

A Village Board Work Session Meeting was held on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville, New York.

PRESENT:

Mayor Thomas DeVinko; Deputy Mayor Susan Walski; Trustee Donna Jacaruso; Trustee Steve Presser; Trustee Vernon Coleman; Treasurer Leslie Tillotson; Village Clerk Christine Shenkman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Thomas DeVinko led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MOMENT OF SILENCE – MIDDLE EAST CONFLICTS:

Mayor Thomas DeVinko observed a moment of silence due to the conflicts occurring in the Middle East.

PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT PLAQUE – FRANCIS CIRIGLIANO:

Village Police Chief Brian Zaccaro thanked newly retired Village Police Officer Sergeant Francis Cirigliano on his years of service to the Village of Washingtonville, and on behalf of the Village Board, Mayor DeVinko presented a plaque to Sergeant Cirigliano in recognition and appreciation for his dedication to the Village of Washingtonville.

OATH OF OFFICE – POLICE SERGEANT PROMOTION – EDWIN RAMOS:

Village Clerk Christine Shenkman administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Village Police Sergeant Edwin Ramos and expressed congratulations to Sergeant Ramos and his family.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There being no public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Please take notice that all unpaid Village of Washingtonville taxes are due on October 31, 2023 and will be relieved to the County of Orange on November 2, 2023. On this date, the Village will not be accepting any more tax payments.

DEFICIT FINANCING UPDATE - RESIDENT LETTER:

Treasurer Tillotson reported the Village of Washingtonville has officially closed regarding the Bond deficit loan on October 5, and the Village received the \$4.4 million dollar funding. It is a one (1) year note and will mature in October 2024, then will be converted into a nine (9) year Bond.

As mentioned during the last Village Board Regular Meeting, a conference call with the New York State Comptroller's Office took place and the Village is to submit quarterly reports to New York State for approval and review.

DEFICIT FINANCING UPDATE - RESIDENT LETTER – (CONTINUED):

On October 11, the Village transferred the four million dollar bond to an investment account under New York Class with a current interest rate of 5.28%. As of October 13, 2023 current interest earned is \$2,314.00.

The Village will be sending out a letter to all residents within the next week which will explain how the Village ended up with a deficit and the steps the Village is taking to resolve this matter.

On October 2, the Village spoke with audit consultants regarding the audit from February 2020, and the audits are on track.

On October 18, a telephone call took place with Edmunds, the new Village financial software company which will go live in February of 2024. The Village will transition property tax and water - sewer billing in May of 2024.

The New York State Comptroller's Office is working towards completing the Risk Assessment Analysis, and will provide the Village with their findings.

Mayor DeVinko and Treasurer Tillotson will meet to go over the 2024 - 2025 Village Budget.

CONGRESSMAN PAT RYAN – RESIDENT ASSISTANCE:

Mayor DeVinko stated that Congressman Pat Ryan will be at the Washingtonville Village Hall on Wednesday, November 15 from 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. for assistance to Village residents. Congressman Ryan is running a circuit in Orange County and making himself available to the community.

NEW YORK STATE POLICE SERVICE GRANT - REIMBURSEMENT OF SEAT BELT SAFETY:

The Village of Washingtonville will be reimbursed \$3,500 for seat belt safety through the New York State Police Service Grant.

PAVING OF PICKLEBALL COURTS:

Mayor DeVinko indicated the pickleball court areas have been paved.

PICKLE BALL COURTS – FENCING:

The Mayor reported that the Village Board is waiting for an outline to be drawn of where the taping for lines is to occur in order for the fencing company to install fencing. Due to weather conditions painting will be completed in the spring of 2024. Lighting repairs in this area will be required due to the age of said lighting, and conditions are being reviewed.

NOTICE OF ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING - 2024 BUDGET:

The Orange County Public Hearing regarding the 2024 County Budget will be held on Thursday, October 19 at 5:00 P.M. in the Legislative Chamber located on 255 Main Street, Goshen, New York. Notice will be posted on the Village Website and Facebook page.

REMINDER OF WITCHINGTONVILLE EVENTS:

On Saturday, October 21 the Witchingtonville day event will take place from 11:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. at L. Vernon Allen Park. The Witchingtonville After Dark event will be held from 6:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. in the downtown Village area, and Veterans Memorial Park located at 29 West Main Street. The day events are geared towards younger children, and the evening event is for older children and adults. There will be entertainment, food and partial road and parking lot closures will take place for these events. Residents can refer to a map which is posted on the Village Website and Facebook Page, or can call Mayor DeVinko or the Village Hall.

TREE DEDICATIONS ALONG AHERN BOULEVARD - CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES AND SENSORY GARDEN AT FIREMENS MEMORIAL PARK - PAVER PROJECT:

The Mayor announced the Village is seeking donations of Cherry Blossom trees in memory of a loved one to be planted along Ahern Boulevard in the Spring of 2024. A Washingtonville Brownie Troop would like to plant a tree in honor of their organization.

The Sensory Garden paver project has been completed by the Department of Public Works (D.P.W.), and the Mayor expressed thanks to the Department for their dedicated work.

VILLAGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE:

Trustee Jacaruso reported Village Comprehensive Planner Bonnie Franson started in June of 2023 and thus far completed months of work. The projection was one (1) year by June 2024 to have a Comprehensive Plan in place. Demographic information was gathered from the community, and maps were created from this data. The second part of the plan which is vision, goals and objectives is currently being worked on. The Committee that was in place with the prior administration has been narrowed down to nine (9) members instead of thirty (30) members. The residents can also have input. This Thursday a post card mini survey will be mailed with the resident letter to every household in the Village, and the survey will contain a QR Code to scan. The data will be used to create a larger survey file by compiling the information regarding what direction each resident feels the Village should follow in the next ten (10) years. Based upon the results, a new Comprehensive Plan will be formed. The Village will hold a workshop in November or December, and next a draft Comprehensive Plan will be formed. Lastly, Zoning Amendments and Village Codes will be reviewed to align with the new Comprehensive Plan.

The Village Board will hold a Public Hearing which will be open for public comments to help build the final Comprehensive Plan. Comprehensive Committee meetings will be held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 P.M. at Village Hall, 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville and is open for public comment. Copies of the survey will also be at Moffat Library, the Senior developments and on The Village Website. A drop off survey bin is located at the Village Hall.

LEAF PICK-UP – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Mayor DeVinko reminded residents that leaf pickup has begun and will run through the first week of December. The Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) request that leaves are placed in proper bags.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The mobile unit of the Department of Motor Vehicles will be at the Village Hall parking lot at 9 Fairlawn Drive, Washingtonville on Thursday, October 19 from 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. for all your motor vehicle needs except for written examinations.

131 – RESOLUTION – EMPLOYMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – (D.P.W.) LABORERS:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded Trustee Jacaruso and adopted to authorize the employment of Nicholas J. Amante and Nickolaus P. DeRogatis as

131 – RESOLUTION – EMPLOYMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – (D.P.W.) LABORERS – (CONTINUED):

Department of Public Works Laborers effective October 16, 2023 at an hourly salary of \$25.7374 per employee; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

132 – RESOLUTION – REPAIRS OF VILLAGE HALL BUILDING ELEVATOR:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize repairs of the Village Hall building elevator to the second floor by Otis Elevator at a price not to exceed \$6,850.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention. (Deputy Mayor Walski).

133 – RESOLUTION – VILLAGE HALLOWEEN CURFEW HOURS:

Trustee Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize the Village Halloween Curfew hours beginning Monday, October 30 and Tuesday, October 31 from 7:00 P.M. until 6:00 A.M.; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

134- RESOLUTION - MEMORIAL PARK BENCH - AHERN BOULEVARD:

Trustee Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize a Memorial Park bench to be placed on Ahern Boulevard which was requested by Dennis Schultz; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

135 – RESOLUTION - FACILITY USE REQUEST - FIFTH ANNUAL WASHINGTONVILLE GIRL SCOUT HERO WALK:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to approve a Facility Use Request Form for the Fifth Annual Washingtonville Girl Scout Hero Walk to be held on Saturday, November 11 or Saturday, November 18 between 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. at L. Vernon Allen Park; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

136 – RESOLUTION - PUBLIC HEARING - LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING EXPANSION OF RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSITION OF VILLAGE HISTORIAN:

Trustee Jacaruso made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to schedule a Public Hearing date for November 6 at 7:00 P.M. regarding the adoption of Local Law Establishing Expansion of Residency Requirements for the Position of Village Historian; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Washingtonville ("Village Board") hereby desires to set a Public Hearing for the adoption of a Local Law to expand the residency requirement of the Village Historian; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Home Rule Law authorizes the Village of Washingtonville to adopt Local Laws concerning Village affairs; and

136 – RESOLUTION - PUBLIC HEARING - LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING EXPANSION OF RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSITION OF VILLAGE HISTORIAN – (CONTINUED):

WHEREAS, the Village Board wishes to solicit public comment prior to the adoption of a Local Law that would provide for the expansion of residency requirements for the Village Historian.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Board of the Village of Washingtonville as follows:

Section 1. The above “WHEREAS” clauses are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. The Village Clerk is hereby directed to publish a Notice of Public Hearing for the proposed adoption of a Local Law Establishing the Expansion of Residency Requirements for the position of Village Historian of the Village Code. The Village Clerk is authorized to publish notification for the Public Hearing to be held on November 6, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. and, the Village Clerk is directed to proceed with all appropriate notifications and required publications of the Notice of Public Hearing and proposed Local Law as required by Law and as recommended by Special Counsel for the Village.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

137 – RESOLUTION – PITINGARO & DOETSCH CONSULTING ENGINEERING PROPOSAL - DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH GROVE WELLS:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Deputy Mayor Walski and adopted to approve Pitingaro & Doetsch Consulting Engineers proposal for the development of the High Grove Wells not to exceed \$105,700.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

138 – RESOLUTION - RESIGNATION OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS LABORER NICHOLAS MULLER:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to accept the resignation of Department of Public Works (D.P.W.) Laborer Nicholas Muller effective Wednesday, October 18, 2023; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

139 – ABSTRACT RESOLUTION - BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS:

Trustee Coleman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Presser and adopted to authorize Budget Transfers and amendments as necessary to affect necessary transfer of funds and to pay Warrants; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

140 – RESOLUTION – ACCEPT METRO SOUND PROS PRICE QUOTATION – SOUND SYSTEM:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to authorize Metro Sound Pros price quotation for the Sound System at Village Hall not to exceed \$4,995.00; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There being no Public Comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Deputy Mayor Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to adjourn the Village Board Work Session Meeting and enter into Executive Session regarding personnel matters; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING:

Trustee Presser made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to adjourn the Executive Session, and resume the Village Board Work Session Meeting; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Deputy Mayor Walski made a motion, seconded by Trustee Coleman and adopted to adjourn the October 16, 2023 Village Board Work Session Meeting; said Resolution passed by a unanimous vote of the Village Board. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

CHRISTINE SHENKMAN

VILLAGE CLERK