

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INC. VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON
DECEMBER 12, 2011
REGULAR MEETING

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston was held on Monday, December 12, 2011 at 8:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 2 Prospect Street, East Williston, New York.

There were present: Mayor David E. Tanner, Trustees Michael A. Braitto, John F. Ferro, Bonnie L.S. Parente, Caroline DeBenedittis, Jeffrey L. Blinkoff, Village Attorney, Marie L. Hausner, Village Clerk.

Also present: Patrick Theodore, Barbara Seixas, Mildred Clinton, Carol Bertalli, Michael Guglielmo, Michael Kelapire, Ellen Ritz, Joseph Masters, David Linden, James Sandquist, Mr. & Mrs. Louis Sasso.

On the motion of Trustee Parente , seconded by Trustee Braitto, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Braitto, Ferro, Parente and DeBenedittis all voting aye, the minutes from the regular Board meeting of November 14, 2011 were unanimously approved.

On the motion of Trustee Parente , seconded by Trustee DeBenedittis , and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Braitto, Ferro, Parente and DeBenedittis all voting aye, the minutes from the agenda meeting of November 28, 2011 were unanimously approved.

On the motion of Trustee Braitto, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Braitto, Ferro, Parente and DeBenedittis all voting aye, the Board unanimously approved the abstract of claims.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Patrick Theodore stated that the East Williston Fire Department responded to a total of 14 calls during the month of November 2011, as follows: seven fire calls, five EMS calls and two mutual aid to other departments.

Chief Theodore stated that the Department is once again holding "Operation Santa". Parents should visit the Firehouse on the Thursday nights preceding Christmas to sign up for a visit to their home by Santa. At that time, they should bring new, unwrapped gifts to be distributed to the Winthrop children's cancer ward, St. Christopher Otilie Home and the Mary Brennan Inn.

The Chief asked that in the event of snow, to clear fire hydrants of snow to save firefighters time in the event of an emergency. He noted a few years back during a fire at Roslyn Road and

Downing Street, the fire hydrant was covered with snow, and firefighters wasted valuable time trying to find it.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

DEPUTY MAYOR/TRUSTEE BONNIE PARENTE.

Trustee Parente presented the report of the Justice Court for November 2011. There were 34 violations received and a total of \$1,815 in fines collected.

The Recreation Committee held sittings for portraits in November. The weather was so nice that some of the photos were taken on the Village Green. The Recreation Committee is also extending tennis until the middle of December (weather permitting). Yoga sessions continue to take place at the Village Hall. Lastly, the Recreation Committee is looking to host a wine making class in February 2012.

TRUSTEE MICHAEL A. BRAITO

Trustee Braitto stated that the Board will be meeting with Cashin Associates at the January agenda meeting to review drainage issues at certain locations in the Village. This type of work cannot be undertaken in the winter months, but it is hoped to bid the project in the early spring.

The Village is reviewing a contract to enter into an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of North Hempstead for services for a Reverse 311 System, to alert residents of important issues, events, etc. It is hoped to have this in place by the early winter when snow storms may occur.

Trustee Braitto thanked the officers and members of the East Williston Fire Department for their participation in the tree lighting ceremony on December 8th. Also, with regard to the Fire Department, the school bus accident that occurred in November, questions arose about the procedures undertaken during the response. The East Williston Fire Department followed all proper procedures and New York State mandates during the accident. Chief Theodore, stated that pursuant to State Law, all minors under the age of 18, must be transported to a hospital if a parent or legal guardian is not present to take charge of the child.

Joe Masters stated that perhaps the Village may want to write a letter to the Williston Times to correct the record of the bus accident.

Trustee Braitto also informed those present that the Village has reported that three manhole covers have been removed and are missing from various locations. The incident has been reported to the police. The manholes are not in the roadways, but off to the sides of the road.

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He asked if anyone sees someone tampering with a manhole cover to call the police. If anyone notices a cover missing, they should contact the Village office.

TRUSTEE JOHN F. FERRO

Trustee Ferro stated that residents had successfully adhered to leaf bagging regulations, keeping Village streets clear of leaves this past fall. If resident still require leaf bags, they may be obtained from the Village office.

Trustee Ferro thanked the members of the Fire Department for all of their help during the recent tree lighting ceremony.

TRUSTEE CAROLINE DEBENEDITTIS

Trustee De Benedittis presented the Library report. The Library continues to hold a collection of gently used shoes for "Shoes for all". The day time book club will meet on Tuesday, December 13th. The Senior Committee will hold its next meeting on December 15th at noon for a holiday party. The Library will host the "Magic of Amore" on December 29th for children. Lastly, the Library will be closed on December 24th and 26th, and December 31st and January 2nd.

The Historic Committee held its historic home walk-through on November 19th. The event was well attended by Village residents. Trustee DeBenedittis thanked Robert Campagna for leading the tour.

MAYOR DAVID E. TANNER

Mayor Tanner asked the clerk to read the resolution for Local Law No. 4-2011 relative to fees for the demolition of detached garage structures.

RESOLUTION NO. 32-2011 A RESOLUTION APPROVING LOCAL LAW NO. 4-2011 AMENDING SECTION 142-24 OF THE CODE OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF EAST WILLISTON PERTAINING TO DEMOLITION PERMITS.

On the motion of Trustee Ferro, seconded by Mayor Tanner and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Braitto, Ferro and DeBenedittis all voting in favor of the resolution; Trustee Parente abstained, the Board approved the following resolution:

A Local Law amending Article V of the Municipal Code of the Incorporated Village of East Williston pertaining to demolition permits as follows:

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston, New York as follows:

Section 1. Amending section 142-24 entitled "Fees and deposits or security on certain construction":

D. If a detached garage is to be removed the demolition permit fee for the removal of a detached garage shall be \$200.00.

Section 2. Exercise of supersession authority. The Village hereby exercises the power of supersession granted to it pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law 10(1)(ii) (e) (3) with respect to the within local law and hereby supersedes Village Law section 7-706(2) to the extent it requires notice for publication other than has been, or will be, provided as to the within local law.

Section 3. Effective Date. This local law shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION #33-2001 AUTHORIZING ENTRY BY THE VILLAGE INTO THE "VILLAGE ENERGY GROUP OF NASSAU COUNTY"

On the motion of Trustee Braitto, seconded by Trustee Parente, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Braitto, DeBenedittis, Ferro and Parente all voting "aye", the Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees has been made aware of an organization identified as the Village Energy Group of Nassau County, and

WHEREAS, the Village Energy Group in conjunction with the Long Island Municipal Cooperative Purchasing Group has entered into an agreement with East Coast Power and Gas, an independent retail energy supplier, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees having also been made aware that by becoming a member of the Village Energy Group of Nassau County, participating village residents and businesses will receive a discount in the cost of natural gas of approximately 8%, with no separate additional costs being incurred, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees having determined that entry into the Village Energy Group will serve the best interests of the Village by allowing residents and businesses to continue to receive the service required with respect to natural gas, while also allowing residents and businesses to save money, and

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WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees having been made aware that residents and businesses will not be obligated to participate in this program,

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED:

That the Village shall become a member of the Village Energy Group of Nassau County, and

That the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute an agreement on behalf of the Village in conjunction with doing so.

Mayor Tanner stated that the Board will be holding a public hearing on January 11, 2012 for the purpose of considering overriding the 2% tax cap passed by the State Legislature. The public hearing will detail the Village's non-discretionary costs (such as pension, sanitation, health insurance), as well as giving a historic overview of prior budgets of the Village. Given the Village's \$1,796,000 budget, a \$36,000 increase is a small number with which to work.

Trustee Braitto added that the Board will make a presentation at the public hearing outlining increases that are not within the control of the Village. He noted that the 2% tax cap law works best for municipalities with large budgets of 40 million dollars or more. In large budgets, excesses can be weeded out of a budget. In a small budget like that of East Williston, costs are already kept at a minimum.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-2011 AUTHORIZING TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER LOCAL LAW NO. 1-2012 REGARDING PROPERTY TAX CAP LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 3-c

On the motion of Trustee Ferro, seconded by Trustee DeBenedittis, and with Mayor Tanner and Trustees Braitto, DeBenedittis, Ferro and Parente all voting "aye", the Board approved the following resolution:

Resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of East Williston unanimously authorizes to hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. to consider a local law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c and, directed the Village Clerk to publish a legal notice in the official newspaper of the Inc. Village of East Williston.

VILLAGE CLERK MARIE L. HAUSNER

Building permits issued for the month of November 2011: 112 Weeks Road construction of new driveway and Belgian block curbing. 22 Downing Street, installation of wood burning stove in garage. 401 Downing Street, addition of gable roof to garage. 11 Sumter Avenue, repairs to garage. 120 William Street, enclose screen porch. 79 Bengeyfield Drive, rear two story addition.

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Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct report for November 2011: A report of burglary at 33 Fairview Avenue. Traffic tickets served: one parking violation and two moving violations. Auto accidents and aided: four auto accidents and 29 injuries (note that this involved a school bus accident with 26 aided).

There were no reports of grants for November 2011.

Village Hall closings for December 2011 and January 2012: Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd, 2012.

Nassau County Police Department Third Precinct report for the month of September 2011: Reports of burglaries and robberies: none. Traffic tickets issued: parking violations two, moving violations one. Accidents and aided: Auto accidents: three, auto injuries, zero.

The Mayor opened the meeting to residents.

Ellen Ritz questioned the intermunicipal agreement with the Town of North Hempstead. She noted that when the East Williston School District looked into entering into an agreement with North Hempstead, it was discovered that the contract did not offer mutual indemnification.

Joseph Masters asked about the status of the Williston Park water issue and the Sumter Avenue matter. Mr. Blinkoff stated that papers were filed with the court in each case. Mayor Tanner stated that the Village was still investigating alternate sources of water.

Louis Sasso questioned solicitors coming to houses selling wares in the evening. Mr. Sasso was advised that he must call 911 to report this occurrence, as the police enforce the Village Code and would issue a summons to Village Court. Mr. Sasso suggested putting something on this issue in the next Village newsletter.

At 9:15 pm, Trustee Ferro was excused from the meeting.

Michael Guglielmo asked what streets residents can park on when the Village parking lot is full. Trustee Braitto stated that the Village office will have a map of areas where parking is restricted to be given out when new parking permits are restricted.

Ellen Ritz felt that the Village should have "fee based" revenue for certain items rather than an overall tax, so that those who use specific services would pay for them, when other residents who do not utilize the services should not have to pay the price. Trustee Braitto responded that the Village does not have that many "fee based" offerings (parking lot, tennis courts), so fees can only be raised so much.

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Michael Guglielmo stated that the Village budget is the “best bargain” in town.

Trustee Braitto encouraged residents to attend the January 11, 2012 Board meeting to see exactly what expenses are incurred by the Village.

On the motion of Trustee Parente, seconded by Trustee Braitto, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.