

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 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 Anthony Casella, Village Attorney Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Village Clerk Marie L. Hausner.

Excused from meeting: Trustee Christopher Siciliano, Trustee Iannone.

Also present: Walter Rivera, Matthew Cuomo, Philip and Maureen Chappo, Michael Guglielmo. Mr. & Mrs. Botensten, Susan Singh. Anna Salerno, Officer Croce, Nassau County Police Department.

The meeting commences with a continuation of a public hearing regarding an unsafe structure at 20 High Street, East Williston. A verbatim transcript of said hearing is on file in the office of the Village Clerk.

RESOLUTION #57- 2018 A RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE THE PUBLIC HEARING WITH REGARD TO 20 HIGH STREET SUBJECT TO: 1) COMPLETION OF THE REMEDIATION WORK, 2) THE RECEIPT OF THE REPORT FROM FROM THE REMEDIATION COMPANY STATING THAT THE WORK HAS BEEN FULLY REMEDIATED, AND 3) THE APPROVAL OF THE EAST WILLISTON BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

On the motion of Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Parente and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, and Casella voting "aye", the Board resolved to continue the public hearing with regard to 20 High Street subject to 1) to completion of the remediation work, 2) the receipt of the report from the remediation company stated that the work has been fully remediated, and 3) the approval of the East Williston Building Department.

Police Officer Croce from the Nassau County Police Department 3rd Precinct was present at the meeting at the request of Mayor Tanner with regard to youths congregating in various areas, ringing door bells of homes and running away.

No residents had any comments on this subject

Resident Susan Singh addressed issues of speeding on Route 25B (East Williston Avenue) near the North Side School. A recent incident took place where a child almost got hit by a car crossing the street. Drivers seem to disregard the crossing guard's instructions and drive recklessly in this area.

P.O. Croce stated that the precinct has only so many cars to go around, so it is hard to be proactive in this area. The police rely on people to call and report incidents.

Mayor Tanner stated that he had contact with the precinct on this matter.

A resident asked what they can do to aid in this situation.

Rita Botensten said residents should take down a plate number when they witness reckless or dangerous driving activity going on.

Trustee Parente mentioned that Route 25B (East Williston Avenue) is not a Village road, it is maintained by Nassau County, and owned by New York State.

The Board received correspondence from Nassau County Legislator Richard Nicoello has requested the Nassau County Public Works traffic division look into this issue with a possible study to be undertaken of traffic conditions.

Walter Rivera asked if "speed sign" trailers had been requested for spot checking speeds in front of the school.

Officer Croce said the sign can be requested by the School District from the precinct.

Trustee Parente asked Office Croce if there was any improvement with youths congregating in the Village and other issues of "ring and runs".

Officer Croce said resident should call the police anytime an incident occurs. He noted that when the police arrive, the youths scatter.

Trustee Parente felt that these incidents will die down once the weather gets colder, but noted that this activity has gotten worse. It used to be only congregation, now the youths have taken to confrontation with residents.

Officer Croce noted that residents who wanted to discuss this matter and offer specific information should call the POP office at 573-6300.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Casella, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente and Casella voting "aye", the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 9, 2018.

On the motion of Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente and Casella voting "aye", the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 29, 2018.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Casella, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente and Casella voting "aye", the Board approved the abstracts for October 2018 Nos. 2018189 – 20180234.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE BONNIE PARENTE

Trustee Parente stated that the East Williston Seniors will hold their next meeting on Thursday, November 15th at 1pm. A light lunch will be served. Carol McBride from the Herricks Community Center will be on hand to give a short presentation about the services the center provides. Phil Dee will be on hand with music honoring our veterans.

In December, the Senior Group will meet on December 20th to celebrate the Yuletide season.

TRUSTEE CHRISTOPHER A. SICILIANO

Trustee Siciliano was absent from the meeting this evening.

The Clerk advised those present that the Department of Public Works is currently planting street trees, and also preparing for winter by purchasing road salt and putting plows on trucks.

The Clerk reported on the following upcoming events taking place in the East Williston Library:

Movie "Crazy Rich Asians" Wednesday, November 28th @ 1pm. Juggling Jester Jim performs on Friday, November 30th at 1pm. Teen Plant Night, Friday, November 30th at 6:30pm. Tween Holiday Plate Painting, Thursday, December 6, 2018, 4pm. Breakfast with Santa, Sunday, December 9th from 9:30-10:30am. Afternoon Book Group "The Great Alone" Tuesday, December 11th at 1:30pm. Movie "Irving Berlin's White Christmas" Wednesday, December 12th at 1pm. Evening Book Club "The Noel Diary", Thursday, December 13th at 7pm

Magic with Georgie Porgie will perform on Thursday, December 27th at 2pm.

TRUSTEE JAMES IANNONE

Trustee Iannone was not present this evening for the meeting.

TRUSTEE ANTHONY CASELLA

Trustee Casella presented the Justice Court report for October 2018. There were eight parking violations, one moving violation and no Village ordinance violations totaling \$1,905.00.00 in total fines collected, with \$93.00 in New York State surcharges.

The Recreation Committee report advises that yoga classes continue on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11am and gentle yoga classes take place on Wednesdays from 5:45 – 7:15pm. Come Play with Me program takes place on Wednesdays at 10:30am. Fliers for all events are available in the lobby of the Village Hall.

MAYOR DAVID E. TANNER

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village held its annual Veterans' Day ceremony on Sunday, November 11, 2018. It was a very thoughtful event with great attendance by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and the community.

The Village will hold its Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, December 7th at 7pm on the Village Green.

RESOLUTION #58- 2018 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2018 PREPARED BY SKINNON & FABER.

On the motion of Mayor Tanner, seconded by Trustee Casella and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Parente, and Casella voting "aye", the Board accepted the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2018 prepared by Skinnon & Faber.

VILLAGE CLERK MARIE HAUSNER

The following building permits were issued in October 2018: 37 High Street, construction of a two car garage. 147 East Williston Avenue construction of a retaining wall, patio and paths. 54 Downing Street installation of underpinnings. 27 Ridge Road additions and alterations to home. 14 Griffin Lane installation of a generator. 115 William Street, installation of a driveway. 43 Atlanta Avenue installation of stanchions. 11 Lee Avenue installation of two central air conditioning systems. 28 Donald Street construction of central air conditioning systems, driveway expansion and additions and alterations to the house.

The Nassau County Police report for September 2018 indicated that there were no reports of burglary, robbery or larceny. One report of criminal mischief. No auto accidents and eight aided cases other than auto accidents. No moving violations and five parking violations were issued.

The Clerk noted that the Village office will be closed on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23rd in observance of Thanksgiving.

The Mayor opened the meeting up to residents.

The residents who spoke earlier about speeding near the North Side School asked what they can do about the situation.

Mayor Tanner stated that East Williston Avenue (Route 25B) is a New York State owned, Nassau County maintained roadway. It was felt the best way to start getting action would be to contact the School District about the speeding concerns.

A resident stated that she approached Mr. Bloomgarten of North Side School and was told the school cannot do anything about this issue.

She added that when the buses park in the area, you cannot see the stop sign.

Susan Singh felt that the word STOP should be painted in the roadway where the stop sign is located.

Trustee Parente noted that some schools do not allow cars (only buses) on certain streets, during certain hours of the school day.

He reiterated the earlier information that the Village was copied on a letter from Nassau County Legislator Richard Nicoletto to Public Works Commissioner Kenneth Arnold asking that Mr. Arnold's staff investigate the location and provide him with recommendations about the area as soon as possible.

Trustee Parente disagreed with the Mr. Bloomgarten's assessment that the school cannot do anything. She added that the Village supports the feelings of this group.

Mayor Tanner stated that parking around North Side needs to be looked at.

He added that Nassau County will not do anything without a traffic study, so at this time, it is in their court, so to speak. Again it was suggested that the residents contact the East Williston School Board about this issue again.

Matthew Cuomo stated that parents discharge their children on Andrews Road, but a problem exists where cars hang out onto East Williston Avenue.

Rita Botensten agreed with Mr. Cuomo's assessment of the situation.

Mr. & Mrs. Chappo stated that there are many cars, and it does get clogged with traffic, however, everyone goes slow on Andrews Road and seems to be careful.

It was noted that the school changed the drop off to Andrews Road this year.

Both Anna Salerno and Susan Singh cited accidents that have taken place in the vicinity, and that the issues occur both morning and afternoon.

Trustee Parente reiterated that the group has her personal support in this regard, adding that the Village does not have jurisdiction over East Williston Avenue. Perhaps the school can hire another guard.

Michael Guglielmo encouraged the residents to show up at a School Board meeting, if nothing else, they would have a captive audience with all the School District decision makers. The more that show up at the meeting to express concern, the better. Attending a School Board meeting can effect change faster than a phone call. He suggested visiting the School District website calendar for the next School Board meeting.

Matthew Cuomo asked if the Village received any word back from the School District regarding the proposed fence.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Village received a letter from Elaine Kanas dated November 5th with more detailed plans for the proposed fence.

Mr. Cuomo asked if the Village has acknowledged to the School District that they are subject to East Williston Village ordinances.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the Village has not acknowledged this to the District.

Mr. Cuomo felt that the School Board will make a decision on this at their upcoming Board meeting. He stated there is a difference between acknowledging and accommodating. He again asked if the Village is taking a positive position that the School District is subject to the provisions of the Village Code.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the original letter sent to the District from the Village responded to concerns that the Building Inspector and Fire Chiefs saw in the original submission by the District.

Trustee Parente stated that the letter was carefully written not to take a position.

Mayor Tanner stated that this is a School Board decision.

Mr. Cuomo was concerned that the proposed fence should be brought before the Board of Zoning Appeals as a way of putting this issue (the fence) on the record. He asked what the legal position was in this regard.

Mr. Blinkoff stated that the legal discussion on behalf of the East Williston Board of Trustees is a matter of attorney/client privilege. The response letter addressed the question of design.

Mayor Tanner stated that the letter was not a legal position of the Village of East Williston.

Mr. Cuomo stated that the Village should inform the School District of local zoning. He added that a small group of people are putting pressure on the School District to construct the fence. The police have advised that an eight foot fence is what is needed.

Trustee Parente did not think the Village needed to enforce the case right now. If the School District lowered the fence height to four feet, a permit could be issued.

Mayor Tanner asked why anyone from the Village did not run for a seat on the School Board in the last election. This may have helped in this regard. Residents should approach the School Board with their concerns about the construction of a fence.

Maureen Chappo stated that 250 signatures were submitted to the School Board against the fence, but it does not seem that they have paid attention to the petition.

A resident questioned the Board about utilities (PSEG/Verizon/Optimum) putting up utility poles, but not removing the old ones still in place.

Mrs. Hausner advised that Bonnie Kreisman has been in constant contact with Optimum and Verizon about the removal of their equipment, which must take place before the old pole can be removed.

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Mayor Tanner stated he will speak with the Executive Board of the NCVOA about installation and removal of poles.

A resident asked if National Grid will be repaving Hewlett Drive and surround streets where they installed a gas main.

Mayor Tanner stated that they have assured the Village that repaving will take place.

Members of the Tzu Chi organization presented the Village with photos of the tea ceremony and vegetarian lunch held for the East Williston Senior Group in October. The expressed appreciation for the Senior Group to join them.

There being no further business, on the motion of Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Parente, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.