whereas switching to a new provider will cost \$14,000.

Trustee Dunne hoped that once the water meter project is completed, there could be a link placed on the website for Eye on Water for residents to utilize.

Mayor Parente spoke about the Village Code being placed online.

Mrs. Hausner advised that in the coming weeks she will be meeting with Mr. Blinkoff to go over the local laws, and filings with the Secretary of State. After the meeting, General Code will be contacted to inquire about proceeding with the work needed to place the Code online.

Mr. Basel was also investigating upgrades to the KVS system and online building permit processes online with Jared Mandel.

Trustee Lark noted that A+ response to the village's surveillance camera issues has not been very good. He felt that the village was too small for this company. He was in talks with Wiremen for the same quality equipment, at most likely a cheaper price. He should be getting a quote from them shortly.

Trustee Gallo stated that the scheduled meeting regarding the refurbishing of the tennis courts was postponed by snow.

Trustee Dunne stated that the tennis instructor was looking to hold a fundraiser to raise funds for the refurbishing of the tennis courts.

Mayor Parente asked Mr. Delury to give a budget review to the Board. Points touched upon were:

- As of this date, approximately six residents have not paid their property taxes.
- There is an unfavorable balance in payroll because of the unanticipated hiring of William Basel.
- The hiring of Patrick Theodore should come out even, due to the Village not using PDQ Security.
- Judgment and claims has a favorable balance so far because so few SCAR claims came in this year.

- Insurance is under budget, and due to the fundraiser for the antique fire truck, the insurance is covered for it.
- Truck maintenance and repair for the fire department cannot be predicted due to unforeseen repairs.
- New York State Retirement had been budgeted for \$59,500, but has come in about \$300 higher than expected.
- The Justice Court grant covered part of the construction of the dais in the meeting room.
- Mr. Delury is still awaiting information to meet with Ursula Babino of Legislator Nicoletto's office about the radio room grant.

Trustee Dunne asked if the review of the budget reflected what the Village may get from FEMA reimbursement for the trees that fell during Tropical Storm Isaias.

Mr. Delury stated that this has been taken into consideration in this review.

Mr. Delury was looking for the Board to approve the audited financial statements for the fiscal year June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020 sent out in a previous email.

Mayor Parente asked that Mr. Delury send the document to the Board again, as she had a question on an item contained in the report.

Trustee Iannone spoke about creating a "buddy list" for seniors to check up on one another.

Mayor Parente asked that Trustee Iannone speak with the members of the Senior Group and find out exactly what they want, and how they will go about creating it. The Village can send out a flier and email blast about

There being no further business, on the motion of Mayor Parente, seconded by Trustee Dunne, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm.