

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
MAY 29, 2012
AGENDA MEETING

Agenda Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Tuesday May 29, 2012 at 7:30p.m. at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York.

There were present: Mayor David E. Tanner, Trustees Bonnie L.S. Parente, Caroline DeBenedittis, Robert M. Vella, Jr., Christopher Siciliano Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Village Treasurer Michael Delury, Village Clerk Marie L. Hausner, Secretary to the Board of Trustees Bonnie Kreisman.

Also present: Robert L. Campagna, AIA, Dean Koutsoubis, PE, Chief Patrick Theodore, Fire Commissioner John Ferro, Fire Commissioner Thomas DelaPorte.

Dean Koutsoubis and Robert Campagna were present at the meeting to discuss Mr. Koutsoubis report dated May 23, 2012 "Assessment of Stability and Safety at 8 Sumter Avenue, East Williston, NY". A copy of said report is on file in the office of the Village Clerk. Mr. Koutsoubis stated that at this point, the Village should engage the service of a cost estimator to determine the costs involved. The Village will then be able to determine if the cost of replacement exceeds the cost of repair.

Mr. Campagna stated that as witnessed in the original entry into the house in 2010, the premises is filled with household goods, old furniture, old papers, (debris) etc. Some rooms are not accessible because the accumulation of debris is so much that doors cannot be opened all of the way into another room. He said that if there was a fire, firefighters could not fight the fire.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the contents of the home, if removed, cannot be thrown out, but will have to be stored at a location. He further stated that before an estimator goes to the house, the Village may have to remove all of the contents to enable easy access to the estimator.

Mr. Koutsoubis said that once an estimator submits an evaluation, the Village will have a basis to determine the cost to bulldoze the structure or strip down the inside and outside, leaving the framing and repair.

Mr. Campagna stated that due to the holes in the roof, the electrical system is not working. Also, the pipes in the house had burst when the heating system was shut down.

Mr. Koutsoublis said that an estimator will be able to tell the Village if he can give an accurate estimate without entering the premises. He said that he will forward the names of estimators to Mr. Campagna.

Mr. Blinkoff said he will go back to court when seeking costs. The current order only allows the Village to demolish the structures, but not the recovery of costs.

Trustee Vella stated that after going back to court to retrieve costs, the costs can be placed as a lien on the property and then the Village can foreclose.

Mayor Tanner questioned the structural integrity of the foundation. Mr. Koutsoubis had no reason to believe that the foundation is compromised.

Mr. Blinkoff added that the court order states that the premises be rendered stable and safe.

Mr. Koutsoubis stated that haz-mat personnel will have to be hired to remove the personal effects from the house.

Mr. Koutsoubis will follow up with Mr. Campagna and forward the names of estimators to him.

RESOLUTION #16-2012 A RESOLUTION BINDING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 WITH THE TREIBER GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$76,534.83

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee DeBenedittis, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, DeBenedittis, Siciliano and Vella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously authorized to bind insurance for fiscal year 2012-2013 with The Treiber Group in the amount of \$76,534.83.

The Board discussed the proposal forwarded from Cashin Associates for drainage work at Bengueyfield Drive, Titus Way, Congress Avenue, and Ogden Avenue. The base cost for the work is \$84,599.00 with a contingency of \$8,459.90.

Mayor Tanner felt the cost of the work exceeded the amount of what is expected to be recouped from CHIP's. He thought that one of the locations needed to be removed to stay within the budget.

Trustee Vella stated that the number of locations had already been cut to the bone, that the Village should proceed with the projects outlined, as the estimate without contingency is within the budgeted amount.

May 29, 2012

Page 3 of 8

The Board discussed the resolution pertaining to plumbing inspectors. The plumbing inspectors will be Jack Gayson, Richard Cody and Robert Gramman. Mr. Blinkoff will prepare the protocol and send letters to the inspectors. At that point, the Board will meet with the inspectors to discuss the protocol.

Ms. Kreisman asked how the scheduling of inspection will work. Mayor Tanner said the inspection assignments will be on a rotating basis.

The Board discussed the sanitation contract with DeJana. Mayor Tanner stated that he wants the three day per week yard waste pick up into the first two weeks in December, as many residents do the last clearing of their yards right after Thanksgiving.

Mayor Tanner discussed the use of clear plastic bags. He wanted to explore this issue more thoroughly.

Trustee Siciliano discussed purchase recycling buckets for Village residents. He obtained a proposal of \$12.25 per unit, with a one time logo printing fee of \$350. He will get the total cost if the Village purchased 850 buckets (number of households in the Village).

Chief Theodore asked the status of the services of a grant writer. Mayor Tanner stated that there is still one detail of the contract to be worked out.

Chief Theodore also asked the status of 8 Sumter Avenue. Mr. Blinkoff informed him of the discussion on the engineering report earlier in the evening, and that the Village will have an estimator visit the site to determine the costs of demolishing the structure against repairing it.

Chief Theodore stated that he found out that the Nassau County Fire Marshal's office cannot perform an inspection on a private residence, however, if it is found that an overabundance of toxic containers or accelerants are in the premises, the Village can call on the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Fire Commissioner Ferro was in attendance to speak about the proposed purchase of a used Chevrolet vehicle as a chief's vehicle for the second assistant chief of the Department. He informed the Board that the Oceanside Fire District had two vehicles for sale. The cost of the 2007 vehicle is \$6,500. The vehicle was inspected by Tal's who found the vehicle to be mechanically sound. The mileage is just over 70,000 and the price includes lights and radios. The chief operating the vehicle will pay for gas.

As it stands now, assistant chiefs use their own vehicles and the Village has outfitted the vehicles with lights which cost upwards of \$6,000.

May 29, 2012

Page 4 of 8

Trustee Vella had grave concerns with an assistant chief using his or her personal vehicle to respond to a fire call. From a liability standpoint, the use of the personal vehicle could put the Village at risk.

Mayor Tanner stated that the issue of purchasing another chief's vehicle was not brought up during budget discussions this past March, and therefore was not budgeted. He further stated that he had checked with a company that supplies lights for volunteer firefighters and found the cost to be about \$2,500.

Mr. Ferro stated that N.F.P.A. (National Fire Protection Association) standards section 1901 require warning levels for lights, as well as optical warnings on the front and side of the vehicle. He stated for the record that he has made the Board aware of NFPA 1901, and requested the purchase of a chief's vehicle in lieu of the purchase of lights for each assistant chief.

Chief Theodore added that when the lights are installed in personal vehicles, they leave a great many holes after the lights are removed. Mayor Tanner stated that it was always understood that if a firefighter accepted the position of chief, they would use their personal vehicle.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the courts rely on various standards when deciding cases, and N.F.P.A. is one such set of standards. The Board would be ill advised not to take heed of the standards. He also said that N.F.P.A. safety standards are applicable and acceptable in this matter of lights on fire department vehicles.

Mr. Ferro said now that chiefs are living outside of the Village, they are encountering more traffic and traffic lights and signals when responding to calls. It is in the best interest of the Village for a chief to be driving an official vehicle, where other drivers must pull over to the side of the road when lights and sirens are in use. He stated that the days of using personal vehicles are long over.

Chief Theodore stated that there is a concern about personal liability issues.

Trustee Parente felt that the Fire Department has waited long enough for an assistant chief's vehicle.

Mayor Tanner expressed concern over the expenditure, as an additional chief's car was not in the 2012-2013 budget.

Mr. Delury stated that the Fire Department operating budget is \$20,000 in the red.

May 29, 2012

Page 5 of 8

Trustee Vella stated that the Fire Department budget should be reviewed to see where the money and be taken from another line item.

Trustee Siciliano stated that monies should not be taken out of the budget for radios. He also felt that the purchase of the vehicle would only help the Village in the long run.

Trustee Parente stated that the Village should not wait much longer, as Oceanside Fire District has had these vehicles for sale for over two months now.

The clerk was instructed to flag a reminder for discussions on the 2013-2014 budget for a third chief's vehicle.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2012 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A CHIEF'S VEHICLE FROM THE OCEANSIDE FIRE DISTRICT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,500.00

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Vella, the Board approved the purchase of a 2004 Chevrolet vehicle from the Oceanside Fire District in the amount of \$6,500.00. On a poll of the Board the votes were recorded as:

Mayor Tanner	Nay
Trustee Parente	Aye
Trustee DeBenedittis	Aye
Trustee Siciliano	Aye
Trustee Vella	Aye

Trustee Parente stated that the Fire Department at been looking into an identification badge system.

Chief Theodore informed the Board that Binary Solutions (Fire Tracker), the maker of the proprietary software that the Fire Department utilizes has offered the Department a model of their first ID system on a trial basis. The Department of Homeland Security rules stated that all emergency personnel must be able to identify themselves in an emergency, and during emergency drills. The ID card printer is \$1,500, but Chief Theodore will obtain a formal proposal from Binary Solutions.

Mr. Delury asked if the ID cards can be extended to Village employees as well as the Fire Department membership.

Chief Theodore felt that the Memorial Day parade and ceremony worked out very well this year.

May 29, 2012

Page 6 of 8

Trustee Parente asked that the clerk prepare the documentation for the DASNY grant for the Fire Department generator and upgrade to the computer system, so that a first submission can be forwarded for processing by New York State. After the completion of the work on the generator, a second submission of invoices can be forwarded to the State.

Trustee Parente thanked the Board for the quick approval for the repair of brakes on the Fire Truck #814.

Trustee Parente apprised the Board on two items: she is waiting for the insurance on the farm stand, and review by Mr. Blinkoff. She is also still working out details on the JSK contract for grant writing services.

Trustee DeBenedittis distributed information on budget transfers made by the Library Board (Library Board resolution #1-2012). Mr. Delury had suggested the action to Library Director Susan Quinn that a resolution be undertaken by the Library Board. The Library Saturday summer hours are 10:30am to 1pm.

Trustee DeBenedittis said that the Library was looking to place a display cabinet in the Village Hall lobby. Mayor Tanner asked that Rob Campagna coordinate the placement and size of the display case. The cabinet should be that of a locking type. He also stated that when residents volunteer personal items for display, they should sign a waiver for the display.

Trustee DeBenedittis will have a phone conference with the Village's website server next week.

RESOLUTION #18-2012 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSAL OF BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS (SCOTT KURKELA) TO PROVIDE SERVICES AS VILLAGE ARBORIST AT A COST OF \$50.00 PER INSPECTION.

On the motion of Trustee DeBenedittis, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, DeBenedittis, Siciliano and Vella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the proposal of Bartlett Tree Experts (Scott Kurkela) to provide services as Village arborist at a cost of \$50.00 per inspection.

Trustee Vella stated that the Recreation Committee had received a request to have a broom and squeegee available at the tennis courts. Christine Conte has the key to the storage locker so the courts can be cleaned after a storm. In the past, tennis lessons had to be cancelled if the instructor could not contact public works.

Trustee Siciliano stated that he and Jim Bailey had investigated ruts in the path to Devlin Field from the park on the north side East Williston Avenue. The water run-off from Wheatley House (1Benegfield Drive) is causing the ruts. The Mayor stated that Mr. Campagna should write a

May 29, 2012

Page 7 of 8

letter to Wheatley House advising them of the situation and that the problem needs to be remedied as soon as possible.

Trustee DeBenedittis stated that the sign at Devlin Park and the posts on the Toddler Park sign need to be painted.

Trustee Siciliano met with the Public Works staff in order to work up a five year plan for work that needs to be done in the Village. Some immediate work that needs to be done is re-stripping of roads.

Trustee Siciliano stated that James Bailey requested to have a smart phone for Village use. The cost will be \$30.00 more per month. The Board had no problem with Mr. Bailey getting a smart phone.

Trustee Siciliano felt that the Memorial Day parade was not well attended by residents. He thought perhaps next year, the Village could have antique cars, where the veterans can ride in the cars. The Mayor asked the clerk to flag this discussion for next February.

Trustee Siciliano also noted that the Village needed to get prices to repair the DPW garage soffits.

Trustee Parente asked that Mr. Delury provide her with a detail of the 2011-2012 Fire Department budget.

Mr. Delury stated that the \$19,000 in funding from FEMA can be tied to the overage in the tree expenses in the budget, a direct result of Hurricane Irene.

Mayor Tanner asked that Mr. Delury check the details of the 2011-2012 budget with regard to sanitation expenses.

Mr. Delury was also requested to provide a comparison "to date" report on revenues and expenses in the budget. He will also provide monthly updates in regular budget format.

The Board discussed water issues. At a future Board meeting, the Board wanted to discuss water rates. Trustee Parente felt that the Board should hold off on the discussion until the Village hears from Williston Park.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that Village Justice Joseph Sperber noted that an issue has come up in court that some of the Village's "no parking 2am to 6am" signs are faded (Roslyn Road and at the East End of the Village Green). Mr. Bailey was directed to check the signs.

May 29, 2012

Page 8 of 8

Mr. Blinkoff was also approached by the Judge about his need to be bonded. Section 3-306 of the Village law addresses bonding. He stated that NYCOM has conflicting views , as concerns arise over insurance policy exclusions. Mr. Blinkoff will check with NYMIR and the New York State Comptroller's office with regard to this issue. He said he will investigate the cost of bonds.

The Board directed the clerk to write a letter to the resident at 520 Roslyn Road regarding the work on the apron to repair a service leak. Due to the Nassau County easement, the repair is not the Village's responsibility. It was asked that the letter be reviewed by the Village Attorney.

With regard to the curbing issue at 55 School Street, Mr. Campagna will write a letter to Mr. Azzara stating the Village's position on the location of the installation of the curbing, and that it needs to be removed.

On the motion of Trustee Vella, seconded by Trustee Parente and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, DeBenedittis, Siciliano and Vella all voting "aye", there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 p.m.