BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, October 17, 2016 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 Iannone, Anthony J. Casella, Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Esq.

Also present: Caroline DeBenedittis, James Clark, Susan Quinn, Carla Strauss, Michael Guglielmo, Stephan Leccese. Nassau County Police Officers Todd Atkin and Jesse Cooper.

RESOLUTION #2016-38 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSAL FROM JRH LANDSCAPING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN IN-GROUND SPRINKLER SYTEM ON THE NORTH SIDE OF EAST WILLISTON AVENUE NEAR DEVLIN FIELD AT A COST OF $3,500.00 FUNDING FOR SAID INSTALLATION IS DESIGNATED FROM THE CAPITAL FUND.

On the motion of Mayor Tanner, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano and Casella all voting "aye" and Trustee Iannone being absent from the vote, the Board approved the proposal from JRH Landscaping for the installation of an in-ground sprinkler system on the north side of East Williston Avenue near Devlin Field at a cost of $3,500.00, funding for said installation is designated from the capital fund.

RESOLUTION #2016-39 A RESOLUTION APPROVING TO PROCEED WITH REPAIR OF SIDEWALKS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS. FUNDING FOR SAID WORK TO BE DESIGNATED FROM CHIPs FUNDING WHERE AVAILABLE.

On the motion of Trustee Siciliano, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano and Casella all voting "aye" and Trustee Iannone being absent from the vote, the Board approved to proceed with repair of sidewalks in various locations. Funding for said work to be designated from CHIPs funding where available.

RESOLUTION #2016-40 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BRIAN MEYERSON AS ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR FOR EAST WILLISTON VILLAGE JUSTICE COURT. FEE TO BE $250 PER COURT SESSION..

On the motion of Mayor Tanner, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano and Casella all voting "aye" and Trustee Iannone being absent from the vote, the Board appointed Brian Meyerson as assistant prosecutor for the East Williston Village Justice Court. Fee to be $250 per court session.

Mayor Tanner stated that he invited the "POP" officers (Problem Oriented Policing unit) to attend this Board meeting to provide any updates or information available.

Police Officer Atkin stated that there was (as everyone was aware) an attempted robbery on September 23, 2016. Four police cars responded to the call at 9:05pm. The suspect was arrested and charged with two class C felonies. The arrest, investigation and charges were all completed by midnight, September 24th.

A resident questioned the felony charges and the officers described the various levels of felonies.

Caroline DeBenedittis questioned an incident that was reported on Facebook on October 12th, where a police car was traveling at a high rate of speed on Congress Avenue. Officer Atkin stated that would have to check with the precinct about the matter, as he was not aware of any particular circumstances.

The officers stated that the Nassau County Police Department will be holding a community forum on Wednesday, October 20th at 7:00pm at Mineola High School. The Commanding Officer will discuss the structure of the Third Precinct and discuss resources available to the community.

Officer Atkin also discussed the roll out of a new program called "NextDoor.com" that will enable residents to receive information via email blast notifications one they sign up for the program. Residents must sign up using their real name and will be sent a post card to respond back to the precinct to complete registration. Information provided may deal with burglaries, missing persons and other crimes. The information sent will be more accurate than that found on Facebook or other sites. He used the example of recent clown sightings found on Facebook, where the information may or may not be accurate or true.

In the instance of clown sightings, the information flow on Facebook snowballs into mass hysteria.

The new NextDoor.com will be specifically targeted for the area where one resides. People can also respond back to the email blast with information. There will be 113,000 neighborhoods involved in this project. More information will be available when the time gets closer to commencement of the site.

Mrs. DeBenedittis asked about photos taken by two women near North Side School. It was her understanding that children were in the background of the photos. There was also a second incident involving a man taking photos of children near the school.

Officer Atkin stated that in the first incident, the women were spoken to by the police and the matter was taken care of. The second incident was also handled by police.

The officers stated that there are no fences surrounding the school and the area around North Side is very open, with no barriers, natural or otherwise.

Trustee Casella stated that when Officer Atkin attended a meeting earlier this year, he had spoken about so called "solicitors" who look quite professional, carrying clip boards, but may have nefarious intentions.

Back in August, Trustee Casella stated that solicitors from Anderson Windows were on his street going door to door. He advised them that they cannot solicit without a permit in East Williston. He called 911 and then followed the men. The police did not respond so he called 911 again. Information had been sent to the commanding officer a few days later.

Officer Atkin stated that during the evening and time in question, there was a call for an overturned tractor trailer and a report of cardiac arrest. He asked if Trustee Casella had informed 911 that he was following the men soliciting.

Trustee Casella stated that while many solicitors contact the Town of North Hempstead to obtain permits to solicit, he wondered if they advised people that the permit was only good in unincorporated areas, but not incorporated villages.

Mayor Tanner reiterated that the forum to be held by the police department on October 20th should glean information important to residents about the workings of the Third Precinct.

Officer Cooper stated that Inspector Berry will outline resources available through a Power Point presentation, discussing who covers what area (Roslyn

Heights/Albertson/East Williston/Williston Park/Mineola etc.) and will end with a question and answer period.

Officer Atkin stated that the Department was experiencing problems with the license plate reader equipment, as software needed to be updated. It was hoped that this update will take place within six weeks.

Stephan Leccese asked if in the future, the Village could try to get some level of communication out to residents about the POP officers being present at Board meetings.

Mr. Leccese asked if the officer could comment on the recent illegal entries to vehicles within East Williston and Williston Park.

Officer Atkin stated that a man was taken into custody, and the police are looking at other incidents in which he may be involved.

More often than not, these crimes of "opportunity" take place when young people or the homeless go around trying car door handles to see if a vehicle is left open and then take change or other items left inside. These people were looking for money to purchase drugs. He cited one incident where a person left their vehicle unlocked and left a Louis Vuitton hand bag, money and a lap top computer in the car. All of the items were stolen. He stated again to always lock the doors to your vehicle.

Mr. Leccese stated that there was an incident in Williston Park where an individual was walking around trying car doors for almost an hour.

Officer Cooper stated that precinct statistics show that overall crime is down. Burglaries earlier in the year were up from past years, however. He stated that the Precinct could provide information on crime statistics.

Officer Cooper stated that the best way to avoid becoming a burglary victim is to take precautions to ensure that your home looks like someone is home (put timers on lights in the house, make sure a car is in the driveway, don't leave mail or newspapers at the door step or front of the home, leave a radio on inside).

Officer Atkin stated that many of the recent burglaries were performed by amateurs. Mr. Leccese responded that this was not historically true.

Mr. Leccese asked if any meetings have taken place with the Security Committee. Mayor Tanner stated that the members of the Committee have attended the last two agenda meetings held by the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Leccese felt that the Village should look into some of the things that the Village of East Hills is considering for crime prevention (license plate readers, Village resident stickers, video surveillance signage, improved lighting).

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 minutes of the regular meeting of September 12, 2016.

On the motion of Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, Siciliano, Iannone, and Casella all voting "aye", the Board approved the minutes of the agenda meeting of September 26, 2016, with a correction to page 3, paragraph six (change from 20th century to 21st century).

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 August 2016 as follows: 20160155 - 20160248.

Assistant Chief James Clark presented the report of the East Williston Fire Department. The Department responded to a total of eight calls during the month of September 2016; two auto accidents and six EMS calls.

The Department hosted an open house for students of the North Side School last week.

East Williston participated in an extraction drill with neighboring fire department Albertson.

He thanked Trustee Siciliano for his help in procuring 57 Robbins Drive as a site for a training drill, as the house will soon be demolished.

Assistant Chief Clark will be speaking to the East Williston Seniors on October 20th about home fire safety.

The annual inspection of the East Williston Fire Department will take place on November 19, 2016 at 11:00am.

Trustee Iannone stated that the Department is in the process of obtaining quotes for the painting of the company room and bays in the fire house.

He further stated that Fire Tracker, the company utilized by the Department for reporting and notification purposes has been non-responsive of late, necessitating the need to procure the services of another similar company. One company has been interviewed and it was hoped that another company will soon be investigated.

Trustee Iannone stated that October is Fire Prevention Month. With that in mind, he urged residents to change batteries in smoke and CO2 detectors.

At this point in the meeting, Trustee Iannone excused himself from the meeting at 8:36pm.

TRUSTEE REPORTS
DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE BONNIE PARENTE

Trustee Parente noted that the Fire Tracker system is a backup/secondary notification system for the Fire Department. This system also tracks attendance at fire/EMS calls and training drills required for LOSAP points, as well as generates reports for the State of New York.

The East Williston Seniors will be hosting Assistant Fire Chief James Clark at their meeting on October 20, 2016 at 1:00 pm. He will be discussing home fire safety.

TRUSTEE CHRISTOPHER A. SICILIANO

Trustee Siciliano that the Department of Public Works has completed the replacement of high density street signs around the Village. Public Works personnel will be planting trees this fall, and will be getting ready for winter.

A new LED street light has been installed on Post Lane near the garage to see how the greater light exposure will create better visibility at night.

Mr. Leccese asked if the Village has considered having Public Works take an inventory of light outages one night.

Trustee Siciliano stated that he personally has taken an inventory of street light outages and submitted them to the Village office for reporting to the street lighting contractor for repair.

Mr. Leccese felt that the spacing of lights in the Village should also be looked at for greater visibility.

Trustee Siciliano stated that the Village is looking into the possible installation of LED lighting. The LED lights will cover a larger area.

Mayor Tanner stated that over a few years after the installation of LED lighting, the Village can realize a cost savings in street light usage.

In the absence of Library Director Susan Corsello, Trustee Siciliano gave the Library report. The "day time" book club will be discussing "A Certain Age" by Beatriz Williams on Tuesday, October 18th. The "evening book club" met last week to discuss "The Invention of Wings", by Sue Monk Kidd.

The Library Friends display cabinet in the lobby has display material and memorabilia recognizing the dedication of the members of the East Williston Fire Department.

TRUSTEE JAMES L. IANNONE
Trustee Iannone was excused from the meeting early.

TRUSTEE ANTHONY J. CASELLA
The Justice Court report for September 2016 showed a total of 26 violations: 22 parking, 4 moving violations and no Village ordinance violations. Fines collected totaled $1,425.00 with $118.00 in New York State surcharges.

The Recreation Committee reported that the annual Ragamuffin Parade will be held on Saturday, October 29th at 2:30pm at Devlin Field with a rain date of Sunday, October 30th.

The second annual Drumstick Dash will take place on Friday, November 25th at 9:00am starting at Devlin Field.

"Come Play With Me" pre-school program takes place on Fridays at 10:30am.

Yoga classes continue to take place on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:30am to 11:15am. Gentle yoga takes place on Wednesdays from 5:45 to 7:15pm. Fliers for all activities can be found in the Village Hall lobby.

MAYOR DAVID TANNER
Mayor Tanner stated that the Veterans Day observance will take place on Friday, November 11, 2016 at 11:15am at the Village Green

The Security Committee will be holding a meeting on Tuesday, October 25th at 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

VILLAGE CLERK MARIE L. HAUSNER

The following building permits were issued in September 2016:
151 Charles Street: rear addition to home.
20 Ridge Road: demolition of residence; construction of a new residence.
115 High Street: expansion of driveway.
22 Summit Avenue: installation of a central air conditioning unit.
41 Bengeyfield Drive: construction of a rear deck.

The Nassau County Police Department report for August 2016 indicated the following: No reports of burglaries or robberies. No parking violations or moving violations were served. Three auto accidents was reported, with one auto injury were reported.

The September Police Department report indicated a report of an attempted burglary at the intersection of Hewlett Drive and Orchard Drive. No parking or moving violations were issued. There were five auto accidents with no auto injuries reported.

The Village office will be closed on Tuesday, November 8th for election day and November 11th for Veterans Day.

The Mayor opened the meeting to residents.

Susan Quinn stated that the Village has rear yard pick up for sanitation services, yet many residents bring their refuse cans out to the curb. Since many people work, the can stays out all day, raising a red flag that they are not at home, alerting unscrupulous types for a "crime of opportunity", as stated by the POP officers.. It may be a good idea to remind residents that they should leave the cans in the rear yard so as not to alert potential burglars.

Mr. Leccese asked if the Security Committee will be reporting at monthly Village Board meetings on what they are doing.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Security Committee has met with the Board of Trustees at each of their agenda meetings for the last two months. At this time, both the Committee and the Board are exploring what can be done that is both practical and affordable. He did not want to suggested doing something that cannot be done.

Mr. Leccese stated that a presentation of findings may be a good idea, as he wants to understand the scope of data being reviewed by the Committee and get a sense of the level of mandate placed upon the Committee, the collecting of input and what their recommendations to the Board would be.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Committee will be prioritizing their findings with the Board.

Mr. Leccese stated that he was not looking to force the issue, but was looking for broader security in East Williston. He wanted to know the level of public input. He wanted to ensure that a good process has a good outcome.

Mayor Tanner stated that Mrs. DeBenedittis is a former Board member who is aware of the process of Village government. He stated this issue is new territory for everyone and wanted to ensure the process was done correctly.

Mr. Leccese encouraged the Board to look at the various aspects the Village of East Hills examined in their exploration of security issues.

There being no further business, on the motion of Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Parente, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm.