

VILLAGE BOARD REGULAR MEETING:

MAY 18, 2021

A Village Board of Trustees Regular Meeting took place on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. at the Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York, 10992.

PRESENT:

Mayor Bucco, Deputy Mayor Laudato, Trustee Calore, Trustee Kolar & Sampson.

ALSO PRESENT:

Attorney Stephanie Tunic.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – MAYOR BUCCO:

Mayor Bucco led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – MAYOR BUCCO:

Water Bills: due May 28th, 2021.

Emerson Dr. surveyed by Delaware Engineering, Survey & Recommendations by end of wk.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, mtg. w/Delaware Engineering at Buckingham Pl.; solution for Climbing on St.; End of Cul-de-sac; 35 yrs. ago built Buckingham; no catch basin at end of St.

Bids on North St., Emerson Dr. & Ahern Blvd. Washington to North St.; received milling bids, not received pavement bids, no info on companies won bid for pavement; Tilcon won past couple of yrs., did receive bid for concrete company to do driveway curbing, sidewalks in center of Village; few driveway cuts need replaced, spring/summer; I will ask board to ride through Village.

Incident reports: approval, asking Board for authorization for bonding.

Replacing sewer line; May's Field owned by Town BG, Sewer Lines & grinder pumps owned by us; Discussing w/Legal; once replaced, village responsible; mtg. tmrw w/United Public Service Employee Union for Part-Time Police Contract.

DPW continues to rebuild/clean catch basins; start manholes once catch basins are completed; complete report on manholes performed by Delaware Engineering last yr., need to replace manholes, catch basins; part of infrastructure need to start/maintain; North St. already w/catch basins except 2. spoke w/residents on Emerson; no interest in curbing put in, DPW cleaned out swales; 1 on Tolman Rd. & Bull Rd., installing guardrails; intersection at Stewarts; dangerous.

OLD BUSINESS – MAYOR BUCCO:

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CARNIVAL – TRUSTEE LAUDATO:

Held at Vern Allen Park on Thurs. May 27, 2021 – May 31, 2021, over Memorial Day Wknd; Thurs. & Fri. 6:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.; Sat. & Sun. 3:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. & Mon. 3:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

On Sat., hosting special sensory-friendly carnival 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. for special needs children & families & during that time all rides are free, no flashing lights & no loud music; 1st yr. holding session.

NYPAC – HELD DANCE EVENT – MAYOR BUCCO:

Vern Allen Park; big white tent; tremendous success; a lot of feedback thanking for event to happen; well done & attended.

NEW BUSINESS:

REMOVAL OF TREES & VILLAGE GREEN AREA – TRUSTEE KOLAR:

On Sat., gentlemen cut down trees in green area on Congress; success; down & cut.

UPDATE ON DPW SURPLUS – TRUSTEE CALORE:

Not gotten together to get serial #s; access on Sat. for photos; I will get Chris to get photos; each album gets 10-15 photos.

RESOLUTION – VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO BE TITLED AS “LEAD AGENCY”:

Trustee Calore made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Laudato for approval of the Village Board of Trustees to be titled as the Lead Agency. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

RESOLUTION – ADOPTION OF OPEN FIRE PIT – LOCAL LAW – ATTORNEY STEPHANIE TUNIC:

Open Fire Pit Local Law; introduced by Board; mayor wants vote to adopt it. Open Burning Law has certain exceptions for personal use of open fire pits; includes exceptions if it is watched by somebody under control; It would be a violation of law; discussed last time & board thought it would be positive for community, option to apply for permit if they wish to have an open burning in park, included in version of Law in Section 6 it says that...

“No person shall be permitted to have an open fire of any material & description in any Village Park, village designated open space, nature preserve or any state or county parkland, forest preservation observer.”

Needs proper permits as follows...

“Village Open Burning Permit; any person or entity shall apply for an Open Burning Permit with the Village Building department prior to commencing any burning or fire activities, said permit shall include the date and time that the burning will take place, number of attendees, a safety plan and any other information required by the village. All Open Burning Permittees shall be required to furnish insurance with a Village named as an additional insured & shall sign an indemnification agreement. All Open Burning Permits shall be reviewed & approved by the Village Building Inspector or Code Enforcement Officer & Village Fire Chief or their Designees; that way there is a nominal charge, also \$25. Permits will be issued for maximum of 90 days and other than that any other burning would be prohibited in the village for safety purposes.”

Trustee Sampson made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Laudato to adopt the Local Law Number Two of 2021, entitling the Local Law regulating of “Resolution of Washingtonville Village Board of Trustees adopting Local Law Number Two of 2021 entitled “Local Law Regulating Open Burning.” 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

WHEREAS,

The Board of Trustees in the Village of Washingtonville wishes to adopt a Local Law for Students in Municipal Rule Law Section 27 that regulates Open Burning of Both private and public within the Village of Washingtonville and;

WHEREAS,

Proposed Local Law Number Two of 2021 in Title of the Local Law regulating open burning, it was previously introduced at a meeting of the Board of Trustees which Local Law achieves the aforementioned objectives of the Board of Trustees and;

WHEREAS,

The Board of Trustees has prepared a short environmental assessment form in accordance with the state environmental quality review act in connection with the proposed local law and;

WHEREAS,

Today May 18th, 2021, the Board of Trustees officially declared itself lead agency and classified the action as unlisted pursuant to the secret regulations and;

WHEREAS,

A public hearing has been held and it is still open currently right so we will do that, we will motion to close that next to assist the Village Board's Consideration of the enactment of said law considered in all of the comments made at the public hearing and;

WHEREAS,

The Local Law is not the subject of Zoning or Land Use and as such referral to the Orange County Planning Department, other General Municipal Law Section 239-M is not required and;

WHEREAS,

The Board of Trustees that adopting the subject with Law is in the best interest of the general public health, safety and welfare.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Village Board hereby determined that the proposed Local Law does not create any Substantial Environmental impacts, and therefore issues a negative declaration of your secret pursuit to the attached impact assessment and other relative documents and;

RESOLVE THAT,

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Washingtonville hereby adopts Local Law #2 of 2021 entitled the Local Law regulating Open Burning Copy of which is attached to and made part of the resolution and be the result that the Village Clerk or her Designee publishes a Notice of Adoption of the Enforcement of Local Law and it be further resolved that the Village Clerk or Designee is hereby directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and the Local Law Book of the Village and to give due Notice of the Adoption of said Local Law to the Secretary of State of New York and as well as anyone else required by Law."

RESOLUTION – CLOSING OF PUBLIC HEARING:

Trustee Calore made a motion, seconded by Trustee Sampson to close the Public Hearing Section of this Village Board Meeting. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

DISCUSSION – SHORT- & LONG-TERM RENTALS:

JB: We can forward any questions to Stephanie Tunic; we can put this on website so people can review. I would like to have Public Hearing closed on June 7th, 2021.

I spoke to Ms. Tunic today, speaking about local Law prohibiting smoking on certain Village Properties; worked on in neighboring town. Weed legalized in State of New York. We would like to create a law to prohibit sale of it in any retail stores in Village.

ST: Must be a separate Local Law; I must refer to statute, but I can do a short memo for board as to what we will require for law for not allowing recreational dispensary. Cannabis Law; representative of American Loan Association; can do it for all public property, or parks, public pavilions, open spaces, playing fields, playgrounds. I can speak to School District Attorney to see if that is a Local Law to allow Village Police to enforce on property.

RESOLUTION – PRICING FOR TREES – AREAS AROUND VILLAGE:

Deputy Mayor Laudato made a motion, seconded by Trustee Kolar to proceed with the Vermont Company for the purchase of no more than 40 trees. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

PUBLIC MEETING – VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – TRUSTEE LAUDATO:

This is to go over Zoning Districts we've been discussing, Wednesday May 26th & Thursday May 27th at 3:00 P.M. Discussing rezoning districts & going through code, aiming for June for Public Hearing.

ZONING & PLANNING BOARD UPDATES – TRUSTEE SAMPSON:

On May 20th, ZBA was scheduled to meet at 7:00 P.M. but it was cancelled b/c there are no agenda items.

Planning Board – Update from Ms. Tunic:

Planning Board is mtg. on a Wednesday this month for 2nd mtg.; 1st mtg. was cancelled due to no agenda items for month of May & May 26th; unusual for Board, we are meeting to do a Public Hearing for Orange County Bagel Site Plan Project which is at old Betty's location proposal is a demolition of old Building & Construction of approximately 5000 sq. ft; Business Center Development which would include 3 commercial mixed-use bldgs.; 1 of which is going to be dedicated to Orange County Bagel; 1 of which will be Chiropractor's office & 1 to be determined; we will have a pre-application mtg. for 2-lot subdivision on Locust St. & continuation of a pre-application discussion for a 36 North St. which is a 2-lot subdivision 4 unit townhouse on each lot for a total of 8 units; they have each submitted some new docs. to board, they will review & give feedback on. We meet twice a month on Tuesdays, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Susan Wolski – 24 South Street

Regarding short- & Long-term Rentals; I recommend coming up w/specific definitions of rooms & room usage. "What is a bedroom? What is a kitchen? What is common living area? Are bedrooms required to have closets in them?" I urge Village to come up w/specific guidelines for rental usage for village inspections of those usages & for when tenants come & go; foreclosures & short sales is going to be prime for our investors to come in & swoop properties & use rental purposes.

JB: We want to keep our public hearing open for comments like that. Rental registries: we want to know who is living in homes.

SW: I would request that as this law is being developed while this public hearing is open; please have a public comment so we can comment as it is being developed.

Village Website still has no documents up for 2021; we are in 5th month of yr. no agendas are up, no minutes are up; I urge that your calendars match; you have a google calendar & a scrolling calendar; several properties being neglectful; including former Betty's where grass is over a foot high; if you go further down West Main Street, next to bus garage there is a house that is being renovated; there is a 20-yarder that has been overfilled; over across from high school, there are construction materials all over property including front lawn; old Bethany church has to be close to 2 ft tall there; commercials that lack attention.

JB: Come fill out an incident report.

Sean Haggerty – 4 Belvoir Drive

Suggesting a Village Ordinance Enforcement personnel.

JB: We have a Code Enforcer that should be doing that.

SH: Updates w/skater park? Rieger?

JB: No updates on that.

SH: Green Area I bought has never been finalized w/County.

JB: Last night Coin Assemblyman Colin Schmidt honored women of distinction & Celina Rofer (Village Resident) received it from the Village of Washingtonville. Lifelong Resident, President of Lion's Club; well-deserved and New Chairperson of Planning Board.

End of Public Comment.

RESOLUTION – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Trustee Calore made a motion, seconded by Trustee Sampson to approve the Village Board to end the Regular Meeting and enter Executive Session. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**SOPHIA FOLEY
ASSISTANT CLERK**