

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, June 12, 2017

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, June 12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York.

There were present: Mayor David E. Tanner, Deputy Mayor/Trustee Bonnie L.S. Parente, Trustees Christopher Siciliano, James L. Iannone, Anthony J. Casella, Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Village Clerk Marie L. Hausner.

Also present: James Clark, Paul Walters, Walter Rivera, Mr. & Mrs. Philip Chappo, Stephan Leccese, Barbara Seixas, Marcia Weiser, Carla Strauss, Michael Guglielmo, John Lekstutis, Mr. & Mrs. Botensten, Naomi Leskowitz, Mr. & Mrs. James Broderick, Mr. Adams, Anthony Core, John Quirk.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Casella, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone and Casella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the regular Board meeting of May 8, 2017.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone and Casella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the agenda meeting of May 30, 2017.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Casella, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone and Casella all voting "aye", the Board approved the abstract of claims for May 2017 as follows: 20160657 - 20160720.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE BONNIE PARENTE

Trustee Parente reported that the East Williston Senior's Group will meet on June 15, 2017 at 1pm for an ice cream social.

TRUSTEE CHRISTOPHER A. SICILIANO

Trustee Siciliano reported that the department of public works is currently replacing sidewalk flags lifted by Village trees. They are also planting street trees in various locations.

He also thanked resident Barbara Seixas for the hanging flower baskets displayed around the Village Hall.

Trustee Siciliano presented the Library report. The 2017 New York State Summer Reading Program features the theme "Build a Better World". The activities planned for the summer are: the kickoff party on June 29th, the story and craft program from July 6th - August 3rd. The play "Madagascar" on the Village Green on July 6th. An animal show on July 19th and the annual pool party on August 8th.

TRUSTEE JAMES L. IANNONE

Trustee Iannone stated that the East Williston Fire Department continues to hold weekly fire drills on Thursdays now through October. In April and May, the Village received complaints about discolored water after the use of hydrants. Since the entire hydrant system was flushed in mid-May, no complaints have been received.

The East Williston Fire Department will be attending Fire School at the Nassau County Fire Academy in Old Bethpage during the month of June.

The Department also had five new members join recently.

TRUSTEE ANTHONY J. CASELLA

Trustee Casella gave the Justice Court report of May 2017: A total of \$875.00 in fines from six parking violations, no moving violations and no Village ordinance violations in May 2017. There was \$70.00 in New York State surcharges for the month.

Yoga classes take place on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:15am. Gentle yoga takes place on Wednesdays from 5:45-7:15pm.

Trustee Casella noted that the new sanitation contractor, Meadow Carting commenced work in the Village on June 1st. He felt they were doing a wonderful job.

MAYOR DAVID TANNER

Mayor Tanner stated that the July Village Board meeting will be re-scheduled to Tuesday, July 18, 2017.

VILLAGE CLERK MARIE L. HAUSNER

The following building permits were issued in May 2017: 86 Weeks Road, two story addition. 375 Congress Avenue, construction of a new driveway. 169 Glenmore Street, demolition of existing residence, construction of new house and new detached garage. 9 Donald Street, legalize and maintain a mudroom. 54 Ogden, expansion of driveway. 215 Harvard Street, replacement of retaining wall. 384 Congress Avenue, installation of a central air condition system.

The Nassau County Police Department report for April 2017 reported one parking violation, no moving violations, and no auto accidents or aided calls.

Anthony Core and John Quirk from Meadow Carting (the new sanitation contractor) were present at the meeting to address any questions that residents may have.

Mr. Core stated his firm was happy to be back working in East Williston. He gave a brief overview of the company. He wanted to hear from residents who had complaints or concerns about the pick –up of refuse. The telephone number for Meadow is 516-338-0121.

Mayor Tanner asked that Meadow provide someone from the company to come to the Village office on a monthly basis to address complaints one on one with residents. Mr. Core said the request can be accommodated.

Mr. Quirk noted that Meadow trucks employ two types of separation methods for garbage from recyclables. Some trucks have baskets for the separation, others have a bifurcated rear compactor.

Carla Strauss reported that she has not had pick up of yard waste on the stated Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. She stated her phone number for a call back to discuss further.

Mr. Stephan Leccese asked if there was a contingency plan in place should another strike of sanitation workers occur, as the one before the current Village contract with Meadow went into effect.

Mr. Core stated that the last strike to hit the sanitation industry happened over 30 years ago with the company, Donno, and rarely occurs. The current contract with Meadow's employees runs parallel (in years) with the contract with East Williston. A massive contingency plan is in place should anything happen, but given the new contract with employees, the chances of a strike happening are nil.

Mr. Ken Botensten asked if yard waste will be removed the same way as in the past by Dejana. Mr. Core stated that Meadow prefers waste be placed in clear bags for easier identification.

Mr. Michael Guglielmo asked if the pickup route has been set. Mr. Core stated that the same route is in place, but may rotate in a few months.

Mayor Tanner said the Village decided not to rotate the routes.

It was noted that the earliest time for removal of refuse is between 6:45 and 7am.

Mr. Leccese asked if there are penalties in place if a strike should occur.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that protections are in place for cessations of work, but again noted what Mr. Core stated that Meadow's labor contract is contiguous with the Village contract.

The East Williston Fire Department Chief James Clark reported that the Department responded to a total of 13 calls during the month of May 2017. There were seven EMS (9A) calls, four general alarms, and two mutual aid calls to Mineola and Williston Park.

The Mayor opened the meeting to residents.

Mr. Thomas Broderick of 10 Sumter Avenue and Mr. Joseph Adams of 14 Sumter Avenue addressed the issue of letters sent to them by the Village attorney about the replacement of sidewalks removed by these respective residents.

Mr. Broderick listed houses on Sumter Avenue and Ogden Avenue that did not have sidewalks. He questioned whether permission had been given to remove these sidewalks. He stated that a fine had been paid in Village court for the removal of the sidewalk in front of his home and he thought the matter was concluded. (He read a letter he prepared to the Board).

Mayor Tanner stated that the Board cannot comment on the issue as it may pertain to a lawsuit.

Mayor Tanner did comment that sidewalks remain Village property.

Rita Botensten questioned rumors be circulated about a fence being installed around the North Side School. She felt the installation of a fence will impact neighbors in the area.

Mayor Tanner stated that it originally a surprise to the Village. He reached out to the school board president who assured the Village that whatever plan they had, they would keep in contact with residents. Mayor Tanner added that the Village has "zero standing" whatsoever in this matter. He encouraged residents to reach out to members of the school board. The Village has no formal position on the matter.

Trustee Parente stated that she saw this item listed in the school district's budget, but the Village has no legal authority to prevent the installation of a fence.

Mrs. Botensten stated that the community has to be aware of this matter.

Michael Guglielmo stated that school district has an extensive budget process. The fence issue was mentioned more than once at school board meetings. He said anyone can attend the school board meetings. He did not think there has been a decision on the matter yet.

Mr. Philip Chappo stated that the school district grounds supervisor has advised of active consideration about the fence. They have a responsibility to inform the community. He feels it is an active issue that should be addressed.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the Village of East Williston cannot act in a legal capacity in the matter of the fence installation.

Trustee Iannone stated that rationale for the fence should be discussed with the school district, and we can share what we do learn about the issue. More residents should voice their concern to the school district.

Mr. Leccese stated he has been on the East Williston School District Financial Advisory Committee for seven years. The installation of a fence around North Side is not a new subject. It is the only elementary school in Nassau County without a perimeter fence. It will change the look of the field. The district wants to re-do the ball field and playground area as well. Nick Fusco heard from Mark Kamberg who said at an appropriate time, the committee will be advised about the matter, and will be looking to see what problem the fence will solve (people getting in to school grounds, or children getting out).

Trustee Casella stated that he heard that the proposed fence installation is because of Homeland Security regulations. The Village has no authority in the matter and cannot dictate what happens on school property.

Mayor Tanner stated that some residents want a fence installed, if appropriate.

Trustee Iannone stated that people can attend school board meetings as private citizens to express their views. He could see concerns where children were playing soccer on the field.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village wants to help, and feels complimented that residents come to the Village to express concern, but residents should really be going to the school board to voice their concerns and opinions.

Mr. Leccese stated that the Village can raise visibility of the issue and have a platform on the issue. This would move people to bring a robust dialogue to drive the forum.

Mr. Chappo stated that the context of why a fence is needed should be looked into, to see if it is to protect children.

Trustee Siciliano agreed that everyone interested in the subject should attend school board meetings to obtain further information.

Mr. Lecesse stated that he had submitted seven years of historical data on crime in East Williston, which was supplied by the Nassau County Police Department. He asked if the Village can obtain quarterly reports from the police department on crime.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village receives monthly reports from the Third Precinct and they are read at each meeting.

Mr. Chappo stated that a few months back, a truck was noticed measuring the area near Downing Street and Andrews Road. They were told they were measuring to install a cell phone tower.

Mayor Tanner said in this instance, residents should call the Village office and Public Works Superintendent James Bailey can be dispatched to the area to find out what is going on. If it seems to be something of a suspicious nature, the police should be called.

There being no further business, on the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Parente, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11pm.