

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2014**

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, September 8, 2014 at 8:00 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, Caroline DeBenedittis, Christopher A. Siciliano, Robert M. Vella, Jr., Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Village Clerk Marie L. Hausner.

Also present: Robert Campagna, Susan Corsello, James J. Daw, Jr., Connie Leonick, Barbara Seixas, James Sandquist, Dr. Gregg and Mrs. Diane Spizak, Brian Advocate-Ross,

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Mayor Tanner, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Siciliano and Parente voting "aye", and Trustees DeBenedittis and Vella recusing themselves, the Board approved the minutes of the agenda meeting of July 28, 2014.

On the motion of Trustee Vella, seconded by Trustee Siciliano and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, DeBenedittis, Siciliano and Vella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting of August 11, 2014.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Siciliano and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, DeBenedittis, Siciliano and Vella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the agenda meeting of August 25, 2014.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Siciliano, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, DeBenedittis, Siciliano and Vella all voting "aye", the Board unanimously approved the abstracts of claims for August 2014 as follows: 20140101 – 20140135.

The East Williston Fire Department chiefs were not present at the meeting to present the department report. A report will be presented next month.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

**DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE BONNIE PARENTE**

Trustee Parente stated that a new fire hydrant was installed on Post Avenue, enabling firefighters to more easily hook up hoses in the surrounding area.

The Fire Department just obtained decals with the emergency telephone number imprinted on them. They can be obtained by visiting the Village office. She added that calling the number on the decal (742-3300) provides the most direct response for a fire or medical emergency.

**TRUSTEE CAROLINE DEBENEDITTIS**

The Recreation Committee's fall classes in yoga and tennis have started for the season. During children's art and dance classes will commence the week of September 15<sup>th</sup>. A new "body conditioning class" will be starting soon in place of "boot camp". Movie night will take place on September 12<sup>th</sup> showing "Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs". Lastly, on September 30<sup>th</sup>, sewing of pillow cases for pediatric cancer patients will take place from 11am to 5pm at the Village Hall.

**TRUSTEE ROBERT M. VELLA, JR.**

Trustee Vella reported that the Justice Court collected a total of \$2,000.00 in fines from 41 violations in August 2014. The violations consisted of 20 parking violations. Court was not in session in August.

**TRUSTEE CHRISTOPHER A. SICILIANO**

Trustee Siciliano reported that in conjunction with the installation of a new fire hydrant on Post Avenue, reported by Trustee Parente, new water main shut off valves were installed on School Street. These valves will enable the Department of Public Works to shut off only parts of the street in the event of a water main break, rather than entire block.

The tree on the island on Shadow Lane has been removed and the stone work will soon be replaced in a smaller size than the original island, allowing fire trucks to pass more easily on the street.

Lastly, new fencing is being installed around the department of public works garage.

Library Director Susan Corsello presented the Library report. Library Book Clubs The "Day Time Book Club" will meet tomorrow to discuss "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes. The "Evening Book Club" will meet on Thursday to discuss "The Husband" by Dean Koontz. The "Preschool Stories and Songs" will resume on Thursday, September 18. "Toddler Story Time" will resume on Friday, September 19. East Williston Seniors' Club will meet on September 18<sup>th</sup> to share their stories and photos from the summer.

The Library Friends have a great new collection on display featuring pillowcases made by East Williston residents for children with serious illnesses. Caroline DeBenedittis

coordinates these activities in support of “ConKerr Cancer”, an organization that strives to increase awareness of childhood illnesses. You can join your neighbors to make pillowcases on Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 5pm in the Village Hall.

**MAYOR DAVID E. TANNER**

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village will hold the 9/11 candle light ceremony this Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm on the Village Green.

**VILLAGE CLERK MARIE HAUSNER**

The following building permits were issued in August 2014: 22 Hewlett Drive, installation of a generator. 41 Bengueyfield Drive, resurfacing of driveway. 87 East Williston Avenue, installation of a generator. 215 Derby Street, addition to home. 382 Charles Street, legalize and maintain a deck. 16 Fairview Avenue, addition to home.

The Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct report for the month of July 2014 reported no cases of burglary or robbery. Two parking and three moving violations were issued. Eight auto accidents with two injuries were reported.

The Police report for August 2014 reported no cases of burglary or robbery. Three parking violations and three moving violations were issued. There were three auto accidents with four auto injuries reported.

Jeffrey Blinkoff apprised those present of the status of 7 Sumter Avenue. He was advised that there is a contract for sale of the property that has been signed by both parties. The outside lien on the property was assigned to a different lien holder (note: this does not include the unpaid taxes and other expenses added to the taxed by the Village of East Williston). The foreclosure sale on the outside clean has once again been postponed.

The demolition order is still in place.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village is moving forward with the demolition. Currently the Village office is working to obtain disconnection permits for gas, electric and sewer from National Grid, PSEG Long Island and Nassau County respectively. Since the Village does not own the property, but has a court order for the demolition, this process takes some time, but it is being followed through.

Robert Campagna asked if the buyers in contract with Muzios are aware of the Village’s plans to demolish the buildings. Mr. Blinkoff replied that they are aware of the imminent demolition.

Mayor Tanner opened up the meeting to Village residents.

Diane and Gregg Spisak addressed the Board about the island on Shadow Lane. In their opinion, the island is not small enough on the east side and do not feel that the change in size is much different from the original island. The island is a big problem for the snow plow. Their driveway at 10 Shadow Lane is always plowed-in during snow removal.

Mrs. Spisak thought that making the island circular would be a much better option. She also stated that the location of the island impacts her property the most and was not given any consideration in the new design.

Mr. Campagna stated that he spoke to Mrs. Spisak today and advised her that 1/3 of the island was removed and is now 24 feet long and 11.6 feet wide. It is the same width where Robbins Drive meets Meritoria Drive.

Trustee Siciliano stated that the fire trucks now can pass through this area with ease.

Mrs. Spisak questioned why she should bear the front of the island near her driveway. She was not involved in any way with the dimensions of the reconstruction.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village held a meeting a couple of months back to explain the plan for the island and invited neighboring residents to attend. Residents voiced their opinions at that meeting. The Village relied on the work of Mr. Campagna who designed the island to the best of his ability to improve it. The Village tried to accommodate everyone in the immediate location in the best way possible.

Mr. Campagna stated that in designing the reconstruction, he pulled in the island as much as possible to the east, but the road narrows at that point. It has already been reduced in size as much as possible. He has instructed the contractor to shave off a few more inches, but that is all that can be accommodated.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village was committed to making the island smaller so that vehicular traffic can be improved. The island was an "existing condition". The Village will be moving forward with the plan as set forth to residents.

Dr. Gregg Spisak stated that during the work on the island, two of his mailboxes were stolen. One that stood for twenty years and a second that he had just replaced. He felt that it was coincidental that the theft of the mailboxes took place during construction on the island.

Trustee Vella stated that he was a prosecutor for 12 years. In his experience, crimes of this sort are "crimes of opportunity". Suspects go through affluent communities and "cherry pick" homes they target. The Nassau County Police Department 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct

should be called right away whenever a crime is committed so that protected and be increased by the police. He added that more often than not, these are “not professional” thieves.

Ellen Ritz stated she had a similar incident occur at her residence and was informed by the police that the crime was the work of “kids”.

Brian Advocate Ross of Roslyn Road addressed the Board about abundant drug use at 386 Roslyn Road. Plumes of smoke waft onto his property. There is a great deal of activity at the property. People are constantly coming and going all day long (as well as at night). His children have found drug paraphernalia on his property. He also stated that garbage is strewn on the property, due to improperly disposed garbage. Odors from the garbage also emanate from the property.

Mr. Campagna stated that a couple of months ago there was an issue with a person parked on Downing Street while the passenger went into the home in question. He was told that a person was arrested and let out on bail. Many neighbors on the street witnessed people constantly parking on Downing Street and going into the house in question. Since then, it seems that people are now parking on neighboring streets in the vicinity.

Mayor Tanner stated that he had reached out reached out to the Third Precinct about a month and a half ago. He was advised that the narcotics squad was aware of the situation and was investigating the matter.

Trustee Vella stated that aside from the Village contacting the precinct, the entire community needs to call the precinct as well, and indicate that they are aware of the drug problem. The community shouldn't stand for this type of activity and should urge the police to respond.

Trustee DeBenedittis expressed concern, since the North Side School is just two block away.

Carla Strauss thanked the Village for the marvelous job in cleaning up and refurbishing the Wheatley Acres sign and the area adjoining the pillars.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano , seconded by Trustee Parente, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.