

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, June 8, 2015 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, Robert M. Vella, Jr., James L. Iannone, Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Marie L. Hausner, Village Clerk.

Also present: James J. Daw, Jr., Susan Corsello, Barbara Seixas, John Azzara, Michael Guglielmo, Dan McGill, Ellen Ritz.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Vella and Iannone all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the regular meeting of May 11, 2015.

On the motion of Trustee Vella, by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Vella and Iannone all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the abstracts of claims for May 2015 as follows: 20140664-20140726.

No one was present from the East Williston Fire Department this evening to present a report.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE BONNIE PARENTE

Trustee Parente reported that the Senior's group will be meeting on June 18th for a picnic. The Senior's will then will not meet in the summer and will resume in September.

TRUSTEE ROBERT M. VELLA, JR.

Trustee Vella reported that the Justice Court collected a total of \$2,773.00 in fines from 34 violations in May 2015. The violations consisted of 24 parking violations, 10 moving and no Village ordinance violations. There was \$63.00 in New York State surcharges for the month.

The Recreation Committee will be holding a four week session of dance classes on June 29, July 6, July 13 and July 20th with Miss Nicole. Ages 3 & 4 ballet and creative movement. Ages 4 – 6 intro to jazz and hip hop. Ages 7 – 9 hip hop class. Fliers can be obtained in the lobby of the Village Hall.

TRUSTEE CHRISTOPHER A. SICILIANO

Trustee Siciliano thanked resident Barbara Seixas for the hanging flower baskets around the Village Hall.

The Public Works staff completed the flushing of hydrants last week. They will now resume the changing of the street signs, starting with the southwest quadrant.

The Village experienced a water main break last week at the intersection of Harvard and High Streets.

TRUSTEE JAMES L. IANNONE

Trustee Iannone met with Fire Department Chiefs and Commissioners to discuss the grant for updating the radio room in the firehouse.

The Department members will be attending fire school at the Old Bethpage Firemen's Training center for the next three weeks. Once a month, the Department members will be performing drills near the North Side School.

MAYOR DAVID E. TANNER

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village will consider changes to legislation regarding the installation of solar panels. To enable a review of information pertaining to said legislation, the Board will hold a public hearing on a local law on July 13, 2015 to have a moratorium on the submission, review and approval of new and pending applications for solar panel installation.

RESOLUTION #19-2015 A RESOLUTION INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2015 AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC NOTICE AND HEARING.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Vella and Iannone all voting "aye", the Board approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that Local Law No. 1 of the Year of 2015 providing for an amendment of the Village Code of the Incorporated Village of East Williston to include a moratorium on the submission, review and approval of new and pending applications to construct solar energy collection systems within the Village, shall be brought before the Board of Trustees for consideration, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hold a public hearing on said proposed Local Law at the Village Hall in the Incorporated Village of East Williston at the address of 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2015, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk publish or cause to be published a public notice in the official newspaper for the Village of said public hearing at least three days prior thereto.

RESOLUTION #20-2015 A RESOLUTION SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION OF THE WHEATLEY HILLS GOLF CLUB ON MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2015 AT 7:30PM.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Iannone, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Vella and Iannone all voting "aye" and Trustee the Board resolved to hold a public hearing on the conditional use application of the Wheatley Hills Golf Club at the Village hall in the Incorporated Village of East Williston at 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York at 7:30pm.

BE IT FURTHER resolved that the Village Clerk will publish or cause to be published a public notice in the official newspaper of the Village of said public hearing at least three days prior thereto.

Susan Corsello presented the Library Report:

Special Event

- East Williston Summer Reading Program will kick-off with a party on Wednesday, June 24th from 3-5pm. This year's theme is "Every Hero Has a Story".

Library Book Clubs

- The afternoon book club will meet on June 9th to discuss *The Nightingale*, by Kristen Hannah.
- The evening book club will meet on Thursday, June 11th to discuss *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr.

East Williston Senior Group

- The Senior Group will meet on Thursday, June 18th for a picnic.

Children's Book Sale

- The Children's book sale generated \$921 in donations. The leftover books were donated to "The Book Fairies".

Mayor Tanner thanked the Fire Department for their participation in the Memorial Day celebration and for the hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments they served after the event.

The Mayor also said the Memorial Day is a time for parades and picnics, it is a somber day and a time to pause for reflection to remember those service men and women who gave their lives fighting in foreign wars.

VILLAGE CLERK MARIE L. HAUSNER

The following building permits were issued in May 2015: 204 Benneyfield Drive, construction of a rear addition. 43 Orchard Drive, installation of stanchions and a retaining wall. 8 Sumter Avenue, demolition of house, garage and shed. 128 Charles Street, legalize and maintain a wood deck and central air conditioning unit. 23 Robbins Drive, installation of a central air conditioning unit.

The Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct May 2015 had no reports of burglaries or robberies. Traffic tickets served: 12 parking violations and nine moving violations were issued. Accidents and aided: three auto accidents with no auto injuries were reported.

The Village office will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.

The Mayor opened the meeting to residents.

Barbara Seixas said that the Village Green never looked better on Memorial Day this year.

Michael Guglielmo thanked whoever was responsible for putting all the meeting dates on the website.

Mr. Guglielmo questioned the new street signs being installed by the Department of Public Works.

Trustee Siciliano stated that the signs are high-density signs which are easier to see at night, and are metalized to resist rust.

Dan McGill brought up the problem of people parking on Sagamore Avenue, blocking driveways during little league games. People have been quite rude when approached about not blocking driveways. He was advised that the police should be called in this circumstance so that they can respond right away and issue tickets to the offenders.

James Daw questioned the status of the water issue with Williston Park.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village was gearing up to hold a meeting in September when residents return from summer vacations and more people can attend. He stated that Williston Park still has not come off of a figure of \$4.33 per thousand gallons. East Williston had made a counter offer to Williston Park, but they have not heard back from them.

Mr. Daw stated that the East Williston Board had several meetings with Williston Park on this issue, but Williston Park has not backed down on their proposed fee of \$4.33. He felt the time for talk has passed. He said that East Williston is captive to Williston Park and the “have us”, and that they don’t see that East Williston is not a retail consumer, but a wholesale consumer. He felt that putting off drilling our own well cannot wait. East Williston has to bite the bullet.

Trustee Parente stated that East Williston is moving forward, but is also responding to Williston Park when they contact us, so the Board is working on both fronts.

Mr. Daw stated that Mayor Ehrbar has said that East Williston building its own well will not affect his residents. Mr. Daw did not see how this will not affect Williston Park.

Mayor Tanner stated that a permissive referendum could to be voted upon for the bond issue. He said East Williston is also looking into a utility consultant in this matter.

Trustee Vella stated that everyone is passionate about this issue. Some resident want the Village of construct a well to free us from Williston Park. Others simply do not. He said he has strong on opinions on what should be done.

He further stated that the Village will hold one more public meeting and if need be, the issue will be put up to a vote of the residents. The Board has had three very long meetings with Williston Park, but the issue has not gone anywhere.

Mayor Tanner stated that he did not think the Williston Park Board believes East Williston is going ahead with its plans to construct a well.

Mr. Daw agreed that short of “shovels in the dirt”, they will not believe we are moving forward.

Trustee Vella felt at some point, East Williston will hit the point of “no return”.

Mayor Tanner added that moving forward with the construction of the well will require legislation for the abandonment of park land.

John Azzara felt the Board should hold more meetings, not less. He also questioned if the Board had any feedback on his letter a month or so back to the Williston Times. He said there is no credible evidence that the water rate will be reduced by building a well, because of surcharges, etc.

Mayor Tanner responded to Mr. Azzara stating that he continues to mischaracterize the word "surcharge". Costs of water main repairs, testing of water, etc. are direct costs incurred by East Williston to supply water to residents. The fee we pay to Williston Park is only to purchase water. Williston Park does not supply any further service to East Williston with regard to water.

Mayor Tanner went on to say that he has supplied Mr. Azzara with information regarding bonding for such work. For example, Roslyn issued 3.6% 30 year bond for similar work recently.

Trustee Vella stated that in negotiations with Williston Park, East Williston asked for stability in the cost of water. We were denied that request. By East Williston building its own well, it will be the only way to stabilize the cost of water.

Trustee Parente added that Williston Park did not budge on this issue during negotiations.

Mayor Tanner added that Williston Park was not willing to provide East Williston with a guaranty of a stable cost of water. They do not have a capital plan for their water system, so we are unable to know of any repairs, maintenance or upgrades needed to Williston Park's infrastructure, of which these costs could be passed along in the cost of water to East Williston.

Mr. Guglielmo said he read in the Williston Times that Williston Park will not raise rates to East Williston unless they raise rates to their own residents.

Trustee Parente said that Williston Park refused to give us a long term guaranty. Only a five year agreement for rates was offered to East Williston.

Trustee Vella stated they wanted a 30 year exclusivity for selling East Williston water.

Mayor Tanner added that the (second) court ruling gave Williston Park a great deal of latitude with regard to rates.

Mr. Guglielmo wanted to know what the long term cost for him will be with regard to his Village taxes. He needed someone to explain this to him.

Ellen Ritz stated that she appreciated the Board for looking to the future on behalf of the Village. She wanted the Village to be independent and take care of ourselves.

Trustee Vella stated that everyone has made very good points in this discussion and are taking everyone's ideas into consideration. The task at hand is to compare apples to apples. The Board needs to look at the long term solutions. In dealing with Williston Park, the (East Williston) Board went from session to session and Williston Park could not agree on what was discussed at each last session

Mayor Tanner said that there is a huge philosophical difference between Mr. Azzara's opinion and that of the East Williston Board of Trustees.

Trustee Vella said during the meetings the Board had come up with many difference scenarios regarding pricing/services, but nothing was consistent or agreed upon.

Trustee Iannone stated that the Board is looking out for the betterment of the community. It is looking for certainty and stability for the future cost of water. Williston Park is looking for a cost of \$4.33 now, but there is no guaranty what that cost will be tomorrow. The Board has to consider long term costs to the Village including whatever upgrades Williston Park may need to their water system. As a community, we need to come to a common ground at some point.

Mr. Guglielmo asked if mediation was an option. Mayor Tanner responded that East Williston offered mediation, but Williston Park did not agree to meet.

Trustee Vella added that this issue cannot be submitted to binding arbitration.

Trustee Parente stated that this is not binding.

Ellen Ritz stated she is involved with an organization recognizing Mental Health Month in October. She wanted to know if red ribbons can be displayed near the library. Mayor Tanner asked Mrs. Ritz to coordinate this with Library Director Susan Corsello.

There being no further business, on the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm.